

The First Book of Samuel

רחל בת ברבלו

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שמואל א א

1 Samuel 1

¹ NOW THERE was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim, of the hill-country of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. ² And he had two wives: the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. ³ And this man went up out of his city from year to year to worship and to sacrifice unto HaShem of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there priests unto HaShem. ⁴ And it came to pass upon a day, when Elkanah sacrificed, that he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions; ⁵ but unto Hannah he gave a double portion; for he loved Hannah, but HaShem had shut up her womb. ⁶ And her rival vexed her sore, to make her fret, because HaShem had shut up her womb. ⁷ And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of HaShem, so she vexed her; therefore she wept, and would not eat. ⁸ And Elkanah her husband said unto her: 'Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am not I better to thee than ten sons?' ⁹ So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk — now Eli the priest sat upon his seat by the door-post of the temple of HaShem; ¹⁰ and she was in bitterness of soul — and prayed unto HaShem, and wept sore. ¹¹ And she vowed a vow, and said: 'O HaShem of hosts, if Thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of Thy handmaid, and remember me, and not forget Thy handmaid, but wilt give unto Thy handmaid a man-child, then I will give him unto HaShem all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.' ¹² And it came to pass, as she prayed long before HaShem, that Eli watched her mouth. ¹³ Now Hannah, she spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice could not be heard; therefore, Eli thought she had been drunken. ¹⁴ And Eli said unto her: 'How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.' ¹⁵ And Hannah answered and said: 'No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I poured out my soul before HaShem. ¹⁶ Count not thy handmaid for a wicked woman: for out of the abundance of my complaint and my vexation have I spoken hitherto.' ¹⁷ Then Eli answered and said: 'Go in peace, and the G-d of Israel grant thy petition that thou hast asked of Him.' ¹⁸ And she said: 'Let thy servant find favour in thy sight!' So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad. ¹⁹ And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before HaShem, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah; and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and HaShem remembered her. ²⁰ And it came to pass, when the time was come about, that Hannah conceived, and bore a son; and she called his name Samuel: 'because I have asked him of HaShem.' ²¹ And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto HaShem the yearly sacrifice, and his vow. ²² But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband: 'Until the child be weaned, when I will bring him, that he may appear before HaShem, and there abide for ever.' ²³ And Elkanah her husband said unto her: 'Do what seemeth thee good; tarry until thou have weaned him; only HaShem establish His word.' So the woman tarried and gave her son suck, until she weaned him. ²⁴ And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of meal, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of HaShem in Shiloh; and the child was young. ²⁵ And when the bullock was slain, the child was brought to Eli. ²⁶ And she said: 'Oh, my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto HaShem. ²⁷ For this child I prayed; and HaShem hath granted me my petition which I asked of Him; ²⁸ therefore I also have lent him to HaShem; as long as he liveth he is lent to HaShem.' And he worshipped HaShem there.

¹ וַיְהִי אִישׁ אֶחָד מִן-הָרָמָתִים, צוֹפִים--מֵהָר אֶפְרַיִם; וּשְׁמוֹ אֶלְקָנָה בֶן-יִרְחָם בֶּן-אֱלִיהוּא, בֶּן-תַּחוּ בֶן-צוּף--אֶפְרַתִּי. ² וָלוֹ, שְׁתֵּי נָשִׁים--שֵׁם אַחַת חַנָּה, וְשֵׁם הַשֵּׁנִית פְּנִינָה; וַיְהִי לַפְּנִינָה יָלָדִים, וּלְחַנָּה אֵין יָלָדִים. ³ וְעַלָּה הָאִישׁ הָהוּא מַעֲרִיר מִיָּמִים יְמִימָה, לְהַשְׁתַּחֲוֹת וּלְזַבַּח לַיהוָה צְבָאוֹת בְּשִׁלֹּה; וְשֵׁם שְׁנֵי בָנֶי-עֲלִי, חֲפָנִי וּפְנָחָס, כַּהֲנִים, לַיהוָה. ⁴ וַיְהִי הַיּוֹם, וַיִּזְבַּח אֶלְקָנָה; וַנִּתֵּן לַפְּנִינָה אֲשֶׁתּוֹ, וּלְכָל-בָּנֶיהָ וּבְנוֹתֶיהָ--מִנּוֹת. ⁵ וּלְחַנָּה, יֶתֶן מִנָּה אַחַת אֲפִים: כִּי אֶת-חַנָּה אָהַב, וַיְהִי סָגֹר רַחֲמָהּ. ⁶ וְכַעֲסָתָהּ צָרָתָה גַם-כַּעַס, בַּעֲבוּר הָרַעְמָה: כִּי-סָגֹר יְהוָה, בַּעַד רַחֲמָהּ. ⁷ וְכֵן יַעֲשֶׂה שָׁנָה בְּשָׁנָה, מִדִּי עֲלֹתָה בְּבֵית יְהוָה--כֵּן, תִּכְעַסְנָה; וּתִבָּכֶה, וְלֹא תֹאכַל. ⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ אֶלְקָנָה אִישָׁהּ, חַנָּה לָמָּה תִבְכִּי וְלָמָּה לֹא תֹאכְלִי, וְלָמָּה יָרַע לְבָבְךָ: הֲלוֹא אָנֹכִי טוֹב לָךְ, מִעֲשֹׂרָה בָנִים. ⁹ וַתִּקֶּם חַנָּה, אַחֲרַי אֲכָלָה בְּשִׁלֹּה וְאַחֲרַי שָׁתָה; וְעַלִּי הִפְקֵן, יֵשֵׁב עַל-הַכֶּסֶּא, עַל-מְזוֹזוֹת, הֵיכַל יְהוָה. ¹⁰ וְהִיא, מֵרַת נֶפֶשׁ; וּתִתְפַּלֵּל עַל-יְהוָה, וּבָכָה תִבָּכֶה. ¹¹ וַתִּדְרֹךְ נִדְרֵי וַתֹּאמֶר, יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת אִם-רָאָה תִרְאָה בְּעֵנַי אֲמַתְךָ וַיִּזְכֹּרְתָנִי וְלֹא-תִשְׁכַּח אֶת-אֲמַתְךָ, וַנִּתְּתָה לְאֲמַתְךָ, זֶרַע אֲנָשִׁים--וַנִּתְּתִיו לַיהוָה כָּל-יְמֵי חַיָּו, וּמוֹרָה לֹא-יַעֲלֶה עַל-רֹאשׁוֹ. ¹² וְהִיא כִּי הִרְבָּתָהּ, לְהִתְפַּלֵּל לִפְנֵי יְהוָה; וְעַלִּי, שָׁמַר אֶת-פִּיהָ. ¹³ וְחַנָּה, הִיא מְדַבֶּרֶת עַל-לִבָּהּ--רַק שְׁפָתֶיהָ נִעוֹת, וְקוֹלָהּ לֹא יִשְׁמָע; וַיַּחֲשֹׁבֶהָ עַלִּי, לְשֹׁכְרָה. ¹⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלֶיהָ עַלִּי, עַד-מָתִי תִשְׁתַּכְּרִין; הֲסִירִי אֶת-יְיָנֶךָ, מִעֲלֶיךָ. ¹⁵ וַתַּעַן חַנָּה וַתֹּאמֶר, לֹא אֲדֹנִי, אֲשֶׁה קִשְׁת-רוּחַ אֲנֹכִי, וַיִּין וְשֹׁכֵר לֹא שְׁתִּיתִי; וְאַשְׁפֹּךְ אֶת-נַפְשִׁי, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה. ¹⁶ אֶל-תִּתֵּן, אֶת-אֲמַתְךָ, לִפְנֵי, בֵּת-בְּלִיעֵל: כִּי-מֵרֹב שִׁיחִי וְכַעֲסִי, דִּבַּרְתִּי עַד-הֵנָּה. ¹⁷ וַיַּעַן עַלִּי וַיֹּאמֶר, לָכִי לְשָׁלוֹם; וְאַלִּהִי יִשְׂרָאֵל, יֶתֶן אֶת-שְׁלָתְךָ, אֲשֶׁר שָׁאֲלָתָּ, מִעֲמּוֹ. ¹⁸ וַתֹּאמֶר, תִּמְצָא שְׁפָחַתְךָ חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ; וַתִּלָּךְ הָאִשָּׁה לְדֶרֶכָּה וַתֹּאכַל, וּפְנִיָּהּ לֹא-הָיוּ לָהּ עוֹד. ¹⁹ וַיִּשְׁכְּמוּ בַבֹּקֶר, וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, וַיָּשֻׁבוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-בֵּיתָם, הִרְמָתָהּ; וַיִּדַּע אֶלְקָנָה אֶת-חַנָּה אֲשֶׁתּוֹ, וַיִּזְכָּרָהּ יְהוָה. ²⁰ וַיְהִי לְתַקְפוֹת הַיָּמִים, וַתֵּהָר חַנָּה וַתֵּלֵד בֶּן; וַתִּקְרָא אֶת-שְׁמוֹ שְׁמוּאֵל, כִּי מִיְהוָה שָׁאֲלָתִיו. ²¹ וַיַּעַל הָאִישׁ אֶלְקָנָה, וְכָל-בֵּיתוֹ, לְזַבַּח לַיהוָה אֶת-זֶבַח הַיָּמִים, וְאֶת-גִּדְּרוֹ. ²² וְחַנָּה, לֹא עָלְתָה: כִּי-אִמְרָה לְאִישָׁהּ, עַד יִגְמַל הַנֶּעֱר וְהִבְאִיתִיו וַנִּרְאָה אֶת-פְּנֵי יְהוָה, וַיָּשֻׁב שָׁם, עַד-עוֹלָם. ²³ וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ אֶלְקָנָה אִישָׁה עֲשִׂי הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ, שְׂבִי עַד-גְּמִלְךָ אֹתוֹ--אֵד יָקָם יְהוָה, אֶת-דְּבָרֹךְ; וַתֵּשֶׁב הָאִשָּׁה וַתִּינָק אֶת-בְּנָהּ, עַד-גְּמִלָּהּ אֹתוֹ. ²⁴ וַתַּעֲלֶהּ עִמָּה כַּאֲשֶׁר גָּמְלָתוֹ, בְּפָרִים שְׁלִשָּׁה וְאַיִפָּה אַחַת קֶמַח וְנָבֶל יִין, וַתִּבְאֶהּ בֵּית-יְהוָה, שָׁלוֹ; וְהַנֶּעֱר, נָעַר. ²⁵ וַיִּשְׁחָטוּ, אֶת-הַפָּר; וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶת-הַנֶּעֱר, אֶל-עַלִּי. ²⁶ וַתֹּאמֶר בִּי אֲדֹנִי, חֵי נַפְשְׁךָ אֲדֹנִי; אֲנִי הָאִשָּׁה, הַנִּצָּבֶת עִמָּכָה בְּזֶה, לְהִתְפַּלֵּל, אֶל-יְהוָה. ²⁷ אֶל-הַנֶּעֱר הַזֶּה, הִתְפַּלֵּתִי; וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה לִי אֶת-שְׁאֲלָתִי, אֲשֶׁר שָׁאֲלָתִי מִעֲמּוֹ. ²⁸ וְגַם אָנֹכִי, הִשְׁאֲלָתְהוּ לַיהוָה, כָּל-הַיָּמִים אֲשֶׁר הָיָה, הוּא שָׂאוֹל לַיהוָה; וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ שָׁם, לַיהוָה.

¹ And Hannah prayed, and said: my heart exulteth in HaShem, my horn is exalted in HaShem; my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in Thy salvation. ² There is none holy as HaShem, for there is none beside Thee; neither is there any rock like our G-d. ³ Multiply not exceeding proud talk; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth; for HaShem is a G-d of knowledge, and by Him actions are weighed. ⁴ The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. ⁵ They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry have ceased; while the barren hath borne seven, she that had many children hath languished. ⁶ HaShem killeth, and maketh alive; He bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. ⁷ HaShem maketh poor, and maketh rich; He bringeth low, He also lifteth up. ⁸ He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, He lifteth up the needy from the dung-hill, to make them sit with princes, and inherit the throne of glory; for the pillars of the earth are HaShem'S, and He hath set the world upon them. ⁹ He will keep the feet of His holy ones, but the wicked shall be put to silence in darkness; for not by strength shall man prevail. ¹⁰ They that strive with HaShem shall be broken to pieces; against them will He thunder in heaven; HaShem will judge the ends of the earth; and He will give strength unto His king, and exalt the horn of His anointed. ¹¹ And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto HaShem before Eli the priest. ¹² Now the sons of Eli were base men; they knew not HaShem. ¹³ And the custom of the priests with the people was, that, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the flesh was in seething, with a flesh-hook of three teeth in his hand; ¹⁴ and he struck it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the flesh-hook brought up the priest took therewith. So they did unto all the Israelites that came thither in Shiloh. ¹⁵ Yea, before the fat was made to smoke, the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed: 'Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw.' ¹⁶ And if the man said unto him: 'Let the fat be made to smoke first of all, and then take as much as thy soul desireth'; then he would say: 'Nay, but thou shalt give it me now; and if not, I will take it by force.' ¹⁷ And the sin of the young men was very great before HaShem; for the men dealt contemptuously with the offering of HaShem. ¹⁸ But Samuel ministered before HaShem, being a child, girded with a linen ephod. ¹⁹ Moreover his mother made him a little robe, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ And Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say: 'HaShem give thee seed of this woman for the loan which was lent to HaShem.' And they would go unto their own home. ²¹ So HaShem remembered Hannah, and she conceived, and bore three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before HaShem. ²² Now Eli was very old; and he heard all that his sons did unto all Israel, and how that they lay with the women that did service at the door of the tent of meeting. ²³ And he said unto them: 'Why do ye such things? for I hear evil reports concerning you from all this people. ²⁴ Nay, my sons; for it is no good report which I hear HaShem'S people do spread abroad. ²⁵ If one man sin against another, G-d shall judge him; but if a man sin against HaShem, who shall entreat for him?' But they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because HaShem would slay them. ²⁶ And the child Samuel grew on, and increased in favour both with HaShem, and also with men. ²⁷ And there came a man of G-d unto Eli, and said unto him: 'Thus saith HaShem: Did I reveal Myself unto the house of thy father, when they were in Egypt in bondage to Pharaoh's house? ²⁸ And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be My priest, to go up unto Mine altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before Me? and did I give unto the house of thy father all the offerings of the children of Israel made by fire? ²⁹ Wherefore kick ye at My sacrifice and at Mine offering, which I have commanded in My habitation; and honourest thy sons above Me, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the offerings of Israel My people? ³⁰ Therefore HaShem, the G-d of Israel, saith: I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before Me for ever; but now HaShem saith: Be it far from Me: for them that honour Me I will honour, and they that despise Me shall be lightly esteemed. ³¹ Behold, the days come, that I will cut off thine arm, and the arm of thy father's house, that there shall not be an old man in thy house. ³² And thou shalt behold a rival in My habitation, in all the good which shall be done to Israel; and there shall not be an old man in thy house for ever. ³³ Yet will I not cut off every man of thine from Mine altar, to make thine eyes to fail, and thy heart to languish; and all the increase of thy house shall die young men. ³⁴ And this shall be the sign unto thee, that which shall come upon thy two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas: in one day they shall die both of them. ³⁵ And I will raise Me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in My heart and in My mind; and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before Mine anointed for ever. ³⁶ And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thy house shall come and bow down to him for a piece of silver and a loaf of bread, and shall say: Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a morsel of bread.'

¹ וַתִּתְפַּלֵּל חַנָּה, וַתֹּאמֶר, עֲלֵץ לִבִּי בַיהוָה, רָמָה קַרְנִי בַיהוָה; רָחַב פִּי עַל-אוֹיְבֵי, כִּי שָׂמַחַתִּי בִישׁוּעָתְךָ. ² אֵין-קָדוֹשׁ כַּיהוָה, כִּי אֵין בִּלְתֶּךָ; וְאֵין צוּר, כְּאַלְהֵינוּ. ³ אַל-תִּרְבּוּ תִּדְבְּרוּ גְבוּהָ גְבוּהָ, יֵצֵא עֵתֶךָ מִפִּיכֶם: כִּי אַל דַּעוֹת יְהוָה, וְלֹא וְלוֹ נִתְּכֵנוּ עֲלֹלוֹת. ⁴ קָשֶׁת גְּבוּרִים, חַתִּים; וְנִבְשָׁלִים, אֲזָרוּ חֵיל. ⁵ שְׂבָעִים בִּלְחֶם נִשְׁכְּרוּ, וְרַעֲבִים חָדְלוּ, עַד-עֲקָרָה יִלְדָּה שְׂבָעָה, וְרַבַּת בָּנִים אָמְלָלָה. ⁶ יְהוָה, מָמִית וּמַחְיָה; מוֹרִיד שָׁאוֹל, וְיָעַל. ⁷ יְהוָה, מוֹרִישׁ וּמַעֲשִׂיר; מַשְׁפִּיל, אֶף-מְרוֹמָם. ⁸ מְקִים מַעְפָּר דָּל, מֵאֲשׁוּפַת יָרִים אֲבִיוֹ, לְהוֹשִׁיב עַם-גְּדִיבִים, וְכֹסֵא כְבוֹד יִנְחֹלָם: כִּי לַיהוָה מִצְקֵי אֶרֶץ, וַיִּשֶׁת עֲלֵיהֶם תֵּבֵל. ⁹ רִגְלֵי חֲסִידוֹ יִשְׁמֹר, וְרַשָּׁעִים בַּחֲשָׁךְ יִדְמּוּ: כִּי-לֹא בִכְחַ, יִגְבֵּר אִישׁ. ¹⁰ יְהוָה יַחֲתוּ מְרִיבּוֹ, עָלוּ בְשָׁמִים יִרְעֶם--יְהוָה, יִדִּין אִפְסֵי-אֶרֶץ; וַיִּתֵּן-עֵז לְמַלְכוֹ, וַיְרַם קֶרֶן מִשִּׁיחוֹ. ¹¹ וַיִּלְדָּה אֶלְקָנָה הַרְמָתָה, עַל-בֵּיתוֹ; וַהֲנִיעַר, הִזָּה מְשִׁרַת אֶת-יְהוָה, אֶת-פָּנָי, עָלֵי הַכֹּהֵן. ¹² וּבְנֵי עָלֵי, בְּנֵי בְלִיעַל: לֹא יָדְעוּ, אֶת-יְהוָה. ¹³ וּמִשְׁפַּט הַכֹּהֲנִים, אֶת-הָעָם--כָּל-אִישׁ זִבְחַ זִבְחַ, וּבֹא נֹעַר הַכֹּהֵן כְּבִשָּׁל הַבָּשָׂר, וַהֲמִזְלֵג שְׁלֹשׁ הַשָּׁנִים, בִּידּוֹ. ¹⁴ וְהִכָּה בְּכִיּוֹר אוֹ בְדוּד, אוֹ בַקְלַחַת אוֹ בַּפְּרוֹר--כָּל אִשָּׁר יַעֲלֶה הַמִּזְבֵּל, יִקַּח הַכֹּהֵן בּוֹ; כֹּכָה יַעֲשׂוּ לְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַבָּאִים שָׁם בְּשָׁלָה. ¹⁵ גַּם, בְּטָרֶם יִקְטְרוּן אֶת-הַחֶלֶב, וּבֹא נֹעַר הַכֹּהֵן וַאֲמַר לְאִישׁ הַזִּבְחַ, תִּנֵּה בָשָׂר לְצֹלוֹת לַכֹּהֵן; וְלֹא-יִקַּח מִמֶּךָ בָּשָׂר מִבָּשָׂל, כִּי אִם-חֵי. ¹⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו הָאִישׁ, קֹטֵר יִקְטְרוּן כִּיּוֹם הַחֶלֶב, וְקַח-לֶךְ, כַּאֲשֶׁר תִּאֲמָנָה בְּפֶשֶׁד; וַאֲמַר לוֹ לֹא, כִּי עֵתָה תִתֵּן--וְאִם-לֹא, לְקַחְתִּי כַחֲזָקָה. ¹⁷ וַתְּהִי חֲטָאת הַנְּעָרִים גְּדוֹלָה מְאֹד, אֶת-פָּנָי יְהוָה: כִּי נִאֲצוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים, אֶת מִנְחַת יְהוָה. ¹⁸ וּשְׁמוּאֵל, מְשִׁרַת אֶת-פָּנָי יְהוָה: נֹעַר, חֲגוּר אֲפוּד בֶּד. ¹⁹ וּמַעֲיִל קָטָן תַּעֲשֶׂה-לוֹ אִמּוֹ, וַהֲעִלָּתָה לוֹ מִיָּמִים יְמִימָה--בַּעֲלוֹתָהּ, אֶת-אִשְׁיָהּ, לִזְבֹּחַ, אֶת-זִבְחַ הַיָּמִים. ²⁰ וּבִרְדָּה עָלֵי אֶת-אֶלְקָנָה וְאֶת-אִשְׁתּוֹ, וַאֲמַר יֵשֶׁם יְהוָה לֶךְ זֶרַע מִן-הָאִשָּׁה הַזֹּאת, תַּחַת הַשָּׂאֵלָה, אֲשֶׁר שָׂאֵל לִיהוָה; וְהִלְכוּ, לְמַקְוָמוֹ. ²¹ כִּי-פָקַד יְהוָה אֶת-חַנָּה, וַתֵּהָר וַתֵּלֵד שְׁלֹשָׁה-בָנִים וּשְׁתֵּי בָנוֹת; וַיִּגְדֵּל הַנֹּעַר שְׁמוּאֵל, עַם-יְהוָה. ²² וְעָלֵי, זָקָן מְאֹד; וּשְׁמַע, אֶת כָּל-אִשָּׁר יַעֲשׂוּן בְּנָיו לְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאֶת אֲשֶׁר-יִשְׁכְּבוּן אֶת-הַנָּשִׁים, הַצָּבָאוֹת פֶּתַח אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד. ²³ וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם, לָמָּה תַעֲשִׂיוּן בְּדָבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי שֹׁמֵעַ אֶת-דְּבָרֵיכֶם רָעִים, מֵאֵת כָּל-הָעָם אֵלֶּה. ²⁴ אַל, בְּנֵי: כִּי לֹא-טוֹבָה הַשְׁמָעָה אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי שֹׁמֵעַ, מִעֲבָרִים עַם-יְהוָה. ²⁵ אִם-יִחָטֵא אִישׁ לְאִישׁ, וּפָלְלוּ אֱלֹהִים, וְאִם לַיהוָה יִחָטֵא אִישׁ, מִי יִתְפַּלֵּל-לוֹ; וְלֹא יִשְׁמְעוּ לְקוֹל אֲבִיהֶם, כִּי-חֲפֵץ יְהוָה לְהַמִּיתָם. ²⁶ וַהֲנִיעַר שְׁמוּאֵל, הַלֶּךְ וַיִּגְדֵּל וְטוֹב: גַּם, עַם-יְהוָה, וְגַם, עַם-אֲנָשִׁים. ²⁷ וַיָּבֹא אִישׁ-אֱלֹהִים, אֶל-עָלֵי; וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, הַנְּגִלָה נְגִילָתִי אֶל-בֵּית אֲבִיךָ, בַּהֲיוֹתָם בְּמִצָּרִים לְבֵית פָּרְעֹה. ²⁸ וּבַחֹר אוֹתוֹ מִכָּל-שְׂבָטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לִי, לְכַהֵן, לְעֹלוֹת עַל-מִזְבְּחִי לְהַקְטִיר קְטֹרֶת לְשֹׂאת אֲפוּד, לְפָנָי; וְאִתָּנָה לְבֵית אֲבִיךָ, אֶת-כָּל-אִשֵּׁי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. ²⁹ לָמָּה תִבְעֲטוּ, בְּזִבְחִי וּבְמִנְחָתִי, אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי, מַעוֹן; וַתִּכְבֹּד אֶת-בְּנֵיךָ, מִמֶּנִּי, לְהַבְרִיאָכֶם מִרְאשִׁית כָּל-מִנְחַת יִשְׂרָאֵל, לַעֲמִי. ³⁰ לָכֵן, נָאִם-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲמֹר אֲמַרְתִּי, בֵּיתְךָ וּבֵית אֲבִיךָ יִתְהַלְכוּ לְפָנָי עַד-עוֹלָם; וְעֵתָה נָאִם-יְהוָה חֲלִילָה לִי, כִּי-מִכְבֹּדִי אֲכַבֵּד וּבְנֵי יִקְלוּ. ³¹ הִנֵּה יָמִים בָּאִים, וְגִדְעֹתִי אֶת-זֶרְעִךָ, וְאֶת-זֶרַע בֵּית אֲבִיךָ--מֵהַיּוֹת זָקָן, בְּבִיתְךָ. ³² וְהַבְּטָת צָר מַעוֹן, כָּכָל אֲשֶׁר-יִיטִיב אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְלֹא-יְהִיָּה זָקָן בְּבִיתְךָ, כָּל-הַיָּמִים. ³³ וְאִישׁ, לֹא-אֲכָרִית לֶךְ מַעַם מִזְבְּחִי, לְכָלוֹת אֶת-עֵצֶיךָ, וְלֹאֲדִיב אֶת-נִפְשְׁךָ; וְכָל-מִרְבִּית בֵּיתְךָ, יָמוּתוּ אֲנָשִׁים. ³⁴ וְזֶה-לֶךְ הָאוֹת, אֲשֶׁר יָבֹא אֶל-שְׁנֵי בְנֵיךָ--אֶל-חֲפָנִי, וּפִינְחָס: בְּיוֹם אֶחָד, יָמוּתוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם. ³⁵ וְהִקִּמַּתִּי לִי כֹהֵן נֶאֱמָן, כַּאֲשֶׁר בִּלְבָבִי וּבְנַפְשִׁי יַעֲשֶׂה; וּבְנִיתִי לוֹ בֵּית נֶאֱמָן, וְהִתְהַלַּךְ לְפָנָי מִשִּׁיחִי כָל-הַיָּמִים. ³⁶ וְהָיָה, כָּל-הַנּוֹתָר בְּבֵיתְךָ, יָבֹא לְהַשְׁתַּחֲוֹת לוֹ, לְאִגּוּרַת כֶּסֶף וְכֶפֶר-לָחֶם; וַאֲמַר, סִפְחָנִי נָא אֶל-אֶחָת הַכֹּהֲנוֹת--לְאַחֵל פֶּת-לָחֶם.

¹ And the child Samuel ministered unto HaShem before Eli. And the word of HaShem was precious in those days; there was no frequent vision. ² And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place — now his eyes had begun to wax dim, that he could not see — ³ and the lamp of G-d was not yet gone out, and Samuel was laid down to sleep in the temple of HaShem, where the ark of G-d was, ⁴ that HaShem called Samuel; and he said: 'Here am I.' ⁵ And he ran unto Eli, and said: 'Here am I; for thou didst call me.' And he said: 'I called not; lie down again.' And he went and lay down. ⁶ And HaShem called yet again Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said: 'Here am I; for thou didst call me.' And he answered: 'I called not, my son; lie down again.' ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know HaShem, neither was the word of HaShem yet revealed unto him. ⁸ And HaShem called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said: 'Here am I; for thou didst call me.' And Eli perceived that HaShem was calling the child. ⁹ Therefore Eli said unto Samuel: 'Go, lie down; and it shall be, if thou be called, that thou shalt say: Speak, HaShem; for Thy servant heareth.' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ And HaShem came, and stood, and called as at other times: 'Samuel, Samuel.' Then Samuel said: 'Speak; for Thy servant heareth.' ¹¹ And HaShem said to Samuel: 'Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle. ¹² In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from the beginning even unto the end. ¹³ For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever, for the iniquity, in that he knew that his sons did bring a curse upon themselves, and he rebuked them not. ¹⁴ And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated with sacrifice nor offering for ever.' ¹⁵ And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of HaShem. And Samuel feared to tell Eli the vision. ¹⁶ Then Eli called Samuel, and said: 'Samuel, my son.' And he said: 'Here am I.' ¹⁷ And he said: 'What is the thing that He hath spoken unto thee? I pray thee, hide it not from me, G-d do so to thee, and more also, if thou hide any thing from me of all the things that He spoke unto thee.' ¹⁸ And Samuel told him all the words, and hid nothing from him. And he said: 'It is HaShem; let Him do what seemeth Him good.' ¹⁹ And Samuel grew, and HaShem was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan even to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of HaShem. ²¹ And HaShem appeared again in Shiloh; for HaShem revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of HaShem.

¹ והנער שמואל משרת את-יהוה, לפני עלי; ודבר-יהוה, הנה יקר בימים ההם--אין חזון, נפרץ. ² ויהי ביום ההוא, ועלי שכב במקומו; ועינו החלו כהות, לא יוכל לראות. ³ וגר אלהים טרם יכבה, ושמואל שכב, בהיכל יהוה, אשר-שם ארון אלהים. ⁴ ויקרא יהוה אל-שמואל, ויאמר הנני. ⁵ וירץ אל-עלי, ויאמר הנני כי-קראת לי, ויאמר לא-קראתי, שוב שכב; וילך, וישכב. ⁶ ויסף יהוה, קרא עוד שמואל, ויקם שמואל וילך אל-עלי, ויאמר הנני כי קראת לי; ויאמר לא-קראתי בני, שוב שכב. ⁷ ושמואל, טרם ידע את-יהוה; וטרם יגלה אליו, דבר-יהוה. ⁸ ויסף יהוה קרא-שמואל, בשלישת, ויקם וילך אל-עלי, ויאמר הנני כי קראת לי; ויבן עלי, כי יהוה קרא לנער. ⁹ ויאמר עלי לשמואל, לך שכב, והיה אם-יקרא אליך, ואמרת דבר יהוה כי שמע עבדך; וילך שמואל, וישכב במקומו. ¹⁰ ויבא יהוה ויתיצב, ויקרא כפעם-בפעם שמואל שמואל; ויאמר שמואל דבר, כי שמע עבדך. ¹¹ ויאמר יהוה אל-שמואל, הנה אנכי עשה דבר בישראל: אשר, כל-שמעו--תצלינה, שתי אזניו. ¹² ביום ההוא אקים אל-עלי, את כל-אשר דברתי אל-ביתו--החל, וכלה. ¹³ והגדתי לו, כי-שפט אני את-ביתו עד-עולם--בעון אשר-ידע, כי-מקללים להם בניו, ולא כהה, בם. ¹⁴ ולכן נשבעתי, לבית עלי: אם-יתכפר עון בית-עלי, בזבח ובמנחה--עד-עולם. ¹⁵ וישכב שמואל עד-הבקר, ויפתח את-דלתות בית-יהוה; ושמואל ירא, מהגיד את-המראה אל-עלי. ¹⁶ ויקרא עלי את-שמואל, ויאמר שמואל בני; ויאמר, הנני. ¹⁷ ויאמר, מה הדבר אשר דבר אליך--אל-נא תכחד, ממני: כה יעשה-לך אלהים, וכה יוסיף, אם-תכחד ממני דבר, מכל-הדבר אשר-דבר אליך. ¹⁸ ויגד-לו שמואל את-כל-הדברים, ולא כחד ממנו; ויאמר--יהוה הוא, הטוב בעינו יעשה. ¹⁹ ויגדל שמואל; ויהוה היה עמו, ולא הפיל מכל-דבריו ארצה. ²⁰ וידע, כל-ישראל, מִדֵּן, ועד-באר שבע: כי נאמן שמואל, לנביא ליהוה. ²¹ ויסף יהוה, להראה בשלה: כי-נגלה יהוה אל-שמואל בשלח, בדבר יהוה.

¹ And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and pitched beside Eben-ezer; and the Philistines pitched in Aphek. ² And the Philistines put themselves in array against Israel; and when the battle was spread, Israel was smitten before the Philistines; and they slew of the army in the field about four thousand men. ³ And when the people were come into the camp, the elders of Israel said: 'Wherefore hath HaShem smitten us to-day before the Philistines? Let us fetch the ark of the covenant of HaShem out of Shiloh unto us, that He may come among us, and save us out of the hand of our enemies.' ⁴ So the people sent to Shiloh, and they brought from thence the ark of the covenant of HaShem of hosts, who sitteth upon the cherubim; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of G-d. ⁵ And when the ark of the covenant of HaShem came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth rang. ⁶ And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said: 'What meaneth the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews?' And they knew that the ark of HaShem was come into the camp. ⁷ And the Philistines were afraid, for they said: 'G-d is come into the camp.' And they said: 'Woe unto us! for there was not such a thing yesterday and the day before. ⁸ Woe unto us! who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty gods? these are the gods that smote the Egyptians with all manner of plagues and in the wilderness. ⁹ Be strong, and quit yourselves like men, O ye Philistines, that ye be not servants unto the Hebrews, as they have been to you; quit yourselves like men, and fight.' ¹⁰ And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man to his tent; and there was a very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen. ¹¹ And the ark of G-d was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain. ¹² And there ran a man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes rent, and with earth upon his head. ¹³ And when he came, lo, Eli sat upon his seat by the wayside watching; for his heart trembled for the ark of G-d. And when the man came into the city, and told it, all the city cried out. ¹⁴ And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said: 'What meaneth the noise of this tumult?' And the man made haste, and came and told Eli. ¹⁵ Now Eli was ninety and eight years old; and his eyes were set, that he could not see. ¹⁶ And the man said unto Eli: 'I am he that came out of the army, and I fled to-day out of the army.' And he said: 'How went the matter, my son?' ¹⁷ And he that brought the tidings answered and said: 'Israel is fled before the Philistines, and there hath been also a great slaughter among the people, and thy two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of G-d is taken.' ¹⁸ And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of G-d, that he fell from off his seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck broke, and he died; for he was an old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years. ¹⁹ And his daughter-in-law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, near to be delivered; and when she heard the tidings that the ark of G-d was taken, and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and brought forth; for her pains came suddenly upon her. ²⁰ And about the time of her death the women that stood by her said unto her: 'Fear not; for thou hast brought forth a son.' But she answered not, neither did she regard it. ²¹ And she named the child Ichabod, saying: 'The glory is departed from Israel'; because the ark of G-d was taken, and because of her father-in-law and her husband. ²² And she said: 'The glory is departed from Israel; for the ark of G-d is taken.'

¹ ויהי דבר-שמואל, לכל-ישראל; ויצא ישראל לקראת פלשתים למלחמה, ויחנו על-האֶבְנֵי הָעֶזֶר, ופלשתים, חנו באֶפֶק. ² ויערכו פלשתים לקראת ישראל, ותטש המלחמה, וינגף ישראל, לפני פלשתים; ויכו במערכה בשדה, כארבעת אלפים איש. ³ ויבא העם, אל-המחנה, ויאמרו זקני ישראל, למה נגפנו יהוה היום לפני פלשתים; נקחה אלינו משלה, את-אֶרֶוֹן בְּרִית יְהוָה, ויבא בקרבנו, וישענו מכף איבינו. ⁴ וישלח העם, שלה, וישאו משם את אֶרֶוֹן בְּרִית-יְהוָה צבאות, ישב הכרבים; ושם שני בני-עלי, עם-אֶרֶוֹן בְּרִית הָאֱלֹהִים--חֲפִנִי, ופינחס. ⁵ ויהי, כבוא אֶרֶוֹן בְּרִית-יְהוָה אל-המחנה, וירעו כל-ישראל, תרועה גדולה; ותהם, הארץ. ⁶ וישמעו פלשתים, את-קול התרועה, ויאמרו, מה קול התרועה הגדולה הזאת במחנה העברים; וידעו--כי אֶרֶוֹן יְהוָה, בא אל-המחנה. ⁷ ויראו, הפלשתים--כי אמרו, בא אֱלֹהִים אל-המחנה; ויאמרו אוי לנו, כי לא היתה כזאת אֶתְמוֹל שלשם. ⁸ אוי לנו--מי יצילנו, מיד האֱלֹהִים האדירים האלה; אלה הם האֱלֹהִים, המכים את-מִצְרַיִם בכל-מכה--במדבר. ⁹ התחזקו והיו לאנשים, פלשתים--פן תעבדו לעברים, כאשר עבדו לכם; והייתם לאנשים, ונלחמתם. ¹⁰ וילחמו פלשתים, וינגף ישראל ויגסו איש לאהליו, ותהי המכה, גדולה מאד; ויפל, מישראל, שלשים אלף, רגלי. ¹¹ ואֶרֶוֹן אֱלֹהִים, נלקח; ושני בני-עלי מתו, חֲפִנִי ופינחס. ¹² וירץ איש-בנִימָן מהמערכה, ויבא שלה ביום ההוא; ומדיו קרעים, ואדמה על-ראשו. ¹³ ויבוא, והנה עלי ישב על-הפסא יד יד דָּרָךְ מִצָּפָה--כי הנה לבו חרד, על אֶרֶוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים; והאיש, בא להגיד בעיר, ותזעק, כל-העיר. ¹⁴ וישמע עלי, את-קול הצֶעֱקָה, ויאמר, מה קול ההמון הזה; והאיש מהר, ויבא ויגד לעלי. ¹⁵ ועלי, בן-תשעים ושמנה שנה; ועיניו קמה, ולא יכול לראות. ¹⁶ ויאמר האיש אל-עלי, אנכי הבא מן-המערכה, ואני, מן-המערכה נסתי היום; ויאמר מה-היה הדבר, בני. ¹⁷ ויען המבשר ויאמר, נס ישראל לפני פלשתים, וגם מגפה גדולה, היתה בעם; וגם-שני בניך מתו, חֲפִנִי ופינחס, ואֶרֶוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, נלקחה. ¹⁸ ויהי כהזכירו את-אֶרֶוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, ויפל מעל-הפסא אחרנית בעד יד השער ותשבר מפרקתו וימת--כי זקן האיש, וכבד; והוא שפט את-ישראל, ארבעים שנה. ¹⁹ וכלתו אשת-פינחס, הרה ללת, ותשמע את-השמועה אל-הלֶקַח אֶרֶוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, ומת חמיה ואישה; ותכרע ותלד, כי-נהפכו עליה צריה. ²⁰ וכעת מותה, ותדברנה הנצבות עליה, אל-תיראי, כי בן ילדת; ולא ענתה, ולא-שתה לבה. ²¹ ותקרא לנער, איכבוד לאמר, גלה כבוד, מישראל; אל-הלֶקַח אֶרֶוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, ואֶל-חמיה ואישה. ²² ותאמר, גלה כבוד מישראל; כי נלקח, אֶרֶוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים.

¹ Now the Philistines had taken the ark of G-d, and they brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod. ² And the Philistines took the ark of G-d, and brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon. ³ And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of HaShem. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again. ⁴ And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of HaShem; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands lay cut off upon the threshold; only the trunk of Dagon was left to him. ⁵ Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day. ⁶ But the hand of HaShem was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and He destroyed them, and smote them with emerods, even Ashdod and the borders thereof. ⁷ And when the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said: 'The ark of the G-d of Israel shall not abide with us; for His hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our god.' ⁸ They sent therefore and gathered all the lords of the Philistines unto them, and said: 'What shall we do with the ark of the G-d of Israel?' And they answered: 'Let the ark of the G-d of Israel be carried about unto Gath.' And they carried the ark of the G-d of Israel about thither. ⁹ And it was so, that, after they had carried it about, the hand of HaShem was against the city with a very great discomfiture; and He smote the men of the city, both small and great, and emerods broke out upon them. ¹⁰ So they sent the ark of G-d to Ekron. And it came to pass, as the ark of G-d came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying: 'They have brought about the ark of the G-d of Israel to us, to slay us and our people.' ¹¹ They sent therefore and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and they said: 'Send away the ark of the G-d of Israel, and let it go back to its own place, that it slay us not, and our people'; for there was a deadly discomfiture throughout all the city; the hand of G-d was very heavy there. ¹² And the men that died not were smitten with the emerods; and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

¹ וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, לָקְחוּ, אֶת, אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים; וַיִּבְאֵהוּ מֵאֶבֶן הַעֶזֶר, אֲשֶׁדּוּדָה. ² וַיִּקְחוּ פְלִשְׁתִּים אֶת-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, וַיִּבְאוּ אֹתוֹ בֵּית דָּגוֹן; וַיִּצְיִגּוּ אֹתוֹ, אֶצֶל דָּגוֹן. ³ וַיִּשְׁכְּמוּ אֲשֶׁדּוּדִים, מִמַּחֲרַת, וַהֲנִה דָּגוֹן נָפֵל לִפְנֵי אֲרֻצָּה, לִפְנֵי אֲרוֹן יְהוָה; וַיִּקְחוּ, אֶת-דָּגוֹן, וַיִּשְׁבּוּ אֹתוֹ, לְמִקְוָמוֹ. ⁴ וַיִּשְׁכְּמוּ בַבֶּקֶר, מִמַּחֲרַת, וַהֲנִה דָּגוֹן נָפֵל לִפְנֵי אֲרֻצָּה, לִפְנֵי אֲרוֹן יְהוָה; וַרְאֵשׁ דָּגוֹן וּשְׁתֵּי כַפּוֹת יָדָיו, כָּרְתוֹת אֶל-הַמִּפְתָּן--רַק דָּגוֹן, נִשְׁאָר עָלָיו. ⁵ עַל-כֵּן לֹא-יֵדְרְכוּ כַהֲנֵי דָּגוֹן וְכָל-הַבָּאִים בֵּית-דָּגוֹן, עַל-מִפְתָּן דָּגוֹן--בְּאֲשֶׁדּוּד: עַד, הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. ⁶ וַתִּכְבַּד יַד-יְהוָה אֶל-הָאֲשֶׁדּוּדִים, וַיִּשָּׁמֶם; וַיָּד אֲתָם בַּעֲפָלִים בְּטַחֲרִים, אֶת-אֲשֶׁדּוּד וְאֶת-גְּבוּלִיהָ. ⁷ וַיֵּרְאוּ אֲנָשֵׁי-אֲשֶׁדּוּד, כִּי-כֵן; וַאֲמָרוּ, לֹא-יָשֵׁב אֲרוֹן אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּנוּ--כִּי-קִשְׁתָּהּ יָדוֹ עָלֵינוּ, וְעַל דָּגוֹן אֱלֹהֵינוּ. ⁸ וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ וַיֹּאסְפוּ אֶת-כָּל-סַרְנֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים אֲלֵיהֶם, וַיֹּאמְרוּ מֶה-נַּעֲשֶׂה לְאֲרוֹן אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיֹּאמְרוּ, גַּת יֹסֵב אֲרוֹן אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיִּסְבוּ, אֶת-אֲרוֹן אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. ⁹ וַיְהִי אַחֲרֵי הַסִּבּוֹ אֹתוֹ, וַתְּהִי יַד-יְהוָה בְּעִיר מְהוֹמָה גְּדוֹלָה מְאֹד, וַיָּד אֶת-אֲנָשֵׁי הָעִיר, מִקְטָן וְעַד-גְּדוֹל; וַיִּשְׁתְּרוּ לָהֶם, עַפְלִים טַחֲרִים. ¹⁰ וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ אֶת-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, עֶקְרוֹן; וַיְהִי, כְּבּוֹא אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים עֶקְרוֹן, וַיִּזְעְקוּ הָעֶקְרָנִים לֵאמֹר הַסִּבּוֹ אֵלֵי אֶת-אֲרוֹן אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְהַמִּיתָנִי וְאֶת-עַמִּי. ¹¹ וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ וַיֹּאסְפוּ אֶת-כָּל-סַרְנֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים, וַיֹּאמְרוּ שְׁלַחוּ אֶת-אֲרוֹן אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּשְׁבּוּ לְמִקְוָמוֹ, וְלֹא-יָמִית אֹתִי, וְאֶת-עַמִּי: כִּי-הָיְתָה מְהוֹמַת-מָוֶת בְּכָל-הָעִיר, כְּבָדָה מְאֹד יַד הָאֱלֹהִים שָׁם. ¹² וְהָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר לֹא-מָתוּ, הָכּוּ בַעֲפָלִים בְּטַחֲרִים; וַתַּעַל שׁוֹעַת הָעִיר, הַשָּׁמַיִם.

¹ And the ark of HaShem was in the country of the Philistines seven months. ² And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying: 'What shall we do with the ark of HaShem? declare unto us wherewith we shall send it to its place.' ³ And they said: 'If ye send away the ark of the G-d of Israel, send it not empty; but in any wise return Him a guilt-offering; then ye shall be healed, and it shall be known to you why His hand is not removed from you.' ⁴ Then said they: 'What shall be the guilt-offering which we shall return to Him?' And they said: 'Five golden emerods, and five golden mice, according to the number of the lords of the Philistines; for one plague was on you all, and on your lords. ⁵ Wherefore ye shall make images of your emerods, and images of your mice that mar the land; and ye shall give glory unto the G-d of Israel; peradventure He will lighten His hand from off you, and from off your gods, and from off your land. ⁶ Wherefore then do ye harden your hearts, as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? when He had wrought among them, did they not let the people go, and they departed? ⁷ Now therefore take and prepare you a new cart, and two milch kine, on which there hath come no yoke, and tie the kine to the cart, and bring their calves home from them. ⁸ And take the ark of HaShem, and lay it upon the cart; and put the jewels of gold, which ye return Him for a guilt-offering, in a coffer by the side thereof; and send it away, that it may go. ⁹ And see, if it goeth up by the way of its own border to Beth-shemesh, then He hath done us this great evil; but if not, then we shall know that it is not His hand that smote us; it was a chance that happened to us.' ¹⁰ And the men did so; and took two milch kine, and tied them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home. ¹¹ And they put the ark of HaShem upon the cart, and the coffer with the mice of gold and the images of their emerods. ¹² And the kine took the straight way by the way to Beth-shemesh; they went along the highway, lowing as they went, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left; and the lords of the Philistines went after them unto the border of Beth-shemesh. ¹³ And they of Beth-shemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley; and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see it. ¹⁴ And the cart came into the field of Joshua the Beth-shemite, and stood there, where there was a great stone; and they cleaved the wood of the cart, and offered up the kine for a burnt-offering unto HaShem. ¹⁵ And the Levites took down the ark of HaShem, and the coffer that was with it, wherein the jewels of gold were, and put them on the great stone; and the men of Beth-shemesh offered burnt-offerings and sacrificed sacrifices the same day unto HaShem. ¹⁶ And when the five lords of the Philistines had seen it, they returned to Ekron the same day. ¹⁷ And these are the golden emerods which the Philistines returned for a guilt-offering unto HaShem: for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Ashkelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one; ¹⁸ and the golden mice, according to the number of all the cities of the Philistines belonging to the five lords, both of fortified cities and of country villages, even unto Abel by the great stone, whereon they set down the ark of HaShem, which stone remaineth unto this day in the field of Joshua the Beth-shemite. ¹⁹ And He smote of the men of Beth-shemesh, because they had gazed upon the ark of HaShem, even He smote of the people seventy men, and fifty thousand men; and the people mourned, because HaShem had smitten the people with a great slaughter. ²⁰ And the men of Beth-shemesh said: 'Who is able to stand before HaShem, this holy G-d? and to whom shall it go up from us?' ²¹ And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kiriath-jearim, saying: 'The Philistines have brought back the ark of HaShem; come ye down, and fetch it up to you.'

¹ ויהי ארון יהוה בשדה פלשתים, שבועה חדשים. ² ויקראו פלשתים, לפהגים ולקסמים לאמר, מה-נעשה, לארון יהוה: הודענו, במה נשלחנו למקומו. ³ ויאמרו, אם-משלחים את-ארון אלהי ישראל אל-תשלחו אתו ריקם--כי-השב תשיבו לו, אשם; אז תרפאו ונודע לכם, למה לא-תסור ידו מכם. ⁴ ויאמרו, מה האשם אשר נשיב לו, ויאמרו מספר סרני פלשתים, חמשה עפלי טחרי זהב וחמשה עכברי זהב: כי-מגפה אחת לכלם, ולסרניכם. ⁵ ועשיתם צלמי עפליכם טחריכם וצלמי עכבריכם, המשחיתם את-הארץ, ונתתם לאלהי ישראל, כבוד; אולי, יקל את-ידו מעליכם, ומעל אלהיכם, ומעל ארצכם. ⁶ ולמה תכבדו את-לבבכם, כאשר כבדו מצרים ופרעה את-לבם: הלא כאשר התעלל בהם, וישלחום וילכו. ⁷ ועתה, קחו ועשו עגלה חדשה אחת, ושתי פרות עלות, אשר לא-עלה עליהם על; ואסרתם את-הפרות בעגלה, והשיבתם בניהם מאחריהם הביתה. ⁸ ולקחתם את-ארון יהוה, ונתתם אתו אל-העגלה, ואת כלי הזהב אשר השבתם לו אשם, תשימו בארגז מצדו; ושלחתם אתו, והלך. ⁹ וראיתם, אם-דרך גבולו יעלה בית שמש--הוא עשה לנו, את-הרעה הגדולה הזאת; ואם-לא, וידענו כי לא ידו נגעה בנו--מקרה הוא, היה לנו. ¹⁰ ויעשו האנשים, כן, ויקחו שתי פרות עלות, ויאסרום בעגלה; ואת-בניהם, פלו בבית. ¹¹ וישמו את-ארון יהוה, אל-העגלה; ואת הארגז, ואת עכברי הזהב, ואת, צלמי טחריהם. ¹² וישרנה הפרות בדרך, על-דרך בית שמש, במסלה אחת הלוך וגעו, ולא-סרו ימין ושמאל; וסרני פלשתים הלכים אחריהם, עד-גבול בית שמש. ¹³ ובית שמש, קצרים קציר-חטים בעמק; וישאו את-עיניהם, ויראו את-הארון, וישמחו, לראות. ¹⁴ והעגלה באה אל-שדה יהושע בית-השמי, ותעמד שם, ושם, אבן גדולה; ויבקעו, את-עצי העגלה, ואת-הפרות, העלו עליה ליהוה. ¹⁵ והלויים הורידו את-ארון יהוה, ואת-הארגז אשר-בו כלי-זהב, וישמו, אל-האבן הגדולה; ואנשי בית-שמש, העלו עלות ויזבחו וזבחים ביום ההוא--ליהוה. ¹⁶ וחמשה סרני-פלשתים, ראו; וישבו עקרון, ביום ההוא. ¹⁷ ואלה טחרי הזהב, אשר השיבו פלשתים אשם ליהוה: לאשדוד אחד לעזה אחד, לאשקלון אחד, לגת אחד, לעקרון אחד. ¹⁸ ועכברי הזהב, מספר כל-ערי פלשתים לחמשת הסרנים--מעיר מבצר, ועד כפר הפרזי; ועד אביל הגדולה, אשר הניחו עליה את ארון יהוה, עד היום הזה, בשדה יהושע בית השמי. ¹⁹ וידו באנשי בית-שמש, כי ראו בארון יהוה, וידו בעם שבעים איש, חמשים אלף איש; ויתאבלו העם, כי-הכה יהוה בעם מכה גדולה. ²⁰ ויאמרו, אנשי בית-שמש, מי יוכל לעמד, לפני יהוה האלהים הקדוש הזה; ואל-מי, יעלה מעלינו. ²¹ וישלחו, מלאכים, אל-יושבי קרית-יערים, לאמר: השבו פלשתים, את-ארון יהוה--רדו, העלו אתו אליכם.

¹ And the men of Kiriath-jearim came, and fetched up the ark of HaShem, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of HaShem. ² And it came to pass, from the day that the ark abode in Kiriath-jearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years; and all the house of Israel yearned after HaShem. ³ And Samuel spoke unto all the house of Israel, saying: 'If ye do return unto HaShem with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from among you, and direct your hearts unto HaShem, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.' ⁴ Then the children of Israel did put away the Baalim and the Ashtaroth, and served HaShem only. ⁵ And Samuel said: 'Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray for you unto HaShem.' ⁶ And they gathered together to Mizpah, and drew water, and poured it out before HaShem, and fasted on that day, and said there: 'We have sinned against HaShem.' And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpah. ⁷ And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines. ⁸ And the children of Israel said to Samuel: 'Cease not to cry unto HaShem our G-d for us, that He save us out of the hand of the Philistines.' ⁹ And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a whole burnt-offering unto HaShem; and Samuel cried unto HaShem for Israel; and HaShem answered him. ¹⁰ And as Samuel was offering up the burnt-offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel; but HaShem thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten down before Israel. ¹¹ And the men of Israel went out of Mizpah, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Beth-car. ¹² Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and called the name of it Eben-ezer, saying: 'Hitherto hath HaShem helped us.' ¹³ So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more within the border of Israel; and the hand of HaShem was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. ¹⁴ And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even unto Gath; and the border thereof did Israel deliver out of the hand of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites. ¹⁵ And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. ¹⁶ And he went from year to year in circuit to Beth-el, and Gilgal, and Mizpah; and he judged Israel in all those places. ¹⁷ And his return was to Ramah, for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and he built there an altar unto HaShem.

¹ וַיָּבֹאוּ אֲנָשֵׁי קִרְיַת יְעָרִים, וַיַּעֲלוּ אֶת-אֲרוֹן יְהוָה, וַיָּבֹאוּ אוֹתוֹ, אֶל-בֵּית אֲבִינָדָב בְּגִבְעָה; וְאֶת-אֶלְעָזָר בְּנוֹ קִדְּשׁוּ, לְשֹׁמֵר אֶת-אֲרוֹן יְהוָה. ² וַיְהִי, מִיּוֹם שָׁבַת הָאֲרוֹן בְּקִרְיַת יְעָרִים, וַיִּרְבוּ הַיָּמִים, וַיְהִיו עֲשָׂרִים שָׁנָה; וַיִּנְהוּ כָּל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, אַחֲרֵי יְהוָה. ³ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-כָּל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר, אִם-בְּכָל-לִבְכֶּם אַתֶּם שֹׁבִים אֶל-יְהוָה, הִסִּירוּ אֶת-אֱלֹהֵי הַנֶּכֶר מִתּוֹכְכֶם וְהַעֲשִׂתוּת; וְהָכִינוּ לִבְכֶּם אֶל-יְהוָה וְעִבְדֵהוּ לְבָדוֹ, וַיִּצַּל אֶתְכֶם מִיַּד פְּלִשְׁתִּים. ⁴ וַיִּסִּירוּ בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶת-הַבַּעַלִּים וְאֶת-הָעֲשֻׁתֹת; וַיַּעֲבֹדוּ אֶת-יְהוָה, לְבָדוֹ. ⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, קִבְּצוּ אֶת-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל הַמִּצְפָּתָה; וְאֶתְפַּלֵּל בַּעֲדְכֶם, אֶל-יְהוָה. ⁶ וַיִּקְבְּצוּ הַמִּצְפָּתָה וַיִּשָּׂאבוּ-מִים וַיִּשְׁפְּכוּ לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, וַיְצוּמוּ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, וַיֹּאמְרוּ שָׁם, חָטֵאנוּ לַיהוָה; וַיִּשְׁפֹּט שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, בַּמִּצְפָּה. ⁷ וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים, כִּי-הִתְקַבְּצוּ בְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל הַמִּצְפָּתָה, וַיַּעֲלוּ סַרְנֵי-פְלִשְׁתִּים, אֶל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיִּרְאוּ מִפְּנֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים. ⁸ וַיֹּאמְרוּ בְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, אֵל-תַּחֲרֹשׁ מִמֶּנּוּ, מִזַּעַק אֶל-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ; וַיִּשְׁעֲנוּ, מִיַּד פְּלִשְׁתִּים. ⁹ וַיִּקַּח שְׁמוּאֵל, טֹלָה חֶלֶב אֶחָד, וַיַּעֲלֶה וַיַּעֲלֶהוּ עוֹלָה כָּלִיל, לַיהוָה; וַיִּזְעַק שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יְהוָה בְּעֵד יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיַּעֲנֶהוּ יְהוָה. ¹⁰ וַיְהִי שְׁמוּאֵל, מַעֲלָה הָעוֹלָה, וּפְלִשְׁתִּים נִגְשׁוּ, לְמַלְחָמָה בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיִּרְעַם יְהוָה בְּקוֹל-גָּדוֹל בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא עַל-פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיַּהַמֵם, וַיַּנַּגְפוּ, לִפְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. ¹¹ וַיֵּצְאוּ אֲנָשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִן-הַמִּצְפָּה, וַיִּרְדְּפוּ, אֶת-פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיָּכּוּם, עַד-מִתַּחַת לְבֵית כָּר. ¹² וַיִּקַּח שְׁמוּאֵל אֶבֶן אַחַת, וַיִּשֶׁם בֵּין-הַמִּצְפָּה וּבֵין הַשָּׁן, וַיִּקְרָא אֶת-שְׁמָהּ, אֶבֶן הָעֶזֶר; וַיֹּאמֶר, עַד-הַנָּה עֲזָרְנוּ יְהוָה. ¹³ וַיִּכְנְעוּ, הַפְּלִשְׁתִּים, וְלֹא-יָסְפוּ עוֹד, לָבוֹא בְּגִבּוֹל יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַתְּהִי יַד-יְהוָה בְּפְלִשְׁתִּים, כָּל יְמֵי שְׁמוּאֵל. ¹⁴ וַתִּשְׁכְּנֶה הָעָרִים אֲשֶׁר לְקַחוּ-פְּלִשְׁתִּים מֵאֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל לְיִשְׂרָאֵל, מֵעַקְרוֹן וְעַד-גֹּת, וְאֶת-גִּבְיֹן, הֲצִיל יִשְׂרָאֵל מִיַּד פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיְהִי שָׁלוֹם, בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבֵין הָעָמִרִי. ¹⁵ וַיִּשְׁפֹּט שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל, כָּל יְמֵי חַיָּיו. ¹⁶ וְהַלֵּךְ, מִדֵּי שָׁנָה בְּשָׁנָה, וְסָבַב בֵּית-אֵל, וְהַגִּלְגָּל וְהַמִּצְפָּה; וְשָׁפֹט, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל--אֶת כָּל-הַמְּקוֹמוֹת, הָאֵלֶּה. ¹⁷ וַתִּשְׁכְּתוּ הָרָמָתָה כִּי-שָׁם בֵּיתוֹ, וְשָׁם שָׁפֹט אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיְכֹן-שָׁם מִזְבֵּחַ, לַיהוָה.

¹ And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. ² Now the name of his first-born was Joel; and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beer-sheba. ³ And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted justice. ⁴ Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah. ⁵ And they said unto him: 'Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways; now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.' ⁶ But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said: 'Give us a king to judge us.' And Samuel prayed unto HaShem. ⁷ And HaShem said unto Samuel: 'Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee; for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected Me, that I should not be king over them. ⁸ According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, in that they have forsaken Me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. ⁹ Now therefore hearken unto their voice; howbeit thou shalt earnestly forewarn them, and shalt declare unto them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.' ¹⁰ And Samuel told all the words of HaShem unto the people that asked of him a king. ¹¹ And he said: 'This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: he will take your sons, and appoint them unto him, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and they shall run before his chariots. ¹² And he will appoint them unto him for captains of thousands, and captains of fifties; and to plow his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and the instruments of his chariots. ¹³ And he will take your daughters to be perfumers, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. ¹⁴ And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. ¹⁵ And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. ¹⁶ And he will take your men-servants, and your maid-servants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. ¹⁷ He will take the tenth of your flocks; and ye shall be his servants. ¹⁸ And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king whom ye shall have chosen you; and HaShem will not answer you in that day.' ¹⁹ But the people refused to hearken unto the voice of Samuel; and they said: 'Nay; but there shall be a king over us; ²⁰ that we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.' ²¹ And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he spoke them in the ears of HaShem. ²² And HaShem said to Samuel: 'Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king.' And Samuel said unto the men of Israel: 'Go ye every man unto his city.'

¹ ויהי, כאשר זקן שמואל; וישם את-בניו שפטים, לישראל. ² ויהי שם-בנו הבכור יואל, ושם משנהו אביה--שפטים, בבאר שבע. ³ ולא-הלכו בניו בדרך, וישו אחרי הבצע; ויקחו-שחד--וישו, משפט. ⁴ ויתקבצו, כל זקני ישראל; ויבאו אל-שמואל, הרמתה. ⁵ ויאמרו אליו, הנה אתה זקנת, ובניך, לא הלכו בדרךך; עתה, שימה-לנו מלך לשפטנו--ככל-הגוים. ⁶ וירע הדבר, בעיני שמואל, כאשר אמרו, תנה-לנו מלך לשפטנו; ויתפלל שמואל, אל-יהוה. ⁷ ויאמר יהוה, אל-שמואל, שמע בקול העם, לכל אשר-יאמרו אליך: כי לא אתך מאסו, כי-אתי מאסו ממלך עליהם. ⁸ ככל-המעשים אשר-עשו, מיום העלתי אותם ממצרים ועד-היום הזה, ויעבדו אלהים אחרים--כן המה עשים, גם-לך. ⁹ ועתה, שמע בקולם: אך, כי-העד תעיד בהם, והגדת להם, משפט המלך אשר ימלך עליהם. ¹⁰ ויאמר שמואל, את כל-דברי יהוה, אל-העם, השאלים מאתו מלך. ¹¹ ויאמר--זה יהיה משפט המלך, אשר ימלך עליכם: את-בניכם יקח, ושם לו במרפבתו ובפרשיו, ורצו, לפני מרפבתו. ¹² ולשום לו, שרי אֶלפים ושרי חמשים; ולחרש חרישו ולקצר קצירו, ולעשות כלי-מלחמתו וכלי רכבו. ¹³ ואת-בנותיכם, יקח, לרקחות ולטבחות, ולאפות. ¹⁴ ואת-שדותיכם ואת-כרמיכם וזיתיכם, הטובים--יקח; ונתן, לעבדיו. ¹⁵ וזרעיכם וכרמיכם, יעשר; ונתן לסריסיו, ולעבדיו. ¹⁶ ואת-עבדיכם ואת-שפחותיכם ואת-בחוריכם הטובים, ואת-חמוריכם--יקח; ועשה, למלאכתו. ¹⁷ צאנכם, יעשר; ואתם, תהיו-לו לעבדים. ¹⁸ וזעקתם, ביום ההוא, מלפני מלככם, אשר בחרתם לכם; ולא-יענה יהוה אתכם, ביום ההוא. ¹⁹ וימאנו העם, לשמע בקול שמואל; ויאמרו לא, כי אם-מלך יהיה עלינו. ²⁰ והיינו גם-אנחנו, ככל-הגוים; ושפטנו מלכנו ונצא לפניו, ונלחם את-מלחמתנו. ²¹ וישמע שמואל, את כל-דברי העם; וידברם, באזני יהוה. ²² ויאמר יהוה אל-שמואל שמע בקולם, והמלכת להם מלך; ויאמר שמואל אל-אנשי ישראל, לכו איש לעירו.

¹ Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Becorath, the son of Aphiah, the son of a Benjamite, a mighty man of valour. ² And he had a son, whose name was Saul, young and goodly, and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people. ³ Now the asses of Kish Saul's father were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son: 'Take now one of the servants with thee, and arise, go seek the asses.' ⁴ And he passed through the hill-country of Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalishah, but they found them not; then they passed through the land of Shaalim, and there they were not; and he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they found them not. ⁵ When they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant that was with him: 'Come and let us return; lest my father leave caring for the asses, and become anxious concerning us.' ⁶ And he said unto him: 'Behold now, there is in this city a man of G-d, and he is a man that is held in honour; all that he saith cometh surely to pass; now let us go thither; peradventure he can tell us concerning our journey whereon we go.' ⁷ Then said Saul to his servant: 'But, behold, if we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and there is not a present to bring to the man of G-d; what have we?' ⁸ And the servant answered Saul again, and said: 'Behold, I have in my hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver, that will I give to the man of G-d, to tell us our way.' — ⁹ Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of G-d, thus he said: 'Come and let us go to the seer'; for he that is now called a prophet was beforetime called a seer. — ¹⁰ Then said Saul to his servant: 'Well said; come, let us go.' So they went unto the city where the man of G-d was. ¹¹ As they went up the ascent to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said unto them: 'Is the seer here?' ¹² And they answered them, and said: 'He is; behold, he is before thee; make haste now, for he is come to-day into the city; for the people have a sacrifice to-day in the high place.' ¹³ As soon as ye are come into the city, ye shall straightway find him, before he go up to the high place to eat; for the people will not eat until he come, because he doth bless the sacrifice; and afterwards they eat that are bidden. Now therefore get you up; for at this time ye shall find him.' ¹⁴ And they went up to the city; and as they came within the city, behold, Samuel came out toward them, to go up to the high place. ¹⁵ Now HaShem had revealed unto Samuel a day before Saul came, saying: ¹⁶ 'To-morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be prince over My people Israel, and he shall save My people out of the hand of the Philistines; for I have looked upon My people, because their cry is come unto Me.' ¹⁷ And when Samuel saw Saul, HaShem spoke unto him: 'Behold the man of whom I said unto thee: This same shall have authority over My people.' ¹⁸ Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate, and said: 'Tell me, I pray thee, where the seer's house is.' ¹⁹ And Samuel answered Saul, and said: 'I am the seer; go up before me unto the high place, for ye shall eat with me to-day; and in the morning I will let thee go, and will tell thee all that is in thy heart.' ²⁰ And as for thine asses that were lost three days ago, set not thy mind on them; for they are found. And on whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not on thee, and on all thy father's house?' ²¹ And Saul answered and said: 'Am not I a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speakest thou to me after this manner?' ²² And Samuel took Saul and his servant, and brought them into the chamber, and made them sit in the chiefest place among them that were bidden, who were about thirty persons. ²³ And Samuel said unto the cook: 'Bring the portion which I gave thee, of which I said unto thee: Set it by thee.' ²⁴ And the cook took up the thigh, and that which was upon it, and set it before Saul. And Samuel said: 'Behold that which hath been reserved! set it before thee and eat; because unto the appointed time hath it been kept for thee, for I said: I have invited the people.' So Saul did eat with Samuel that day. ²⁵ And when they were come down from the high place into the city, he spoke with Saul upon the housetop. ²⁶ And they arose early; and it came to pass about the break of day, that Samuel called to Saul on the housetop, saying: 'Up, that I may send thee away.' And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad. ²⁷ As they were going down at the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul: 'Bid the servant pass on before us — and he passed on — but stand thou still at this time, that I may cause thee to hear the word of G-d.'

¹ וַיְהִי-אִישׁ מִבֶּן יִמִּין מִבְּנֵימִין, וְשֵׁמוֹ קִישׁ בֶּן-אֲבִיאל בֶּן-צֶרוֹר בֶּן-בְּכוֹרֶת בֶּן-אֶפִּיחַ--בֶּן-אִישׁ יְמִינִי: גִּבּוֹר, חָלָל. ² וְלוֹ-הָיָה בֶן וְשֵׁמוֹ שָׁאוּל, בַּחוּר וְטוֹב, וְאִין אִישׁ מִבְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, טוֹב מִמֶּנּוּ; מִשְׁכָּמוֹ וּמַעֲלָה, גִּבָּה מִכָּל-הָעָם. ³ וַתֵּאבֹדְנָה, הָאֲתָנוֹת, לְקִישׁ, אָבִי שָׁאוּל; וַיֹּאמֶר קִישׁ אֶל-שָׁאוּל בְּנוֹ, קַח-נָא אֶתֶּךָ אֶת-אֶחָד מִהַנֶּעָרִים, וְקוּם לֵךְ, בְּקֹשׁ אֶת-הָאֲתָנֹת. ⁴ וַיַּעֲבֹר בְּהָר-אֶפְרַיִם וַיַּעֲבֹר בְּאֶרֶץ-שֵׁלִישָׁה, וְלֹא מָצָא; וַיַּעֲבֹרוּ בְּאֶרֶץ-שַׁעֲלִים וְאִין, וַיַּעֲבֹר בְּאֶרֶץ-יְמִינִי וְלֹא מָצָאוּ. ⁵ הֲמָה, בָּאוּ בְּאֶרֶץ צוּף, וְשָׁאוּל אָמַר לְנַעֲרוֹ אֲשֶׁר-עִמּוֹ, לָכֵה וְנִשׁוּבָה--פֶּן-יַחְדֹּל אָבִי מִן-הָאֲתָנוֹת, וְדָאָג לָנוּ. ⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ, הִנֵּה-נָא אִישׁ-אֱלֹהִים בָּעִיר הַזֹּאת, וְהָאִישׁ נִכְבֵּד, כָּל אֲשֶׁר-יִדְבֹּר בּוֹא יְבוֹא; עֲתָה, נִלְכֶּה שָׁם--אוּלִי יֵגִיד לָנוּ, אֶת-דֶּרֶכְכֵּנוֹ אֲשֶׁר-הֵלְכֵנוּ עָלֶיָּה. ⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל לְנַעֲרוֹ, וְהִנֵּה נִלְכֶּה וּמָה-נִּבְיָא לָאִישׁ--כִּי הִלָּחַם אֲזָל מִכָּלֵינוּ, וַתִּשׁוּבָה אֵין-לִהְבִּיא לָאִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים: מָה, אֲתֵנוּ. ⁸ וַיֹּסֶף הַנַּעַר, לַעֲנוֹת אֶת-שָׁאוּל, וַיֹּאמֶר, הִנֵּה נִמְצָא בְיָדִי רִבַּע שָׁקֶל כֶּסֶף; וְנִתְּתִי לָאִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים, וְהֵגִיד לָנוּ אֶת-דֶּרֶכְכֵּנוּ. ⁹ לְפָנִים בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל, כֹּה-אָמַר הָאִישׁ בְּלָכְתוֹ לְדָרוֹשׁ אֱלֹהִים, לָכוּ וְנִלְכֶּה, עַד-הָרָאָה: כִּי לִנְבִיא הַיּוֹם, יִקְרָא לְפָנִים הָרָאָה. ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל לְנַעֲרוֹ טוֹב דְּבָרְךָ, לָכֵה נִלְכֶּה; וְנִלְכוּ, אֶל-הָעִיר, אֲשֶׁר-שָׁם, אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים. ¹¹ הֲמָה, עָלִים בְּמַעֲלָה הָעִיר, וְהִמָּה מִצָּאוֹ נַעֲרוֹת, יִצְאוֹת לְשֹׂאב מַיִם; וַיֹּאמְרוּ לָהֶן, הִנֵּשׁ בְּזֶה הָרָאָה. ¹² וַתַּעֲנִינָה אוֹתָם וַתֹּאמְרָנָה יֵשׁ, הִנֵּה לְפָנֶיךָ; מָהֵר עֲתָה, כִּי הַיּוֹם בָּא לָעִיר--כִּי זָבַח הַיּוֹם לָעָם, בַּבֶּמֶה. ¹³ כְּבֹאֲכֶם הָעִיר בֶּן תִּמְצָאוֹן אוֹתוֹ בְּטָרֶם יַעֲלֶה הַבֶּמֶתָה לְאָכֹל, כִּי לֹא-יֵאכֹל הָעָם עַד-בָּאוּ--כִּי-הוּא יִבְרֹךְ הַזָּבַח, אַחֲרֵי-כֵן יֵאכְלוּ הַקָּרָאִים; וְעֲתָה עָלוּ, כִּי-אוֹתוֹ כִּהְיוּם תִּמְצָאוֹן אוֹתוֹ. ¹⁴ וַיַּעֲלוּ, הָעִיר; הֲמָה, בָּאִים בַּתוֹךְ הָעִיר, וְהִנֵּה שְׁמוּאֵל יֹצֵא לְקָרְאָתָם, לַעֲלוֹת הַבֶּמֶה. ¹⁵ וַיְהִי, גָּלָה אֶת-אֶזְנוֹ שְׁמוּאֵל, יוֹם אֶחָד, לְפָנָי בּוֹא-שָׁאוּל לְאָמַר. ¹⁶ כַּעֲת מָחָר אֲשַׁלַּח אֵלֶיךָ אִישׁ מֵאֶרֶץ בְּנֵימִן, וּמִשְׁחָתוֹ לְנִגִּיד עַל-עַמִּי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְהוֹשִׁיעַ אֶת-עַמִּי, מִיַּד פְּלִשְׁתִּים: כִּי רָאִיתִי אֶת-עַמִּי, כִּי בָאָה צַעֲקוֹתוֹ אֵלַי. ¹⁷ וְשְׁמוּאֵל, רָאָה אֶת-שָׁאוּל; וַיַּהֲנֶה עֲנָהוּ--הִנֵּה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר אָמַרְתִּי אֵלֶיךָ, זֶה יַעֲצֹר בְּעַמִּי. ¹⁸ וַיִּגַּשׁ שָׁאוּל אֶת-שְׁמוּאֵל, בַּתוֹךְ הַשָּׁעַר; וַיֹּאמֶר הַגִּידָה נָא לִי, אִי-זֶה בֵּית הָרָאָה. ¹⁹ וַיַּעַן שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-שָׁאוּל, וַיֹּאמֶר אֲנֹכִי הָרָאָה--עָלָה לְפָנָי הַבֶּמֶה, וְאָכַלְתֶּם עַמִּי הַיּוֹם; וְשִׁלַּחְתִּיךָ בַּבֶּקֶר, וְכָל אֲשֶׁר בְּלִבְּךָ אֵגִיד לְךָ. ²⁰ וְלֹאֲתָנוֹת הָאֲבָדוֹת לְךָ, הַיּוֹם שְׁלֹשֶׁת הַיָּמִים--אֶל-תִּשָּׁם אֶת-לִבְּךָ לָהֶם, כִּי נִמְצָאוּ; וְלָמִי, כָּל-תִּמְדַּת יִשְׂרָאֵל--הֲלוֹא לְךָ, וְלָכֹל בֵּית אָבִיךָ. ²¹ וַיַּעַן שָׁאוּל וַיֹּאמֶר, הֲלוֹא בֶן-יְמִינִי אֲנֹכִי מִקִּטְנֵי שְׁבִטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וּמִשְׁפַּחְתִּי הַצָּעִירָה, מִכָּל-מִשְׁפָּחוֹת שְׁבִטֵי בְנֵימִן; וְלָמָּה דִּבַּרְתָּ אֵלַי, כִּדְבַר הַזֶּה. ²² וַיִּקַּח שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-שָׁאוּל וְאֶת-נַעֲרוֹ, וַיְבִיאֵם לְשִׁכְתָּה; וַיִּתֵּן לָהֶם מְקוֹם בְּרֹאשׁ הַקְּרוּאִים, וְהִמָּה כִּשְׁלֹשׁ אִישׁ. ²³ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, לְטִבָּח, תֵּנֶה אֶת-הַמִּנְהָ, אֲשֶׁר נִתְּתִי לְךָ--אֲשֶׁר אָמַרְתִּי אֵלֶיךָ, שִׁים אֹתָהּ עִמָּךְ. ²⁴ וַיֵּרֶם הַטִּבָּח אֶת-הַשּׁוֹק וְהַעֲלִיָּה וַיִּשֶׁם לְפָנָי שָׁאוּל, וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה הַנִּשְׁאָר שִׁים-לְפָנֶיךָ אָכֹל--כִּי לְמוֹעֵד שְׁמוֹר-לְךָ לְאָמַר, הָעָם קָרָאתִי; וַיֵּאכֹל שָׁאוּל עִם-שְׁמוּאֵל, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא. ²⁵ וַיֵּרְדּוּ מִהַבֶּמֶה, הָעִיר; וַיִּדְבֹּר עִם-שָׁאוּל, עַל-הַגָּן. ²⁶ וַיִּשְׁכְּמוּ, וַיְהִי כַּעֲלוֹת הַשַּׁחַר וַיִּקְרָא שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-שָׁאוּל הַגָּן הַגָּה לְאָמַר, קוּמָה, וְאֲשַׁלְּחֶךָ; וַיָּקָם שָׁאוּל, וַיִּצָּאוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם הוּא וְשְׁמוּאֵל--הַחֹצֵצָה. ²⁷ הֲמָה, יוֹרְדִים בַּקֶּצֶה הָעִיר, וְשְׁמוּאֵל אָמַר אֶל-שָׁאוּל אָמַר לְנַעַר וַיַּעֲבֹר לְפָנֵינוּ, וַיַּעֲבֹר; וְאֵתָה עִמָּד בַּיּוֹם, וְאֲשַׁמִּיעֶךָ אֶת-דְּבַר אֱלֹהִים.

¹ Then Samuel took the vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said: 'Is it not that HaShem hath anointed thee to be prince over His inheritance?' ² When thou art departed from me to-day, then thou shalt find two men by the tomb of Rachel, in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee: The asses which thou wentest to seek are found; and, lo, thy father hath left off caring for the asses, and is anxious concerning you, saying: What shall I do for my son? ³ Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the terebinth of Tabor, and there shall meet thee there three men going up to G-d to Beth-el, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine. ⁴ And they will salute thee, and give thee two cakes of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hand. ⁵ After that thou shalt come to the hill of G-d, where is the garrison of the Philistines; and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a band of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a timbrel, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they will be prophesying. ⁶ And the spirit of HaShem will come mightily upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man. ⁷ And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as thy hand shall find; for G-d is with thee. ⁸ And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt-offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace-offerings; seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come unto thee, and tell thee what thou shalt do.' ⁹ And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, G-d gave him another heart; and all those signs came to pass that day. ¹⁰ And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a band of prophets met him; and the spirit of G-d came mightily upon him, and he prophesied among them. ¹¹ And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied with the prophets, then the people said one to another: 'What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?' ¹² And one of the same place answered and said: 'And who is their father?' Therefore it became a proverb: 'Is Saul also among the prophets?' ¹³ And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place. ¹⁴ And Saul's uncle said unto him and to his servant: 'Whither went ye?' And he said: 'To seek the asses; and when we saw that they were not found, we came to Samuel.' ¹⁵ And Saul's uncle said: 'Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you.' ¹⁶ And Saul said unto his uncle: 'He told us plainly that the asses were found.' But concerning the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spoke, he told him not. ¹⁷ And Samuel called the people together unto HaShem to Mizpah. ¹⁸ And he said unto the children of Israel: 'Thus saith HaShem, the G-d of Israel: I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all the kingdoms that oppressed you. ¹⁹ But ye have this day rejected your G-d, who Himself saveth you out of all your calamities and your distresses; and ye have said unto Him: Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before HaShem by your tribes, and by your thousands.' ²⁰ So Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel near, and the tribe of Benjamin was taken. ²¹ And he brought the tribe of Benjamin near by their families, and the family of the Matrites was taken; and Saul the son of Kish was taken; but when they sought him, he could not be found. ²² Therefore they asked of HaShem further: 'Is there yet a man come hither?' And HaShem answered: 'Behold, he hath hid himself among the baggage.' ²³ And they ran and fetched him thence; and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward. ²⁴ And Samuel said to all the people: 'See ye him whom HaShem hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people?' And all the people shouted, and said: 'Long live the king.' ²⁵ Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before HaShem. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. ²⁶ And Saul also went to his house to Gibeah; and there went with him the men of valour, whose hearts G-d had touched. ²⁷ But certain base fellows said: 'How shall this man save us?' And they despised him, and brought him no present. But he was as one that held his peace.

¹ וַיִּקַּח שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-פֶּדֶה הַשֶּׁמֶן, וַיִּצַק עַל-רֹאשׁוֹ--וַיִּשְׁקָהוּ; וַיֹּאמֶר--הֲלוֹא כִּי-מִשְׁחָהּ יְהוָה עַל-נַחֲלָתוֹ, לְנָגִיד. ² בְּלִכְתָּךְ הַיּוֹם, מֵעַמָּדִי, וּמִצָּאתָ שְׁנֵי אַנְשִׁים עִם-קִבְרַת רָחֵל בְּגִבּוֹל בְּנִימֵן, בְּצִלְצָח; וְאָמְרוּ אֵלֶיךָ, נִמְצְאוּ הָאֲתָנוֹת אֲשֶׁר הִלַּכְתָּ לְבַקֵּשׁ, וְהִנֵּה נִטַּשׁ אָבִיךָ אֶת-דִּבְרֵי הָאֲתָנוֹת, וְדָאֵג לָכֶם לֵאמֹר מָה אַעֲשֶׂה לְבָנִי. ³ וְחִלַּפְתָּ מִשֶּׁם וְהִלָּאָה, וּבָאתָ עַד-אֵלּוֹן תְּבוֹר, וּמִצְאוּךָ שָׁם שְׁלֹשָׁה אַנְשִׁים, עֲלִים אֶל-הָאֱלֹהִים בֵּית-אֵל; אֶחָד נִשָּׂא שְׁלֹשָׁה גִדִּים, וְאֶחָד נִשָּׂא שְׁלֹשֶׁת כִּכְרוֹת לֶחֶם, וְאֶחָד, נִשָּׂא גֶבֶל-יִין. ⁴ וְשָׂאוּ לָךְ, לְשָׁלוֹם; וְנָתַנּוּ לָךְ שְׁתֵּי-לֶחֶם, וְלִקְחָתָ מִיָּדָם. ⁵ אַחֵר כֵּן, תְּבוֹא גִבְעַת הָאֱלֹהִים, אֲשֶׁר-שָׁם, גִּצְבֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים; וְיִהְיֶה כְּבֹאֵךְ שָׁם הָעִיר, וּפִגְעָתָ חֻבֵּל גְּבָאִים יְרִידִים מִהֶבֶמָה, וְלִפְנֵיהֶם גֶּבֶל וְתֹף וְחִלִּיל וְכִנּוֹר, וְהִמָּה מִתְּנַבְּאִים. ⁶ וְצִלְחָה עֲלֶיךָ רוּחַ יְהוָה, וְהִתְנַבֵּיתָ עִמָּם; וְנִהְפַכְתָּ, לְאִישׁ אַחֵר. ⁷ וְהָיָה, כִּי תִבְאִינָה תְּבֹאֵנָה הָאֲתוֹת הָאֵלֶּה--לָךְ: עֲשֵׂה לָךְ אֲשֶׁר תִּמְצָא יָדְךָ, כִּי הָאֱלֹהִים עִמָּךְ. ⁸ וַיִּרְדֹּתָ לִפְנֵי, הַגִּלְגָל, וְהִנֵּה אֲנֹכִי יֹרֵד אֵלֶיךָ, לְהַעֲלוֹת עֲלוֹת לְזֶבַח זִבְחֵי שָׁלָמִים; שְׁבַעַת יָמִים תִּזְחַל, עַד-בוֹאִי אֵלֶיךָ, וְהוֹדַעְתִּי לָךְ, אֵת אֲשֶׁר תַּעֲשֶׂה. ⁹ וְהָיָה, כִּהִפְנָתוֹ שְׁכֻמוֹ לִלְכָת מֵעַם שְׁמוּאֵל, וַיִּהְפֹּךְ-לוֹ אֱלֹהִים, לֵב אַחֵר; וַיָּבֹאוּ כָל-הָאֲתוֹת הָאֵלֶּה, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא. ¹⁰ וַיָּבֹאוּ שָׁם הַגִּבְעָתָה, וְהִנֵּה חֻבֵּל-גְּבָאִים לִקְרָאתוֹ; וַתִּצְלַח עָלָיו רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים, וַיִּתְּנָבֵא בְּתוֹכָם. ¹¹ וְיִהְיֶה, כָּל-יּוֹדְעוֹ מֵאֲתָמוֹל שְׁלֹשָׁם, וַיִּרְאוּ, וְהִנֵּה עִם-גְּבָאִים גִּבָּא: וַיֹּאמֶר הָעָם אִישׁ אֶל-רֵעֵהוּ, מַה-זֶּה הָיָה לְבֶן-קִישׁ--הַגֵּם שְׂאוֹל, בְּנִיבָאִים. ¹² וַיַּעַן אִישׁ מִשֶּׁם וַיֹּאמֶר, וּמִי אֲבִיָּהֶם; עַל-כֵּן הִיָּתָה לְמִשְׁלַל, הָגֵם שְׂאוֹל בְּנִיבָאִים. ¹³ וַיִּכַּל, מִהִתְנַבְּוֹת, וַיָּבֹא, הֶבֶמָה. ¹⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד שְׂאוֹל אֵלָיו וְאֶל-נָעֲרוֹ, אֵן הִלַּכְתֶּם; וַיֹּאמֶר, לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת-הָאֲתָנוֹת, וַנִּרְאָה כִּי-אֵין, וַנִּבּוֹא אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל. ¹⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר, דָּוִד שְׂאוֹל: הַגִּידָה-נָא לִי, מַה-אָמַר לָכֶם שְׁמוּאֵל. ¹⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאוֹל, אֶל-דָּוִד, הִגֵּד הַגִּיד לָנוּ, כִּי נִמְצְאוּ הָאֲתָנוֹת; וְאֶת-דִּבְרֵי הַמְּלוּכָה לֹא-הִגִּיד לּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר אָמַר שְׁמוּאֵל. ¹⁷ וַיִּצְעַק שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-הָעָם, אֶל-יְהוָה הַמִּצְפָּה. ¹⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲנֹכִי הַעֲלִיתִי אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִמִּצְרָיִם; וְאֲצִיל אֶתְכֶם, מִיַּד מִצְרָיִם, וּמִיַּד כָּל-הַמְּמַלְכוֹת, הַלְחָצִים אֶתְכֶם. ¹⁹ וְאַתֶּם הַיּוֹם מֵאֲסַתֶּם אֶת-אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, אֲשֶׁר-הוּא מוֹשִׁיעַ לָכֶם מִכָּל-רָעוֹתֵיכֶם וְצָרֹתֵיכֶם, וְתֹאמְרוּ לוֹ, כִּי-מֶלֶךְ תִּשָּׂם עָלֵינוּ; וְעַתָּה, הִתִּיצְבוּ לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, לְשִׁבְטֵיכֶם, וּלְאֵלֵיכֶם. ²⁰ וַיִּקְרַב שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶת כָּל-שִׁבְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיִּלְכְּדוּ, שִׁבְט בְּנִימֵן. ²¹ וַיִּקְרַב אֶת-שִׁבְט בְּנִימֵן, לְמִשְׁפַּחָתוֹ, וְתִלְכְּדוּ, מִשְׁפַּחַת הַמַּטְרִי; וַיִּלְכְּדוּ שְׂאוֹל בֶּן-קִישׁ, וַיִּבְקְשׁוּהוּ וְלֹא נִמְצָא. ²² וַיִּשְׁאָלוּ-עוֹד, בִּיהוָה, הֲבֵא עוֹד, הֵלֶם אִישׁ; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, הִנֵּה-הוּא נִחְבָּא אֶל-הַכִּלִּים. ²³ וַיִּרְצוּ וַיִּקְחֻהוּ מִשֶּׁם, וַיִּתִּיצַב בְּתוֹךְ הָעָם; וַיִּגְבַּהּ, מִכָּל-הָעָם, מִשְׁכָּמוֹ, וּמַעֲלָה. ²⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-כָּל-הָעָם, הִרְאִיתֶם אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר-בוֹ יְהוָה, כִּי אֵין כָּמֹהוּ, בְּכָל-הָעָם; וַיִּרְעוּ כָל-הָעָם וַיֹּאמְרוּ, יְחִי הַמֶּלֶךְ. ²⁵ וַיְדַבֵּר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-הָעָם, אֵת מִשְׁפַּט הַמְּלָכָה, וַיַּכְתֵּב בְּסֶפֶר, וַיִּנַּח לִפְנֵי יְהוָה; וַיִּשְׁלַח שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-כָּל-הָעָם, אִישׁ לְבֵיתוֹ. ²⁶ וְגַם-שְׂאוֹל--הִלֵּךְ לְבֵיתוֹ, גִּבְעָתָה; וַיִּלְכוּ עִמּוֹ--הַחִיל, אֲשֶׁר-נָגַע אֱלֹהִים בְּלָבָם. ²⁷ וּבְנֵי בְלִיעֵל אָמְרוּ, מַה-יִּשְׁעֵנוּ זֶה, וַיִּבְיָהוּ, וְלֹא-הִבִּיאוּ לוֹ מִנְחָה; וַיְהִי, כְּמִתְרִישׁ.

¹ Then Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabesh-gilead; and all the men of Jabesh said unto Nahash: 'Make a covenant with us, and we will serve thee.' ² And Nahash the Ammonite said unto them: 'On this condition will I make it with you, that all your right eyes be put out; and I will lay it for a reproach upon all Israel.' ³ And the elders of Jabesh said unto him: 'Give us seven days' respite, that we may send messengers unto all the borders of Israel; and then, if there be none to deliver us, we will come out to thee.' ⁴ Then came the messengers to Gibeath-shaul, and spoke these words in the ears of the people; and all the people lifted up their voice, and wept. ⁵ And, behold, Saul came following the oxen out of the field; and Saul said: 'What aileth the people that they weep?' And they told him the words of the men of Jabesh. ⁶ And the spirit of G-d came mightily upon Saul when he heard those words, and his anger was kindled greatly. ⁷ And he took a yoke of oxen, and cut them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the borders of Israel by the hand of messengers, saying: 'Whosoever cometh not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen.' And the dread of HaShem fell on the people, and they came out as one man. ⁸ And he numbered them in Bezek; and the children of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand. ⁹ And they said unto the messengers that came: 'Thus shall ye say unto the men of Jabesh-gilead: To-morrow, by the time the sun is hot, ye shall have deliverance.' And the messengers came and told the men of Jabesh; and they were glad. ¹⁰ And the men of Jabesh said: 'To-morrow we will come out unto you, and ye shall do with us all that seemeth good unto you.' ¹¹ And it was so on the morrow, that Saul put the people in three companies; and they came into the midst of the camp in the morning watch, and smote the Ammonites until the heat of the day; and it came to pass, that they that remained were scattered, so that two of them were not left together. ¹² And the people said unto Samuel: 'Who is he that said: Shall Saul reign over us? bring the men, that we may put them to death.' ¹³ And Saul said: 'There shall not a man be put to death this day; for to-day HaShem hath wrought deliverance in Israel.' ¹⁴ Then said Samuel to the people: 'Come and let us go to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there.' ¹⁵ And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before HaShem in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace-offerings before HaShem; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

¹ וַיַּעַל, נָחַשׁ הָעַמּוֹנִי, וַיַּחֲנֶה, עַל-יְבִישׁ גִּלְעָד; וַיֹּאמְרוּ כָל-אֲנָשֵׁי יְבִישׁ, אֶל-נָחַשׁ, כָּרַת-לָנוּ בְרִית, וְנַעֲבֹדָהּ. ² וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם, נָחַשׁ הָעַמּוֹנִי, בְּזֹאת אֶכְרַת לָכֶם, בְּנִקּוֹר לָכֶם כָּל-עֵינַי יָמִין; וְשִׁמְתִּיהָ חֶרֶף, עַל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. ³ וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו זִקְנֵי יְבִישׁ, הֲרֹף לָנוּ שְׁבַעַת יָמִים, וְנִשְׁלַחָה מַלְאָכִים, בְּכָל גְּבוּל יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְאִם-אֵין מוֹשִׁיעַ אֶתָּנוּ, וְנִצָּאֲנוּ אֲלֵיָּךְ. ⁴ וַיָּבֹאוּ הַמַּלְאָכִים גִּבְעַת שָׂאוּל, וַיַּדְבְּרוּ הַדְּבָרִים בְּאָזְנֵי הָעָם; וַיִּשְׁאוּ כָל-הָעָם אֶת-קוֹלָם, וַיִּבְכּוּ. ⁵ וַהֲגִה שָׂאוּל, בָּא אַחֲרֵי הַבָּקָר מִן-הַשָּׂדֶה, וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, מַה-לָּעָם כִּי יִבְכּוּ; וַיִּסְפְּרוּ-לוֹ--אֶת-דְּבָרֵי, אֲנָשֵׁי יְבִישׁ. ⁶ וַתִּצְלַח רוּחַ-אֱלֹהִים עַל-שָׂאוּל, בִּשְׁמֵעוֹ כְּשָׁמְעוֹ אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וַיַּחַר אָפוֹ, מְאֹד. ⁷ וַיִּקַּח צֶמֶד בָּקָר וַיִּנְתַּחֲהוּ, וַיִּשְׁלַח בְּכָל-גְּבוּל יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּיַד הַמַּלְאָכִים לֵאמֹר, אֲשֶׁר אֵינְנוּ יֵצֵא אַחֲרֵי שָׂאוּל וְאַחֲרֵי שְׁמוּאֵל, כֹּה יַעֲשֶׂה לְבָקָרוֹ; וַיִּפֹּל פַּחַד-יְהוָה עַל-הָעָם, וַיִּצָּאוּ כְּאִישׁ אֶחָד. ⁸ וַיִּפְקְדֵם, בְּבִזָּק; וַיְהִי בְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת אָלֶף, וְאִישׁ יְהוּדָה שְׁלֹשִׁים אָלֶף. ⁹ וַיֹּאמְרוּ לַמַּלְאָכִים הַבָּאִים, כֹּה תֹאמְרוּן לְאִישׁ יְבִישׁ גִּלְעָד, מָחָר תִּהְיֶה-לָכֶם תְּשׁוּעָה, בַּחֵם כַּחֵם הַשָּׁמֶשׁ; וַיָּבֹאוּ הַמַּלְאָכִים, וַיַּגִּידוּ לְאֲנָשֵׁי יְבִישׁ--וַיִּשְׁמְחוּ. ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֲנָשֵׁי יְבִישׁ, מָחָר יֵצֵא אֲלֵיכֶם; וַעֲשִׂיתֶם לָנוּ, כְּכָל-הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם. ¹¹ וַיְהִי מִמָּחָרָת, וַיֵּשֶׁם שָׂאוּל אֶת-הָעָם שְׁלֹשָׁה רָאשִׁים, וַיָּבֹאוּ בַתוֹךְ-הַמַּחֲנֶה בְּאַשְׁמֶרֶת הַבָּקָר, וַיִּכּוּ אֶת-עַמּוֹן עַד-חֹם הַיּוֹם; וַיְהִי הַנִּשְׁאָרִים וַיִּפְצְּנוּ, וְלֹא נִשְׁאָרוּ-בָּם שְׁנַיִם יָחִיד. ¹² וַיֹּאמֶר הָעָם, אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, מִי הָאִמֵּר, שָׂאוּל יִמְלֹךְ עָלֵינוּ; תָּנוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים, וְנִמְתִּיחֵם. ¹³ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, לֹא-יוֹמֶת אִישׁ בַּיּוֹם הַזֶּה: כִּי הַיּוֹם עָשָׂה-יְהוָה תְּשׁוּעָה, בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל. ¹⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-הָעָם, לָכוּ וְנִלְכֶה הַגִּלְגָּל; וְנַחֲדֵשׁ שָׁם, הַמְּלוּכָה. ¹⁵ וַיֵּלְכוּ כָל-הָעָם הַגִּלְגָּל, וַיִּמְלְכוּ שָׁם אֶת-שָׂאוּל לְפָנָי יְהוָה בַּגִּלְגָּל, וַיִּזְבְּחוּ-שָׁם זִבְחִים שְׁלָמִים, לְפָנָי יְהוָה; וַיִּשְׁמַח שָׁם שָׂאוּל וְכָל-אֲנָשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל, עַד-מָאֹד.

¹ And Samuel said unto all Israel: 'Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you. ² And now, behold, the king walketh before you; and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons are with you; and I have walked before you from my youth unto this day. ³ Here I am; witness against me before HaShem, and before His anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? or whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I taken a ransom to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.' ⁴ And they said: 'Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken aught of any man's hand.' ⁵ And he said unto them: 'HaShem is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found aught in my hand.' And they said: 'He is witness.' ⁶ And Samuel said unto the people: 'It is HaShem that made Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt. ⁷ Now therefore stand still, that I may plead with you before HaShem concerning all the righteous acts of HaShem, which He did to you and to your fathers. ⁸ When Jacob was come into Egypt, then your fathers cried unto HaShem, and HaShem sent Moses and Aaron, who brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and they were made to dwell in this place. ⁹ But they forgot HaShem their G-d, and He gave them over into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them. ¹⁰ And they cried unto HaShem, and said: We have sinned, because we have forsaken HaShem, and have served the Baalim and the Ashtaroth; but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve Thee. ¹¹ And HaShem sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and ye dwelt in safety. ¹² And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me: Nay, but a king shall reign over us; when HaShem your G-d was your king. ¹³ Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, and whom ye have asked for; and, behold, HaShem hath set a king over you. ¹⁴ If ye will fear HaShem, and serve Him, and hearken unto His voice, and not rebel against the commandment of HaShem, and both ye and also the king that reigneth over you be followers of HaShem your G-d — ; ¹⁵ but if ye will not hearken unto the voice of HaShem, but rebel against the commandment of HaShem, then shall the hand of HaShem be against you, and against your fathers. ¹⁶ Now therefore stand still and see this great thing, which HaShem will do before your eyes. ¹⁷ Is it not wheat harvest to-day? I will call unto HaShem, that He may send thunder and rain; and ye shall know and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of HaShem, in asking you a king.' ¹⁸ So Samuel called unto HaShem; and HaShem sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared HaShem and Samuel. ¹⁹ And all the people said unto Samuel: 'Pray for thy servants unto HaShem thy G-d, that we die not; for we have added unto all our sins this evil, to ask us a king.' ²⁰ And Samuel said unto the people: 'Fear not; ye have indeed done all this evil; yet turn not aside from following HaShem, but serve HaShem with all your heart; ²¹ and turn ye not aside; for then should ye go after vain things which cannot profit nor deliver, for they are vain. ²² For HaShem will not forsake His people for His great name's sake; because it hath pleased HaShem to make you a people unto Himself. ²³ Moreover as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against HaShem in ceasing to pray for you; but I will instruct you in the good and the right way. ²⁴ Only fear HaShem, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider how great things He hath done for you. ²⁵ But if ye shall still do wickedly, ye shall be swept away, both ye and your king.'

¹ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, הִנֵּה שָׁמַעְתִּי בְקוֹלְכֶם, לְכָל אֲשֶׁר-אַמַּרְתֶּם לִי; וְאִמְלִיד עֲלֵיכֶם, מֶלֶךְ. ² וְעַתָּה הִנֵּה הַמֶּלֶךְ מִתְהַלֵּךְ לִפְנֵיכֶם, וְאֲנִי זָקֵנִי וְשִׁבְתִּי, וּבְנֵי, הַנֶּגֶם אֵתְכֶם; וְאֲנִי הִתְהַלַּכְתִּי לִפְנֵיכֶם, מִנְּעָרֵי עַד-הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. ³ הֲנִנִי עָנּוּ בִי נָגֵד יְהוָה וְנָגֵד מְשִׁיחוֹ, אֶת-שׁוֹר מִי לְקַחְתִּי וְחִמּוֹר מִי לְקַחְתִּי וְאֶת-מִי עֲשָׁקְתִּי אֶת-מִי רִצּוֹתִי, וּמִי־ד מִי לְקַחְתִּי כֶּפֶר, וְאֲעֲלִים עֵינִי בּוֹ; וְאֲשִׁיב, לָכֶם. ⁴ וַיֹּאמְרוּ, לֹא עֲשִׁקְתָּנוּ וְלֹא רִצּוֹתָנוּ; וְלֹא-לְקַחְתָּ מִי־ד אִישׁ, מֵאוֹמָה. ⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם עַד יְהוָה בָּכֶם, וְעַד מְשִׁיחוֹ הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה--כִּי לֹא מִצָּאתֶם בְּיָדִי, מֵאוֹמָה; וַיֹּאמֶר, עַד. ⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-הָעָם: יְהוָה, אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֶת-מֹשֶׁה וְאֶת-אַהֲרֹן, וְאֲשֶׁר הִעֲלָה אֶת-אַבְתְּיָכֶם, מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם. ⁷ וְעַתָּה, הִתְיַצְבוּ וְאֲשַׁפְטָה אֶתְכֶם--לִפְנֵי יְהוָה: אֵת כָּל-צַדִּיקוֹת יְהוָה, אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה אֵתְכֶם וְאֶת-אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם. ⁸ כַּאֲשֶׁר-בָּא יַעֲקֹב, מִצְרָיִם--וַיִּזְעַקוּ אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם, אֶל-יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוָה אֶת-מֹשֶׁה וְאֶת-אַהֲרֹן וַיּוֹצִיאוּ אֶת-אַבְתְּיָכֶם מִמִּצְרָיִם, וַיֵּשְׁבוּ בְּמָקוֹם הַזֶּה. ⁹ וַיִּשְׁכְּחוּ, אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם; וַיִּמְכֹּר אֹתָם בְּיַד סִיסְרָא שַׂר-צָבָא חֲצוֹר וּבְיַד פִּלְשֶׁתִּים, וּבְיַד מֶלֶךְ מוֹאָב, וַיִּלַּחֲמוּ, בָּם. ¹⁰ וַיִּזְעַקוּ אֶל-יְהוָה, וַיֹּאמֶר וַיֹּאמְרוּ חֲטָאנוּ, כִּי עֲזַבְנוּ אֶת-יְהוָה, וְנִצַּבְד אֶת-הַבְּעָלִים וְאֶת-הָעִשְׁתָּרוֹת; וְעַתָּה, הֲצִילָנוּ מִיַּד אִיְבֵינוּ--וְנַעֲבֹדְךָ. ¹¹ וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוָה אֶת-יִרְבֶּעֵל וְאֶת-בֶּדֶן, וְאֶת-יִפְתָּח וְאֶת-שְׁמוּאֵל; וַיַּצֵּל אֶתְכֶם מִיַּד אִיְבֵיכֶם, מִסָּבִיב, וַתֵּשְׁבוּ, בְּטָח. ¹² וַתֵּרֶאוּ, כִּי-נָחַשׁ מֶלֶךְ בְּנֵי-עַמּוֹן בָּא עֲלֵיכֶם, וַתֹּאמְרוּ לִי, לֹא כִי-מֶלֶךְ יִמְלֹךְ עָלֵינוּ: וַיְהִי אֱלֹהֵיכֶם, מִלְּכֶכֶם. ¹³ וְעַתָּה, הִנֵּה הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר בַּחֲרַתֶּם--אֲשֶׁר שְׁאַלְתֶּם; וְהִנֵּה נָתַן יְהוָה עֲלֵיכֶם, מֶלֶךְ. ¹⁴ אִם-תִּירְאוּ אֶת-יְהוָה, וְעַבַּדְתֶּם אוֹתוֹ וְשִׁמַּעְתֶּם בְּקוֹלוֹ, וְלֹא תִמְרוּ, אֶת-פִּי יְהוָה--וְהִיתֶם גַּם-אִתְּכֶם, וְגַם-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר מֶלֶךְ עֲלֵיכֶם, אַחֵר, יְהִי אֱלֹהֵיכֶם. ¹⁵ וְאִם-לֹא תִשְׁמָעוּ בְּקוֹל יְהוָה, וּמִרִיתֶם אֶת-פִּי יְהוָה--וְהִיתָה יַד-יְהוָה בָּכֶם, וּבְאַבְתְּיָכֶם. ¹⁶ גַּם-עַתָּה הִתְיַצְבוּ וְרֹאוּ, אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַגָּדוֹל הַזֶּה, אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה, עָשָׂה לְעֵינֵיכֶם. ¹⁷ הֲלוֹא קִצִּיר-חֲטִיִּם, הַיּוֹם--אַקְרָא אֶל-יְהוָה, וַיִּתֵּן קִלּוֹת וּמָטָר; וַדַּעוּ וְרֹאוּ, כִּי-רַעַתְכֶם רַבָּה אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתֶם בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה, לְשָׂאוֹל לָכֶם, מֶלֶךְ. ¹⁸ וַיִּקְרָא שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יְהוָה, וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה קִלְת וּמָטָר בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא; וַיִּירָא כָל-הָעָם מֵאֵד אֶת-יְהוָה, וְאֶת-שְׁמוּאֵל. ¹⁹ וַיֹּאמְרוּ כָל-הָעָם אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, הֲתַפְּלִל בְּעַד-עֲבֹדֶיךָ אֶל-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ--וְאֵל-נִמּוֹת: כִּי-יִסָּפְנוּ עַל-כָּל-חֲטָאתֵינוּ רָעָה, לְשָׂאֹל לָנוּ מֶלֶךְ. ²⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-הָעָם, אֵל-תִּירְאוּ--אִתְּכֶם עָשִׂיתֶם, אֵת כָּל-הָרָעָה הַזֹּאת; אֲדָּ, אֶל-תִּסּוּרוּ מֵאַחֲרֵי יְהוָה, וְעַבַּדְתֶּם אֶת-יְהוָה, בְּכָל-לִבְבְּכֶם. ²¹ וְלֹא, תִסּוּרוּ: כִּי אַחֲרֵי הַתְּהוּ, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִזְעִילוּ וְלֹא יִצְּלוּ--כִּי-תִהְיֶה הֶמָּה. ²² כִּי לֹא-יִטֹּשׁ יְהוָה, אֶת-עַמּוֹ--בְּעֶבֶר, שְׁמוֹ הַגָּדוֹל: כִּי הוֹאִיל יְהוָה, לַעֲשׂוֹת אִתְּכֶם לוֹ לָעַם. ²³ גַּם אֲנֹכִי, חָלִילָה לִי מִחֲטָא לִיהוָה--מִחֲדָל, לְהִתְפַּלֵּל בְּעַדְכֶם; וְהוֹרִיתִי אִתְּכֶם, בְּדֶרֶךְ הַטּוֹבָה וְהַיִּשְׁרָה. ²⁴ אֲדָּ יִרְאוּ אֶת-יְהוָה, וְעַבַּדְתֶּם אוֹתוֹ בְּאֵמֶת--בְּכָל-לִבְבְּכֶם: כִּי רֹאוּ, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-הִגְדַּל עִמָּכֶם. ²⁵ וְאִם-הִרָע, תִּרְעוּ--גַּם-אִתְּכֶם גַּם-מִלְּכֶכֶם, תִּסָּפוּ.

¹ Saul was — — years old when he began to reign; and two years he reigned over Israel. ² And Saul chose him three thousand men of Israel; whereof two thousand were with Saul in Michmas and in the mount of Beth-el, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeath-benjamin; and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent. ³ And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the horn throughout all the land, saying: 'Let the Hebrews hear.' ⁴ And all Israel heard say that Saul had smitten the garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel also had made himself odious with the Philistines. And the people were gathered together after Saul to Gilgal. ⁵ And the Philistines assembled themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the sea-shore in multitude; and they came up, and pitched in Michmas, eastward of Beth-aven. ⁶ When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait — for the people were distressed — then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in holds, and in pits. ⁷ Now some of the Hebrews had gone over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead; but as for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling. ⁸ And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed; but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. ⁹ And Saul said: 'Bring hither to me the burnt-offering and the peace-offerings.' And he offered the burnt-offering. ¹⁰ And it came to pass that, as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt-offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. ¹¹ And Samuel said: 'What hast thou done?' And Saul said: 'Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines assembled themselves together against Michmas; ¹² therefore said I: Now will the Philistines come down upon me to Gilgal, and I have not entreated the favour of HaShem; I forced myself therefore, and offered the burnt-offering.' ¹³ And Samuel said to Saul: 'Thou hast done foolishly; thou hast not kept the commandment of HaShem thy G-d, which He commanded thee; for now would HaShem have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever. ¹⁴ But now thy kingdom shall not continue; HaShem hath sought him a man after His own heart, and HaShem hath appointed him to be prince over His people, because thou hast not kept that which HaShem commanded thee.' ¹⁵ And Samuel arose, and got him up from Gilgal unto Gibeath-benjamin. And Saul numbered the people that were present with him, about six hundred men. ¹⁶ And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people that were present with them, abode in Gibeath-benjamin; but the Philistines encamped in Michmas. ¹⁷ And the spoilers came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies: one company turned unto the way that leadeth to Ophrah, unto the land of Shual; ¹⁸ and another company turned the way to Beth-horon; and another company turned the way of the border that looketh down upon the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness. ¹⁹ Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel; for the Philistines said: 'Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears'; ²⁰ but all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his plowshare, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock. ²¹ And the price of the filing was a pim for the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the forks with three teeth, and for the axes; and to set the goads. ²² So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan; but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found. ²³ And the garrison of the Philistines went out unto the pass of Michmas.

¹ בן-שְׁנָה, שְׁאוּל בְּמֶלְכוֹ; וּשְׁתֵּי שָׁנִים, מֶלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. ² וַיִּבְחַר-לוֹ שְׁאוּל שְׁלֹשָׁת אֲלָפִים, מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל, וַיְהִיו עִם-שְׁאוּל אֲלָפִים בְּמִכְמָשׁ וּבְהָר בֵּית-אֵל, וְאֵלָּה הָיוּ עִם-יוֹנָתָן בְּגִבְעַת בְּנֵימִן; וַיֵּתֶר הָעָם, שָׁלַח אִישׁ לְאֹהֲלָיו. ³ וַיָּד יוֹנָתָן, אֵת נֹצִיב פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֲשֶׁר בְּגִבְעָ, וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ, פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וּשְׁאוּל תָּקַע בְּשׁוֹפָר בְּכָל-הָאָרֶץ לֵאמֹר, יִשְׁמְעוּ הָעֶבְרִים. ⁴ וְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל שָׁמְעוּ לֵאמֹר, הִכָּה שְׁאוּל אֶת-נֹצִיב פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וְגַם-נִבְאָשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּפְלִשְׁתִּים; וַיִּצְעֲקוּ הָעָם אַחֲרֵי שְׁאוּל, הַגִּלְגָּל. ⁵ וּפְלִשְׁתִּים נֶאֱסָפוּ לְהִלָּחֵם עִם-יִשְׂרָאֵל, שְׁלֹשִׁים אֵלָּה רָכַב וּשְׁלֹשָׁת אֲלָפִים פָּרָשִׁים, וְעָם, כַּחֲלוֹל אֲשֶׁר עַל-שְׂפַת-הַיָּם לָרֹב; וַיַּעֲלוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּמִכְמָשׁ, קִדְמַת בֵּית אֹנָן. ⁶ וְאִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל רָאוּ כִּי צָר-לוֹ, כִּי נִגַּשׁ הָעָם; וַיִּתְחַבְּאוּ הָעָם, בַּמְּעָרוֹת וּבַחֲנוּחִים וּבְסֻלְעִים, וּבְצִרְחִים, וּבְבֵרוֹת. ⁷ וְעֶבְרִים, עָבְרוּ אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן, אֶרֶץ גִּד, וַגִּלְעָד; וּשְׁאוּל עֹדְנָו בְּגִלְגָּל, וְכָל-הָעָם חָרְדוּ אַחֲרָיו. ⁸ וַיִּחַל וַיּוֹחַל שְׁבַעַת יָמִים, לְמוֹעֵד אֲשֶׁר שְׁמוּאֵל, וְלֹא-בָא שְׁמוּאֵל, הַגִּלְגָּל; וַיִּפֹּץ הָעָם, מֵעִלְיוֹ. ⁹ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁאוּל--הִגִּשׁוּ אֵלַי, הָעֵלָה וְהַשְׁלֵמִים; וַיַּעַל, הָעֵלָה. ¹⁰ וַיְהִי, כְּכַלְתּוֹ לְהַעֲלוֹת הָעֵלָה, וְהִנֵּה שְׁמוּאֵל, בָּא; וַיֵּצֵא שְׁאוּל לְקִרְאָתוֹ, לְבָרְכוֹ. ¹¹ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, מָה עָשִׂיתָ; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁאוּל כִּי-רָאִיתִי כִּי-נִפֹּץ הָעָם מֵעִלְי, וְאַתָּה לֹא-בָאתָ לְמוֹעֵד הַיָּמִים, וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, נֶאֱסָפִים מִכְמָשׁ. ¹² וְאֹמֶר, עָתָה יָרְדוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֵלַי הַגִּלְגָּל, וּפְנִי יְהוָה, לֹא חֲלִיתִי; וְאַתָּה אֶפְקֵ, וְאַעֲלֶה הָעֵלָה. ¹³ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-שְׁאוּל, נִסְכַּלְתָּ: לֹא שָׁמַרְתָּ, אֶת-מִצְוַת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר צִוָּךְ, כִּי עָתָה הַכִּין יְהוָה אֶת-מַמְלַכְתְּךָ אֶל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, עַד-עוֹלָם. ¹⁴ וְעָתָה, מִמְּלַכְתְּךָ לֹא-תִקּוּם: בִּקֵּשׁ יְהוָה לוֹ אִישׁ כְּלָבָבוֹ, וַיִּצְוֵהוּ יְהוָה לְנָגִיד עַל-עַמּוֹ--כִּי לֹא שָׁמַרְתָּ, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּךְ יְהוָה. ¹⁵ וַיִּקָּם שְׁמוּאֵל, וַיַּעַל מִן-הַגִּלְגָּל--גִּבְעַת בְּנֵימִן; וַיִּפְקֹד שְׁאוּל, אֶת-הָעָם הַנִּמְצָאִים עִמּוֹ, כִּשְׁשׁ מֵאוֹת, אִישׁ. ¹⁶ וּשְׁאוּל וַיּוֹנָתָן בָּנוּ, וְהָעָם הַנִּמְצָא עִמָּם, יֹשְׁבִים, בְּגִבְעָ בְּנֵימִן; וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, חָנוּ בְּמִכְמָשׁ. ¹⁷ וַיֵּצֵא הַמִּשְׁחִית מִמִּחְנֶה פְּלִשְׁתִּים, שְׁלֹשָׁה רָאשִׁים: הָרָאשׁ אֶחָד יָפְנָה אֶל-דֶּרֶךְ עֶפְרָה, אֶל-אֶרֶץ שׁוּעֵל. ¹⁸ וְהָרָאשׁ אֶחָד יָפְנָה, דֶּרֶךְ בֵּית חֲרוֹן; וְהָרָאשׁ אֶחָד יָפְנָה דֶּרֶךְ הַגִּבּוֹל, הַנִּשְׁקָף עַל-גִּי הַצְּבָעִים הַמִּדְבָּרָה. ¹⁹ וְחָרַשׁ לֹא יִמָּצֵא, בְּכָל אֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל: כִּי-אָמַר אֶמְרוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים--פֶּן יַעֲשׂוּ הָעֶבְרִים, חֶרֶב אוֹ חֲנִית. ²⁰ וַיָּרְדּוּ כָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַפְּלִשְׁתִּים--לְלָטוֹשׁ אִישׁ אֶת-מַחֲרָשְׁתּוֹ וְאֶת-אֲתוֹ, וְאֶת-קַרְדָּמוֹ, וְאֵת, מַחֲרָשְׁתּוֹ. ²¹ וְהִיתָה הַפְּצִירָה פִּים, לְמַחֲרֹשֶׁת וְלֵאמֹתִים, וְלִשְׁלֹשׁ קַלְשׁוֹן, וְלִהְיוֹת מַחֲרָשִׁים; וְלִהְיוֹת, הַדְּרָכָן. ²² וְהִנֵּה, בְּיוֹם מִלְחָמָה, וְלֹא נִמָּצָא חֶרֶב וְחֲנִית בְּיַד כָּל-הָעָם, אֲשֶׁר אֶת-שְׁאוּל וְאֶת-יוֹנָתָן; וְהִמָּצָא לְשְׁאוּל, וּלְיוֹנָתָן בָּנוּ. ²³ וַיֵּצֵא מִצֵּב פְּלִשְׁתִּים, אֶל-מַעְבַּר מִכְמָשׁ.

¹ Now it fell upon a day, that Jonathan the son of Saul said unto the young man that bore his armour: 'Come and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that is on yonder side. But he told not his father. ² And Saul tarried in the uttermost part of Gibeah under the pomegranate-tree which is in Migron; and the people that were with him were about six hundred men, ³ and Ahijah, the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the priest of HaShem in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone. ⁴ And between the passes, by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines' garrison, there was a rocky crag on the one side, and a rocky crag on the other side; and the name of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh. ⁵ The one crag rose up on the north in front of Michmas, and the other on the south in front of Geba. ⁶ And Jonathan said to the young man that bore his armour: 'Come and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that HaShem will work for us; for there is no restraint to HaShem to save by many or by few.' ⁷ And his armour-bearer said unto him: 'Do all that is in thy heart; turn thee, behold I am with thee according to thy heart.' ⁸ Then said Jonathan: 'Behold, we will pass over unto the men, and we will disclose ourselves unto them.' ⁹ If they say thus unto us: Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them. ¹⁰ But if they say thus: Come up unto us; then we will go up; for HaShem hath delivered them into our hand; and this shall be the sign unto us.' ¹¹ And both of them disclosed themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines; and the Philistines said: 'Behold Hebrews coming forth out of the holes where they hid themselves.' ¹² And the men of the garrison spoke to Jonathan and his armour-bearer, and said: 'Come up to us, and we will show you a thing.' And Jonathan said unto his armour-bearer: 'Come up after me; for HaShem hath delivered them into the hand of Israel.' ¹³ And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armour-bearer after him; and they fell before Jonathan; and his armour-bearer slew them after him. ¹⁴ And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armour-bearer made, was about twenty men, within as it were half a furrow's length in an acre of land. ¹⁵ And there was a trembling in the camp in the field, and among all the people; the garrison, and the spoilers, they also trembled; and the earth quaked; so it grew into a terror from G-d. ¹⁶ And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeath-benjamin looked; and, behold, the multitude melted away, and they went hither and thither. ¹⁷ Then said Saul unto the people that were with him: 'Number now, and see who is gone from us.' And when they had numbered, behold, Jonathan and his armour-bearer were not there. ¹⁸ And Saul said unto Ahijah: 'Bring hither the ark of G-d.' For the ark of G-d was there at that time with the children of Israel. ¹⁹ And it came to pass, while Saul talked unto the priest, that the tumult that was in the camp of the Philistines went on and increased; and Saul said unto the priest: 'Withdraw thy hand.' ²⁰ And Saul and all the people that were with him were gathered together, and came to the battle; and, behold, every man's sword was against his fellow, and there was a very great discomfiture. ²¹ Now the Hebrews that were with the Philistines as beforetime, and that went up with them into the camp round about; even they also turned to be with the Israelites that were with Saul and Jonathan. ²² Likewise all the men of Israel that had hid themselves in the hill-country of Ephraim, when they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle. ²³ So HaShem saved Israel that day; and the battle passed on as far as Beth-aven. ²⁴ And the men of Israel were distressed that day; but Saul adjured the people, saying: 'Cursed be the man that eateth any food until it be evening, and I be avenged on mine enemies.' So none of the people tasted food. ²⁵ And all the people came into the forest; and there was honey upon the ground. ²⁶ And when the people were come unto the forest, behold a flow of honey; but no man put his hand to his mouth; for the people feared the oath. ²⁷ But Jonathan heard not when his father charged the people with the oath; and he put forth the end of the rod that was in his hand, and dipped it in the honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes brightened. ²⁸ Then answered one of the people, and said: 'Thy father straitly charged the people with an oath, saying: Cursed be the man that eateth food this day; and the people are faint.' ²⁹ Then said Jonathan: 'My father hath troubled the land; see, I pray you, how mine eyes are brightened, because I tasted a little of this honey.' ³⁰ How much more, if haply the people had eaten freely to-day of the spoil of their enemies which they found? had there not been then a much greater slaughter among the Philistines?' ³¹ And they smote of the Philistines that day from Michmas to Aijalon; and the people were very faint. ³² And the people flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and slew them on the ground; and the people did eat them with the blood. ³³ Then they told Saul, saying: 'Behold, the people sin against HaShem, in that they eat with the blood.' And he said: 'Ye have dealt treacherously; roll a great stone unto me this day.' ³⁴ And Saul said: 'Disperse yourselves among the people, and say unto them: Bring me hither every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay them here, and eat; and sin not against HaShem in eating with the blood.' And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew them there. ³⁵ And Saul built an altar unto HaShem; the same was the first altar that he built unto HaShem. ³⁶ And Saul said: 'Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and spoil them until the morning light, and let us not leave a man of them.' And they said: 'Do whatsoever seemeth good unto thee.' Then said the priest: 'Let us draw near hither unto G-d.' ³⁷ And Saul asked counsel of G-d: 'Shall I go down after the Philistines? wilt Thou deliver them into the hand of Israel?' But He answered him not that day. ³⁸ And Saul said: 'Draw nigh hither, all ye chiefs of the people; and know and see wherein this sin hath been this day. ³⁹ For, as HaShem liveth, who saveth Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die.' But there was not a man among all the people that answered him. ⁴⁰ Then said he unto all Israel: 'Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side.' And the people said unto Saul: 'Do what seemeth good unto thee.' ⁴¹ Therefore Saul said unto HaShem, the G-d of Israel: 'Declare the right.' And Jonathan and Saul were taken by lot; but the people escaped. ⁴² And Saul said: 'Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son.' And Jonathan was taken. ⁴³ Then Saul said to Jonathan: 'Tell me what thou hast done.' And Jonathan told him, and said: 'I did certainly taste a little honey with the end of the rod that was in my hand; here am I: I will die.' ⁴⁴ And Saul said: 'G-d do so and more also; thou shalt surely die, Jonathan.' ⁴⁵ And the people said unto Saul: 'Shall Jonathan die, who hath wrought this great salvation in Israel? Far from it; as HaShem liveth, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground; for he hath wrought with G-d this day.' So the people rescued Jonathan, that he died not. ⁴⁶ Then Saul went up from following the Philistines; and the Philistines went to their own place. ⁴⁷ So Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines; and whithersoever he turned himself, he put them to the worse. ⁴⁸ And he did valiantly, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled them. ⁴⁹ Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Ishvi, and Malchi-shua; and the names of his two daughters were these: the name of the first-born Merab, and the name of the younger Michal; ⁵⁰ and the name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam the daughter of Ahimaaz; and the name of the captain of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle. ⁵¹ And Kish was the father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel. ⁵² And there was sore war against the Philistines all the days of Saul; and when Saul saw any mighty man, or any valiant man, he took him unto him.

¹ וַיְהִי הַיּוֹם, וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹנָתָן בֶּן-שָׁאוּל אֶל-הַנָּעַר נָשָׂא כֶּלִי, לָכֶּה וּנַעֲבֶרָה אֶל-מִצֵּב פְּלִשְׁתִּים, אֲשֶׁר מַעֲבֵר הֵל; וּלְאִבְיוֹ, לֹא הִגִּיד. ² וַשָּׂאוּל, יוֹשֵׁב בְּקִצֵּה הַגִּבְעָה, תַּחַת הָרִמּוֹן, אֲשֶׁר בְּמִגְרֹן; וְהָעָם אֲשֶׁר עִמּוֹ, כָּשָׂשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ. ³ וְאַחִיהָ בֶן-אַחִטוֹב אֲחֵי אִיכָבּוֹד בֶּן-פִּינֶחָס בֶּן-צִלִּי כֹהֵן יְהוָה, בָּשֹׁלוֹ--נָשָׂא אִפּוֹד; וְהָעָם לֹא יָדָע, כִּי הֵלָךְ יוֹנָתָן. ⁴ וּבָיִן הַמַּעֲבְרוֹת, אֲשֶׁר בְּקֹשׁ יוֹנָתָן לַעֲבֹר עַל-מִצֵּב פְּלִשְׁתִּים--שָׁן-הַסֵּלַע מִהַעֲבֵר מִזֶּה; וְשָׁן-הָאֶחָד בּוֹצֵץ, וְשָׁם הָאֶחָד סָגָה. ⁵ הַשָּׁן הָאֶחָד מִצִּיּוֹן מִצְפּוֹן, מוֹל מַכְמֶשׁ; וְהָאֶחָד מִגִּבְיָה, מוֹל גִּבְיָה. ⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹנָתָן אֶל-הַנָּעַר נָשָׂא כֶּלִי, לָכֶּה וּנַעֲבֶרָה אֶל-מִצֵּב הָעֲרָלִים הָאֵלֶּה--אוּלֵי יַעֲשֶׂה יְהוָה, לָנוּ: כִּי אֵין לִיהוָה מַעְצוֹר, לְהוֹשִׁיעַ קֶרֶב אוֹ בְּמַעֲט. ⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ נָשָׂא כֶּלִי, עֲשֵׂה כָל-אֲשֶׁר בְּלִבְּךָ; וְטָה לָךְ, וְהִנֵּי עֹמֵד בְּלִבְּךָ. ⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר, יוֹנָתָן, הִנֵּה אֲנִי עֹבֵר, אֶל-הָאֲנָשִׁים; וְנִגְלִינוּ, אֲלֵיהֶם. ⁹ אִם-כֹּה יֵאמְרוּ, אֲלֵינוּ, דְּמוּ, עַד-הִיגִיעֵנוּ אֲלֵיהֶם--וְנַמְדֵנוּ תַּחְתֵּינוּ, וְלֹא נִצְלָה יְדֵיהֶם. ¹⁰ וְאִם-כֹּה יֵאמְרוּ עָלֵינוּ, וְעָלִינוּ--כִּי-נִתְּנָם יְהוָה, בְּיָדֵנוּ; וְהָיָה, הָאוֹת. ¹¹ וַיִּגְלוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם, אֶל-מִצֵּב פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיֹּאמְרוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים--הִנֵּה עֹבְרִים יָצְאוּ, מִן-הַחֲרִים אֲשֶׁר הִתְחַבְּאוּ-שָׁם. ¹² וַיַּעֲנוּ אֲנָשֵׁי הַמִּצֵּבָה אֶת-יוֹנָתָן וְאֶת-נָשָׂא כֶּלִי, וַיֹּאמְרוּ עָלֵינוּ, וַיְגִידוּ וַיַּעֲלֵנוּ יוֹנָתָן, עַד-כִּי-נִתְּנָם אֲחֵרִים--כִּי-נִתְּנָם יְהוָה, בְּיָד יִשְׂרָאֵל. ¹³ וַיַּעַל יוֹנָתָן, עַל-יָדָיו וְעַל-רַגְלָיו, וְנָשָׂא כֶּלִי, אֲחֵרָיו; וַיִּפְּלוּ לִפְנֵי יוֹנָתָן, וְנָשָׂא כֶּלִי מוֹתֵת אֲחֵרָיו. ¹⁴ וַתְּהִי הַמִּקֵּה הָרִאשׁוֹנָה, אֲשֶׁר הִכָּה יוֹנָתָן וְנָשָׂא כֶּלִי--כַּעֲשָׂרִים אִישׁ: כַּבְּחָצִי מִצֵּנָה, צֶמֶד שָׂדֶה. ¹⁵ וַתְּהִי תַרְדֵּה בַּמִּתְּנָה בְּשָׂדֶה, וּבְכָל-הָעָם--הַמִּצֵּב וְהַמִּשְׁחִית, תַּרְדּוֹ גַם-הָמָּה; וַתִּרְגְּזוּ הָאֲרָץ, וַתְּהִי לְתַרְדֵּת אֲלֵיהֶם. ¹⁶ וַיִּרְאוּ הַצִּפִּים לְשָׂאוּל, בַּגְּבֻעַת בְּנִימָן; וְהִנֵּה הֶהָמוֹן נְמוֹג, וַיִּלָּךְ וַהֲלֹם. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, לָעָם אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ, פָּקֶדוּ-נָא וְרֹאוּ, מִי הֵלָךְ מֵעִמָּנוּ; וַיִּפְקְדוּ, וְהִנֵּה אֵין יוֹנָתָן וְנָשָׂא כֶּלִי. ¹⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל לְאַחִיהָ, הַגִּישָׁה אֶרֶן הָאֵלֵהִים: כִּי-הִנֵּה אֶרֶן הָאֵלֵהִים, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא--וּבָיִן יִשְׂרָאֵל. ¹⁹ וַיְהִי, עַד דָּבַר שָׂאוּל אֶל-הַכֹּהֵן, וְהֶהָמוֹן אֲשֶׁר בַּמִּתְּנָה פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיִּלָּךְ הַלּוֹךְ וָרֹב; וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל אֶל-הַכֹּהֵן, אֲסֹף יָדָה. ²⁰ וַיִּזְעַק שָׂאוּל, וְכָל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ, וַיָּבֹאוּ, עַד-הַמִּלְחָמָה; וְהִנֵּה הִתְהַוָּה תַּרְבַּח אִישׁ, בְּרַעְיוֹ--מִהוֹמָה, גְּדוֹלָה מְאֹד. ²¹ וְהַעֲבָרִים, הָיוּ לְפִלְשְׁתִּים כְּאֶתְמוֹל שִׁלְשׁוֹם, אֲשֶׁר עָלוּ עִמָּם בַּמִּתְּנָה, סָבִיב; וְגַם-הָמָּה, לִהְיוֹת עִם-יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר עִם-שָׂאוּל, וַיִּנָּתֶן. ²² וְכָל אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל הַמִּתְחַבְּאִים בְּהַר-אֲפָרַיִם, שָׁמָּעוּ, כִּי-נָסוּ, פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיִּדְּבֻקוּ גַם-הֵמָּה אֲחֵרֵיהֶם, בַּמִּלְחָמָה. ²³ וַיֹּשִׁיעַ יְהוָה בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְהַמִּלְחָמָה--עֲבָרָה, אֶת-בֵּית אֹנָן. ²⁴ וַאֲישׁ-יִשְׂרָאֵל נִגְשׁ, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא; וַיֹּאֲלֵ שָׂאוּל אֶת-הָעָם לֵאמֹר, אֲרוּר הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר-יֵאֵכָל לֶחֶם עַד-הָעֶרֶב וְנִקְמַתִּי מֵאִבְיוֹ, וְלֹא-טָעַם כָּל-הָעָם, לֶחֶם. ²⁵ וְכָל-הָאֲרָץ, בָּאוּ בִיעָר; וַיְהִי דָבָשׁ, עַל-פְּנֵי הַשָּׂדֶה. ²⁶ וַיְבֹא הָעָם אֶל-הַדָּעַר, וְהִנֵּה הֵלָךְ דָּבָשׁ; וְאֵין-מַשְׁגֵּיג יָדוֹ אֶל-פִּיו, כִּי-יֵרָא הָעָם אֶת-הַשִּׁבְעָה. ²⁷ וַיּוֹנָתָן לֹא-שָׁמַע, בַּהֲשִׁיבֵעַ אִבְיוֹ אֶת-הָעָם, וַיִּשְׁלַח אֶת-קָצֵה הַמִּטָּה אֲשֶׁר בְּיָדוֹ, וַיִּסְבֵּל אוֹתָהּ בִּיעָרַת הַדָּבָשׁ; וַיִּשָּׁב יָדוֹ אֶל-פִּיו, וַתִּרְאֶנָּה וַתִּתְּנָה עֵינָיו. ²⁸ וַיַּעַן אִישׁ מֵהָעָם וַיֹּאמֶר, הַשִּׁבְעַת הַשְּׂבִיַע אִבְיָד אֶת-הָעָם לֵאמֹר, אֲרוּר הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר-יֵאֵכָל לֶחֶם, הַיּוֹם; וַיַּעַן, הָעָם. ²⁹ וַיֹּאמֶר, יוֹנָתָן, עֹכֵר אֲבִי, אֶת-הָאֲרָץ; רֹא-נָא, כִּי-אִרוּ עֵינַי--כִּי טָעַמְתִּי מֵעֵט דָּבָשׁ הַזֶּה. ³⁰ אֲף, כִּי לוֹ אֵכָל אֵכָל הַיּוֹם הָעָם, מִשְׁלַל אִבְיוֹ, אֲשֶׁר מִצָּא: כִּי עָתָה לֹא-רִבֵּיתָה מִכָּה, בְּפִלְשְׁתִּים. ³¹ וַיְכֻז בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, בְּפִלְשְׁתִּים, מִמַּכְמֶשׁ, אֲלִנָּה; וַיַּעַף הָעָם, מֵאֵד. ³² וַיַּעַשׂ וַיַּעֲט הָעָם אֶל-שִׁלַּל הַשָּׁלַל, וַיִּקְחוּ צֹאן וּבָקָר וּבְנֵי בָקָר וַיִּשְׁחֻטוּ-אֲרָצָה; וַיֹּאכֵל הָעָם, עַל-הַדָּם. ³³ וַיִּגִּידוּ לְשָׂאוּל לֵאמֹר, הִנֵּה הָעָם חֹטְאִים לַיהוָה לֵאֲכֹל עַל-הַדָּם; וַיֹּאמֶר בְּגִדְתָם, גְּלוּ-אֵלֵי הַיּוֹם אֲבָן גְּדוֹלָה. ³⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל פָּצוּ בָעָם וְאִמְרָתָם לָהֶם הַגִּישׁוּ אֵלַי אִישׁ שׁוֹרוֹ וְאִישׁ שֹׁהֵן, וּשְׁחַטְתֶּם בָּזָה וְאִכְלֶתֶם, וְלֹא-תִשְׁחָטוּ לַיהוָה, לֵאֲכֹל אֶל-הַדָּם; וַיִּגִּישׁוּ כָל-הָעָם אִישׁ שׁוֹרוֹ בְּיָדוֹ, הַלֵּלָה--וַיִּשְׁחֻטוּ-שָׁם. ³⁵ וַיָּבִן שָׂאוּל מִזִּבְחַת, לַיהוָה; אוֹתוֹ הִחַל, לִבְנוֹת מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה. ³⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל בְּיָדָה אֲחֵרֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים לְיָלֶה וּבִבְזָה בָהֶם עַד-אוֹר הַבֹּקֶר, וְלֹא-שָׁמַר בָּהֶם אִישׁ, וַיֹּאמְרוּ, כָּל-הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ עָשֵׂה; וַיֹּאמֶר, הַכֹּהֵן, נִקְרָבָה הָלֶם, אֶל-הָאֵלֵהִים. ³⁷ וַיִּשְׂאֵל שָׂאוּל, בְּאַלְהִים, הָאֲרֻד אֲחֵרֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים, הַתְּתַנֵּם בְּיַד יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְלֹא עָנָהוּ, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא. ³⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל--גִּשׁוּ הָלֶם, כָּל פְּנוֹת הָעָם; וַדָּעוּ וְרֹאוּ--בְּמָה הִיתָה הַחֲסֹטָת הַזֹּאת, הַיּוֹם. ³⁹ כִּי חֵי-יְהוָה, הַמוֹשִׁיעַ אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל--כִּי אִם-יִשְׁנֹו בְּיוֹנָתָן בְּנִי, כִּי מוֹת יָמוּת; וְאֵין עֲנָהוּ, מִכָּל-הָעָם. ⁴⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, אַתֶּם תִּהְיוּ לַעֲבָר אֶחָד, וְאֲנִי וַיּוֹנָתָן בְּנֵי, נִהְיָה לַעֲבָר אֶחָד; וַיֹּאמְרוּ הָעָם אֶל-שָׂאוּל, הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ עָשֵׂה. ⁴¹ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, אֶל-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל--הֲבֵה תָמִים; וַיִּלָּכֵד יוֹנָתָן וְשָׂאוּל, וְהָעָם צִאָּו. ⁴² וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל--הַפִּילוֹ, בְּיָנִי וּבָיִן יוֹנָתָן בְּנִי; וַיִּלָּכֵד, יוֹנָתָן. ⁴³ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל אֶל-יוֹנָתָן, הַגִּידָה לִּי מָה עָשִׂיתָה; וַיַּגֵּד לוֹ יוֹנָתָן, וַיֹּאמֶר טָעַם טָעַמְתִּי בַקִּיצָה הַמִּטָּה אֲשֶׁר-בְּיָדִי מֵעֵט דָּבָשׁ--וְהִנֵּנִי אָמוּת. ⁴⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, כֹּה-יַעֲשֶׂה אֲלֵהֶם וְכֹה יוֹסֵף: כִּי-מוֹת תָּמוּת, יוֹנָתָן. ⁴⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר הָעָם אֶל-שָׂאוּל, הַיּוֹנָתָן יָמוּת אֲשֶׁר עָשֵׂה הַיְשׁוּעָה הַגְּדוֹלָה הַזֹּאת בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל--חֲלִילָה חֵי-יְהוָה אִם-יִפֹּל מִשְׁעָרַת רִאשׁוֹ אֲרָצָה, כִּי-עַם-אֲלֵהִים עָשֵׂה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה; וַיַּדּוּת הָעָם אֶת-יוֹנָתָן, וְלֹא-מָת. ⁴⁶ וַיַּעַל שָׂאוּל, מֵאֲחֵרֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים; וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, הָלָכוּ לְמָקוֹמָם. ⁴⁷ וַשָּׂאוּל לָכֵד הַמְּלוֹכָה, עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיִּלָּחֶם סָבִיב כָּכָל-אִבְיוֹ כְּמוֹאֵב וּבְבָנָי-עִמּוֹן וּבְכָדוֹם וּבְמִלְכֵי צוּבָה, וּבְפִלְשְׁתִּים, וּבְכָל אֲשֶׁר-יָפְקָה, יִרְשָׁע. ⁴⁸ וַיַּעַשׂ חֵיל, וַיָּד אֶת-עֲמָלֶק; וַיִּצַּל אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִיַּד שָׁשָׁהוּ. ⁴⁹ וַיְהִי בְנֵי שָׂאוּל, יוֹנָתָן וַיְשׁוּי וּמְלִישָׁעוּ; וְשָׁם, שְׁתֵּי בָנָתָיו--שָׁם הִבְכִּירָה מֵרָב, וְשָׁם הִקְטִנָּה מִיכָל. ⁵⁰ וְשָׁם אָשֶׁת שָׂאוּל, אַחִינֹעַם בַּת-אֲחִימֶעֶץ; וְשָׁם שָׂר-צָבָאוּ אֲבִינָר, בֶּן-נֹר דוֹד שָׂאוּל. ⁵¹ וְקִישׁ אֲבִי-שָׂאוּל וְנֹר אֲבִי-אֲבִנָר, בֶּן-אֲבִיֹּאֵל. ⁵² וַתְּהִי הַמִּלְחָמָה תָּזָקָה עַל-פְּלִשְׁתִּים, כָּל יְמֵי שָׂאוּל; וַרְאָה שָׂאוּל כָּל-אִישׁ גִּבּוֹר, וְכָל-חֵיל, וַיֹּאסִפְהוּ, אֵלָיו.

¹ And Samuel said unto Saul: 'HaShem sent me to anoint thee to be king over His people, over Israel; now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of HaShem. ² Thus saith HaShem of hosts: I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he set himself against him in the way, when he came up out of Egypt. ³ Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.' ⁴ And Saul summoned the people, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah. ⁵ And Saul came to the city of Amalek, and lay in wait in the valley. ⁶ And Saul said unto the Kenites: 'Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them; for ye showed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt.' So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. ⁷ And Saul smote the Amalekites, from Havilah as thou goest to Shur, that is in front of Egypt. ⁸ And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. ⁹ But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, even the young of the second birth, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them; but every thing that was of no account and feeble, that they destroyed utterly. ¹⁰ Then came the word of HaShem unto Samuel, saying: ¹¹ 'It repenteth Me that I have set up Saul to be king; for he is turned back from following Me, and hath not performed My commandments.' And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto HaShem all night. ¹² And Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning; and it was told Samuel, saying: 'Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he is setting him up a monument, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.' ¹³ And Samuel came to Saul; and Saul said unto him: 'Blessed be thou of HaShem; I have performed the commandment of HaShem.' ¹⁴ And Samuel said: 'What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?' ¹⁵ And Saul said: 'They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto HaShem thy G-d; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.' ¹⁶ Then Samuel said unto Saul: 'Stay, and I will tell thee what HaShem hath said to me this night.' And he said unto him: 'Say on.' ¹⁷ And Samuel said: 'Though thou be little in thine own sight, art thou not head of the tribes of Israel? And HaShem anointed thee king over Israel; ¹⁸ and HaShem sent thee on a journey, and said: Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed. ¹⁹ Wherefore then didst thou not hearken to the voice of HaShem, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst that which was evil in the sight of HaShem?' ²⁰ And Saul said unto Samuel: 'Yea, I have hearkened to the voice of HaShem, and have gone the way which HaShem sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. ²¹ But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the devoted things, to sacrifice unto HaShem thy G-d in Gilgal.' ²² And Samuel said: 'Hath HaShem as great delight in burnt-offerings and sacrifices, as in hearkening to the voice of HaShem? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. ²³ For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as idolatry and teraphim. Because thou hast rejected the word of HaShem, He hath also rejected thee from being king.' ²⁴ And Saul said unto Samuel: 'I have sinned; for I have transgressed the commandment of HaShem, and thy words; because I feared the people, and hearkened to their voice. ²⁵ Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship HaShem.' ²⁶ And Samuel said unto Saul: 'I will not return with thee; for thou hast rejected the word of HaShem, and HaShem hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.' ²⁷ And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his robe, and it rent. ²⁸ And Samuel said unto him: 'HaShem hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou. ²⁹ And also the Glory of Israel will not lie nor repent; for He is not a man, that He should repent.' ³⁰ Then he said: 'I have sinned; yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship HaShem thy G-d.' ³¹ So Samuel returned after Saul; and Saul worshipped HaShem. ³² Then said Samuel: 'Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites.' And Agag came unto him in chains. And Agag said: 'Surely the bitterness of death is at hand.' ³³ And Samuel said: As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before HaShem in Gilgal. ³⁴ Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeath-shaul. ³⁵ And Samuel never beheld Saul again until the day of his death; for Samuel mourned for Saul; and HaShem repented that He had made Saul king over Israel.

¹ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-שָׁאוּל, אֲתִי שָׁלַח יְהוָה לְמַשְׁחֹךְ לְמֶלֶךְ, עַל-עַמּוֹ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְעַתָּה שְׁמַע, לְקוֹל דְּבָרֵי יְהוָה. ² כֹּה אָמַר, יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, פְּקֻדָּתִי, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה עִמָּלֶךְ לְיִשְׂרָאֵל--אֲשֶׁר-שָׂם לוֹ בְּדֶרֶךְ, בַּעֲלֹתוֹ מִמִּצְרַיִם. ³ עַתָּה לֹךְ וְהִפֵּיתָה אֶת-עִמָּלֶךְ, וְהִחָרַמְתָּם אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ, וְלֹא תַחֲמַל, עָלָיו; וְהִמַּתָּה מְאִישׁ עַד-אִשָּׁה, מֵעַלְל וְעַד-יוֹנֵק, מִשּׁוֹר וְעַד-שֶׂה, מִגִּמְלָה וְעַד-חֲמוֹר. ⁴ וַיִּשְׁמַע שָׁאוּל, אֶת-הַעֵם, וַיִּפְקְדֵם בְּטָלָאִים, מֵאֲתִים אֶלְף רִגְלִי; וַעֲשֶׂרֶת אֲלָפִים, אֶת-אִישׁ יְהוּדָה. ⁵ וַיָּבֵא שָׁאוּל, עַד-עִיר עִמָּלֶךְ; וַיִּרְבּוּ, בְּנַחֲל. ⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶל-הַקִּינִי לֵכּוּ סֵרוּ רִדּוֹ מִתּוֹךְ עִמָּלֶךְ, פֶּן-אֶסְפְּדָה עַמּוֹ, וְאַתָּה עֲשִׂיתָה חֶסֶד עִם-כָּל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, בַּעֲלוֹתָם מִמִּצְרַיִם; וַיָּסֵר קִינִי, מִתּוֹךְ עִמָּלֶךְ. ⁷ וַיָּבֵא שָׁאוּל, אֶת-עִמָּלֶךְ, מִחוּלֵּילָה בּוֹאֶדֶף שׁוֹר, אֲשֶׁר עַל-פָּנָיו מִצְרַיִם. ⁸ וַיִּתְּפֹשׂ אֶת-אַגָּג מֶלֶךְ-עִמָּלֶךְ, חִי; וְאֶת-כָּל-הָעֵם, הִחָרִים לִפְנֵי-חֶרֶב. ⁹ וַיַּחֲמַל שָׁאוּל וְהָעֵם עַל-אַגָּג, וְעַל-מִיטֵב הַצֹּאן וְהַבָּקָר וְהַמִּשְׁנִים וְעַל-הַכֹּרִים וְעַל-כָּל-הַטּוֹב, וְלֹא אָבּוּ, הִחָרִימָם; וְכָל-הַמִּלְאכָה נִמְכְּרָה וְנָמַס, אֹתָהּ הִחָרִימוּ. ¹⁰ וַיְהִי, דְּבַר-יְהוָה, אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, לֵאמֹר. ¹¹ נִחַמְתִּי, כִּי-הִמְלַכְתִּי אֶת-שָׁאוּל לְמֶלֶךְ--כִּי-נָשָׂב מֵאַחֲרִי, וְאַתָּה דְּבָרִי לֹא הִקִּים; וַיַּחֲר, לְשְׁמוּאֵל, וַיִּזְעַק אֶל-יְהוָה, כָּל-הַלַּיְלָה. ¹² וַיִּשְׁכַּם שְׁמוּאֵל לְקִרְאֵת שָׁאוּל, בַּבֹּקֶר; וַיִּגַּד לְשְׁמוּאֵל לֵאמֹר, כֹּא-שָׁאוּל הִכְרַמְלָה וְהִנֵּה מַצִּיב לוֹ יָד, וַיִּסֵּב וַיַּעֲבֹר, וַיֵּרֶד הַגִּלְגָּל. ¹³ וַיָּבֵא שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-שָׁאוּל; וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ שָׁאוּל, בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה לַיהוָה--הִקִּימְתִּי, אֶת-דְּבַר יְהוָה. ¹⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, וּמָה קוֹל-הַצֹּאן הַזֶּה בְּאָזְנִי, וְקוֹל הַבָּקָר, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִכִּי שְׁמַע. ¹⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל מִצְמַלְקֵי הַבַּיּוֹם, אֲשֶׁר חָמַל הָעֵם עַל-מִיטֵב הַצֹּאן וְהַבָּקָר, לְמַעַן זָבַח, לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ; וְאַתָּה-הַיּוֹתֵר, הִחָרַמְנוּ. ¹⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-שָׁאוּל, הֲרָף וְאֶגִּידָה לָּךְ, אֵת אֲשֶׁר דָּבַר יְהוָה אֵלַי הַלַּיְלָה; וַיֹּאמְרוּ וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ, דַּבֵּר. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל--הֲלוֹא אִם-קִטְּנָה אֹתָהּ בְּעֵינַי, רֹאשׁ שְׁבָטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֹתָהּ; וַיִּמְשַׁח יְהוָה לְמֶלֶךְ, עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. ¹⁸ וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוָה, בְּדֶרֶךְ; וַיֹּאמֶר, לֹךְ וְהִחָרַמְתָּה אֶת-הַחֲטָאִים אֶת-עִמָּלֶךְ, וְנִלְחַמְתָּ בּוֹ, עַד כָּלוֹתָם אֹתָם. ¹⁹ וְלָמָּה לֹא-שְׁמַעְתָּ, בְּקוֹל יְהוָה; וְתַעֲט, אֶל-הַשָּׁלָל, וְתַעֲשׂ הָרַע, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה. ²⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, אֲשֶׁר שְׁמַעְתִּי בְּקוֹל יְהוָה, וְאַלֶּכְהָ, בְּדֶרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר-שָׁלַחְנִי יְהוָה; וְאֵבִיא, אֶת-אַגָּג מֶלֶךְ עִמָּלֶךְ, וְאֶת-עִמָּלֶךְ, הִחָרַמְתִּי. ²¹ וַיִּקַּח הָעֵם מִהַשָּׁלָל צֹאן וּבָקָר, רֵאשִׁית הַחֶרֶם, לְזִבְחָ לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, בַּגִּלְגָּל. ²² וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, הַחֲפִץ לַיהוָה בַּעֲלוֹת וּזְבָחִים, כְּשָׁמֶעַ, בְּקוֹל יְהוָה; הִנֵּה שְׁמַע מְזִבַּח טוֹב, לְהַקְשִׁיב מִחֻלָּב אֵלִים. ²³ כִּי חֲטָא-קֶסֶם מָרִי, וְאַנּוֹן וְתִרְפִּים הִפָּצַר; יַעַן, מֵאֲסַת אֶת-דְּבַר יְהוָה, וַיִּמָּסְדָה, מִמֶּלֶךְ. ²⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל חֲטָאִיתִי, כִּי-עֲבַרְתִּי אֶת-פִּי-יְהוָה וְאֶת-דְּבָרֶיךָ; כִּי יִרְאֵתִי אֶת-הָעֵם, וְאֲשָׁמַע בְּקוֹלָם. ²⁵ וְעַתָּה, שָׂא נָא אֶת-חֲטָאִיתִי; וְשׁוּב עִמִּי, וְאַשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לַיהוָה. ²⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-שָׁאוּל, לֹא אֲשׁוּב עִמָּךְ; כִּי מֵאֲסַתָּה, אֶת-דְּבַר יְהוָה, וַיִּמָּסְדָה יְהוָה, מִקְּדוֹת מֶלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. ²⁷ וַיִּסֵּב שְׁמוּאֵל, לָלֶכֶת; וַיַּחֲזֹק בְּכַנֶּף-מַעֲלִיו, וַיִּקְרַע. ²⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו, שְׁמוּאֵל, קִרַּע יְהוָה אֶת-מְמַלְכוּת יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵעַלְיָךְ, הַיּוֹם; וּנְתַנָּה, לְרַעֲדָה הַטּוֹב מִמֶּךָ. ²⁹ וְגַם נִצַּח יִשְׂרָאֵל, לֹא יִשְׁקַר וְלֹא יִנָּחֵם; כִּי לֹא אָדָם הוּא, לְהִנָּחֵם. ³⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר חֲטָאִיתִי--עַתָּה כִּבְדִּנִּי נָא נִגִּיד זִקְנִי עִמִּי, וְנִגִּיד יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְשׁוּב עִמִּי, וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתִי לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ. ³¹ וַיִּשָּׁב שְׁמוּאֵל, אַחֲרֵי שָׁאוּל; וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ שָׁאוּל, לַיהוָה. ³² וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, הִגִּישׁוּ אֵלַי אֶת-אַגָּג מֶלֶךְ עִמָּלֶךְ, וַיִּלָּךְ אֵלָיו, אַגָּג מִצְדָּנָת; וַיֹּאמֶר אַגָּג, אֲכֹן סָר מֵר-הַמֶּלֶךְ. ³³ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל--כֹּאֲשֶׁר שָׁכַלָה נָשִׁים חֲרָבָה, כֶּן-תִּשְׁכַּל מְנָשִׁים אִמָּךְ; וַיִּשְׁפֹּף שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-אַגָּג לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, בַּגִּלְגָּל. ³⁴ וַיִּלָּךְ שְׁמוּאֵל, הָרְמָתָה; וְשָׁאוּל עָלָה אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, גִּבְעַת שָׁאוּל. ³⁵ וְלֹא-יָסַף שְׁמוּאֵל לִרְאוֹת אֶת-שָׁאוּל, עַד-יוֹם מוֹתוֹ, כִּי-הִתְאַבֵּל שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-שָׁאוּל; וַיְהִי נָחֵם, כִּי-הִמְלִיךְ אֶת-שָׁאוּל עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל.

¹ And HaShem said unto Samuel: 'How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel? fill thy horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Beth-lehemite; for I have provided Me a king among his sons.' ² And Samuel said: 'How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me.' And HaShem said: 'Take a heifer with thee, and say: I am come to sacrifice to HaShem. ³ And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will tell thee what thou shalt do; and thou shalt anoint unto Me him whom I name unto thee.' ⁴ And Samuel did that which HaShem spoke, and came to Beth-lehem. And the elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said: 'Comest thou peaceably?' ⁵ And he said: 'Peaceably; I am come to sacrifice unto HaShem; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice. ⁶ And it came to pass, when they were come, that he beheld Eliab, and said: 'Surely HaShem'S anointed is before Him.' ⁷ But HaShem said unto Samuel: 'Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have rejected him; for it is not as man seeth: for man looketh on the outward appearance, but HaShem looketh on the heart.' ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said: 'Neither hath HaShem chosen this.' ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said: 'Neither hath HaShem chosen this.' ¹⁰ And Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse: 'HaShem hath not chosen these.' ¹¹ And Samuel said unto Jesse: 'Are here all thy children?' And he said: 'There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep.' And Samuel said unto Jesse: 'Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he come hither.' ¹² And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of beautiful eyes, and goodly to look upon. And HaShem said: 'Arise, anoint him; for this is he.' ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren; and the spirit of HaShem came mightily upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah. ¹⁴ Now the spirit of HaShem had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from HaShem terrified him. ¹⁵ And Saul's servants said unto him: 'Behold now, an evil spirit from G-d terrifieth thee. ¹⁶ Let our lord now command thy servants, that are before thee, to seek out a man who is a skilful player on the harp; and it shall be, when the evil spirit from G-d cometh upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well.' ¹⁷ And Saul said unto his servants: 'Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me.' ¹⁸ Then answered one of the young men, and said: 'Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Beth-lehemite, that is skilful in playing, and a mighty man of valour, and a man of war, and prudent in affairs, and a comely person, and HaShem is with him.' ¹⁹ Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said: 'Send me David thy son, who is with the sheep.' ²⁰ And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul. ²¹ And David came to Saul, and stood before him; and he loved him greatly; and he became his armour-bearer. ²² And Saul sent to Jesse, saying: 'Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favour in my sight.' ²³ And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from G-d was upon Saul, that David took the harp, and played with his hand; so Saul found relief, and it was well with him, and the evil spirit departed from him.

¹ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, עַד-מָתִי אַתָּה מֵתַאֲבֵל אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וְאַנִּי מֵאַסְתִּיו, מִמֶּלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; מַלְא קַרְנֶךָ שֶׁמֶן, וְלֵךְ אֲשַׁלְחֶךָ אֶל-יִשִׁי בֵּית-הַלְחָמִי--כִּי-רָאִיתִי בְּבָנָיו לִי, מֶלֶךְ. ² וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אִיד אֵלֶיךָ, וְשִׁמֵּעַ שָׁאוּל וְהַרְגָנִי; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, עֲגִלַת בָּקָר תִּקַּח בְּיָדְךָ, וְאַמְרָתָּ, לְזִבְחַ לַיהוָה בָּאתִי. ³ וְקִרְאתָ לְיִשִׁי, בְּזִבְחָ; וְאַנְכִּי, אֹדִיעֶךָ אֶת אֲשֶׁר-תַּעֲשֶׂה, וּמִשְׁחָתָ לִי, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-אִמַּר אֲלֶיךָ. ⁴ וַיַּעַשׂ שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶת אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה, וַיָּבֹא, בֵּית לָחֶם; וַיַּחְרְדּוּ זִקְנֵי הָעִיר, לִקְרָאתוֹ, וַיֹּאמֶר, שָׁלֹם בּוֹאֶיךָ. ⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁלֹם, לְזִבְחַ לַיהוָה בָּאתִי, הַתְקַדְשׁוּ, וּבָאתֶם אִתִּי בְּזִבְחָ; וַיִּקְדָּשׁ אֶת-יִשִׁי וְאֶת-בָּנָיו, וַיִּקְרָא לָהֶם לְזִבְחָ. ⁶ וַיְהִי כַּבּוֹאֶם, וַיֵּרָא אֶת-אַלְיָאֵב; וַיֹּאמֶר, אַךְ נִגַּד יְהוָה מִשִּׁיחוֹ. ⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-תִּבְטֵ אֶל-מֶרְאֵהוּ וְאֶל-גִּבֹּהַ קוֹמָתוֹ--כִּי מֵאַסְתִּיהוּ: כִּי לֹא, אֲשֶׁר יֵרָאֶה הָאָדָם--כִּי הָאָדָם יֵרָאֶה לְעֵינָיו, וַיְהִי יֵרָאֶה לְלֵבָב. ⁸ וַיִּקְרָא יִשִׁי אֶל-אַבִּינָדָב, וַיַּעֲבְרֵהוּ לִפְנֵי שְׁמוּאֵל; וַיֹּאמֶר, גַּם-כֹּזֶה לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה. ⁹ וַיַּעֲבֵר יִשִׁי, שְׁמָה; וַיֹּאמֶר, גַּם-כֹּזֶה לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה. ¹⁰ וַיַּעֲבֵר יִשִׁי שְׁבַעַת בָּנָיו, לִפְנֵי שְׁמוּאֵל; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יִשִׁי, לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה בְּאַלְהֵה. ¹¹ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יִשִׁי, הֲתִמּוּ הַנְּעָרִים, וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד שָׂאֵר הַקָּטָן, וְהִנֵּה רָעָה בְּצִאָן; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יִשִׁי שְׁלַחָה וְקַחְנוּ, כִּי לֹא-נֹסֵב עַד-בֹּאוֹ פֹּה. ¹² וַיִּשְׁלַח וַיְבִיאֵהוּ וְהוּא אֲדָמוּנִי, עִם-יָפֶה עֵינָיו וְטוֹב רֹאִי; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה קוֹם מִשְׁחָהוּ, כִּי-זֶה הוּא. ¹³ וַיִּקַּח שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-קֶרֶן הַשֶּׁמֶן, וַיִּמָּשַׁח אֹתוֹ בְּקֶרֶב אָחָיו, וַתִּצְלַח רוּחַ-יְהוָה אֶל-דָּוִד, מֵהַיּוֹם הַהוּא וּמִעַלָּה; וַיָּקָם שְׁמוּאֵל, וַיֵּלֶךְ הָרְמָתָה. ¹⁴ וְרוּחַ יְהוָה סָרָה, מֵעַם שָׁאוּל; וּבְעֵתָתוֹ רוּחַ-רָעָה, מֵאֵת יְהוָה. ¹⁵ וַיֹּאמְרוּ עֲבָדֵי-שָׁאוּל, אֵלָיו: הִנֵּה-נָא רוּחַ-אַלֵּהִים רָעָה, מִבְּעֵתְךָ. ¹⁶ יֹאמֶר-נָא אֲדֹנָי, עֲבָדֶיךָ לְפָנֶיךָ--יִבְקָשׁוּ, אִישׁ יָדַע מְנַגֵּן כִּכְנוֹר; וְהָיָה, בְּהִיּוֹת עֲלֶיךָ רוּחַ-אַלֵּהִים רָעָה--וְנִגַּן בְּיָדוֹ, וְטוֹב לָךְ. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל, אֶל-עֲבָדָיו: רְאוּ-נָא לִי, אִישׁ מִיִּטִּיב לְנִגֵּן, וְהִבִּיאֹתֶם, אֵלָי. ¹⁸ וַיַּעַן אֶחָד מֵהַנְּעָרִים וַיֹּאמֶר, הִנֵּה רָאִיתִי בֶן לְיִשִׁי בֵּית הַלְחָמִי, יָדַע נִגֵּן וּגְבוּר חֵיל וְאִישׁ מִלְחָמָה וְנָבוֹן דָּבָר, וְאִישׁ תָּאֵר; וַיְהִי, עִמּוֹ. ¹⁹ וַיִּשְׁלַח שָׁאוּל מַלְאָכִים, אֶל-יִשִׁי; וַיֹּאמֶר, שְׁלַחָה אֵלַי אֶת-דָּוִד בְּנֶךָ אֲשֶׁר בְּצִאָן. ²⁰ וַיִּקַּח יִשִׁי חֲמֹר לָחֶם, וְנָאֵד יִין, וּגְדֵי עֲזִים, אֶחָד; וַיִּשְׁלַח בְּיַד-דָּוִד בְּנוֹ, אֶל-שָׁאוּל. ²¹ וַיָּבֹא דָוִד אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וַיַּעֲמֵד לִפְנָיו; וַיֹּאמְרֵהוּ מָאֵד, וַיְהִי-לוֹ נֶשֶׂא כְלִים. ²² וַיִּשְׁלַח שָׁאוּל, אֶל-יִשִׁי לֵאמֹר: יַעֲמֵד-נָא דָוִד לִפְנֵי, כִּי-מִצָּא חֵן בְּעֵינַי. ²³ וְהָיָה, בְּהִיּוֹת רוּחַ-אַלֵּהִים אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וְלִקַּח דָּוִד אֶת-הַכִּכְנוֹר, וְנִגַּן בְּיָדוֹ; וְרוּחַ לְשָׁאוּל וְטוֹב לוֹ, וְסָרָה מֵעָלָיו רוּחַ הָרָעָה.

¹ Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and they were gathered together at Socoh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. ² And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched in the vale of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines. ³ And the Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side; and there was a valley between them. ⁴ And there went out a champion from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. ⁵ And he had a helmet of brass upon his head, and he was clad with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass. ⁶ And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a javelin of brass between his shoulders. ⁷ And the shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him. ⁸ And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them: 'Why do ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me. ⁹ If he be able to fight with me, and kill me, then will we be your servants; but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us.' ¹⁰ And the Philistine said: 'I do taunt the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.' ¹¹ And when Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid. ¹² Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Beth-lehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons; and the man was an old man in the days of Saul, stricken in years among men. ¹³ And the three eldest sons of Jesse had gone after Saul to the battle; and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were Eliab the first-born, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. ¹⁴ And David was the youngest; and the three eldest followed Saul. — ¹⁵ Now David went to and fro from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Beth-lehem. — ¹⁶ And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days. ¹⁷ And Jesse said unto David his son: 'Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to thy brethren. ¹⁸ And bring these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and to thy brethren shalt thou bring greetings, and take their pledge; ¹⁹ now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, are in the vale of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.' ²⁰ And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the barricade, as the host which was going forth to the fight shouted for the battle. ²¹ And Israel and the Philistines put the battle in array, army against army. ²² And David left his baggage in the hand of the keeper of the baggage, and ran to the army, and came and greeted his brethren. ²³ And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke according to the same words; and David heard them. ²⁴ And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. ²⁵ And the men of Israel said: 'Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to taunt Israel is he come up; and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.' ²⁶ And David spoke to the men that stood by him, saying: 'What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the taunt from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should have taunted the armies of the living G-d?' ²⁷ And the people answered him after this manner, saying: 'So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.' ²⁸ And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said: 'Why art thou come down? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy presumptuousness, and the naughtiness of thy heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.' ²⁹ And David said: 'What have I now done? Was it not but a word?' ³⁰ And he turned away from him toward another, and spoke after the same manner; and the people answered him after the former manner. ³¹ And when the words were heard which David spoke, they rehearsed them before Saul; and he was taken to him. ³² And David said to Saul: 'Let no man's heart fail within him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.' ³³ And Saul said to David: 'Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.' ³⁴ And David said unto Saul: 'Thy servant kept his father's sheep; and when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock, ³⁵ I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth; and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. ³⁶ Thy servant smote both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath taunted the armies of the living G-d.' ³⁷ And David said: 'HaShem that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine.' And Saul said unto David: 'Go, and HaShem shall be with thee.' ³⁸ And Saul clad David with his apparel, and he put a helmet of brass upon his head, and he clad him with a coat of mail. ³⁹ And David girded his sword upon his apparel, and he essayed to go, but could not; for he had not tried it. And David said unto Saul: 'I cannot go with these; for I have not tried them.' And David put them off him. ⁴⁰ And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in the shepherd's bag which he had, even in his scrip; and his sling was in his hand; and he drew near to the Philistine. ⁴¹ And the Philistine came nearer and nearer unto David; and the man that bore the shield went before him. ⁴² And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him; for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and withal of a fair countenance. ⁴³ And the Philistine said unto David: 'Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves?' And the Philistine cursed David by his god. ⁴⁴ And the Philistine said to David: 'Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.' ⁴⁵ Then said David to the Philistine: 'Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a javelin; but I come to thee in the name of HaShem of hosts, the G-d of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast taunted. ⁴⁶ This day will HaShem deliver thee into my hand; and I will smite thee, and take thy head from off thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a G-d in Israel; ⁴⁷ and that all this assembly may know that HaShem saveth not with sword and spear; for the battle is HaShem'S, and He will give you into our hand.' ⁴⁸ And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hastened, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. ⁴⁹ And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slung it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead; and the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell upon his face to the earth. ⁵⁰ So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David. ⁵¹ And David ran, and stood over the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw that their mighty man was dead, they fled. ⁵² And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou comest to Gai, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron. ⁵³ And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their camp. ⁵⁴ And David took the head of the philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent. ⁵⁵ And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host: 'Abner, whose son is this youth?' And Abner said: 'As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell.' ⁵⁶ And the king said: 'Inquire thou whose son the stripling is.' ⁵⁷ And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. ⁵⁸ And Saul said to him: 'Whose son art thou, thou young man?' And David answered: 'I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Beth-lehemite.'

¹ וַיִּאָסְפוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֶת־מַחְנֵיהֶם, לְמִלְחָמָה, וַיֵּאָסְפוּ, שָׁכָה אֲשֶׁר לִיהוּדָה; וַיַּחֲנוּ בֵּין־שׁוֹכָה וּבֵין־עֲזֹקָה, בְּאֶפְסֵי דָמִים. ² וַיֵּשְׁאוּל אִישׁ־יִשְׂרָאֵל נְאֻסָּפוּ, וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּעֶמֶק הָאֵלָה; וַיַּעֲרֹכוּ מִלְחָמָה, לְקִרְיַת פְּלִשְׁתִּים. ³ וּפְלִשְׁתִּים עֹמְדִים אֶל־הָהָר, מִזֶּה, וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל עֹמְדִים אֶל־הָהָר, מִזֶּה; וַהֲגָזָה, בִּינֵיהֶם. ⁴ וַיֵּצֵא אִישׁ־הַבְּנִינִים מִמַּחְנוֹת פְּלִשְׁתִּים, גִּלְיָת שְׁמוֹ מִגָּת; גִּבְיָהוּ, שֵׁשׁ אֲמוֹת וָחָרָת. ⁵ וְכוֹכַב חֲדָשֶׁת עַל־רֵאשׁוֹ, וַיִּשְׁרִיּוֹן קִשְׁקָשִׁים הוּא לְבוּשׁ; וּמִשְׁקֵל, הַשְּׁרִיּוֹן--חֲמִשַּׁת־אֲלָפִים שְׁקָלִים, חֲדָשֶׁת. ⁶ וּמִצַּחַת חֲדָשֶׁת עַל־רִגְלָיו; וּכְדִידוֹן חֲדָשֶׁת, בֵּין כַּתְּפָיו. ⁷ וַחֲזַץ וַעֲזַץ חֲנִיתוֹ, כַּמְנֹר אֲרָגִים, וְלִהְבֶּת חֲנִיתוֹ, שֵׁשׁ־מֵאוֹת שְׁקָלִים בָּרָזֶל; וְנִשְׂאָה הַצֶּנֶה, הַלֵּךְ לִפְנָיו. ⁸ וַיַּעֲמֵד, וַיִּקְרָא אֶל־מַעֲרַכַת יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם, לָמָּה תֵצֵאוּ לַעֲרֹךְ מִלְחָמָה: הַלּוֹא אֲנֹכִי הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, וְאַתֶּם עֹבְדִים לְשֹׂאֵל--בְּרוֹ-לָכֶם אִישׁ, וַיֵּרֵד אֵלָי. ⁹ אִם־יֹכֵל לְהִלָּחֵם אִתִּי, וְהִכְנִי--וַהֲיִינוּ לָכֶם, לְעֹבְדִים; וְאִם־אֲנִי אוֹכֵל־לוֹ, וְהִפְתִּיתוּ--וְהִייתֶם לִנְי לְעֹבְדִים, וְעֹבְדֶתֶם אֹתָנוּ. ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר, הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, אֲנִי חֲרַפְתִּי אֶת־מַעֲרַכְכוֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה; תִּגְנוּ־לִי אִישׁ, וְנִלְחַמְתָּה יַחַד. ¹¹ וַיִּשְׁמַע שְׂאוּל וְכָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶת־דְּבָרֵי הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הָאֵלָה; וַיַּחֲמוּ וַיִּרְאוּ, מֵאֵד. ¹² וַדּוּד בֶּן־אִישׁ אֶפְרַתִּי הָיָה, מִבֵּית חָם יְהוּדָה, וְשִׁמוֹ יִשִּׁי, וְלוֹ שְׁמֹנֶה בָנִים; וְהָאִישׁ בִּימֵי שְׂאוּל, זָקֵן כָּאֲנָשִׁים. ¹³ וַיְכַל שְׁלֹשֶׁת בָּנֵי־יִשִּׁי, הַגְּדֹלִים--הַלֵּכוֹ אַחֲרֵי־שְׂאוּל, לְמִלְחָמָה; וְשֵׁשׁ שְׁלֹשֶׁת בָּנָיו, אֲשֶׁר הָלְכוּ בַּמִּלְחָמָה--אֶלְיָאֵב הַבְּכוֹר וּמִשְׁנֵהוּ אֲבִינָדָב, וְהַשְּׁלִשִׁי שָׁמָּה. ¹⁴ וַדּוּד, הוּא הַקָּטָן; וְשְׁלֹשָׁה, הַגְּדֹלִים, הַלֵּכוֹ, אַחֲרֵי שְׂאוּל. ¹⁵ וַדּוּד הַלֵּךְ וְשָׁב, מֵעַל שְׂאוּל, לָרְעוֹת אֶת־צֹאֵן אֲבִיו, בֵּית־חָם. ¹⁶ וַיִּגַּשׁ הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, הַשֹּׁכֵם וְהַגֵּר; וַיִּתְּצֵב, אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר יִשִּׁי לְדּוּד בֶּנּוּ, קַח־נָא לְאַחִידִי אִיפַת הַקְּלִיא הַזֶּה, וְנַעֲשֶׂהָ לָחֶם, הַזֶּה; וְהָרַץ הַמַּחְנֶה, לְאַחִידִי. ¹⁸ וְאֵת עֲשֶׂרֶת חֲרָצֵי הַתֵּלֵב, הַהֵלֶה, תִּבְרִא, לְשֹׁר־הָאֵלָה; וְאֶת־אֲחִידִי תַפְקֹד לְשָׁלוֹם, וְאֶת־עֲרֹבָתָם תַּקַּח. ¹⁹ וְשְׂאוּל וְהָמָה וְכָל־אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעֶמֶק הָאֵלָה; וְנִלְחָמִים, עִם־פְּלִשְׁתִּים. ²⁰ וַיִּשְׁכֹּם דּוּד בַּבֹּקֶר, וַיִּשֹׁשׁ אֶת־הַצֹּאֵן עַל־שֹׁמֶר, וַיִּשָּׂא וַיִּלָּךְ, כְּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּהוּ יִשִּׁי; וַיָּבֹא, הַמַּעֲגֵלָה, וְהַחִיל יֵצֵא אֶל־הַמַּעֲרָכָה, וְהָרַעוּ בַּמִּלְחָמָה. ²¹ וַתַּעֲרֹךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, מַעֲרָכָה לְקִרְיַת מַעֲרָכָה. ²² וַיִּשֹׁשׁ דּוּד אֶת־הַכֵּלִים מַעֲלִיו, עַל־יַד שׁוֹמֵר הַכֵּלִים, וַיִּרֶץ הַמַּעֲרָכָה; וַיָּבֹא, וַיִּשְׂאֵל לְאַחִיו לְשָׁלוֹם. ²³ וְהוּא מַדְבֵּר עִמָּם, וְהָיָה אִישׁ הַבְּנִים עוֹלָה גִלְיָת הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי שְׁמוֹ מִגָּת מִמַּעֲרוֹת מַמַּעֲרוֹת פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיְדַבֵּר, בְּדַבְרֵים הָאֵלָה; וַיִּשְׁמַע, דּוּד. ²⁴ וְכָל אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּרֹאֲתָם אֶת־הָאִישׁ; וַיִּגְסוּ, מִפְּנֵיו, וַיִּירְאוּ, מֵאֵד. ²⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, הֲרֹאִיתֶם הָאִישׁ הַעֲלָה הַזֶּה--כִּי לַחֲרֹף אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל, עָלָה; וְהִיָּה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר־יִכְנֹה וַעֲשֶׂהוּ הַמֶּלֶךְ עוֹשֵׁר גָּדוֹל, וְאֶת־בֵּיתוֹ יִתֵּן־לוֹ, וְאֶת בֵּית אֲבִיו, יַעֲשֶׂה חֲפְשִׁי בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל. ²⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר דּוּד, אֶל־הָאֲנָשִׁים הָעֹמְדִים עִמּוֹ לֵאמֹר, מֶה־יַּעֲשֶׂה לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר יִכֶּה אֶת־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הַזֶּה, וְהִסִּיר חֲרָפָה מֵעַל יִשְׂרָאֵל; כִּי מִי, הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הַעֲרֵל הַזֶּה, כִּי חֲרַף מַעֲרוֹכוֹת אֱלֹהִים חַיִּים. ²⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הָעָם, בְּדַבֵּר הַזֶּה לֵאמֹר: כֹּה יַעֲשֶׂה, לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר יִכְנֹה. ²⁸ וַיִּשְׁמַע אֱלִיאֵב אֲחִיו הַגָּדוֹל, בְּדַבְּרוֹ אֶל־הָאֲנָשִׁים; וַיַּחֲרֹף אִף־אֱלִיאֵב בְּדוּד וַיֹּאמֶר לָמָּה־זֶּה יִרְדָּת, וְעַל־מִי נִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה מַעַט הַצֹּאֵן הַהֵנָּה בַּמַּדְבָּר--אֲנִי יִדְעִתִּי אֶת־זִלְגָּה וְאֵת רֹעַ לִבְבָּךְ, כִּי לִמְעַן רְאוֹת הַמִּלְחָמָה יִרְדָּת. ²⁹ וַיֹּאמֶר דּוּד, מֶה עֲשִׂיתִי עִתָּה; הַלּוֹא, דָּבָר הוּא. ³⁰ וַיִּסָּב מֵאֲצִלוֹ אֶל־מוֹל אַחֵר, וַיֹּאמֶר בְּדַבֵּר הַזֶּה; וַיִּשְׁכַּח וְהָעָם דָּבָר, בְּדַבֵּר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר, אֲשֶׁר, דָּבָר דּוּד; וַיִּגְדּוּ לִפְנֵי־שְׂאוּל, וַיִּקְחֵהוּ. ³² וַיֹּאמֶר דּוּד אֶל־שְׂאוּל, אֶל־יֹפֶל לִב־אָדָם עָלָיו; עֹבְדֵךְ גִּלְי, וְנִלְחָם עִם־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הַזֶּה. ³³ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאוּל אֶל־דּוּד, לֹא תֹכֵל לָלֶכֶת אֶל־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הַזֶּה, לְהִלָּחֵם, עִמּוֹ; כִּי־נַעַר אַתָּה, וְהוּא אִישׁ מִלְחָמָה מִנְּעָרָיו. ³⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר דּוּד אֶל־שְׂאוּל, רַעְיָה הִיָּה עֹבְדֵךְ לְאִבּוֹ בְּצֹאֵן; וְכֹה הָאָרִי וְאֶת־הַדּוֹב, וְנִשָּׂא שָׁה מִקְּעֵדָר. ³⁵ וַיִּצְאֵתִי אַחֲרָיו וְהַכְּתִיו, וְהַצִּלְתִּי מִפְּנֵיו; וַיָּקֵם עָלַי--וְהַתְּזוּקָתִי בַּזְקֹנִי, וְהַכְּתִיו. ³⁶ גַּם אֶת־הָאָרִי גַם־הַדּוֹב, הִכָּה עֹבְדֵךְ; וְהִיָּה הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הַעֲרֵל הַזֶּה, כְּאִחִיד מֵהֶם, כִּי חֲרַף מַעֲרוֹכֵי אֱלֹהִים חַיִּים. ³⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר, דּוּד, וַיְהִיָּה וְהִיָּה מִיָּד הַעֲרֵי וּמִיָּד הַדּוֹב, הוּא יַצִּילֵנִי מִיַּד הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הַזֶּה; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאוּל אֶל־דּוּד לֵךְ, וַיְהִיָּה וְהִיָּה עִמָּךְ. ³⁸ וַיִּלְבַּשׁ שְׂאוּל אֶת־דּוּד־דָּוִד מִדְּיו, וַיָּתֵן קוֹכַב חֲדָשֶׁת עַל־רֵאשׁוֹ; וַיִּקְבַּשׁ אֹתוֹ, שְׁרִיּוֹן. ³⁹ וַיַּחֲגֹר דּוּד אֶת־חַרְבּוֹ מֵעַל לִמְדֵּיו אֶת־גִּלְיָת לָלֶכֶת, כִּי לֹא־נִסָּה, וַיֹּאמֶר דּוּד אֶל־שְׂאוּל לֹא אוֹכֵל לָלֶכֶת כְּבָאֵלָה, כִּי לֹא נִסִּיתִי; וַיִּסְרֵם דּוּד, מַעֲלִיו. ⁴⁰ וַיִּקַּח מַקְלוֹ בְּיָדוֹ; וַיַּבְחֵר לוֹ חֲמִשָּׁה חֲלָקִים אֲבָנִים מִן־הַנֶּחֱל וַיִּשֹׁם אֹתָם בְּכָלִי הָרַעִים אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ וּבִילִקּוּטֵי־מַעֲלֵוֹ בְּיָדוֹ; וַיִּגַּשׁ אֶל־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי. ⁴¹ וַיִּלָּךְ, הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, הַלֵּךְ וְהָרַץ, אֶל־דּוּד; וְהָאִישׁ נִשְׂא הַצֶּנֶה לִפְנָיו. ⁴² וַיִּבֹט הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי וַיִּרְאֶה אֶת־דּוּד, וַיִּבְיָהוּ; כִּי־הִיָּה נַעַר, וְאֲדָמְנִי עִם־יָפֶה מִרָּא, וַיֹּאמֶר הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, אֶל־דּוּד, הַכְּלִב אֲנֹכִי, כִּי־אִתָּה בֹא־אֵלִי בַּמִּקְלוֹת; וַיִּקְלַל הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי אֶת־דּוּד, בִּאֲלֵהֵיו. ⁴⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, אֶל־דּוּד: לָמָּה אֵלִי--וְאִתָּה אֶת־בִּשְׂרֹךְ, לַעְוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּלְבַהֶמֶת הַשָּׂדֶה. ⁴⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר דּוּד, אֶל־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, אִתָּה בֹא אֵלַי, הַחֲרֹב וּבִחְנִית וּבְכִידוֹן; וְאֲנֹכִי בֹא־אֵלָיְךָ, בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, אֱלֹהֵי מַעֲרוֹכוֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר חֲרַפְתָּ. ⁴⁶ הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה יִסְגְּרֶךְ יְהוָה בְּיָדִי וְהַכִּיתֶךָ, וְהִסְרֵתִי אֶת־רֹאשְׁךָ מֵעֲלֶיךָ, וְנָתַתִּי פֶגֶר מַחְנֶה פְּלִשְׁתִּים הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, לַעְוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּלְחִית הָאָרֶץ; וַיִּדְעוּ, כָּל־הָאָרֶץ, כִּי יֵשׁ אֱלֹהִים, לְיִשְׂרָאֵל. ⁴⁷ וַיִּדְעוּ כָל־הַקְּהֵל הַזֶּה, כִּי־לֹא בַּחֲרֹב וּבִחְנִית הוֹשִׁיעַ יְהוָה; כִּי לַיהוָה הַמִּלְחָמָה, וַיָּתֵן אֹתָם בְּיָדוֹ. ⁴⁸ וְהִיָּה כִּי־קָם הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, וַיִּלָּךְ וַיִּקְרַב לְקִרְיַת דּוּד; וַיִּמָּהֵר דּוּד, וַיִּרֶץ הַמַּעֲרָכָה לְקִרְיַת הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי. ⁴⁹ וַיִּשְׁלַח דּוּד אֶת־יָדוֹ אֶל־הַכֵּל, וַיִּקַּח מִשָּׁם אֶבֶן וַיִּקְלַע, וַיַּךְ אֶת־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, אֶל־מִצְעָבוֹ; וַתִּשְׁבַּע הָאֲבֵן בְּמִצְעָבוֹ, וַיַּפֵּל עַל־פְּנֵיו אֲרָצָה. ⁵⁰ וַיַּחֲזֹק דּוּד מִן־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי בְּקַלְעוֹ וּבְאֲבֵן, וַיַּךְ אֶת־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי וַיִּמָּתֶהוּ; וַתִּרְבַּ, אִין בְּיַד־דּוּד. ⁵¹ וַיִּרֶץ דּוּד וַיַּעֲמֵד אֶל־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי וַיִּקַּח אֶת־חַרְבּוֹ וַיִּשְׁלֹפֶה מִתְּעֹרָה, וַיִּמָּתֶהוּ; וַיִּכְרַת בָּהָ, אֶת־רֵאשׁוֹ; וַיִּרְאוּ הַפְּלִשְׁתִּים כִּי־מַת גְּבוּרָם, וַיִּגְסוּ. ⁵² וַיִּקְמוּ אֲנָשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיַּהוּדָה וַיִּרְעוּ, וַיִּרְדְּפוּ אֶת־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּים, עַד־בּוֹאֵץ גִּיא, וְעַד שְׁעָרֵי עֶקְרוֹן; וַיִּפְּלוּ חֲלָלִי פְּלִשְׁתִּים, בְּדָרֶךְ שְׁעָרִים, וְעַד־גַּת, וְעַד־עֶקְרוֹן. ⁵³ וַיִּשְׁכְּבוּ בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִדְּלֹק אַחֲרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיִּשְׁטוּ, אֶת־מַחְנֵיהֶם. ⁵⁴ וַיִּקַּח דּוּד אֶת־רֹאשׁ הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, וַיַּבְּאֵהוּ וַיְרוּשִׁלָּם; וְאֶת־כְּלָיו, שָׁם בְּאֵהֶלֹ. ⁵⁵ וְכִלְאוֹת שְׂאוּל אֶת־דּוּד, יָצָא לְקִרְיַת הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, אֲמֹר אֶל־אֲבִנֵּי שַׁר הַצָּבָא, בֶּן־מִי־זֶה הַנַּעַר אֲבִנֵּי; וַיֹּאמֶר אֲבִנֵּי, חִי־נִפְשֶׁךָ הַנִּלָּךְ אִם־יָדְעִיתִי. ⁵⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר, הַמֶּלֶךְ: שָׂאֵל אִתָּה, בֶּן־מִי־זֶה הָעֶלֶם. ⁵⁷ וַיִּכְשׁוּב דּוּד, מִהֲכוֹת אֶת־הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, וַיִּקַּח אֹתוֹ אֲבִנֵּי, וַיַּבְּאֵהוּ לִפְנֵי שְׂאוּל; וַרֹאשׁ הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, בְּיָדוֹ. ⁵⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלִיו שְׂאוּל, בֶּן־מִי אִתָּה הַנַּעַר; וַיֹּאמֶר דּוּד, בֶּן־עֹבְדֵךְ יִשִּׁי בֵּית הַלְחָמִי.

¹ And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. ² And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house. ³ Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. ⁴ And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his apparel, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle. ⁵ And David went out; whithersoever Saul sent him, he had good success; and Saul set him over the men of war; and it was good in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants. ⁶ And it came to pass as they came, when David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with timbrels, with joy, and with three-stringed instruments. ⁷ And the women sang one to another in their play, and said: Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands. ⁸ And Saul was very wroth, and this saying displeased him; and he said: 'They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands; and all he lacketh is the kingdom!' ⁹ And Saul eyed David from that day and forward. ¹⁰ And it came to pass on the morrow, that an evil spirit from G-d came mightily upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house; and David played with his hand, as he did day by day; and Saul had his spear in his hand. ¹¹ And Saul cast the spear; for he said: 'I will smite David even to the wall.' And David stepped aside out of his presence twice. ¹² And Saul was afraid of David, because HaShem was with him, and was departed from Saul. ¹³ Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. ¹⁴ And David had great success in all his ways; and HaShem was with him. ¹⁵ And when Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in awe of him. ¹⁶ But all Israel and Judah loved David; for he went out and came in before them. ¹⁷ And Saul said to David: 'Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give thee to wife; only be thou valiant for me, and fight HaShem'S battles.' For Saul said: 'Let not my hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.' ¹⁸ And David said unto Saul: 'Who am I, and what is my life, or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?' ¹⁹ But it came to pass at the time when Merab Saul's daughter should have been given to David, that she was given unto Adriel the Meholathite to wife. ²⁰ And Michal Saul's daughter loved David; and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. ²¹ And Saul said: 'I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him.' Wherefore Saul said to David: 'Thou shalt this day be my son-in-law through the one of the twain.' ²² And Saul commanded his servants: 'Speak with David secretly, and say: Behold, the king hath delight in thee, and all his servants love thee; now therefore be the king's son-in-law.' ²³ And Saul's servants spoke those words in the ears of David. And David said: 'Seemeth it to you a light thing to be the king's son-in-law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?' ²⁴ And the servants of Saul told him, saying: 'On this manner spoke David.' ²⁵ And Saul said: 'Thus shall ye say to David: The king desireth not any dowry, but a hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies.' For Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines. ²⁶ And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son-in-law. And the days were not expired; ²⁷ and David arose and went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full number to the king, that he might be the king's son-in-law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife. ²⁸ And Saul saw and knew that HaShem was with David; and Michal Saul's daughter loved him. ²⁹ And Saul was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul was David's enemy continually. ³⁰ Then the princes of the Philistines went forth; and it came to pass, as often as they went forth, that David prospered more than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was much set by.

¹ וַיְהִי, כְּכֹלְתּוֹ לְדַבֵּר אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וַנִּפְּשׁ יְהוֹנָתָן, נִקְשָׁרָה בְּנֶפֶשׁ דָּוִד; וַיֵּאָהֲבוּ וַיֵּאָהֲבֵהוּ יְהוֹנָתָן, כְּנֶפֶשׁוֹ. ² וַיִּקְחֵהוּ שָׁאוּל, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא; וְלֹא נָתַנוּ, לְשׁוּב בֵּית אָבִיו. ³ וַיַּכְרֹת יְהוֹנָתָן וְדָוִד, בְּרִית, בְּאֵהֲבָתוֹ אֹתוֹ, כְּנֶפֶשׁוֹ. ⁴ וַיִּתְּפֹשֶׁט יְהוֹנָתָן, אֶת-הַמַּעֲוִל אֲשֶׁר עָלָיו, וַיִּתְּנֶהוּ, לְדָוִד; וּמִדְּיוֹ, וְעַד-חֶרְבּוֹ וְעַד-קֶשְׁתּוֹ וְעַד-חֲגָרוֹ. ⁵ וַיֵּצֵא דָוִד בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁלַחֲנֹו שָׁאוּל, יִשְׁכִּיל, וַיִּשְׁמָהוּ שָׁאוּל, עַל אֲנָשֵׁי הַמִּלְחָמָה; וַיִּיטֵב, בְּעֵינָיו כָּל-הָעָם, וְגַם, בְּעֵינָיו עֲבָדֵי שָׁאוּל. ⁶ וַיְהִי כְּבוֹאָם, בְּשׁוּב דָּוִד מֵהַכּוֹת אֶת-הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, וַתֵּצֵאֵהָ הַנָּשִׁים מִכָּל-עָרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לְשׁוֹר לְשִׁיר וְהַמְחִלוֹת, לִקְרֹאת שָׁאוּל הַמֶּלֶךְ--בְּתִפְפִּים בְּשִׁמְחָה, וּבְשִׁלְשִׁים. ⁷ וַתַּעֲנִינָה הַנָּשִׁים הַמְשַׁחֲקוֹת, וַתֹּאמְרֵן: הֲכָה שָׁאוּל בְּאַלְפּוֹ, וְדָוִד בְּרַב־בָּתָיו. ⁸ וַיַּחֲר לְשָׁאוּל מְאֹד, וַיִּרַע בְּעֵינָיו הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, וַיֹּאמֶר נָתַנוּ לְדָוִד רַב־כּוֹת, וְלִי נָתַנוּ הָאֲלָפִים; וְעוֹד לוֹ, אֵךְ הַמְּלוּכָה. ⁹ וַיְהִי שָׁאוּל, עוֹן עֹוִן אֶת-דָּוִד, מֵהַיּוֹם הַהוּא, וְהָלָאָה. ¹⁰ וַיְהִי מִמָּחָרָת, וַתֵּצֵלֶח רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים רָעָה אֶל-שָׁאוּל וַיִּתְּנַבֵּא בַתּוֹךְ-הַבַּיִת, וְדָוִד מִנְּגֵן בִּידּוֹ, כְּיוֹם בְּיוֹם; וַהֲחִנִּית, בֵּיד-שָׁאוּל. ¹¹ וַיִּטֹּל שָׁאוּל, אֶת-הַחֲנִית, וַיֹּאמֶר, אִכָּה בְּדָוִד וּבְקִיר; וַיִּסֵּב דָּוִד מִפָּנָיו, פַּעַמִּים. ¹² וַיֵּרָא שָׁאוּל, מִלִּפְנֵי דָוִד: כִּי-הָיָה יְהוָה עִמּוֹ, וּמַעַם שָׁאוּל סָר. ¹³ וַיִּסְרְהוּ שָׁאוּל מַעֲמוֹ, וַיִּשְׁמָהוּ לוֹ שַׁר-אֶלְתָּ; וַיֵּצֵא וַיָּבֵא, לִפְנֵי הָעָם. ¹⁴ וַיְהִי דָוִד לְכָל-דָּרָכּוֹ, מִשְׁכִּיל; וַיְהִי, עִמּוֹ. ¹⁵ וַיֵּרָא שָׁאוּל, אֲשֶׁר-הוּא מִשְׁכִּיל מְאֹד; וַיִּגֵּר, מִפָּנָיו. ¹⁶ וְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיְהוּדָה, אֲהָב אֶת-דָּוִד: כִּי-הוּא יוֹצֵא וְבָא, לִפְנֵיהֶם. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶל-דָּוִד, הִנֵּה בָתִּי הַגְּדוֹלָה מֵרַב אֹתָהּ אֶתֶּן-לָךְ לְאִשָּׁה--אֵךְ הָיָה-לִּי לְכָן-חֵיל, וְהִלָּחֵם מִלְחָמוֹת יְהוָה; וְשָׁאוּל אָמַר, אֵל-תְּהִי יָדִי בּוֹ, וַתְּהִי-בּוֹ, יָד-פְּלִשְׁתִּים. ¹⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-שָׁאוּל, מִי אֲנֹכִי וּמִי חַיִּי, מִשְׁפַּחַת אָבִי, בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל--כִּי-אֶהְיֶה חֲתָן, לְמֶלֶךְ. ¹⁹ וַיְהִי, בַּעַת תֵּת אֶת-מֵרַב בַּת-שָׁאוּל--לְדָוִד; וַהֲיָא נִתְּנָה לַעֲדְרִיָּאל הַמַּחֲלָתִי, לְאִשָּׁה. ²⁰ וַתֵּאָהֵב מִיכָל בַּת-שָׁאוּל, אֶת-דָּוִד; וַיִּגְדּוּ לְשָׁאוּל, וַיִּשֶׁר הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינָיו. ²¹ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶתְנַנֶּה לוֹ, וַתְּהִי-לוֹ לְמוֹקֵשׁ, וַתְּהִי-בּוֹ, יָד-פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶל-דָּוִד, בְּשָׂתִים תִּתְּחַתְּן בִּי הַיּוֹם. ²² וַיֵּצֵאוּ שָׁאוּל אֶת-עֲבָדָיו, דָּבְרוּ אֶל-דָּוִד בִּלְט לֵאמֹר, הִנֵּה חֲפֵץ בְּךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְכָל-עֲבָדָיו אֹהֲבֶיךָ; וְעַתָּה, הִתְחַתֵּן בְּמֶלֶךְ. ²³ וַיְדַבְּרוּ עֲבָדֵי שָׁאוּל, בְּאָזְנֵי דָוִד, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים, הָאֵלֶּה; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, הִנֵּקְלָה בְּעֵינֵיכֶם הִתְחַתֵּן בְּמֶלֶךְ, וְאֲנֹכִי, אִישׁ-רָשׁ וְנִקְלָה. ²⁴ וַיִּגְדּוּ עֲבָדֵי שָׁאוּל, לוֹ--לֵאמֹר: כְּדָבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, דָּבָר דָּוִד. ²⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל כֹּה-תֹאמְרוּ לְדָוִד, אִין-חֲפֵץ לְמֶלֶךְ בְּמָהָר, כִּי בְמָאָה עָרְלוֹת פְּלִשְׁתִּים, לְהִנָּקֵם בְּאִיבֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְשָׁאוּל חָשַׁב, לְהַפִּיל אֶת-דָּוִד בְּיָד-פְּלִשְׁתִּים. ²⁶ וַיִּגְדּוּ עֲבָדָיו לְדָוִד, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, וַיִּשֶׁר הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינֵי דָוִד, לְהִתְחַתֵּן בְּמֶלֶךְ; וְלֹא מָלְאוּ, הַיָּמִים. ²⁷ וַיָּקָם דָּוִד וַיֵּלֶךְ הוּא וְאֲנָשָׁיו, וַיֵּךְ בְּפִלִּשְׁתִּים מֵאֹתִים אִישׁ, וַיָּבֵא דָוִד אֶת-עָרְלוֹתֵיהֶם, וַיִּמְלְאוּם לְמֶלֶךְ לְהִתְחַתֵּן בְּמֶלֶךְ; וַיִּתֵּן-לוֹ שָׁאוּל אֶת-מִיכָל בָּתּוֹ, לְאִשָּׁה. ²⁸ וַיֵּרָא שָׁאוּל וַיִּדַּע, כִּי יְהוָה עִם-דָּוִד; וּמִיכָל בַּת-שָׁאוּל, אֹהֲבָתָהּ. ²⁹ וַיֹּאסֶף שָׁאוּל, לְרֹא מִפָּנָיו דָּוִד--עוֹד; וַיְהִי שָׁאוּל אֹיֵב אֶת-דָּוִד, כָּל-הַיָּמִים. ³⁰ וַיֵּצֵאוּ, שָׂרֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים; וַיְהִי מְדֵי צֹאתָם, שָׁכַל דָּוִד מִכָּל עֲבָדֵי שָׁאוּל, וַיִּיקָר שְׁמוֹ, מְאֹד.

¹ And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should slay David; but Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David. ² And Jonathan told David, saying: 'Saul my father seeketh to slay thee; now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself in the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself. ³ And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will speak with my father of thee; and if I see aught, I will tell thee.' ⁴ And Jonathan spoke good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him: 'Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his work hath been very good towards thee; ⁵ for he put his life in his hand, and smote the Philistine, and HaShem wrought a great victory for all Israel; thou sawest it, and didst rejoice; wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?' ⁶ And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan; and Saul swore: 'As HaShem liveth, he shall not be put to death.' ⁷ And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as beforetime. ⁸ And there was war again; and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled before him. ⁹ And an evil spirit from HaShem was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand; and David was playing with his hand. ¹⁰ And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the spear; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the spear into the wall; and David fled, and escaped that night. ¹¹ And Saul sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning; and Michal David's wife told him, saying: 'If thou save not thy life to-night, to-morrow thou shalt be slain.' ¹² So Michal let David down through the window; and he went, and fled, and escaped. ¹³ And Michal took the teraphim, and laid it in the bed, and put a quilt of goats' hair at the head thereof, and covered it with a cloth. ¹⁴ And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said: 'He is sick.' ¹⁵ And Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying: 'Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him.' ¹⁶ And when the messengers came in, behold, the teraphim was in the bed, with the quilt of goats' hair at the head thereof. ¹⁷ And Saul said unto Michal: 'Why hast thou deceived me thus, and let mine enemy go, that he is escaped?' And Michal answered Saul: 'He said unto me: Let me go; why should I kill thee?' ¹⁸ Now David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth. ¹⁹ And it was told Saul, saying: 'Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.' ²⁰ And Saul sent messengers to take David; and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, the spirit of G-d came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. ²¹ And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied. ²² Then went he also to Ramah, and came to the great cistern that is in Secu; and he asked and said: 'Where are Samuel and David?' And one said: 'Behold, they are at Naioth in Ramah.' ²³ And he went thither to Naioth in Ramah; and the spirit of G-d came upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah. ²⁴ And he also stripped off his clothes, and he also prophesied before Samuel, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say: 'Is Saul also among the prophets?'

¹ וַיְדַבֵּר שָׁאוּל, אֶל-יוֹנָתָן בְּנוֹ וְאֶל-כָּל-עַבְדָּיו, לְהָמִית, אֶת-דָּוִד; וַיְהוֹנָתָן, בֶּן-שָׁאוּל, חָפֵץ בְּדָוִד, מְאֹד. ² וַיַּגֵּד יְהוֹנָתָן לְדָוִד לֵאמֹר, מִבְקֵשׁ שָׁאוּל אֹבִי לְהָמִיתָךְ; וְעַתָּה הִשְׁמֵר-נָא בְּבִקְרָךְ, וַיֵּשְׁבֶתָ בְּסִתְרָךְ וּנְחִיבָאֲתָךְ. ³ וְאֲנִי אֵצֶא וְעֹמְדָתִי לִיד-אָבִי, בַּשָּׂדֶה אֲשֶׁר אֲתָה שָׁם, וְאֲנִי, אֲדַבֵּר בְּךָ אֶל-אָבִי; וְרָאִיתִי מָה, וְהִגַּדְתִּי לָךְ. ⁴ וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוֹנָתָן בְּדָוִד טוֹב, אֶל-שָׁאוּל אָבִיו; וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֶל-יַחֲזָא הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּעֲבָדוֹ בְּדָוִד, כִּי לֹא חָטָא לָךְ, וְכִי מַעֲשָׂיו, טוֹב-לָךְ מְאֹד. ⁵ וַיִּשָּׂם אֶת-נַפְשׁוֹ בְּכַף וַיֵּךְ אֶת-הַפִּלִּשְׁתִּי, וַיַּעַשׂ יְהוָה תְּשׁוּעָה גְדוֹלָה לְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל--רָאִיתָ, וַתִּשְׁמָח; וְלָמָּה תַּחֲטֹא בָדָם נָקִי, לְהָמִית אֶת-דָּוִד חֲנָם. ⁶ וַיִּשְׁמַע שָׁאוּל, בְּקוֹל יְהוֹנָתָן; וַיִּשְׁבַּע שָׁאוּל, חֵי-יְהוָה אִם-יוֹמֶת. ⁷ וַיִּקְרָא יְהוֹנָתָן, לְדָוִד, וַיַּגֵּד-לוֹ יְהוֹנָתָן, אֶת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וַיָּבֵא יְהוֹנָתָן אֶת-דָּוִד אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וַיְהִי לִפְנֵיו כְּאֶתְמוּל שְׁלֹשׁוֹם. ⁸ וַתּוֹסֶף הַמֶּלֶךְמָה, לַהֲיוֹת; וַיֵּצֵא דָוִד וַיִּלָּחֶם בַּפִּלִּשְׁתִּים, וַיֵּךְ בָּהֶם מִכָּה גְדוֹלָה, וַיִּגְסּוּ, מִפְּנָיו. ⁹ וַתְּהִי רוּחַ יְהוָה רָעָה, אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וְהוּא בְּבֵיתוֹ יָשָׁב, וַחֲנִיתוֹ בְּיָדוֹ; וְדָוִד, מִנְּגֵן בְּיָד. ¹⁰ וַיִּבְקֹשׁ שָׁאוּל לְהַכּוֹת בַּחֲנִית, בְּדָוִד וּבִקְרִיר, וַיִּפְטֹר מִפְּנֵי שָׁאוּל, וַיֵּךְ אֶת-הַחֲנִית בִּקְרִיר; וְדָוִד נָס וַיִּמָּלֵט, בַּלִּילָה הַהוּא. ¹¹ וַיִּשְׁלַח שָׁאוּל מַלְאָכִים אֶל-בֵּית דָּוִד, לְשָׁמְרוֹ, וְלְהָמִיתוֹ, בְּבִקְרָךְ; וַתַּגֵּד לְדָוִד, מִיכָל אֲשֶׁתוֹ לֵאמֹר, אִם-אֵינָךְ מִמָּלֵט אֶת-נַפְשְׁךָ הַלַּיְלָה, מִתַּחַר אֲתָה מוֹמֶת. ¹² וַתֵּרֶד מִיכָל אֶת-דָּוִד, בְּעֵד הַחֲלוּן; וַיֵּלֶךְ וַיִּבְרַח, וַיִּמָּלֵט. ¹³ וַתִּקַּח מִיכָל אֶת-הַתֶּרֶפִּים, וַתִּשָּׂם אֶל-הַמִּטָּה, וְאֵת כְּבִיר הָעֲצִים, שָׂמָה מִרְאֲשֶׁתִּי; וַתִּכַּס, בַּבִּגְד. ¹⁴ וַיִּשְׁלַח שָׁאוּל מַלְאָכִים, לִקְחַת אֶת-דָּוִד; וַתֹּאמֶר, חַלָּה הוּא. ¹⁵ וַיִּשְׁלַח שָׁאוּל אֶת-הַמַּלְאָכִים, לָרְאוֹת אֶת-דָּוִד לֵאמֹר: הֲעָלוּ אֹתוֹ בַּמִּטָּה אֵלַי, לְהָמִיתוֹ. ¹⁶ וַיָּבֵאוּ, הַמַּלְאָכִים, וְהִנֵּה הַתֶּרֶפִּים, אֶל-הַמִּטָּה; וּכְבִיר הָעֲצִים, מִרְאֲשֶׁתִּי. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶל-מִיכָל, לָמָּה כָּכָה רַמִּיתִנִּי, וַתִּשְׁלַחִי אֶת-אֹיְבִי, וַיִּמָּלֵט; וַתֹּאמֶר מִיכָל אֶל-שָׁאוּל, הוּא-אָמַר אֵלַי שְׁלַחֲנִי לָמָּה אֲמִיתָךְ. ¹⁸ וְדָוִד בָּרַח וַיִּמָּלֵט, וַיָּבֵא אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל הַרְמָתָה, וַיַּגֵּד-לוֹ, אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה-לוֹ שָׁאוּל; וַיֵּלֶךְ הוּא וְשְׁמוּאֵל, וַיֵּשְׁבוּ בְּנוֹת בְּנֵי־יִגְדָל שָׁאוּל, לֵאמֹר: הִנֵּה דָוִד, בְּנוֹת בְּנֵי־יִגְדָל בְּרָמָה. ²⁰ וַיִּשְׁלַח שָׁאוּל מַלְאָכִים, לִקְחַת אֶת-דָּוִד, וַיֵּרָא אֶת-לִהְקֹת הַנְּבִיאִים נִבְּאִים, וְשְׁמוּאֵל עֶמֶד נֹצֵב עֲלֵיהֶם; וַתְּהִי עַל-מַלְאָכֵי שָׁאוּל, רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים, וַיִּתְּנָבְאוּ, גַּם-הֵמָּה. ²¹ וַיַּגִּדוּ לְשָׁאוּל, וַיִּשְׁלַח מַלְאָכִים אַחֲרָיו, וַיִּתְּנָבְאוּ, גַּם-הֵמָּה; וַיִּסָּף שָׁאוּל, וַיִּשְׁלַח מַלְאָכִים שְׁלֹשִׁים, וַיִּתְּנָבְאוּ, גַּם-הֵמָּה. ²² וַיֵּלֶךְ גַּם-הוּא הַרְמָתָה, וַיָּבֵא עַד-בּוֹר הַגָּדוֹל אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׂכֹן, וַיִּשְׁאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר, אֵיפֹה שְׁמוּאֵל וְדָוִד; וַיֹּאמֶר, הִנֵּה בְנוֹת בְּנֵי־יִגְדָל בְּרָמָה. ²³ וַיֵּלֶךְ שָׁם, אֶל-בְּנוֹת בְּנֵי־יִגְדָל; וַתְּהִי עֲלָיו גַּם-הוּא רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים, וַיֵּלֶךְ הַלֹּךְ וַיִּתְּנָבְא, עַד-בָּאוּ, בְּנוֹת בְּנֵי־יִגְדָל בְּרָמָה. ²⁴ וַיִּפְשֹׁט גַּם-הוּא בְּגָדָיו, וַיִּתְּנָבֵא גַם-הוּא לִפְנֵי שְׁמוּאֵל, וַיִּפֹּל עָרֹם, כָּל-הַיּוֹם הַהוּא וְכָל-הַלַּיְלָה; עַל-כֵּן, יֹאמְרוּ--הֲגַם שָׁאוּל, בְּנִבְיָאִם.

¹ And David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said before Jonathan: 'What have I done? what is mine iniquity? and what is my sin before thy father, that he seeketh my life?' ² And he said unto him: 'Far from it; thou shalt not die; behold, my father doeth nothing either great or small, but that he discloseth it unto me; and why should my father hide this thing from me? it is not so.' ³ And David swore moreover, and said: 'Thy father knoweth well that I have found favour in thine eyes; and he saith: Let not Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved; but truly as HaShem liveth, and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death.' ⁴ Then said Jonathan unto David: 'What doth thy soul desire, that I should do it for thee?' ⁵ And David said unto Jonathan: 'Behold, to-morrow is the new moon, when I should sit with the king to eat; so let me go, that I may hide myself in the field unto the third day at even.' ⁶ If thy father miss me at all, then say: David earnestly asked leave of me that he might run to Beth-lehem his city; for it is the yearly sacrifice there for all the family.' ⁷ If he say thus: It is well; thy servant shall have peace; but if he be wroth, then know that evil is determined by him.' ⁸ Therefore deal kindly with thy servant; for thou hast brought thy servant into a covenant of HaShem with thee; but if there be in me iniquity, slay me thyself; for why shouldest thou bring me to thy father?' ⁹ And Jonathan said: 'Far be it from thee; for if I should at all know that evil were determined by my father to come upon thee, then would not I tell it thee?' ¹⁰ Then said David to Jonathan: 'Who shall tell me if perchance thy father answer thee roughly?' ¹¹ And Jonathan said unto David: 'Come and let us go out into the field.' And they went out both of them into the field. ¹² And Jonathan said unto David: 'HaShem, the G-d of Israel — when I have sounded my father about this time to-morrow, or the third day, behold, if there be good toward David, shall I not then send unto thee, and disclose it unto thee?' ¹³ HaShem do so to Jonathan, and more also, should it please my father to do thee evil, if I disclose it not unto thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace; and HaShem be with thee, as He hath been with my father.' ¹⁴ And thou shalt not only while yet I live show me the kindness of HaShem, that I die not; ¹⁵ but also thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever; no, not when HaShem hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth.' ¹⁶ So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David: 'HaShem even require it at the hand of David's enemies.' ¹⁷ And Jonathan caused David to swear again, for the love that he had to him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul. ¹⁸ And Jonathan said unto him: 'To-morrow is the new moon; and thou wilt be missed, thy seat will be empty.' ¹⁹ And in the third day thou shalt hide thyself well, and come to the place where thou didst hide thyself in the day of work, and shalt remain by the stone Ezel. ²⁰ And I will shoot three arrows to the side-ward, as though I shot at a mark. ²¹ And, behold, I will send the lad: Go, find the arrows. If I say unto the lad: Behold, the arrows are on this side of thee; take them, and come; for there is peace to thee and no hurt, as HaShem liveth. ²² But if I say thus unto the boy: Behold, the arrows are beyond thee; go thy way; for HaShem hath sent thee away. ²³ And as touching the matter which I and thou have spoken of, behold, HaShem is between me and thee for ever.' ²⁴ So David hid himself in the field; and when the new moon was come, the king sat him down to the meal to eat. ²⁵ And the king sat upon his seat, as at other times, even upon the seat by the wall; and Jonathan stood up, and Abner sat by Saul's side; but David's place was empty. ²⁶ Nevertheless Saul spoke not any thing that day; for he thought: 'Something hath befallen him, he is unclean; surely he is not clean.' ²⁷ And it came to pass on the morrow after the new moon, which was the second day, that David's place was empty; and Saul said unto Jonathan his son: 'Wherefore cometh not the son of Jesse to the meal, neither yesterday, nor to-day?' ²⁸ And Jonathan answered Saul: 'David earnestly asked leave of me to go to Beth-lehem; ²⁹ and he said: Let me go, I pray thee; for our family hath a sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he hath commanded me; and now, if I have found favour in thine eyes, let me get away, I pray thee, and see my brethren. Therefore he is not come unto the king's table.' ³⁰ Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him: 'Thou son of perverse rebellion, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own shame, and unto the shame of thy mother's nakedness?' ³¹ For as long as the son of Jesse liveth upon the earth, thou shalt not be established, nor thy kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he deserveth to die.' ³² And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said unto him: 'Wherefore should he be put to death? what hath he done?' ³³ And Saul cast his spear at him to smite him; whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to put David to death. ³⁴ So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no food the second day of the month; for he was grieved for David, and because his father had put him to shame. ³⁵ And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him. ³⁶ And he said unto his lad: 'Run, find now the arrows which I shoot.' And as the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. ³⁷ And when the lad was come to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after the lad, and said: 'Is not the arrow beyond thee?' ³⁸ And Jonathan cried after the lad: 'Make speed, hasten, stay not.' And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master. ³⁹ But the lad knew not any thing; only Jonathan and David knew the matter. ⁴⁰ And Jonathan gave his weapons unto his lad, and said unto him: 'Go, carry them to the city.' ⁴¹ And as soon as the lad was gone, David arose out of a place toward the South, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed down three times; and they kissed one another, and wept one with another, until David exceeded. ⁴² And Jonathan said to David: 'Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of HaShem, saying: HaShem shall be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed, for ever.'

¹ וַיִּבָּרֶחַ דָּוִד, מִנְּיוֹת בְּרָמָה; וַיָּבֹא וַיֹּאמֶר לִפְנֵי יְהוֹנָתָן, מָה עָשִׂיתִי מֵהַ--עֲוֹנִי וּמֵהַ--חַטָּאתִי לִפְנֵי אָבִיךָ--כִּי מִבְּקֶשׁ, אֶת-נִפְשִׁי. ² וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ חֲלִילָה, לֹא תָמוּת--הִנֵּה לוֹ-עֲשָׂה לֹא-יַעֲשֶׂה אָבִי דָּבָר גָּדוֹל אוֹ דָּבָר קָטָן, וְלֹא יִגְלֶה אֶת-אָזְנוֹ; וּמִדּוֹעַ יִסְתִּיר אָבִי מִמֶּנִּי אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, אֵין זֹאת. ³ וַיִּשָּׁבַע עוֹד דָּוִד, וַיֹּאמֶר יָדַע יָדַע אָבִיךָ כִּי-מִצָּאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ, וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-יָדַע-זֹאת יְהוֹנָתָן, כֹּן-יַעֲצֹב; וְאוֹלָם, חִי-יְהוּדָה וְחִי נִפְשָׁךְ--כִּי כִפְשָׁע, בִּינִי וּבֵין הָעָלָם. ⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹנָתָן, אֶל-דָּוִד: מֵהַ-תֹּאמַר נִפְשָׁךְ, וְאֶעֱשֶׂה לָּךְ. ⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-יְהוֹנָתָן, הִנֵּה-חֹדֶשׁ מִקָּחַר, וְאָנֹכִי יֹשֵׁב-אֲשֶׁב עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ, לֶאֱכֹל; וְשִׁלַּחְתָּנִי וְנִסְתַּרְתִּי בַשָּׂדֶה, עַד הָעָרֶב הַשְּׁלִישִׁית. ⁶ אִם-פָּקֵד יִפְקְדֵנִי, אָבִיךָ; וְאִמְרָתְךָ, נִשְׁאֵל נִשְׁאֵל מִמֶּנִּי דָוִד לְרוֹץ בֵּית-לָחֶם עִירוֹ--כִּי זָבַח הַיָּמִים שָׁם, לְכָל-הַמִּשְׁפָּחָה. ⁷ אִם-כֹּה יֹאמַר טוֹב, שְׁלוֹם לְעַבְדְּךָ; וְאִם-חֶרֶב יַחֲרֶה, לוֹ--דַּע, כִּי-כָלְתָה הָרָעָה מֵעַמּוֹ. ⁸ וְעָשִׂיתָ חֶסֶד, עַל-עַבְדְּךָ, כִּי בִבְרִית יְהוָה, הִבַּאתָ אֶת-עַבְדְּךָ עִמָּךְ; וְאִם-יֵשׁ-כִּי עוֹן הִמִּיתָנִי אִתָּהּ, וְעַד אָבִיךָ לְמָה-זֶה תְּבִיאֲנִי. ⁹ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹנָתָן, חֲלִילָה לָּךְ: כִּי אִם-יָדַע אֲדַע, כִּי-כָלְתָה הָרָעָה מֵעַם אָבִי לְבֹא עָלָי--וְלֹא אִתָּהּ, אֲגִיד לָךְ. ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-יְהוֹנָתָן, מִי יִגִּיד לִי; אוֹ מֵהַ--יַעֲגֹד אָבִיךָ, קִשָּׁה. ¹¹ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹנָתָן אֶל-דָּוִד, לֵכָה וְנִצַּאת הַשָּׂדֶה; וַיִּצְאוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם, הַשָּׂדֶה. ¹² וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹנָתָן אֶל-דָּוִד, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל כִּי-אַחֲקָר אֶת-אָבִי כַעַת מִקָּחַר הַשְּׁלִישִׁית, וְהֵנָּה טוֹב, אֶל-דָּוִד--וְלֹא-אֶזְאָשְׁלַח אֵלָיךָ, וְגִלְתִּי אֶת-אֲזָנְךָ. ¹³ כֹּה-יַעֲשֶׂה יְהוָה לִיְהוֹנָתָן וְכֵה יִסִּיר, כִּי-יִיטֹב אֶל-אָבִי אֶת-הָרָעָה עָלֶיךָ--וְגִלְתִּי אֶת-אֲזָנְךָ, וְשִׁלַּחְתִּיךָ וְהִלַּכְתָּ לְשָׁלוֹם; וַיְהִי יְהוָה עִמָּךְ, כַּאֲשֶׁר הָיָה עִם-אָבִי. ¹⁴ וְלֹא, אִם-עוֹדֶנִי חִי; וְלֹא-תַעֲשֶׂה עִמָּדִי חֶסֶד יְהוָה, וְלֹא אֲמוּת. ¹⁵ וְלֹא-תִכְרִית אֶת-חֶסֶדְךָ מֵעַם בֵּיתִי, עַד-עוֹלָם; וְלֹא, בְּהִכָּרַת יְהוָה אֶת-אָבִיךָ דָּוִד, אִישׁ, מֵעַל פְּנֵי הָאָדָמָה. ¹⁶ וַיִּכְרַת יְהוֹנָתָן, עִם-בֵּית דָּוִד; וּבִקֵּשׁ יְהוָה, מִיַּד אִבִּיךָ דָּוִד. ¹⁷ וַיִּוֹסֶף יְהוֹנָתָן לְהַשְׁפִּיעַ אֶת-דָּוִד, בְּאַהֲבָתוֹ אֹתוֹ: כִּי-אַהֲבָתוֹ נִפְשׁוֹ, אָהָבוֹ. ¹⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר-לוֹ יְהוֹנָתָן, מִקָּחַר חֹדֶשׁ; וְנִפְקְדָתְךָ, כִּי יִפְקֹד מוֹשְׁבֶךָ. ¹⁹ וְשִׁלַּשְׁתָּ, תָּרַד מֵאֹד, וּבָאתָ אֶל-הַמָּקוֹם, אֲשֶׁר-נִסְתַּרְתָּ שָׁם בַּיּוֹם הַמִּצָּעָה; וְשִׁבְתָּ, אֲצֵל הָאֵבֶן הָאֵזֶל. ²⁰ וְאַנִּי, שְׁלִשֶׁת הַחֲצִיִּים צֶדֶה אוֹרָה, לְשִׁלַּח-לִי, לְמַטְרָה. ²¹ וְהֵנָּה אֲשַׁלַּח אֶת-הַנֶּעֱר, לָךְ מִצָּא אֶת-הַחֲצִיִּים: אִם-אֲמַר אֲמַר לְנֹעַר הֵנָּה הַחֲצִיִּים מִמָּךְ וְהֵנָּה, קָחְנוּ וּבָאָה כִּי-שְׁלוֹם לָךְ וְאֵין דָּבָר--חִי-יְהוּדָה. ²² וְאִם-כֹּה אֲמַר לְעָלָם, הֵנָּה הַחֲצִיִּים מִמָּךְ וְהִלָּאָה--לָךְ, כִּי שִׁלַּחְךָ יְהוָה. ²³ וְהַדָּבָר--אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְנוּ, אֲנִי וְאַתָּה: הֵנָּה יְהוָה בִּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ, עַד-עוֹלָם. ²⁴ וַיִּסְתַּר דָּוִד, בַּשָּׂדֶה; וַיְהִי חֹדֶשׁ, וַיָּשֶׁב הַמֶּלֶךְ עַל-אֶל-הַלָּחֶם לֶאֱכֹל. ²⁵ וַיָּשֶׁב הַמֶּלֶךְ עַל-מוֹשְׁבֵי כִפְעָם כִפְעָם, אֶל-מוֹשֵׁב הַקִּיר, וַיָּקָם יְהוֹנָתָן, וַיֵּשֶׁב אֲבִיר מִצֵּד שְׂאוֹל; וַיִּפְקֹד, מְקוֹם דָּוִד. ²⁶ וְלֹא-דָבָר שְׂאוֹל מֵאוֹמֶה, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא: כִּי אָמַר מִקְרָה הוּא, בְּלִמְתִּי טְהוֹר הוּא כִּי-לֹא טְהוֹר. ²⁷ וַיְהִי, מִמִּחְרַת הַחֹדֶשׁ הַשָּׁנִי, וַיִּפְקֹד, מְקוֹם דָּוִד; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאוֹל, אֶל-יְהוֹנָתָן בְּנוֹ, מִדּוֹעַ לֹא-בָא בֶן-יִשִׁי גַם-תָּמוּל גַּם-הַיּוֹם, אֶל-הַלָּחֶם. ²⁸ וַיַּעַן יְהוֹנָתָן, אֶת-שְׂאוֹל: נִשְׁאֵל נִשְׁאֵל לִי אֲחִי, וְעַתָּה אִם-מִצָּאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ, אִמְלֹטָה נָא וְאֶרְאָה אֶת-אָחִי; עַל-כֵּן לֹא-בָא, אֶל-שִׁלְחַן הַמֶּלֶךְ. ²⁹ וַיַּחֲרֹף אֶף שְׂאוֹל, בִּיהוֹנָתָן, וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ, כֹּן-נִצּוֹת הַמִּרְדּוּת: הֲלוֹא יָדַעְתִּי, כִּי-בִחַר אִתָּהּ לְבֶן-יִשִׁי, לְבִשְׁתָּהּ, וּלְבִשְׁתָּ עֲרוֹת אִמָּךְ. ³⁰ כִּי כָל-הַיָּמִים, אֲשֶׁר בֶּן-יִשִׁי חִי עַל-הָאָדָמָה, לֹא תִכּוֹן, אִתָּהּ וּמִלְכוּתְךָ; וְעַתָּה, שִׁלַּח וְקַח אֹתוֹ אֵלַי--כִּי בֶן-מָוֶת, הוּא. ³¹ וַיַּעַן, יְהוֹנָתָן, אֶת-שְׂאוֹל, אָבִיו; וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו לְמָה יוֹמֶת, מָה עָשָׂה. ³² וַיִּטֵּל שְׂאוֹל אֶת-הַחֲזִית עָלָיו, לְהַכּוֹתוֹ; וַיָּדַע, יְהוֹנָתָן, כִּי-כָלָה הִיא מֵעַם אָבִיו, לְהַמִּית אֶת-דָּוִד. ³³ וַיָּקָם יְהוֹנָתָן מֵעַם הַשִּׁלְחָן, בְּחָרִי-אֶף; וְלֹא-אָכַל בַּיּוֹם-הַחֹדֶשׁ הַשָּׁנִי, לָחֶם--כִּי נִעְצַב אֶל-דָּוִד, כִּי הִכְלִמוֹ אָבִיו. ³⁴ וַיְהִי בַבֶּקֶר, וַיֵּצֵא יְהוֹנָתָן הַשָּׂדֶה לְמוֹעֵד דָּוִד; וַנֶּעֱר קָטָן, עִמּוֹ. ³⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר לְנֹעַר--רִץ מִצָּא נָא אֶת-הַחֲצִיִּים, אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מוֹרָה; הַנֶּעֱר רָץ, וְהוּא-רָרָה הַחֲצִי לְהַעֲבֹרוֹ. ³⁶ וַיָּבֹא הַנֶּעֱר עַד-מְקוֹם הַחֲצִי, אֲשֶׁר יָרָה יְהוֹנָתָן; וַיִּקְרָא יְהוֹנָתָן אַחֲרֵי הַנֶּעֱר, וַיֹּאמֶר, הֲלוֹא הַחֲצִי, מִמָּךְ וְהִלָּאָה. ³⁷ וַיִּקְרָא יְהוֹנָתָן אַחֲרֵי הַנֶּעֱר, מִהֲרָה חֹשֶׁה אֶל-תַּעֲמִד; וַיִּלְקֹט נֹעַר יְהוֹנָתָן, אֶת-הַחֲצִי הַחֲצִיִּים, וַיָּבֹא, אֶל-אֲדָנָיו. ³⁸ וְהַנֶּעֱר, לֹא-יָדַע מֵאוֹמֶה; אֹד יְהוֹנָתָן וְדוֹד, יָדְעוּ אֶת-הַדָּבָר. ³⁹ וַיִּתֵּן יְהוֹנָתָן אֶת-כָּלָיו, אֶל-הַנֶּעֱר אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ; וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ, לָךְ הִבִּיא הָעִיר. ⁴⁰ וַיָּדַע, הַנֶּעֱר, כִּי, בָּא, וְדוֹד קָם מֵאֲצֵל הַגָּב, וַיִּפֹּל לְאַפּוֹ אֶרְצָה וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ שְׁלֹשׁ פְּעָמִים; וַיִּשְׁקוּ אִישׁ אֶת-רַעְיוֹ, וַיִּכְּבוּ אִישׁ אֶת-רַעְיוֹ, עַד-דָּוִד, הַגָּדִיל. ⁴¹ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹנָתָן לְדוֹד, לָךְ לְשָׁלוֹם: אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּעְנוּ שְׁבִינֵנוּ אֲנַחְנוּ, בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה לֵאמֹר, יְהוָה יְהִיָּה בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ וּבֵין יוֹרְעֵי וּבֵין זֹרְעֵי, עַד-עוֹלָם.

¹ And he arose and departed; and Jonathan went into the city. ² Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest; and Ahimelech came to meet David trembling, and said unto him: 'Why art thou alone, and no man with thee?' ³ And David said unto Ahimelech the priest: 'The king hath commanded me a business, and hath said unto me: Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee; and the young men have I appointed to such and such a place.' ⁴ Now therefore what is under thy hand? five loaves of bread? give them in my hand, or whatsoever there is present.' ⁵ And the priest answered David, and said: 'There is no common bread under my hand, but there is holy bread; if only the young men have kept themselves from women.' ⁶ And David answered the priest, and said unto him: 'Of a truth women have been kept from us about these three days; when I came out, the vessels of the young men were holy, though it was but a common journey; how much more then to-day, when there shall be holy bread in their vessels?' ⁷ So the priest gave him holy bread; for there was no bread there but the showbread, that was taken from before HaShem, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away. — ⁸ Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before HaShem; and his name was Doeg the Edomite, the chiefest of the herdmen that belonged to Saul. — ⁹ And David said unto Ahimelech: 'And is there peradventure here under thy hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.' ¹⁰ And the priest said: 'The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the vale of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod; if thou wilt take that, take it; for there is no other save that here.' And David said: 'There is none like that; give it me.' ¹¹ And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath. ¹² And the servants of Achish said unto him: 'Is not this David the king of the land? Did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying: Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?' ¹³ And David laid up these words in his heart, and was sore afraid of Achish the king of Gath. ¹⁴ And he changed his demeanour before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scrabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard. ¹⁵ Then said Achish unto his servants: 'Lo, when ye see a man that is mad, wherefore do ye bring him to me?' ¹⁶ Do I lack madmen, that ye have brought this fellow to play the madman in my presence? shall this fellow come into my house?'

¹ וַיָּקָם, וַיֵּלֶךְ; וַיְהוֹנָתָן, בָּא הָעִיר. ² וַיָּבֹא דָוִד נֹבָה, אֶל-אַחִימֶלֶךְ הַכֹּהֵן; וַיַּחְרֹד אַחִימֶלֶךְ לַקְרָאֵת דָּוִד, וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ מְדוּעַ אַתָּה לְבִדְדְךָ, וְאִישׁ, אֵין אִתְּךָ. ³ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לַאֲחִימֶלֶךְ הַכֹּהֵן, הַמֶּלֶךְ צֹנִי דָבָר, וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי אִישׁ אֶל-יָדַע מְאוּמָה אֶת-הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר-אַנְכִי שְׁלַחְךָ, וְאֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתְךָ; וְאֶת-הַנְּעָרִים יוֹדְעֵתִי, אֶל-מְקוֹם פְּלָנִי אֶלְמוּנִי. ⁴ וַעֲתָה, מֶה-יֵשׁ תַּחַת-יָדְךָ חֲמִשָּׁה-לֶחֶם--תִּנֶּנָּה בְיָדִי; אוֹ, הַנֶּמֶצָא. ⁵ וַיַּעַן הַכֹּהֵן אֶת-דָּוִד וַיֹּאמֶר, אֵין-לֶחֶם חֵל אֶל-תַּחַת יָדִי: כִּי-אִם-לֶחֶם קֹדֶשׁ יֵשׁ, אִם-נִשְׁמְרוּ הַנְּעָרִים אֶדְ מֵאִשָּׁה. ⁶ וַיַּעַן דָּוִד אֶת-הַכֹּהֵן וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ, כִּי אִם-אִשָּׁה עֲצָרָה-לָנוּ כְּתָמוּל שְׁלֹשׁ, בְּצִאתִי, וַיְהִי כָל־הַנְּעָרִים קֹדֶשׁ: וְהוּא, דָּרָךְ חֵל--וְאָף, כִּי הַיּוֹם יִקְדָּשׁ בְּכָלִי. ⁷ וַיִּתֵּן-לוֹ הַכֹּהֵן, קֹדֶשׁ: כִּי לֹא-הָיָה שֵׁם לֶחֶם, כִּי-אִם-לֶחֶם הַפָּנִים הַמוֹסְרִים מִלִּפְנֵי יְהוָה, לְשׁוֹם לֶחֶם חֵם, בְּיוֹם הַלִּקְחוֹ. ⁸ וְשֵׁם אִישׁ מַעֲבָדִי שָׂאוּל בְּיוֹם הַהוּא, נֶעֱצָר לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, וְשָׁמוֹ, דָּאֵג הָאֲדָמִי--אֶבִּיר הָרָעִים, אֲשֶׁר לְשָׂאוּל. ⁹ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לַאֲחִימֶלֶךְ, וְאֵין יֵשׁ-פֶה תַּחַת-יָדְךָ חֲנִית אוֹ-חֶרֶב: כִּי גַם-חֶרֶבִי וְגַם-כָּלִי לֹא-לִקְחָתִי בְיָדִי, כִּי-הָיָה דָבָר-הַמֶּלֶךְ נָחוּץ. ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר הַכֹּהֵן, חֶרֶב גְּלִית הַפִּלִּשְׁתִּי אֲשֶׁר-הִכִּיתָ בְּעַמְקֵי הָאֵלֶּה הִנֵּה-הִיא לִיטָה בְּשִׁמְלֶה אַחֲרֵי הָאֶפֶד--אִם-אֶתָּה תִּקַּח-לָךְ קֶחֶת, כִּי אֵין אַחֲרֵת זֹולָתָהּ בָּזָה; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֵין כְּמוֹהָ, תִּנֶּנָּה לִי. ¹¹ וַיָּקָם דָּוִד, וַיִּבָּרַח בְּיוֹם-הַהוּא מִפְּנֵי שָׂאוּל; וַיָּבֹא, אֶל-אָכִישׁ מֶלֶךְ גֹּת. ¹² וַיֹּאמְרוּ עַבְדֵי אָכִישׁ, אֵלָיו, הֲלוֹא-זֶה דָּוִד, מֶלֶךְ הָעָרָץ; הֲלוֹא לָזָה, יַעֲנֵנוּ בְּמַחֲלוֹת לֵאמֹר, הִכָּה שָׂאוּל בְּאֶלְפֹו, וְדָוִד בְּרַבְבָּתוֹ. ¹³ וַיִּשֹׁם דָּוִד אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, בְּלִבָּבוֹ; וַיֵּרָא מְאֹד, מִפְּנֵי אָכִישׁ מֶלֶךְ-גֹּת. ¹⁴ וַיִּשְׁנֹו אֶת-טַעְמוֹ בְּעֵינָיָהֶם, וַיִּתְּהַלֵּל בְּיָדָם; וַיִּתְּנוּ עַל-דִּלְתוֹת הַשַּׁעַר, וַיּוֹרֶד רִירוֹ אֶל-זִקְנוֹ. ¹⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר אָכִישׁ, אֶל-עַבְדָּיו: הִנֵּה תִרְאוּ אִישׁ מִשְׁתַּגֵּעַ, לָמָּה תִּבְיֹאוּ אֹתוֹ אֵלַי. ¹⁶ חֲסַר מִשְׁגָּעִים, אָנִי, כִּי-הִבַּאתֶם אֶת-זֶה, לְהַשְׁתַּגֵּעַ עָלַי; הִנֵּה, יָבֹוא אֶל-בֵּיתִי.

¹ David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave of Adullam; and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him. ² And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became captain over them; and there were with him about four hundred men. ³ And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab; and he said unto the king of Moab: 'Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, come forth, and be with you, till I know what G-d will do for me.' ⁴ And he brought them before the king of Moab; and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the stronghold. ⁵ And the prophet Gad said unto David: 'Abide not in the stronghold; depart, and get thee into the land of Judah.' Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hereth. ⁶ And Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men that were with him; now Saul was sitting in Gibeah, under the tamarisk-tree in Ramah, with his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing about him. ⁷ And Saul said unto his servants that stood about him: 'Hear now, ye Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, will he make you all captains of thousands and captains of hundreds; ⁸ that all of you have conspired against me, and there was none that disclosed it to me when my son made a league with the son of Jesse, and there is none of you that is sorry for me, or discloseth unto me that my son hath stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?' ⁹ Then answered Doeg the Edomite, who was set over the servants of Saul, and said: 'I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. ¹⁰ And he inquired of HaShem for him, and gave him victuals, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.' ¹¹ Then the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests that were in Nob; and they came all of them to the king. ¹² And Saul said: 'Hear now, thou son of Ahitub.' And he answered: 'Here I am, my lord.' ¹³ And Saul said unto him: 'Why have ye conspired against me, thou and the son of Jesse, in that thou hast given him bread, and a sword, and hast inquired of G-d for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?' ¹⁴ Then Ahimelech answered the king, and said: 'And who among all thy servants is so trusted as David, who is the king's son-in-law, and giveth heed unto thy bidding, and is honourable in thy house? ¹⁵ Have I to-day begun to inquire of G-d for him? be it far from me; let not the king impute any thing unto his servant, nor to all the house of my father; for thy servant knoweth nothing of all this, less or more.' ¹⁶ And the king said: 'Thou shalt surely die, Ahimelech, thou, and all thy father's house.' ¹⁷ And the king said unto the guard that stood about him: 'Turn, and slay the priests of HaShem; because their hand also is with David, and because they knew that he fled, and did not disclose it to me.' But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of HaShem. ¹⁸ And the king said to Doeg: 'Turn thou, and fall upon the priests.' And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and he slew on that day fourscore and five persons that did wear a linen ephod. ¹⁹ And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen and asses and sheep, with the edge of the sword. ²⁰ And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David. ²¹ And Abiathar told David that Saul had slain HaShem'S priests. ²² And David said unto Abiathar: 'I knew on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul; I have brought about the death of all the persons of thy father's house. ²³ Abide thou with me, fear not; for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life; for with me thou shalt be in safeguard.'

¹ וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד מִשָּׁם, וַיִּמְלֹט אֶל-מְעֵרַת עֲדֻלָּם; וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ אַחֵיו וְכָל-בֵּית אָבִיו, וַיֵּרְדּוּ אֵלָיו שָׁמָּה. ² וַיִּתְקַבְּצוּ אֵלָיו כָּל-אִישׁ מְצֹוק וְכָל-אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ נָשָׂא, וְכָל-אִישׁ מֵר-נָפֶשׁ, וַיְהִי עֲלֵיהֶם, לְשָׁר; וַיְהִיו עִמּוֹ, כְּאַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת אִישׁ. ³ וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד מִשָּׁם, מִצְפֵּה מוֹאָב; וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-מֶלֶךְ מוֹאָב, יֵצֵא-נָא אָבִי וְאִמִּי אִתְּכֶם, עַד אֲשֶׁר אֵדַע, מַה-יַּעֲשֶׂה-לִּי אֱלֹהִים. ⁴ וַיִּנָּחֶם, אֶת-פָּנָיו מֶלֶךְ מוֹאָב; וַיֵּשְׁבוּ עִמּוֹ, כָּל-יָמֵי הַיּוֹם-דָּוִד בְּמִצְוֵהוּ. ⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר גֹּד הַנְּבִיא אֶל-דָּוִד, לֹא תֵשֵׁב בְּמִצְוֵהוּ--לֵךְ וּבֹא-לְךָ, אֶרֶץ יְהוּדָה; וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד, וַיָּבֹא יַעַר חֶרֶת. ⁶ וַיִּשְׁמַע שָׂאוּל--כִּי נֹדַע דָּוִד, וַאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ; וְשָׂאוּל יוֹשֵׁב בְּגִבְעָה תַּחַת-הָאֲשֵׁל בְּרָמָה, וַחֲנִיתוֹ בְּיָדוֹ, וְכָל-עֲבָדָיו, נֹצְצִים עָלָיו. ⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, לְעֲבָדָיו הַנּוֹצְצִים עָלָיו, שְׁמַעוּ-נָא, בְּנֵי יִמִּינִי: גַּם-לְכַלְכֶּם, יָתֵן בֶּן-יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׂדוֹת וּכְרָמִים--לְכַלְכֶּם יִשְׂרָאֵל, שְׂרֵי אֲלָפִים וְשְׂרֵי מֵאוֹת. ⁸ כִּי קִשְׁרֹתֶם כָּלְכֶם עָלַי, וְאִין-גִּלְהָ אֶת-אֲזָנִי בְּכֶרֶת-בְּנֵי עַם-בֶּן-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִין-חִלְהָ מִכֶּם עָלַי, וְגִלְהָ אֶת-אֲזָנִי: כִּי הַקִּים בְּנֵי אֶת-עֲבָדֵי עָלַי לְאַרְבַּ, כְּיוֹם הַזֶּה. ⁹ וַיַּעַן דָּוִד הָאֲדָמִי, וְהוּא נֹצֵב עַל-עֲבָדֵי-שָׂאוּל--וַיֹּאמֶר: רְאִיתִי, אֶת-בֶּן-יִשְׂרָאֵל, בָּא נֹכַח, אֶל-אַחִימֶלֶךְ בֶּן-אַחֲטוֹב. ¹⁰ וַיִּשְׁאַל-לוֹ, בִּיהוָה, וַצִּידָהּ, נָתַן לוֹ; וְאַתָּה, חָרַב גְּלִית הַפִּלְשֹׁתִי--נָתַן לוֹ. ¹¹ וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ לִקְרֹא אֶת-אַחִימֶלֶךְ בֶּן-אַחֲטוֹב הַכֹּהֵן, וְאַתָּה כָּל-בֵּית אָבִיו הַכֹּהֲנִים--אֲשֶׁר בְּנִי; וַיָּבֹאוּ כָלָם, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ. ¹² וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, שְׁמַע-נָא בֶּן-אַחֲטוֹב; וַיֹּאמֶר, הֲנִי אֲדֹנִי. ¹³ וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו, שָׂאוּל, לָמָּה קִשְׁרֹתֶם עָלַי, אִתָּהּ וּבֶן-יִשְׂרָאֵל--בְּתַתָּךְ לוֹ לֶחֶם וְחָרֵב, וְשָׂאוּל לוֹ בְּאֱלֹהִים, לָקוּם אֵלַי לְאַרְבַּ, כְּיוֹם הַזֶּה. ¹⁴ וַיַּעַן אַחִימֶלֶךְ אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיֹּאמֶר: וּמִי בָכָל-עֲבָדֶיךָ כְּדוֹד נֶאֱמָן, וַחֲתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ וְסֵר אֶל-מִשְׁמַעְתְּךָ וְנִכְבֵּד בְּבִיתְךָ. ¹⁵ הַיּוֹם הַחֲלַתִּי לְשָׂאוּל- לְשֹׂאֵל- לוֹ בְּאֱלֹהִים, חֲלִילָה לִּי: אֶל-יְשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּעֲבָדוֹ דְּבַר, בְּכָל-בֵּית אָבִי--כִּי לֹא-יָדַע עֲבָדְךָ בְּכָל-זֹאת, דְּבַר קֶטֶן אוֹ גָּדוֹל. ¹⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, מוֹת תָּמוּת אַחִימֶלֶךְ: אִתָּהּ, וְכָל-בֵּית אָבִיךָ. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְרָצִים הַנּוֹצְצִים עָלָיו סָבּוּ וְהִמִּיתוּ כֹהֲנֵי יְהוָה, כִּי גַם-יָדָם עִם-דָּוִד, וְכִי יָדְעוּ כִּי-בִרְחָ הוּא, וְלֹא גָלוּ אֶת-אֲזָנוֹ אֲזָנִי; וְלֹא-אָבּוּ עֲבָדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְשַׁלַּח אֶת-יָדָם, לִפְגַּע, בְּכֹהֲנֵי יְהוָה. ¹⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְדוּיָג לְדוּאָג, סָבּ אִתָּהּ, וּפְגַע בְּכֹהֲנִים; וַיִּסַּב דוּיָג דוּאָג הָאֲדָמִי, וַיִּפְגַּע-הוּא בְּכֹהֲנִים, וַיָּמָת כְּיוֹם הַהוּא שְׁמֹנִים וְחֲמִשָּׁה אִישׁ, נָשָׂא אֶפֶוד בָּד. ¹⁹ וְאַתָּה נָב עִיר-הַכֹּהֲנִים, הִכָּה לְפִי-חֶרֶב, מֵאִישׁ וְעַד-אִשָּׁה, מֵעוֹלָל וְעַד-יוֹנֵק; וְשׂוֹר וְחִמּוֹר וְשָׂה, לְפִי-חֶרֶב. ²⁰ וַיִּמְלֹט בֶּן-אַחֲזָה, לְאַחֲטוֹב, וְשָׁמוּ, אַבְיָתָר; וַיִּבְרַח, אַחֲרֵי דָוִד. ²¹ וַיַּגֵּד אַבְיָתָר, לְדָוִד: כִּי הָרַג שָׂאוּל, אֶת כֹהֲנֵי יְהוָה. ²² וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְאַבְיָתָר, יָדַעְתִּי כְּיוֹם הַהוּא כִּי-שָׁם דוּיָג דוּאָג הָאֲדָמִי, כִּי-הִגֵּד יָגִיד, לְשָׂאוּל: אֲנֹכִי סֹבֵתִי, בְּכָל-נֶפֶשׁ בֵּית אָבִיךָ. ²³ שָׁבָה אִתִּי אֶל-תִּירָא, כִּי אֲשֶׁר-יִבְקֹשׁ אֶת-נֶפֶשִׁי יִבְקֹשׁ אֶת-נֶפֶשְׁךָ: כִּי-מִשְׁמֶרֶת אִתָּהּ, עֲמָדִי.

¹ And they told David, saying: 'Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah, and they rob the threshing-floors.' ² Therefore David inquired of HaShem, saying: 'Shall I go and smite these Philistines?' And HaShem said unto David: 'Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.' ³ And David's men said unto him: 'Behold, we are afraid here in Judah; how much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?' ⁴ Then David inquired of HaShem yet again. And HaShem answered him and said: 'Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thy hand.' ⁵ And David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and slew them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah. ⁶ And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, that he came down with an ephod in his hand. ⁷ And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said: 'G-d hath delivered him into my hand; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath gates and bars.' ⁸ And Saul summoned all the people to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men. ⁹ And David knew that Saul devised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest: 'Bring hither the ephod.' ¹⁰ Then said David: 'O HaShem, the G-d of Israel, Thy servant hath surely heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake. ¹¹ Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as Thy servant hath heard?' O HaShem, the G-d of Israel, I beseech Thee, tell Thy servant.' And HaShem said: 'He will come down.' ¹² Then said David: 'Will the men of Keilah deliver up me and my men into the hand of Saul?' And HaShem said: 'They will deliver thee up.' ¹³ Then David and his men, who were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbore to go forth. ¹⁴ And David abode in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill-country in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but G-d delivered him not into his hand. ¹⁵ And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life; and David was in the wilderness of Ziph in the wood. ¹⁶ And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in G-d. ¹⁷ And he said unto him: 'Fear not; for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee; and that also Saul my father knoweth.' ¹⁸ And they two made a covenant before HaShem; and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house. ¹⁹ Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying: 'Doth not David hide himself with us in the strongholds in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon?' ²⁰ Now therefore, O king, come down, according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him up into the king's hand.' ²¹ And Saul said: 'Blessed be ye of HaShem; for ye have had compassion on me. ²² Go, I pray you, make yet more sure, and know and see his place where his haunt is, and who hath seen him there; for it is told me that he dealeth very subtly. ²³ See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking-places where he hideth himself, and come ye back to me with the certainty, and I will go with you; and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out among all the thousands of Judah.' ²⁴ And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul; but David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah on the south of Jeshimon. ²⁵ And Saul and his men went to seek him. And they told David; wherefore he came down to the rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon. ²⁶ And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain; and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them. ²⁷ But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying: 'Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have made a raid upon the land.' ²⁸ So Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines; therefore they called that place Sela-hammahlekoth. ²⁹ And David went up from thence, and dwelt in the strongholds of En-gedi.

¹ וַיִּגְדּוּ לְדָוִד, לֵאמֹר: הִנֵּה פְּלִשְׁתִּים נִלְחָמִים בְּקַעֲיֵלָה, וְהֵמָּה שָׁסִים אֶת-הַגִּרְנוֹת. ² וַיִּשְׁאַל דָּוִד בַּיהוָה, לֵאמֹר, הֲאֵלֶיךָ וְהַכִּיתִי, בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים הָאֵלֶּה; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-דָּוִד, לֵךְ וְהַכִּיתָ בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים, וְהוֹשַׁעְתָּ, אֶת-קַעֲיֵלָה. ³ וַיֹּאמְרוּ אַנְשֵׁי דָוִד, אֵלָיו, הִנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ פֹה בַּיהוּדָה, יֵרָאִים; וְאִם כִּי-נִלְךָ קַעֲלָה, אֶל-מַעְרָכוֹת פְּלִשְׁתִּים. ⁴ וַיֹּסֶף עוֹד דָּוִד לִשְׁאוֹל בַּיהוָה, וַיַּעֲנֶהוּ יְהוָה; וַיֹּאמֶר, קוּם רֵד קַעֲיֵלָה--כִּי-אֲנִי נֹתֵן אֶת-פְּלִשְׁתִּים, בְּיָדְךָ. ⁵ וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו קַעֲיֵלָה וַיִּלָּחֶם בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיַּנְהִיג אֶת-מִקְנֵיהֶם, וַיָּבֶהֱם, מִכָּה גְדוֹלָה; וַיִּשַׁע דָּוִד, אֶת יָשָׁבִי קַעֲיֵלָה. ⁶ וַיְהִי, בְּבֹרַח אֲבִיתָר בֶּן-אֲחִימֶלֶךְ אֶל-דָּוִד--קַעֲיֵלָה; אֲפֹד, יָרַד בְּיָדוֹ. ⁷ וַיִּגַּד לִשְׁאוֹל, כִּי-בָא דָוִד קַעֲיֵלָה; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁאוֹל, נָכַר אֹתוֹ אֱלֹהִים בְּיָדִי--כִּי נִסְגַּר לְבוֹא, בְּעִיר דָּלְתִים וּבְרִיחַ. ⁸ וַיִּשְׁמַע שְׁאוֹל אֶת-כָּל-הָעָם, לְמַלְחָמָה, לָרֶדֶת קַעֲיֵלָה, לְצוּר אֶל-דָּוִד וְאֶל-אֲנָשָׁיו. ⁹ וַיַּדַּע דָּוִד--כִּי עָלָיו, שְׁאוֹל מַחְרִישׁ הָרָעָה; וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-אֲבִיתָר הַכֹּהֵן, הִגִּישָׁה הָאֲפֹד. ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר, דָּוִד, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, שְׁמַע שְׁמַע עֲבָדְךָ כִּי-מִבְקֵשׁ שְׁאוֹל לְבוֹא אֶל-קַעֲיֵלָה--לְשַׁחַת לְעִיר, בַּעֲבוּרִי. ¹¹ הֲיִסְגַּרְנִי בַעֲלֵי קַעֲיֵלָה בִּידוֹ הַיָּרֵד שְׁאוֹל, כְּאֲשֶׁר שְׁמַע עֲבָדְךָ--יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, הִגֵּד-נָא לַעֲבָדְךָ; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, יֵרֵד. ¹² וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד--הֲיִסְגְּרוּ בַעֲלֵי קַעֲיֵלָה אֹתִי וְאֶת-אֲנָשָׁי, בְּיַד-שְׁאוֹל; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, יִסְגִּירוּ. ¹³ וַיָּקָם דָּוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו כְּשֵׁשׁ-מֵאוֹת אִישׁ, וַיֵּצְאוּ מִקַּעֲלָה, וַיִּתְּהִלְכוּ, בְּאֲשֶׁר יִתְּהִלְכוּ; וּלְשְׁאוֹל הִגֵּד, כִּי-נִמְלֹט דָּוִד מִקַּעֲיֵלָה, וַיַּחֲדֵל, לָצֵאת. ¹⁴ וַיֹּשֶׁב דָּוִד בַּמִּדְבָּר בַּמְצָדוֹת, וַיֹּשֶׁב בְּהָר בַּמִּדְבָּר-זִיף; וַיִּבְקֶשְׁהוּ שְׁאוֹל כָּל-הַיָּמִים, וְלֹא-נִתְּנוּ אֱלֹהִים בְּיָדוֹ. ¹⁵ וַיֵּרָא דָוִד, כִּי-יֵצֵא שְׁאוֹל לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת-נַפְשׁוֹ; וְדָוִד בַּמִּדְבָּר-זִיף, בַּחֲרָשָׁה. ¹⁶ וַיָּקָם וַיְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן-שְׁאוֹל, וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶל-דָּוִד חֲרָשָׁה; וַיַּחֲזֹק אֶת-יָדוֹ, בְּאֵלֹהִים. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֶל-תִּירָא, כִּי לֹא תִמָּצָא יָד שְׁאוֹל אָבִי, וְאַתָּה תִּמָּלֵךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאֲנֹכִי אֶהְיֶה-לְךָ לְמִשְׁנָה; וְגַם-שְׁאוֹל אָבִי, יָדַע כֵּן. ¹⁸ וַיַּכְּרֹתוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם בְּרִית, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה; וַיֹּשֶׁב דָּוִד בַּחֲרָשָׁה, וַיְהוֹנָתָן הָלַךְ לְבֵיתוֹ. ¹⁹ וַיַּעֲלוּ זָפִים אֶל-שְׁאוֹל, הַגִּבְעָתָה לֵאמֹר: הֲלוֹא דָוִד מִסְתַּתֵּר עִמָּנוּ בַּמְצָדוֹת, בַּחֲרָשָׁה--בְּגִבְעַת הַחֲכִילָה, אֲשֶׁר מִימִין הַיְּשִׁימוֹן. ²⁰ וַעֲתָה לְכָל-אוֹת נַפְשְׁךָ הַמָּלָךְ, לָרֶדֶת--רֵד; וְלָנוּ הַסְּגִירוֹ, בְּיַד הַמָּלָךְ. ²¹ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁאוֹל, בְּרוּכִים אַתֶּם לַיהוָה: כִּי חָמַלְתֶּם, עָלַי. ²² לְכוּ-נָא הַכִּינוּ עוֹד, וְדַעוּ וּרְאוּ אֶת-מִקְוָמוֹ אֲשֶׁר תִּהְיֶה רַגְלוֹ--מִי רָאֶהוּ, שָׁם: כִּי אָמַר אֵלַי, עָרוֹם יַעֲרֹם הוּא. ²³ וּרְאוּ וְדַעוּ, מִכָּל הַמַּחְבְּאִים אֲשֶׁר יִתְחַבֵּא שָׁם, וְשִׁבְתֶּם אֵלַי אֶל-נָכוֹן, וְהִלַּכְתִּי אַתְּכֶם; וְהִנֵּה, אִם-יִשְׁנֹן בְּאֶרֶץ--וְנַחַפְשָׁתִי אֹתוֹ, כָּל אֶלְפֵי יְהוּדָה. ²⁴ וַיָּקוּמוּ וַיֵּלְכוּ זִיפָה, לִפְנֵי שְׁאוֹל; וְדָוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו בַּמִּדְבָּר מְעוֹן, בַּעֲרָבָה--אֵל, יָמִין הַיְּשִׁימוֹן. ²⁵ וַיֵּלֶךְ שְׁאוֹל וְאֲנָשָׁיו, לְבַקֵּשׁ, וַיִּגְדּוּ לְדָוִד, וַיֵּרֵד הַסֵּלַע וַיֹּשֶׁב בַּמִּדְבָּר מְעוֹן; וַיִּשְׁמַע שְׁאוֹל, וַיִּרְדֹּף אַחֲרֵי-דָוִד מִדְבָּר מְעוֹן. ²⁶ וַיֵּלֶךְ שְׁאוֹל מִצֵּד הָהָר, מִזֶּה, וְדָוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו מִצֵּד הָהָר, מִזֶּה; וַיְהִי דָוִד נֹחֵץ לָלֶכֶת, מִפְּנֵי שְׁאוֹל, וְשְׁאוֹל וְאֲנָשָׁיו עֹטְרִים אֶל-דָּוִד וְאֶל-אֲנָשָׁיו, לְתַפְשָׁם. ²⁷ וּמִלֵּאָד בָּא, אֶל-שְׁאוֹל לֵאמֹר: מִהֲרָה וְלָכָה, כִּי-פָשְׁטוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים עַל-הָאָרֶץ. ²⁸ וַיֹּשֶׁב שְׁאוֹל, מִרְדֹּף אַחֲרֵי דָוִד, וַיֵּלֶךְ, לְקִרְאֵת פְּלִשְׁתִּים; עַל-כֵּן, קָרְאוּ לַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא, סֵלַע, הַמַּחְלָקוֹת. ²⁹ וַיַּעַל דָּוִד, מִשָּׁם; וַיֹּשֶׁב, בַּמְצָדוֹת עַין-גִּדִּי.

¹ And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying: 'Behold, David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.' ² Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. ³ And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. ⁴ And the men of David said unto him: 'Behold the day in which HaShem hath said unto thee: Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thy hand, and thou shalt do to him as it shall seem good unto thee.' Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. ⁵ And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. ⁶ And he said unto his men: 'HaShem forbid it me, that I should do this thing unto my lord, HaShem's anointed, to put forth my hand against him, seeing he is HaShem's anointed.' ⁷ So David checked his men with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. And Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way. ⁸ David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying: 'My lord the king!' And when Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the earth, and prostrated himself. ⁹ And David said to Saul: 'Wherefore hearkenest thou to men's words, saying: Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?' ¹⁰ Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that HaShem had delivered thee to-day into my hand in the cave; and some bade me kill thee; but mine eye spared thee; and I said: I will not put forth my hand against my lord; for he is HaShem's anointed. ¹¹ Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand; for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against thee, though thou layest wait for my soul to take it. ¹² HaShem judge between me and thee, and HaShem avenge me of thee; but my hand shall not be upon thee. ¹³ As saith the proverb of the ancients: Out of the wicked cometh forth wickedness; but my hand shall not be upon thee. ¹⁴ After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea. ¹⁵ HaShem therefore be judge, and give sentence between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thy hand.' ¹⁶ And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said: 'Is this thy voice, my son David?' And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept. ¹⁷ And he said to David: 'Thou art more righteous than I; for thou hast rendered unto me good, whereas I have rendered unto thee evil. ¹⁸ And thou hast declared this day how that thou hast dealt well with me; forasmuch as when HaShem had delivered me up into thy hand, thou didst not kill me. ¹⁹ For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore HaShem reward thee good for that which thou hast done unto me this day. ²⁰ And now, behold, I know that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thy hand. ²¹ Swear now therefore unto me by HaShem, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house.' ²² And David swore unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men got them up unto the stronghold.

¹ וַיְהִי, כַּאֲשֶׁר שָׁב שָׁאוּל, מֵאַחֲרֵי, פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיִּגְדּוּ לוֹ, לֵאמֹר, הִנֵּה דָוִד, בְּמִדְבַּר עֵין גִּדִּי. ² וַיִּקַּח שָׁאוּל, שְׁלֹשֶׁת אֲלָפִים אִישׁ בַּחֹר--מִכָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיֵּלֶךְ, לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת-דָּוִד וְאֶנְשָׁיו, עַל-פָּנָי, צוּרֵי הַיַּעְלִים. ³ וַיָּבֹא אֶל-גְּדֵרוֹת הַצֹּאן עַל-הַדֶּרֶךְ, וְשָׁם מַעְרָה, וַיָּבֹא שָׁאוּל, לְהִסָּד אֶת-רִגְלָיו; וְדָוִד, וְאֶנְשָׁיו, בִּירְכְתֵי הַמַּעְרָה, יֹשְׁבִים. ⁴ וַיֹּאמְרוּ אַנְשֵׁי דָוִד אֵלָיו, הִנֵּה הַיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר-אָמַר יְהוָה אֵלֶיךָ הִנֵּה אֲנִכִּי נָתַן אֶת-אִיבֶיךָ אֵיבֶךָ בְּיָדְךָ, וְעַשִּׂיתָ לוֹ, כַּאֲשֶׁר יֵטֵב בְּעֵינֶיךָ; וַיָּקָם דָּוִד, וַיְכַרֵּת אֶת-כַּנְף-הַמַּעֲיִל אֲשֶׁר-לְשָׁאוּל--בְּלֵט. ⁵ וַיְהִי, אַחֲרֵי-כֵן, וַיָּךְ לֵב-דָּוִד, אֹתוֹ--עַל אֲשֶׁר פָּרַת, אֶת-כַּנְף אֲשֶׁר לְשָׁאוּל. ⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר לְאֶנְשָׁיו חֲלִילָה לִּי מִיְהוָה, אִם-אֶעֱשֶׂה אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה לְאֹדְנִי לְמַשִּׁיחַ יְהוָה--לְשַׁלַּח יָדִי, בּוֹ: כִּי-מַשִּׁיחַ יְהוָה, הוּא. ⁷ וַיִּשְׁפֹּעַ דָּוִד אֶת-אֶנְשָׁיו בְּדִבְרִים, וְלֹא נָתַנָּם לְקוֹם אֶל-שָׁאוּל; וְשָׁאוּל קָם מִהַמַּעְרָה, וַיֵּלֶךְ בַּדֶּרֶךְ. ⁸ וַיָּקָם דָּוִד אַחֲרֵי-כֵן, וַיֵּצֵא מִן הַמַּעְרָה מִהַמַּעְרָה, וַיִּקְרָא אַחֲרֵי-שָׁאוּל לֵאמֹר, אֹדְנִי הַמָּלָךְ; וַיִּבֹט שָׁאוּל אַחֲרָיו, וַיִּקַּד דָּוִד אַפָּיִם אֶרְצָה וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ. ⁹ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְשָׁאוּל, לָמָּה תִשְׁמַע אֶת-דִּבְרֵי אָדָם לֵאמֹר: הִנֵּה דָוִד, מִבְּקֵשׁ רַעְתָּךְ. ¹⁰ הִנֵּה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה רָאוּ עֵינֶיךָ, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-נִתְּנָךְ יְהוָה הַיּוֹם בְּיָדִי בַּמַּעְרָה, וְאָמַר לְהִרְגֶּךָ, וּתְחַס עָלֶיךָ; וְאָמַר, לֹא-אֶשְׁלַח יָדִי בְּאֹדְנִי--כִּי-מַשִּׁיחַ יְהוָה, הוּא. ¹¹ וְאָבִי רָאָה--גַּם רָאָה אֶת-כַּנְף מַעֲיִלְךָ, בְּיָדִי: כִּי בִכְרַתִּי אֶת-כַּנְף מַעֲיִלְךָ וְלֹא הִרְגֵּיתִיךָ, דַּע וּרְאָה כִּי אֲנִי בְּיָדִי רָעָה וּפֶשַׁע וְלֹא-חֲטָאתִי לָךְ--וְאַתָּה צָדִיק אֶת-נַפְשִׁי, לְקַחְתָּהּ. ¹² יִשְׁפֹּט יְהוָה בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ, וַיִּקְמָנִי יְהוָה מִמֶּךָ; וַיִּדֵּי, לֹא תִהְיֶה-בָּךְ. ¹³ כַּאֲשֶׁר יֹאמַר, מִשַּׁל הַקֶּדְמָנִי, מִרְשָׁעִים, יֵצֵא רָשָׁע; וַיִּדֵּי, לֹא תִהְיֶה-בָּךְ. ¹⁴ אַחֲרֵי מִי יֵצֵא מִלֶּךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל, אַחֲרֵי מִי אַתָּה רֹדֵף: אַחֲרֵי כָלֵב מֵת, אַחֲרֵי פָרַעַשׁ אַחָד. ¹⁵ וְהִיא יְהוָה לְדִין, וְשִׁפְט בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ; וַיִּרְא וַיִּרְב אֶת-רִיבִי, וַיִּשְׁפֹּטֵנִי מִיָּדְךָ. ¹⁶ וַיְהִי כִכְלוֹת דָּוִד, לְדַבֵּר אֶת-הַדִּבְרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל, הֲקִלָּךְ זֶה בְּנִי דָוִד; וַיִּשָּׂא שָׁאוּל קִלּוֹ, וַיִּבֶךְ. ¹⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר, אֶל-דָּוִד, צָדִיק אַתָּה, מִמֶּנִּי: כִּי אַתָּה גִּמְלַתִּנִּי הַטּוֹבָה, וְאֲנִי גִמְלַתִּיךָ הָרָעָה. ¹⁸ וְאַתָּה וְאַתָּה הַגִּדְתָּ הַיּוֹם, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-עָשִׂיתָה אֵתִי טוֹבָה--אֵת אֲשֶׁר סָגַרְנִי יְהוָה בְּיָדְךָ, וְלֹא הִרְגֵּיתָנִי. ¹⁹ וְכִי-יִמְצָא אִישׁ אֶת-אִיבּוֹ, וְשָׁלַחוֹ בְּדֶרֶךְ טוֹבָה; וַיְהִי, יִשְׁלַמְךָ טוֹבָה, תַּחַת הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָה לִּי. ²⁰ וְעַתָּה הִנֵּה יָדְעֵתִי, כִּי מֶלֶךְ תִּמְלֹךְ; וְקָמָה בְּיָדְךָ, מִמְּלֶכֶת, יִשְׂרָאֵל. ²¹ וְעַתָּה, הִשְׁבָּעָה לִּי בַיהוָה, אִם-תִּכְרִית אֶת-זִרְעִי, אַחֲרָי; וְאִם-תִּשְׁמִיד אֶת-שְׁמִי, מִבֵּית אָבִי. ²² וַיִּשָּׁבַע דָּוִד, לְשָׁאוּל; וַיֵּלֶךְ שָׁאוּל, אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, וְדָוִד וְאֶנְשָׁיו, עָלוּ עַל-הַמַּצְוֵדָה.

¹ And Samuel died; and all Israel gathered themselves together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran. ² And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats; and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel. ³ Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail; and the woman was of good understanding, and of a beautiful form; but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he was of the house of Caleb. ⁴ And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep. ⁵ And David sent ten young men, and David said unto the young men: 'Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name; ⁶ and thus ye shall say: All hail! and peace be both unto thee, and peace be to thy house, and peace be unto all that thou hast. ⁷ And now I have heard that thou hast shearers; thy shepherds have now been with us, and we did them no hurt, neither was there aught missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel. ⁸ Ask thy young men, and they will tell thee; wherefore let the young men find favour in thine eyes; for we come on a good day; give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thy hand, unto thy servants, and to thy son David.' ⁹ And when David's young men came, they spoke to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased. ¹⁰ And Nabal answered David's servants, and said: 'Who is David? and who is the son of Jesse? there are many servants now-a-days that break away every man from his master; ¹¹ shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give it unto men of whom I know not whence they are?' ¹² So David's young men turned on their way, and went back, and came and told him according to all these words. ¹³ And David said unto his men: 'Gird ye on every man his sword.' And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword; and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the baggage. ¹⁴ But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying: 'Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he flew upon them. ¹⁵ But the men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we went with them, when we were in the fields; ¹⁶ they were a wall unto us both by night and by day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep. ¹⁷ Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his house; for he is such a base fellow, that one cannot speak to him.' ¹⁸ Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched corn, and a hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses. ¹⁹ And she said unto her young men: 'Go on before me; behold, I come after you.' But she told not her husband Nabal. ²⁰ And it was so, as she rode on her ass, and came down by the covert of the mountain, that, behold, David and his men came down towards her; and she met them. — ²¹ Now David had said: 'Surely in vain have I kept all that this fellow hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that pertained unto him; and he hath returned me evil for good. ²² G-d do so unto the enemies of David, and more also, if I leave of all that pertain to him by the morning light so much as one male.' — ²³ And when Abigail saw David, she made haste, and alighted from her ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed down to the ground. ²⁴ And she fell at his feet, and said: 'Upon me, my lord, upon me be the iniquity; and let thy handmaid, I pray thee, speak in thine ears, and hear thou the words of thy handmaid. ²⁵ Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this base fellow, even Nabal; for as his name is, so is he: Nabal is his name, and churlishness is with him; but I thy handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send. ²⁶ Now therefore, my lord, as HaShem liveth, and as thy soul liveth, seeing HaShem hath withholden thee from bloodguiltiness, and from finding redress for thyself with thine own hand, now therefore let thine enemies, and them that seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal. ²⁷ And now this present which thy servant hath brought unto my lord, let it be given unto the young men that follow my lord. ²⁸ Forgive, I pray thee, the trespass of thy handmaid; for HaShem will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord fighteth the battles of HaShem; and evil is not found in thee all thy days. ²⁹ And though man be risen up to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul, yet the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with HaShem thy G-d; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, as from the hollow of a sling. ³⁰ And it shall come to pass, when HaShem shall have done to my lord according to all the good that He hath spoken concerning thee, and shall have appointed thee prince over Israel; ³¹ that this shall be no stumbling-block unto thee, nor offence of heart unto my lord, either that thou hast shed blood without cause, or that my lord hath found redress for himself. And when HaShem shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thy handmaid.' ³² And David said to Abigail: 'Blessed be HaShem, the G-d of Israel, who sent thee this day to meet me; ³³ and blessed be thy discretion, and blessed be thou, that hast kept me this day from bloodguiltiness, and from finding redress for myself with mine own hand. ³⁴ For in very deed, as HaShem, the G-d of Israel, liveth, who hath withholden me from hurting thee, except thou hadst made haste and come to meet me, surely there had not been left unto Nabal by the morning light so much as one male.' ³⁵ So David received of her hand that which she had brought him; and he said unto her: 'Go up in peace to thy house; see, I have hearkened to thy voice, and have accepted thy person.' ³⁶ And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunken; wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light. ³⁷ And it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, that his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. ³⁸ And it came to pass about ten days after, that HaShem smote Nabal, so that he died. ³⁹ And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said: 'Blessed be HaShem, that hath pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and hath kept back His servant from evil; and the evil-doing of Nabal hath HaShem returned upon his own head.' And David sent and spoke concerning Abigail, to take her to him to wife. ⁴⁰ And when the servants of David were come to Abigail to Carmel, they spoke unto her, saying: 'David hath sent us unto thee, to take thee to him to wife.' ⁴¹ And she arose, and bowed down with her face to the earth, and said: 'Behold, thy handmaid is a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.' ⁴² And Abigail hastened, and arose, and rode upon an ass, with five damsels of hers that followed her; and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife. ⁴³ David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel; and they became both of them his wives. ⁴⁴ Now Saul had given Michal his daughter, David's wife, to Palti the son of Laish, who was of Gallim.

¹ וַיָּמָת שְׁמוּאֵל--וַיִּקְבְּצוּ כָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּסְפְּדוּ לוֹ, וַיִּקְבְּרֵהוּ בְּבֵיתוֹ בְּרָמָה; וַיָּקָם דָּוִד, וַיֵּרֶד אֶל-מִדְבַּר פָּארָן. ² וַיְהִי אִישׁ בְּמַעֲוֵן וּמַעֲשֵׂהוּ בְּכַרְמֶל, וְהָאִישׁ גָּדוֹל מְאֹד, וְלוֹ צֹאן שְׁלֹשֶׁת-אַלְפִים, וְאֶלֶף עֲזִים; וַיְהִי בְגִזּוֹ אֶת-צֹאנוֹ, בְּכַרְמֶל. ³ וְשֵׁם הָאִישׁ נָבָל, וְשֵׁם אִשְׁתּוֹ אַבְיָגַיְל; וְהָאִשָּׁה טוֹכַת-שָׂכָל וַיִּפַּת תָּאָר, וְהָאִישׁ קָשָׁה וְרַע מַעַלְלִים וְהוּא כָלְבוֹ כָּלְבִי. ⁴ וַיִּשְׁמַע דָּוִד, בַּמִּדְבָּר: כִּי-גִזּוּ נָבָל, אֶת-צֹאנוֹ. ⁵ וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד, עֲשָׂרָה נְעָרִים; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְנְעָרָיו, עֲלֹו כְרַמְלָה וּבֹאֲתֶם אֶל-נָבָל, וּשְׁאַלְתֶּם-לוֹ בְּשֵׁמִי, לְשָׁלוֹם. ⁶ וַתֹּאמְרֶתָם כֹּה, לְחִי: וְאַתָּה שָׁלוֹם וּבִיתְךָ שָׁלוֹם, וְכָל-אֲשֶׁר-לְךָ שָׁלוֹם. ⁷ וְעַתָּה שְׁמַעְתִּי, כִּי גִזְזִים לְךָ; עַתָּה, הָרַעִים אֲשֶׁר-לְךָ הֵיוּ עִמּוֹ--לֹא הִכְלַמְנוּם וְלֹא-נִפְקַד לָהֶם מֵאוֹמֶה, כָּל-יָמֵי הַיּוֹתָם בְּכַרְמֶל. ⁸ שְׂאֵל אֶת-נְעָרֶיךָ וַיְגִידוּ לְךָ, וַיִּמְצְאוּ הַנְּעָרִים חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ--כִּי-עַל-יוֹם טוֹב, בָּנוּ; תִּהְיֶה-נָּא, אֵת אֲשֶׁר תִּמְצָא יָדְךָ לַעֲבֹדָיְךָ, וּלְבָנְךָ, לְדֹד. ⁹ וַיָּבֹאוּ נְעָרֵי דָוִד, וַיַּדְּבֵרוּ אֶל-נָבָל כָּכָל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה בְּשֵׁם דָּוִד; וַיִּנְחוּ. ¹⁰ וַיַּעַן נָבָל אֶת-עַבְדֵי דָוִד, וַיֹּאמֶר, מִי דָוִד, וּמִי בֶן-יִשָּׁי? הַיּוֹם, רַבּוּ עַבְדִּים, הַמִּתְפָּרְצִים, אִישׁ מִפְּנֵי אֲדֹנָיו. ¹¹ וְלִקְחַתִּי אֶת-לַחְמִי, וְאֶת-מִיָּמִי, וְאֵת טַבַּחְתִּי, אֲשֶׁר טַבַּחְתִּי לַגִּזְיוֹ; וְנָתַתִּי, לְאֲנָשִׁים, אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָדַעְתִּי, אִי מִזֶּה הֵמָּה. ¹² וַיַּהֲפֹכוּ נְעָרֵי-דָוִד, לְדַרְכָּם; וַיָּשֻׁבוּ, וַיָּבֹאוּ, וַיְגִידוּ לוֹ, כָּכָל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה. ¹³ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְאֲנָשָׁיו תִּגְרוּ אִישׁ אֶת-תְּרֻבּוֹ, וַיִּתְּגְרוּ אִישׁ אֶת-תְּרֻבּוֹ, וַיִּתְּגֵר גַּם-דָּוִד, אֶת-תְּרֻבּוֹ; וַיַּעַלּוּ אַחֲרֵי דָוִד, כְּאֶרְבַּע מֵאוֹת אִישׁ, וּמֵאֲתָיִם, יָשֻׁבוּ עַל-הַכִּלָּים. ¹⁴ וְלִאֲבִיגַיְל אִשְׁתּוֹ נָבָל, הִגִּיד נַעַר-אֶחָד מֵהַנְּעָרִים לֵאמֹר: הִנֵּה שָׁלַח דָּוִד מַלְאָכִים מִהַמִּדְבָּר לְבָרֵךְ אֶת-אֲדֹנָיִנוּ, וַיַּעַט בָּהֶם. ¹⁵ וְהָאֲנָשִׁים, טֹבִים לָנוּ מְאֹד; וְלֹא הִכְלַמְנוּ, וְלֹא-פָקְדְנוּ מֵאוֹמֶה, כָּל-יָמֵי הַתְּהַלְכָנוּ אִתָּם, בַּהֲיֻתָנוּ בַּשָּׂדֶה. ¹⁶ חֻמָּה הָיוּ עִלֵּינוּ, גַּם-לִילָה גַם-יוֹמָם, כָּל-יָמֵי הַיּוֹתָנוּ עִמָּם, רָעִים הֵצֵאנוּ. ¹⁷ וְעַתָּה, דַּעֲי וּרְאִי מִה-תַּעֲשֶׂי--כִּי-כָלַתָּה הָרָעָה אֶל-אֲדֹנָינוּ, וַעַל כָּל-בֵּיתוֹ; וְהוּא, בֶּן-בְּלִיעֵל, מִדְבַּר, אֵלָיו. ¹⁸ וְתִמְהָרַ אֲבוּגִיל אַבְיָגַיְל וְתִקַּח מֵאֲתָיִם לָחֶם וּשְׁנַיִם נֶבֶלִי-חֵינ, וְחֶמֶשׁ צֹאן עֲשׂוֹיֹת וְחֶמֶשׁ סֵאִים קָלִי, וּמֵאָה עֲמֻקִּים, וּמֵאֲתָיִם דְּבָלִים; וְתַשֵּׁם, עַל-הַחֲמֹרִים. ¹⁹ וְתֹאמֶר לְנְעָרֶיךָ עֲבְרוּ לִפְנֵי, הַנְּנִי אַחֲרֵיכֶם בָּאָה; וְלֹא-יִשָּׂה נָבָל, לֹא הִגִּידָה. ²⁰ וְהִנֵּה הִיא רֹכֶכֶת עַל-הַחֲמֹר, וַיִּרְדַּת בְּסֹתֵר הָהָר, וְהִנֵּה דָוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו, יֹדְדִים לְקֶרְתָּהּ; וְתִפְגַּשׁ, אִתָּם. ²¹ וְדוֹד אָמַר, אֵךְ לִשְׁקָר שְׁמַרְתִּי אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר לָקָה בַּמִּדְבָּר, וְלֹא-נִפְקַד מְכָל-אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ, מֵאוֹמֶה; וַיִּשָּׁב-לִי רָעָה, תַּחַת טוֹבָה. ²² כֹּה-יַעֲשֶׂה אֱלֹהִים לְאֹנִי דָוִד, וְכֹה יִסִּיף: אִם-אֲשֹׁאִיר מְכָל-אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ עַד-הַבֹּקֶר, מִשְׁתִּין בְּקִיר. ²³ וְתֹרֵא אַבְיָגַיְל, אֶת-דָּוִד, וְתִמְהָרַ, וְתִרְדַּד מֵעַל הַחֲמֹר; וְתַפֵּל לֵאפְסֵי דָוִד, עַל-פְּנֵיהָ, וְתִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה, אֵרָץ. ²⁴ וְתַפֵּל, עַל-רַגְלָיו, וְתֹאמֶר, בִּי-אֲנִי אֲדֹנִי הָעוֹן; וְתִדְבֹּר-נָא אִמָּתְךָ, בְּאָזְנוֹיךָ, וּשְׁמַע, אֵת דְּבָרֵי אִמָּתְךָ. ²⁵ אֵל-נָא יְשִׁים אֲדֹנִי אֶת-לְבוֹ אֶל-אִישׁ הַכְּלִיעַל הַזֶּה עַל-נָבָל, כִּי כָשָׁמוּ כֶן-הוּא--נָבָל שָׁמוּ, וּנְבָלָה עִמּוֹ; וְאֲנִי, אִמָּתְךָ--לֹא רִאִיתִי אֶת-נְעָרֵי אֲדֹנִי, אֲשֶׁר שָׁלַחְתָּ. ²⁶ וְעַתָּה אֲדֹנִי, חִי-וְהָיָה וְחִי-נִפְשֶׁךָ אֲשֶׁר מְנַעַךְ יְהוָה מִבּוֹא בְּדָמַיִם, וְהוֹשַׁע יָדְךָ, לְךָ; וְעַתָּה, יְהִיוּ כְנָבָל אֹיְבֶיךָ, וְהַמְבַקְשִׁים אֶל-אֲדֹנִי, רָעָה. ²⁷ וְעַתָּה הִבְרָכָה הַזֹּאת, אֲשֶׁר-הִבִּיא שְׂפִתְךָ לְאֲדֹנִי; וְנִתְּנָה, לְנְעָרָיו, הַמְתַּהֲלִכִים, בְּרַגְלֵי אֲדֹנִי. ²⁸ שָׂא נָא, לִפְשַׁע אִמָּתְךָ: כִּי עָשָׂה-יַעֲשֶׂה יְהוָה לְאֲדֹנִי בֵּית נָאֻמָן, כִּי-מִלְחָמוֹת יְהוָה אֲדֹנִי נָלָחָם, וְרָעָה לֹא-תִמְצָא בְךָ, מִיָּמֶיךָ. ²⁹ וַיָּקָם אָדָם לְרִדְפָה, וַיִּבְקֹשׁ אֶת-נִפְשֶׁךָ; וְהִיתָה נֶפֶשׁ אֲדֹנִי צָרוּרָה בְּצָרוֹר הַחַיִּים, אֵת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, וְאֵת נֶפֶשׁ אֹיְבֶיךָ יִקְלַעְנָה, בַּתוֹךְ כַּף הַקָּלַע. ³⁰ וְהִנֵּה, כִּי-יַעֲשֶׂה יְהוָה לְאֲדֹנִי, כָּכָל אֲשֶׁר-דִּבֶּר אֶת-הַטּוֹבָה, עֲלֶיךָ--וַיַּצֹּד וַיִּגְדֵּל, עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. ³¹ וְלֹא תִהְיֶה זֹאת לְךָ לְפִיָּקָה וּלְמַכְשׁוֹל לֵב לְאֲדֹנִי, וְלִשְׁפֹּד-דָּם חָתָם, וְלִהְיוֹשִׁיעַ אֲדֹנִי, לוֹ; וְהִיטֵב יְהוָה לְאֲדֹנִי, וְנִכְרַתְתָּ אֶת-אִמָּתְךָ. ³² וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, לְאֲבִיגַיְל: בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר שָׁלַחְתָּ הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לְקֶרְתִּי. ³³ וּבְרוּךְ מַעֲמֶךָ, וּבְרוּכָה אַתָּה: אֲשֶׁר כָּלַתְנִי הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, מִבּוֹא בְּדָמַיִם, וְהִשַּׁע יָדִי, לִי. ³⁴ וְאוֹלָם, חִי-וְהָיָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר מְנַעַךְ, מִהָרַע אִתְּךָ: כִּי לֹלִי מִהָרַת, וּתְבֹאֲתִי וּתְבֹאֲתִי לְקֶרְתִּי--כִּי אִם-נֹתֵר נָבָל עַד-אוֹר הַבֹּקֶר, מִשְׁתִּין בְּקִיר. ³⁵ וַיִּקַּח דָּוִד מִיָּדָהּ, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-הִבִּיאָה לוֹ; וְלֶה אָמַר, עָלִי לְשָׁלוֹם לְבֵיתְךָ--רְאִי שְׁמַעְתִּי בְּקוֹלְךָ, וְנֹאשָׂא פְנֶיךָ. ³⁶ וְתֹבֵא אַבְיָגַיְל אֶל-נָבָל וְהָיָה-לוֹ מִשְׁתָּה בְּבֵיתוֹ כְּמִשְׁתָּה הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְלֵב נָבָל טוֹב עָלָיו, וְהוּא שֹׂכֵר, עַד-מָאֵד; וְלֹא-הִיָּדָה לוֹ, דָּבָר קָטָן וְגָדוֹל--עַד-אוֹר הַבֹּקֶר. ³⁷ וַיְהִי בְבֹקֶר, בְּצֹאת הַיּוֹם מִנָּבָל, וְתִגַּד-לוֹ אִשְׁתּוֹ, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וַיָּמָת לְבוֹ בְּקֻרְבּוֹ, וְהוּא הָיָה לְאֵבֶן. ³⁸ וַיְהִי, כַּעֲשָׂרַת הַיָּמִים; וַיִּגַּף יְהוָה אֶת-נָבָל, וַיָּמָת. ³⁹ וַיִּשְׁמַע דָּוִד, כִּי מָת נָבָל, וַיֹּאמֶר בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר רַב אֶת-רִיב חֲרַפְתִּי מִיַּד נָבָל וְאֶת-עַבְדּוֹ חָשָׂה מִרְעָה, וְאֵת רַעַת נָבָל הִשִּׁיב יְהוָה בְּרָשָׁו; וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד וַיַּדְּבֵר בְּאֲבִיגַיְל, לְקַחְתָּהּ לוֹ לְאִשָּׁה. ⁴⁰ וַיָּבֹאוּ עַבְדֵי דָוִד, אֶל-אַבְיָגַיְל--הַכְרַמְלָה; וַיַּדְּבֵרוּ אֵלֶיהָ, לֵאמֹר, דָּוִד שָׁלַחְנוּ אֵלֶיךָ, לְקַחְתְּךָ לוֹ לְאִשָּׁה. ⁴¹ וְתִקָּם, וְתִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה אֲפִים אֶרְצָה; וְתֹאמֶר, הִנֵּה אִמָּתְךָ לִשְׁפִיקָה, לְרַחֵץ, רַגְלֵי עַבְדֵי אֲדֹנִי. ⁴² וְתִמְהָרַ וְתִקָּם אַבְיָגַיְל, וְתִרְכַּב עַל-הַחֲמֹר, וְחֶמֶשׁ נְעֻרְתִּיהָ, הַהִלְכִיתָ לְרַגְלָהּ; וְתִלָּךְ, אַחֲרֵי מַלְאָכֵי דָוִד, וְתִהְיֶה-לוֹ, לְאִשָּׁה. ⁴³ וְאֵת-אֲחִינֹעַם לְקַח דָּוִד, מִיִּזְרְעֶאֱלִי; וְתִהְיֶינָּה גַם-שְׁתֵּיתֶיהָ לֹ, לְנָשִׁים. ⁴⁴ וְשָׂאוּל, נָתַן אֶת-מִיכָל בָּתוֹ--אִשְׁתּוֹ דָּוִד: לְפָלְטִי בֶן-לִישׁ, אֲשֶׁר מִגְלִים.

¹ And the Ziphites came unto Saul to Gibeah, saying: 'Doth not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon?' ² Then Saul arose, and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph. ³ And Saul pitched in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon, by the way. But David abode in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness. ⁴ David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was come of a certainty. ⁵ And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had pitched; and David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his host; and Saul lay within the barricade, and the people pitched round about him. ⁶ Then answered David and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, brother to Joab, saying: 'Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp?' And Abishai said: 'I will go down with thee.' ⁷ So David and Abishai came to the people by night; and, behold, Saul lay sleeping within the barricade, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head; and Abner and the people lay round about him. ⁸ Then said Abishai to David: 'G-d hath delivered up thine enemy into thy hand this day; now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear to the earth at one stroke, and I will not smite him the second time.' ⁹ And David said to Abishai: 'Destroy him not; for who can put forth his hand against HaShem'S anointed, and be guiltless?' ¹⁰ And David said: 'As HaShem liveth, nay, but HaShem shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall go down into battle, and be swept away. ¹¹ HaShem forbid it me, that I should put forth my hand against HaShem'S anointed; but now take, I pray thee, the spear that is at his head, and the cruse of water and let us go.' ¹² So David took the spear and the cruse of water from Saul's head; and they got them away, and no man saw it, nor knew it, neither did any awake; for they were all asleep; because a deep sleep from HaShem was fallen upon them. ¹³ Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of the mountain afar off; a great space being between them. ¹⁴ And David cried to the people, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying: 'Answerest thou not, Abner?' Then Abner answered and said: 'Who art thou that criest to the king?' ¹⁵ And David said to Abner: 'Art not thou a valiant man? and who is like to thee in Israel? wherefore then hast thou not kept watch over thy lord the king? for there came one of the people in to destroy the king thy lord. ¹⁶ This thing is not good that thou hast done. As HaShem liveth, ye deserve to die, because ye have not kept watch over your lord, HaShem'S anointed. And now, see, where the king's spear is, and the cruse of water that was at his head.' ¹⁷ And Saul knew David's voice, and said: 'Is this thy voice, my son David?' And David said: 'It is my voice, my lord, O king.' ¹⁸ And he said: 'Wherefore doth my lord pursue after his servant? for what have I done? or what evil is in my hand?' ¹⁹ Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If it be HaShem that hath stirred thee up against me, let Him accept an offering; but if it be the children of men, cursed be they before HaShem; for they have driven me out this day that I should not cleave unto the inheritance of HaShem, saying: Go, serve other gods. ²⁰ Now therefore, let not my blood fall to the earth away from the presence of HaShem; for the king of Israel is come out to seek a single flea, as when one doth hunt a partridge in the mountains.' ²¹ Then said Saul: 'I have sinned; return, my son David; for I will no more do thee harm, because my life was precious in thine eyes this day; behold, I have played the fool and erred exceedingly.' ²² And David answered and said: 'Behold the king's spear! let then one of the young men come over and fetch it. ²³ And HaShem will render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness; forasmuch as HaShem delivered thee into my hand to-day, and I would not put forth my hand against HaShem'S anointed. ²⁴ And, behold, as thy life was much set by this day in mine eyes, so let my life be much set by in the eyes of HaShem, and let Him deliver me out of all tribulation.' ²⁵ Then Saul said to David: 'Blessed be thou, my son David; thou shalt both do mightily, and shalt surely prevail.' So David went his way, and Saul returned to his place.

¹ וַיָּבֹאוּ הַזִּפִּיִּים אֶל-שָׁאוּל, הַגִּבְעָתָה לֵאמֹר: הֲלוֹא דָוִד מְסֻתָּמָר בַּגִּבְעָת הַחֲכִילָה, עַל פְּנֵי הַיְשִׁימוֹן. ² וַיָּקָם שָׁאוּל, וַיֵּרֶד אֶל-מִדְבַּר-זִיף, וְאָתָּו שְׁלֹשֶׁת-אַלְפִּים אִישׁ, בַּחוּרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל--לִבְקֹשׁ אֶת-דָּוִד, בַּמִּדְבַּר-זִיף. ³ וַיַּחֲזֵן שָׁאוּל בַּגִּבְעָת הַחֲכִילָה, אֲשֶׁר עַל-פְּנֵי הַיְשִׁימוֹן--עַל-הַדֶּרֶךְ; וְדָוִד, יָשָׁב בַּמִּדְבַּר, וַיֵּרָא, כִּי בָּא שָׁאוּל אַחֲרָיו מִדְּבָרָה. ⁴ וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד, מְרַגְלִים; וַיֵּדַע, כִּי-בָּא שָׁאוּל אֶל-נָכוֹן. ⁵ וַיָּקָם דָּוִד, וַיָּבֹא אֶל-הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר חָנָה-שָׁם שָׁאוּל, וַיֵּרָא דָּוִד אֶת-הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר שָׁכַב-שָׁם שָׁאוּל, וְאֶבְנֵר בֶּן-נֵר שֹׁר-צִבְאוֹ; וְשָׁאוּל שָׁכַב בַּמַּעְגָּל, וְהָעַם חָנִים סְבִיבוֹתָו. ⁶ וַיַּעַן דָּוִד וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-אַחִימֶלֶךְ הַחֲתִי, וְאֶל-אַבִּישי בֶן-צְרוּיָה אֲחִי יוֹאֵב לֵאמֹר, מִי-יֵרֶד אִתִּי אֶל-שָׁאוּל, אֶל-הַמַּחֲנֶה; וַיֹּאמֶר אַבִּישי, אֲנִי אֵרֶד עִמָּךְ. ⁷ וַיָּבֹא דָוִד וְאַבִּישי אֶל-הָעָם, לַיְלָה, וְהִנֵּה שָׁאוּל שָׁכַב יָשֵׁן בַּמַּעְגָּל, וְחַנִּיתוֹ מְעוּכָה-בְּאֶרְצוֹ מִרְאֲשֹׁתוֹ; וְאֶבְנֵר וְהָעָם, שֹׁכְבִים סְבִיבוֹתָו. ⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר אַבִּישי אֶל-דָּוִד, סֹגֵר אֱלֹהִים הַיּוֹם אֶת-אוֹיְבֶךָ בְּיָדְךָ; וְעַתָּה אֲכַנּוּ נָא בַּחֲנִית וּבְאֶרְצוֹ, פַּעַם אַחַת, וְלֹא אֲשָׁנָה, לוֹ. ⁹ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אַבִּישי, אֶל-תִּשְׁחִיתֵהוּ: כִּי מִי שִׁלַּח יָדוֹ, בַּמְּשִׁיחַ יְהוָה--וְנִסְּתָה. ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד חִי-יְהוָה, כִּי אִם-יְהוָה יִגְפְּנֵנִי; אוֹ-יִוָּמוּ יָבוֹא וּמָת, אוֹ בַּמִּלְחָמָה יֵרֶד וְנִסְּתָה. ¹¹ חֲלִילָה לִי מִיְהוָה, מִשְׁלַח יָדִי בַּמְּשִׁיחַ יְהוָה; וְעַתָּה קַח-נָא אֶת-הַחֲנִית אֲשֶׁר מִרְאֲשֹׁתוֹ, וְאֶת-צַפְחַת הַמַּיִם--וְנָלְכָה-לָנוּ. ¹² וַיִּקַּח דָּוִד אֶת-הַחֲנִית וְאֶת-צַפְחַת הַמַּיִם, מִרְאֲשֵׁתֵי שָׁאוּל, וַיִּלְכּוּ, לָהֶם; וְאִין רָאָה וְאִין יוֹדַע וְאִין מְקִיץ, כִּי כָלָם יֹשְׁנִים--כִּי תִרְדַּמְתָּ יְהוָה, נִפְלָה עֲלֵיהֶם. ¹³ וַיַּעֲבֵר דָּוִד הָעֵבֶר, וַיַּעֲמֵד עַל-רֹאשׁ-הַהָר מִרְחָק; רַב הַמָּקוֹם, בֵּינֵיהֶם. ¹⁴ וַיִּקְרָא דָּוִד אֶל-הָעָם, וְאֶל-אֶבְנֵר בֶּן-נֵר לֵאמֹר, הֲלוֹא תַעֲנֶה, אֶבְנֵר; וַיַּעַן אֶבְנֵר וַיֹּאמֶר, מִי אַתָּה קִרְאתָ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ. ¹⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אֶבְנֵר הַלֹּא-אִישׁ אַתָּה, וּמִי כְמוֹךָ בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל, וְלָמָּה לֹא שָׁמַרְתָּ, אֶל-אֲדֹנֶיךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי-בָּא אֶחָד הָעָם, לְהַשְׁחִית אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲדֹנֶיךָ. ¹⁶ לֹא-טוֹב הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ--חִי-יְהוָה כִּי בְנֵי-מָוֶת אַתָּם, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-שָׁמַרְתֶּם עַל-אֲדֹנֵיכֶם עַל-מְשִׁיחַ יְהוָה; וְעַתָּה רָאָה, אִי-חַנִּית הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶת-צַפְחַת הַמַּיִם--אֲשֶׁר מִרְאֲשֹׁתוֹ. ¹⁷ וַיַּכֵּר שָׁאוּל, אֶת-קוֹל דָּוִד, וַיֹּאמֶר, הֲקוֹלֶךָ זֶה בְּנִי דָוִד; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, קוֹלִי אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ. ¹⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר, לָמָּה זֶה אֲדֹנִי רִדְף אַחֲרִי עֲבָדוֹ: כִּי מָה עָשִׂיתִי, וּמָה-בִּדְדִי רָעָה. ¹⁹ וְעַתָּה, יִשְׁמַע-נָא אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אַתָּה, דְּבָרִי עֲבָדוֹ: אִם-יְהוָה יִסִּיתֶךָ בִּי, יֵרַח מִנְחָה, וְאִם בְּנֵי הָאָדָם אֲרוּרִים הֵם לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, כִּי-גֵרְשׁוּנִי הַיּוֹם מִהַסְתַּפֵּחַ בְּנַחֲלַת יְהוָה לֵאמֹר לֶךְ עֲבַד אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים. ²⁰ וְעַתָּה, אֶל-יִפְלֹ דְמִי אֲרָצָה, מִגִּגְד, פְּנֵי יְהוָה: כִּי-יֵצֵא מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל, לִבְקֹשׁ אֶת-פֶּרַעַשׁ אֶחָד, כְּאֲשֶׁר יִרְדֹּף הַקִּרְא, בְּהָרִים. ²¹ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל חֲטָאתִי שׁוּב בְּנִי-דָוִד, כִּי לֹא-אֲרַע לֶךְ עוֹד, תַּחַת אֲשֶׁר יִקְרָה נַפְשִׁי בְּעֵינֶיךָ, הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: הִנֵּה הַסִּכְלִיתִי וְאֲשָׁגָה, הִרְבֵּה מְאֹד. ²² וַיַּעַן דָּוִד וַיֹּאמֶר, הִנֵּה הַחֲנִית חֲנִית הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיַּעֲבֵר אֶחָד מִהַנְּעָרִים, וַיִּקַּחָהּ. ²³ וַיְהוָה יָשִׁיב לְאִישׁ, אֶת-צִדְקָתוֹ וְאֶת-אֲמָנָתוֹ--אֲשֶׁר נִתְּנָה יְהוָה הַיּוֹם, בְּיָד, וְלֹא אֲבִיתִי, לְשִׁלַּח יָדִי בַּמְּשִׁיחַ יְהוָה. ²⁴ וְהִנֵּה, כְּאֲשֶׁר גִּדְּלָה נַפְשְׁךָ הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה--בְּעֵינִי: כֵּן תִּגְדֵּל נַפְשִׁי בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה, וַיַּצִּלֵּנִי מִכָּל-צָרָה. ²⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל אֶל-דָּוִד, בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה בְּנִי דָוִד--גַּם עָשִׂה תַעֲשֶׂה, וְגַם יָכֹל תוּכָל; וַיִּלָּךְ דָּוִד לְדָרְכּוֹ, וְשָׁאוּל שָׁב לְמָקוֹמוֹ.

¹ And David said in his heart: 'I shall now be swept away one day by the hand of Saul; there is nothing better for me than that I should escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul will despair of me, to seek me any more in all the borders of Israel; so shall I escape out of his hand.' ² And David arose, and passed over, he and the six hundred men that were with him, unto Achish the son of Maach, king of Gath. ³ And David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, even David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's wife. ⁴ And it was told Saul that David was fled to Gath; and he sought no more again for him. ⁵ And David said unto Achish: 'If now I have found favour in thine eyes, let them give me a place in one of the cities in the country, that I may dwell there; for why should thy servant dwell in the royal city with thee?' ⁶ Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day; wherefore Ziklag belongeth unto the kings of Judah unto this day. ⁷ And the number of the days that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was a full year and four months. ⁸ And David and his men went up, and made a raid upon the Geshurites, and the Gizrites, and the Amalekites; for those were the inhabitants of the land, who were of old, as thou goest to Shur, even unto the land of Egypt. ⁹ And David smote the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the asses, and the camels, and the apparel. And he returned, and came to Achish. ¹⁰ And Achish said: 'Whither have ye made a raid to-day?' And David said: 'Against the South of Judah, and against the South of the Jerahmeelites, and against the South of the Kenites.' ¹¹ And David left neither man nor woman alive, to bring them to Gath, saying: 'Lest they should tell on us, saying: So did David, and so hath been his manner all the while he hath dwelt in the country of the Philistines.' ¹² And Achish believed David, saying: 'He hath made his people Israel utterly to abhor him; therefore he shall be my servant for ever.'

¹ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-לִבּוֹ, עַתָּה אֶסְפָּה יוֹם-אֶחָד בְּיַד-שָׁאוּל; אֵין-לִי טוֹב כִּי הַמֶּלֶט אִמְלֹט אֶל-אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וְנוֹאֵשׁ מִמֶּנִּי שָׁאוּל לְבַקְשָׁנִי עוֹד בְּכָל-גְּבוּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְנִמְלֹטְתִי, מִיָּדוֹ. ² וַיָּקָם דָּוִד--וַיַּעֲבֹר הוּא, וְשֵׁשׁ-מֵאוֹת אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר עִמּוֹ: אֶל-אֶכִישׁ בֶּן-מַעֲכָה, מֶלֶךְ גֹּת. ³ וַיָּשָׁב דָּוִד עִם-אֶכִישׁ בְּגֹת הוּא וְאֶנְשָׁיו, אִישׁ וּבֵיתוֹ: דָּוִד, וְשֵׁתִי נָשָׁיו, וְאַחִינוֹעַם הַיִּזְרְעֵאלִית, וְאַבִּיגַיִל אִשְׁת-נָבָל הַכַּרְמֶלִית. ⁴ וַיַּגֵּד לְשָׁאוּל, כִּי-בָרַח דָּוִד גֹּת; וְלֹא-יוֹסֵף יוֹסֵף עוֹד, לְבַקְשׁוֹ. ⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אֶכִישׁ, אִם-נָא מְצֹאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ יִתְּנוּ-לִי מְקוֹם בְּאַחַת עָרֵי הַשְּׂדֵה--וְאֶשְׁבָּה שָׁם; וְלָמָּה יָשֵׁב עַבְדְּךָ בְּעִיר הַמִּמְלָכָה, עִמָּךְ. ⁶ וַיִּתֵּן-לוֹ אֶכִישׁ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, אֶת-צִקְלָג; לָכֵן הָיְתָה צִקְלָג לְמַלְכֵי יְהוּדָה, עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. ⁷ וַיְהִי מִסְפַּר הַיָּמִים, אֲשֶׁר-יָשָׁב דָּוִד בַּשְּׂדֵה פְלִשְׁתִּים--יָמִים, וְאַרְבַּעַת חֳדָשִׁים. ⁸ וַיַּעַל דָּוִד וְאֶנְשָׁיו, וַיִּפְשְׁטוּ אֶל-הַגִּשּׁוּרִי וְהַגִּזְרִי וְהַעֲמֻלִּי: כִּי הָנָה יֹשְׁבוֹת הָאֶרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר מֵעוֹלָם, בּוֹאֵד שׁוֹרָה, וְעַד-אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם. ⁹ וְהָכָה דָּוִד אֶת-הָאֶרֶץ, וְלֹא יָחִיָּה אִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה; וְלָקַח צֹאן וּבָקָר וְחֲמֹרִים וּגְמָלִים, וּבָגָדִים, וַיָּשָׁב, וַיָּבֹא אֶל-אֶכִישׁ. ¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר אֶכִישׁ, אֶל-פֶּשֶׁטְתָם הַיּוֹם; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, עַל-נֶגֶב יְהוּדָה וְעַל-נֶגֶב הַיִּרְחֻמָּאִלִי, וְעַל-נֶגֶב, הַקִּינִי. ¹¹ וְאִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה לֹא-יָחִיָּה דָּוִד, לְהַבִּיא גֹת לְאִמֶּר--פֶּן-יַגִּדוּ עָלֵינוּ, לְאִמֶּר: כֹּה-עָשָׂה דָּוִד, וְכֹה מִשְׁפָּטוֹ, כָּל-הַיָּמִים, אֲשֶׁר יָשָׁב בַּשְּׂדֵה פְלִשְׁתִּים. ¹² וַיֹּאמֶן אֶכִישׁ, בְּדָוִד לְאִמֶּר: הִבָּאֵשׁ הַבָּאִישׁ בְּעִמּוֹ בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל, וְהָיָה לִי לְעַבְדָּ עוֹלָם.

¹ And it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their hosts together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said unto David: 'Know thou assuredly, that thou shalt go out with me in the host, thou and thy men.' ² And David said to Achish: 'Therefore thou shalt know what thy servant will do.' And Achish said to David: 'Therefore will I make thee keeper of my head for ever.' ³ Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that divined by a ghost or a familiar spirit out of the land. ⁴ And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem; and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa. ⁵ And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. ⁶ And when Saul inquired of HaShem, HaShem answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets. ⁷ Then said Saul unto his servants: 'Seek me a woman that divineth by a ghost, that I may go to her, and inquire of her.' And his servants said to him: 'Behold, there is a woman that divineth by a ghost at Endor.' ⁸ And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and went, he and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night; and he said: 'Divine unto me, I pray thee, by a ghost, and bring me up whomsoever I shall name unto thee.' ⁹ And the woman said unto him: 'Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that divine by a ghost or a familiar spirit out of the land; wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?' ¹⁰ And Saul swore to her by HaShem, saying: 'As HaShem liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.' ¹¹ Then said the woman: 'Whom shall I bring up unto thee?' And he said: 'Bring me up Samuel.' ¹² And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice; and the woman spoke to Saul, saying: 'Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul.' ¹³ And the king said unto her: 'Be not afraid; for what seest thou?' And the woman said unto Saul: 'I see a godlike being coming up out of the earth.' ¹⁴ And he said unto her: 'What form is he of?' And she said: 'An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a robe.' And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground, and prostrated himself. ¹⁵ And Samuel said to Saul: 'Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up?' And Saul answered: 'I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and G-d is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams; therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.' ¹⁶ And Samuel said: 'Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing HaShem is departed from thee, and is become thine adversary?' ¹⁷ And HaShem hath wrought for Himself; as He spoke by me; and HaShem hath rent the kingdom out of thy hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David. ¹⁸ Because thou didst not hearken to the voice of HaShem, and didst not execute His fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath HaShem done this thing unto thee this day. ¹⁹ Moreover HaShem will deliver Israel also with thee into the hand of the Philistines; and to-morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me; HaShem will deliver the host of Israel also into the hand of the Philistines.' ²⁰ Then Saul fell straightway his full length upon the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel; and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night. ²¹ And the woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore affrighted, and said unto him: 'Behold, thy handmaid hath hearkened unto thy voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened unto thy words which thou spakest unto me.' ²² Now therefore, I pray thee, hearken thou also unto the voice of thy handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before thee; and eat, that thou mayest have strength, when thou goest on thy way.' ²³ But he refused, and said: 'I will not eat.' But his servants, together with the woman, urged him; and he hearkened unto their voice. So he arose from the earth, and sat upon the bed. ²⁴ And the woman had a fatted calf in the house; and she made haste, and killed it; and she took flour, and kneaded it, and did bake unleavened bread thereof; ²⁵ and she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

¹ וַיְהִי, בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם, וַיִּקְבְּצוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֶת-מַחֲנֵיהֶם לְצָבָא, לְהִלָּחֵם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיֹּאמֶר אַכִּישׁ, אֶל-דָּוִד, יָדַע תִּדַּע כִּי אֲתִי תֵצֵא בַּמַּחֲנֶה, אִתָּהּ וְאֶנְשֶׁיָּךְ. ² וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, אֶל-אַכִּישׁ, לֵכֵן אִתָּהּ תִּדַּע, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-יַעֲשֶׂה עִבְדְּךָ; וַיֹּאמֶר אַכִּישׁ, אֶל-דָּוִד, לֵכֵן שָׁמַר לְרֹאשֵׁי אֲשִׁימָךְ, כָּל-הַיָּמִים. ³ וּשְׁמוּאֵל מֵת--וַיִּסְפְּדוּ-לוֹ כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיִּקְבְּרֵהוּ בְּרָמָה וּבְעִירוֹ; וּשְׁאוּל, הִסִּיר הָאֲבוֹת וְאֵת-הַיְדֹעֲנִים--מִהָאָרֶץ. ⁴ וַיִּקְבְּצוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיָּבֹאוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּשׁוּנִים; וַיִּקְבֹּץ שְׁאוּל אֶת-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּגִלְבֹּעַ. ⁵ וַיֵּרָא שְׁאוּל, אֶת-מַחֲנֶה פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיֵּרָא, וַיַּחֲרֹד לְבוֹ מָאֵד. ⁶ וַיִּשְׁאַל שְׁאוּל בַּיהוָה, וְלֹא עָנָהוּ יְהוָה--גַּם בַּחֲלָמוֹת גַּם בָּאוּרִים, גַּם בְּנְבִיאִים. ⁷ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁאוּל לְעִבְדָּיו, בְּקִשׁוּ-לִי אִשָּׁת בַּעַלְת-אוֹב, וְאִלְכָה אֵלֶיהָ, וְאֶדְרֹשָׁה-בָּהּ; וַיֹּאמְרוּ עִבְדָּיו אֵלָיו, הִנֵּה אִשָּׁת בַּעַלְת-אוֹב בַּעֲיִן דּוֹר. ⁸ וַיִּתְחַפֵּשׂ שְׁאוּל, וַיִּלְבָּשׁ בְּגָדִים אֲחֵרִים, וַיֵּלֶךְ הוּא וּשְׁנֵי אֲנָשִׁים עִמּוֹ, וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-הָאִשָּׁה לִילָה; וַיֹּאמֶר, קִסּוּמִי-קִסְמִי-נָא לִי בָאוֹב, וְהַעֲלִי לִי, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-אָמַר אֵלֶיךָ. ⁹ וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֵלָיו, הִנֵּה אִתָּהּ יָדַעְתָּ אֵת אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה שְׁאוּל, אֲשֶׁר הִכְרִית אֶת-הָאֲבוֹת וְאֵת-הַיְדֹעֲנִי, מִן-הָאָרֶץ; וְלָמָּה אִתָּהּ מַתְנַקֵּשׁ בְּנִפְשִׁי, לְהַמִּיתָנִי. ¹⁰ וַיִּשָּׁבַע לָהּ שְׁאוּל, בַּיהוָה לֵאמֹר: חַי-יְהוָה, אִם-יִקְרָא עוֹן בְּדָבָר הַזֶּה. ¹¹ וַתֹּאמֶר, הָאִשָּׁה, אֶת-מִי אֶעֱלֶה-לָךְ; וַיֹּאמֶר, אֶת-שְׁמוּאֵל הַעֲלִי-לִי. ¹² וַתֵּרָא הָאִשָּׁה אֶת-שְׁמוּאֵל, וַתִּזְעַק בְּקוֹל גָּדוֹל; וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֶל-שְׁאוּל לֵאמֹר לָמָּה רָמִיתָנִי, וְאִתָּהּ שְׁאוּל. ¹³ וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-תִּירָאִי, כִּי מָה רָאִית; וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֶל-שְׁאוּל, אֱלֹהִים רָאִיתִי עֲלִים מִן-הָאָרֶץ. ¹⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ, מַה-תֵּאָרוּ, וַתֹּאמֶר אִישׁ זָקֵן עָלָה, וְהוּא עֹטָה מְעִיל; וַיַּדַּע שְׁאוּל כִּי-שְׁמוּאֵל הוּא, וַיִּקַּד אַפָּיִם אַרְצָה וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ. ¹⁵ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-שְׁאוּל, לָמָּה הִרְגַּזְתָּנִי לְהַעֲלוֹת אִתִּי; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁאוּל צַר-לִי מָאֵד וּפְלִשְׁתִּים גִּלְחָמִים בִּי, וְאֱלֹהִים סָר מֵעָלַי וְלֹא-עָנְנִי עוֹד גַּם בֵּינִי-הַנְּבִיאִים גַּם-בַּחֲלָמוֹת, וְאֶקְרָאָה לָךְ, לְהוֹדִיעַנִי מָה אַעֲשֶׂה. ¹⁶ וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל, וְלָמָּה תִּשְׁאַלְנִי: וַיַּהֲנוּ סָר מֵעָלַי, וַיְהִי עָרָד. ¹⁷ וַיַּעַשׂ יְהוָה לוֹ, כְּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר בְּיָדִי; וַיִּקְרַע יְהוָה אֶת-הַמַּמְלָכָה מִיָּדִךְ, וַיִּתְּנָהּ לְרַעְדֵּי לְדָוִד. ¹⁸ כְּאֲשֶׁר לֹא-שָׁמַעְתָּ בְּקוֹל יְהוָה, וְלֹא-עָשִׂיתָ חֶרֶן-אִפּוֹ בְּצַמְלָק; עַל-כֵּן הִדְּבַר הַזֶּה, עָשָׂה-לָךְ יְהוָה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. ¹⁹ וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה גַּם אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ, בֵּינִי-פְלִשְׁתִּים, וּמָחָר, אִתָּהּ וּבְנֶיךָ עִמִּי; גַּם אֶת-מַחֲנֶה יִשְׂרָאֵל, יִתֵּן יְהוָה בֵּינִי-פְלִשְׁתִּים. ²⁰ וַיִּמְהַר שְׁאוּל, וַיִּפֹּל מֵלֹא-קוֹמָתוֹ אַרְצָה, וַיֵּרָא מָאֵד, מִדְּבָרֵי שְׁמוּאֵל; גַּם-כַּחַת, לֹא-הָיָה בּוֹ--כִּי לֹא אָכַל לֶחֶם, כָּל-הַיּוֹם וְכָל-הַלַּיְלָה. ²¹ וַתָּבוֹא הָאִשָּׁה אֶל-שְׁאוּל, וַתֵּרָא כִּי-נִבְהַל מָאֵד; וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו, הִנֵּה שָׁמְעָה שִׁפְחָתְךָ בְּקוֹלָךְ, וְאֲשִׁים נִפְשֵׁי בְכַפִּי, וְאֲשַׁמַּע אֶת-דְּבָרֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ אֵלַי. ²² וַעֲתָה, שָׁמַע-נָא גַם-אִתָּהּ בְּקוֹל שִׁפְחָתְךָ, וְאֲשַׁמָּה לְפָנֶיךָ פֶּת-לֶחֶם, וְאֶכּוֹל; וַיְהִי כֹךְ כַּחַת, כִּי תֵלֶךְ בְּדָרֶךְ. ²³ וַיִּמָּאֵן, וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֶכֹּל, וַיִּפְרָצוּ-בּוֹ עִבְדָּיו וְגַם-הָאִשָּׁה, וַיִּשְׁמַע לְקֹלָם; וַיִּקֶּם, מִהָאָרֶץ, וַיֵּשֶׁב, אֶל-הַמָּטָה. ²⁴ וְלֹאֲשָׁה עֲגַל-מֶרְבֶּק בְּבֵית, וַתִּמְהַר וַתִּזְבְּחָהּ; וַתִּקַּח-קֶמַח וַתִּלְשׁ, וַתִּפְהֹו מִצּוֹת. ²⁵ וַתִּגֵּשׁ לְפָנֶי-שְׁאוּל וּלְפָנֵי עִבְדָּיו, וַיֹּאכְלוּ; וַיִּקְמוּ וַיֵּלְכוּ, בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא.

¹ Now the Philistines gathered together all their hosts to Aphek; and the Israelites pitched by the fountain which is in Jezreel. ² And the lords of the Philistines passed on by hundreds, and by thousands; and David and his men passed on in the rearward with Achish. ³ Then said the princes of the Philistines: 'What do these Hebrews here?' And Achish said unto the princes of the Philistines: 'Is not this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, who hath been with me these days or these years, and I have found no fault in him since he fell away unto me unto this day?' ⁴ But the princes of the Philistines were wroth with him; and the princes of the Philistines said unto him: 'Make the man return, that he may go back to his place where thou hast appointed him, and let him not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he become an adversary to us; for wherewith should this fellow reconcile himself unto his lord? should it not be with the heads of these men?' ⁵ Is not this David, of whom they sang one to another in dances, saying: Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?' ⁶ Then Achish called David, and said unto him: 'As HaShem liveth, thou hast been upright, and thy going out and thy coming in with me in the host is good in my sight; for I have not found evil in thee since the day of thy coming unto me unto this day; nevertheless the lords favour thee not. ⁷ Wherefore now return, and go in peace, that thou displease not the lords of the Philistines.' ⁸ And David said unto Achish: 'But what have I done? and what hast thou found in thy servant so long as I have been before thee unto this day, that I may not go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?' ⁹ And Achish answered and said to David: 'I know that thou art good in my sight, as an angel of G-d; notwithstanding the princes of the Philistines have said: He shall not go up with us to the battle. ¹⁰ Wherefore now rise up early in the morning with the servants of thy lord that are come with thee; and as soon as ye are up early in the morning, and have light, depart.' ¹¹ So David rose up early, he and his men, to depart in the morning, to return into the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

¹ וַיִּקְבְּצוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֶת-כָּל-מַחְנֵיהֶם, אֶפְקָה; וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל חַנִּים, בְּעֵין אֲשֶׁר בִּיזְרְעָאֵל. ² וְסַרְנֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים עֲבָרִים, לְמֵאוֹת וּלְאַלְפִים; וְדָוִד וְאֶנְשָׁיו, עֲבָרִים בְּאַחֲרֹנָה--עִם-אֲכִישׁ. ³ וַיֹּאמְרוּ שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים, מָה הָעֲבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וַיֹּאמֶר אֲכִישׁ אֶל-שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים, הֲלוֹא-זֶה דָּוִד עֶבֶד שְׂאוּל מֶלֶךְ-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר הָיָה אִתִּי זֶה יָמִים אוֹ-זֶה שָׁנִים, וְלֹא-מָצָאתִי בּוֹ מְאוּמָּה, מִיּוֹם נָפְלוּ עַד-הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. ⁴ וַיִּקְצְפוּ עָלָיו שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים הֲשֵׁב אֶת-הָאִישׁ וַיֵּשֶׁב אֶל-מְקוֹמוֹ אֲשֶׁר הִפְקִדְתּוֹ שָׁם, וְלֹא-יֵרֵד עִמָּנוּ בְּמִלְחָמָה, וְלֹא-יִהְיֶה-לָּנוּ לְשָׁטָן בְּמִלְחָמָה; וּבָמָּה, יִתְרַצֶּה זֶה אֶל-אֲדֹנָיו--הֲלוֹא בְּרָאשֵׁי הָאֲנָשִׁים הָהֵם. ⁵ הֲלוֹא-זֶה דָּוִד, אֲשֶׁר יַעֲנוּ-לוֹ בְּמַחֲלוֹת לֵאמֹר: הֲכָה שְׂאוּל בְּאַלְפָיו, וְדָוִד בְּרַב־בָּתּוֹ. ⁶ וַיִּקְרָא אֲכִישׁ אֶל-דָּוִד, וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו חַי-יְהוָה כִּי-יִשָּׁר אַתָּה וְטוֹב בְּעֵינַי צִאתְךָ וּבֹאְךָ אִתִּי בְּמַחֲנֶה--כִּי לֹא-מָצָאתִי בְךָ רָעָה, מִיּוֹם בָּאָךְ אֵלַי עַד-הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה; וּבְעֵינַי הַסַּרְנִים, לֹא-טוֹב אַתָּה. ⁷ וְעַתָּה שׁוּב, וְלֵךְ בְּשָׁלוֹם; וְלֹא-תַעֲשֶׂה רָע, בְּעֵינַי סַרְנֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים. ⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אֲכִישׁ, כִּי מָה עָשִׂיתִי וְמֵה-מָצָאתָ בְּעַבְדְּךָ, מִיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר הָיִיתִי לְפָנֶיךָ, עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: כִּי לֹא אָבֹא וְנִלְחַמְתִּי, בְּאִיבֵי אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ. ⁹ וַיַּעַן אֲכִישׁ, וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-דָּוִד, יֵדְעָתִי, כִּי טוֹב אַתָּה בְּעֵינַי כְּמִלְאָךְ אֱלֹהִים; אֲךָ שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים אָמְרוּ, לֹא-יַעֲלֶה עִמָּנוּ בְּמִלְחָמָה. ¹⁰ וְעַתָּה הִשָּׁכֶם בַּבֶּקֶר, וְעַבְדִּי אֲדֹנֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר-בָּאוּ אִתְּךָ; וְהִשָּׁכְמָתֶם בַּבֶּקֶר, וְאוֹר לְכֶם וּלְכוּ. ¹¹ וַיִּשָּׁכֶם דָּוִד הוּא וְאֶנְשָׁיו, לְלֶכֶת בַּבֶּקֶר, לְשׁוּב, אֶל-אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, עָלוּ יִזְרְעָאֵל.

¹ And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had made a raid upon the South, and upon Ziklag, and had smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire; ² and had taken captive the women and all that were therein, both small and great; they slew not any, but carried them off, and went their way. ³ And when David and his men came to the city, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. ⁴ Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep. ⁵ And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. ⁶ And David was greatly distressed; for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters; but David strengthened himself in HaShem his G-d. ⁷ And David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelech: 'I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod.' And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David. ⁸ And David inquired of HaShem, saying: 'Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them?' And He answered him: 'Pursue; for thou shalt surely overtake them, and shalt without fail recover all.' ⁹ So David went, he and the six hundred men that were with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed. ¹⁰ But David pursued, he and four hundred men; for two hundred stayed behind, who were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor. ¹¹ And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat; and they gave him water to drink; ¹² and they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins; and when he had eaten, his spirit came back to him; for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk any water, three days and three nights. ¹³ And David said unto him: 'To whom belondest thou? and whence art thou?' And he said: 'I am a young Egyptian, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I fell sick. ¹⁴ We made a raid upon the South of the Cherethites, and upon that which belongeth to Judah, and upon the South of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.' ¹⁵ And David said to him: 'Wilt thou bring me down to this troop?' And he said: 'Swear unto me by G-d, that thou wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me up into the hands of my master, and I will bring thee down to this troop.' ¹⁶ And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad over all the ground, eating and drinking, and feasting, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah. ¹⁷ And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day; and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, who rode upon camels and fled. ¹⁸ And David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken; and David rescued his two wives. ¹⁹ And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them; David brought back all. ²⁰ And David took all the flocks and the herds, which they drove before those other cattle, and said: 'This is David's spoil.' ²¹ And David came to the two hundred men, who were so faint that they could not follow David, whom also they had made to abide at the brook Besor; and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that were with him; and when David came near to the people, he saluted them. ²² Then answered all the wicked men and base fellows, of those that went with David, and said: 'Because they went not with us, we will not give them aught of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead them away, and depart.' ²³ Then said David: 'Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which HaShem hath given unto us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the troop that came against us into our hand. ²⁴ And who will hearken unto you in this matter? for as is the share of him that goeth down to the battle, so shall be the share of him that tarrieth by the baggage; they shall share alike.' ²⁵ And it was so from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day. ²⁶ And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil unto the elders of Judah, even to his friends, saying: 'Behold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of HaShem'; ²⁷ to them that were in Beth-el, and to them that were in Ramoth of the South, and to them that were in Jattir; ²⁸ and to them that were in Aroer, and to them that were in Siphmoth, and to them that were in Eshtemoa; ²⁹ and to them that were in Racal, and to them that were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to them that were in the cities of the Kenites; ³⁰ and to them that were in Hormah, and to them that were in Bor-ashan, and to them that were in Athach; ³¹ and to them that were in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were wont to haunt.

¹ ויהי כבא דוד ואנשיו, צקלג--ביום השלישי; ועמלקי פשטו, אל-נגב ואל-צקלג, ויכו את-צקלג, וישרפו אתה באש. ² וישבו את-הנשים אשר-בה מקטן ועד-גדול, לא המיתו איש; וינהגו, וילכו לדרךם. ³ ויבא דוד ואנשיו אל-העיר, והנה שרופה באש; ונשיהם ובניהם ובנותיהם, נשבו. ⁴ וישא דוד והעם אשר-אתו, את-קולם--ויכפו: עד אשר אינ-בהם כח, לבכות. ⁵ ושתי נשי-דוד, נשבו--אחינעם, הניזרעלית, ואביגיל, אשת נבל הכרמלי. ⁶ ותצר לדוד מאד, כי-אמרו העם לסקלו--כי-מרה נפש כל-העם, איש על-בנו ועל-בנתיו; ויתחזק דוד, ביהוה אלהיו. ⁷ ויאמר דוד, אל-אביתר הכהן בן-אחיקמלך, הגישה-נא לי, האפוד; ויגש אביתר את-האפוד, אל-דוד. ⁸ וישאל דוד ביהוה לאמר, ארדף אחרי הגדוד-הזה האשנגני; ויאמר לו רדף, כי-השג תשיג והצל תציל. ⁹ וילך דוד, הוא ונש-מאות איש אשר אתו, ויבאו, עד-נחל הבשור; והנותרים, עמדו. ¹⁰ וירדף דוד, הוא וארבע-מאות איש; ויעמדו, מאתים איש, אשר פגרו, מעבר את-נחל הבשור. ¹¹ וימצאו איש-מצרי בשדה, ויקחו אתו אל-דוד; ויתנו-לו לחם ויאכל, וישקהו מים. ¹² ויתנו-לו פלח דבילה ושני צמקים, ויאכל, ותשב רוחו, אליו: כי לא-אכל לחם, ולא-שתה מים, שלשה ימים, ושלשה לילות. ¹³ ויאמר לו דוד למי-אתה, ואי מזה אתה; ויאמר נער מצרי אנכי, עבד לאיש עמלקי, ויעזבני אדני כי חליתי, היום שלשה. ¹⁴ אנחנו פשטנו נגב הכרתי, ועל-אשר ליהודה--ועל-נגב כלב; ואת-צקלג, שרפנו באש. ¹⁵ ויאמר אליו דוד, התורדני אל-הגדוד הזה; ויאמר השבועה לי באלהים אם-תמיתני, ואם-תסגרני ביד-אדני, ואורדך, אל-הגדוד הזה. ¹⁶ וירדהו, והנה נטשים על-פני כל-הארץ; אכלים ושתים, וחגגים, בכל השלל הגדול, אשר לקחו מארץ פלשתים ומארץ יהודה. ¹⁷ ויכם דוד מהנשף ועד-הערב, למחרתם; ולא-נמלט מהם איש, כי אם-ארבע מאות איש-נער אשר-רכבו על-הגמלים וינסו. ¹⁸ ויצל דוד, את כל-אשר לקחו עמלק; ואת-שתי נשיו, הציל דוד. ¹⁹ ולא נעדר-להם מן-הקטן ועד-הגדול ועד-בנים ובנות, ומשלל, ועד כל-אשר לקחו, להם: הכל, השיב דוד. ²⁰ ויקח דוד, את-כל-הצאן והבקר; נהגיו, לפני המקנה ההוא, ויאמרו, זה שלל דוד. ²¹ ויבא דוד, אל-מאתים האנשים אשר-פגרו מלכת אחרי דוד וישיבם בנחל הבשור, ויצאו לקראת דוד, ולקראת העם אשר-אתו; ויגש דוד את-העם, וישאל להם לשלום. ²² ויען כל-איש-רע ובליעל, מהאנשים אשר הלכו עם-דוד, ויאמרו יען אשר לא-הלכו עמי, לא-נתן להם מהשלל אשר הצלנו: כי-אם-איש את-אשתו ואת-בניו, וינהגו וילכו. ²³ ויאמר דוד, לא-תעשו כן אחי: את אשר-נתן יהוה לנו, וישמר אתנו, ויתן את-הגדוד הבא עלינו, בקדנו. ²⁴ ומי ישמע לכם, לדבר הזה: כי פחלק הירד במלחמה, וכחלק הישב על-הפלים--יחדו יחלקו. ²⁵ ויהי, מהיום ההוא ומעלה; וישמה לחק ולמשפט, לישראל, עד, היום הזה. ²⁶ ויבא דוד אל-צקלג, וישלח מהשלל לזקני יהודה לרעהו לאמר: הנה לכם ברכה, משלל איבי יהוה. ²⁷ לאשר בבית-אל ולאשר ברמות-נגב, ולאשר ביתר. ²⁸ ולאשר בערער ולאשר בשפמות, ולאשר באשתמזע. ²⁹ ולאשר ברקל, ולאשר בערי הירחמאלי, ולאשר, בערי הקיני. ³⁰ ולאשר בחרמה ולאשר בבור-עשן, ולאשר בעתד. ³¹ ולאשר, בחברון; ולכל-המקמות אשר-התהלך-שם דוד, הוא ואנשיו.

¹ Now the Philistines fought against Israel, and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa. ² And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchishua, the sons of Saul. ³ And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers overtook him; and he was in great anguish by reason of the archers. ⁴ Then said Saul to his armour-bearer: 'Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and make a mock of me.' But his armour-bearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took his sword, and fell upon it. ⁵ And when his armour-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he likewise fell upon his sword, and died with him. ⁶ So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armour-bearer, and all his men, that same day together. ⁷ And when the men of Israel that were on the other side of the valley, and they that were beyond the Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them. ⁸ And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa. ⁹ And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to carry the tidings unto the house of their idols, and to the people. ¹⁰ And they put his armour in the house of the Ashtaroth; and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan. ¹¹ And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard concerning him that which the Philistines had done to Saul, ¹² all the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-shan; and they came to Jabesh, and burnt them there. ¹³ And they took their bones, and buried them under the tamarisk-tree in Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

¹ וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, גִּלְחָמִים בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיִּגְסּוּ אֲנָשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִפְּנֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים, וַיִּפְּלוּ חָלָלִים, בְּהָר הַגִּלְבָּעַ. ² וַיִּדְבְּקוּ פְלִשְׁתִּים, אֶת-שָׁאוּל וְאֶת-בָּנָיו; וַיַּכּוּ פְלִשְׁתִּים, אֶת-יְהוֹנָתָן וְאֶת-אֲבִינָדָב וְאֶת-מַלְכִּישׁוּעַ--בְּנֵי שָׁאוּל. ³ וַתִּכְבַּד הַמִּלְחָמָה אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וַיִּמָּצְאוּהוּ הַמּוֹרִים אֲנָשִׁים בִּקְשָׁת; וַיַּחַל מָאֵד, מֵהַמּוֹרִים. ⁴ וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל לְנִשְׂא כָלִיו שֶׁלֶף חֶרֶבְךָ וְדַקְרָנִי בָּהּ, פֶּן-יָבוֹאוּ הָעֲרָלִים הָאֵלֶּה וְדַקְרָנִי וְהִתְעַלְלוּ-בִּי, וְלֹא אָבָה נִשְׂא כָלִיו, כִּי יֵרָא מָאֵד; וַיִּקַּח שָׁאוּל אֶת-הַחֶרֶב, וַיִּפֹּל עָלֶיהָ. ⁵ וַיֵּרָא נִשְׂא-כָלִיו, כִּי מֵת שָׁאוּל; וַיִּפֹּל גַּם-הוּא עַל-חֶרְבוֹ, וַיָּמָת עִמּוֹ. ⁶ וַיָּמָת שָׁאוּל וּשְׁלֹשֶׁת בָּנָיו וְנִשְׂא כָלִיו גַּם כָּל-אֲנָשָׁיו, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא--יַחְדָּו. ⁷ וַיֵּרְאוּ אֲנָשֵׁי-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר-בְּעֶבֶר הָעֶמְק וְאֲשֶׁר בְּעֶבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן, כִּי-נָסוּ אֲנָשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְכִי-מָתוּ, שָׁאוּל וּבָנָיו; וַיַּעֲזְבוּ אֶת-הָעָרִים, וַיִּגְסּוּ, וַיָּבֹאוּ פְלִשְׁתִּים, וַיֵּשְׁבוּ בָּהֶן. ⁸ וַיְהִי, מִמָּחָרָת, וַיָּבֹאוּ פְלִשְׁתִּים, לִפְשֹׁט אֶת-הַחָלָלִים; וַיִּמָּצְאוּ אֶת-שָׁאוּל וְאֶת-שְׁלֹשֶׁת בָּנָיו, נָפְלִים בְּהָר הַגִּלְבָּעַ. ⁹ וַיִּכְרְתוּ, אֶת-רֹאשׁוֹ, וַיִּפְשְׁטוּ, אֶת-כָּלִיו; וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ בְּאֶרֶץ-פְּלִשְׁתִּים סָבִיב, לְבִשָׁר בֵּית עֶצְבִּיהֶם--וְאֶת-הָעֵם. ¹⁰ וַיִּשְׁימוּ, אֶת-כָּלִיו, בֵּית, עֲשֻׁתְרוֹת; וְאֶת-גּוֹיָתוֹ, תִּקְעוּ, בְּחוֹמַת, בֵּית שָׁן. ¹¹ וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ אֱלֹיו, יִשְׁבִּי יְבִישׁ גִּלְעָד, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-עָשׂוּ פְלִשְׁתִּים, לְשָׁאוּל. ¹² וַיִּקּוּמוּ כָל-אִישׁ חֵיָל, וַיֵּלְכוּ כָל-הַלַּיְלָה, וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת-גּוֹיֹת שָׁאוּל וְאֶת גּוֹיֹת בָּנָיו, מִחוֹמַת בֵּית שָׁן; וַיָּבֹאוּ יְבִשָּׁה, וַיִּשְׂרְפוּ אֹתָם שָׁם. ¹³ וַיִּקְחוּ, אֶת-עֲצָמֹתֵיהֶם, וַיִּקְבְּרוּ תַּחַת-הָאֶשֶׁל, בְּיָבִשָׁה; וַיֵּצְמוּ, שִׁבְעַת יָמִים.

Faith Symbols

- Christian ☩.
- Dharmic ☸.
- Jewish ☆.
- Muslim: Shia ۞, Sunni ☞.
- Pagan: Apollo ☼, Hermes ☿.
- Pantheist ☼.
- Atheist ☒.