



<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass after this, that David inquired of HaShem, saying: 'Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah?' And HaShem said unto him: 'Go up.' And David said: 'Whither shall I go up?' And He said: 'Unto Hebron.' <sup>2</sup> So David went up thither, and his two wives also, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. <sup>3</sup> And his men that were with him did David bring up, every man with his household; and they dwelt in the cities of Hebron. <sup>4</sup> And the men of Judah came, and they there anointed David king over the house of Judah. And they told David, saying: 'The men of Jabesh-gilead were they that buried Saul.' <sup>5</sup> And David sent messengers unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, and said unto them: 'Blessed be ye of HaShem, that ye have shown this kindness unto your lord, even unto Saul, and have buried him.' <sup>6</sup> And now HaShem show kindness and truth unto you; and I also will requite you this kindness, because ye have done this thing. <sup>7</sup> Now therefore let your hands be strong, and be ye valiant; for Saul your lord is dead, and also the house of Judah have anointed me king over them.' <sup>8</sup> Now Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's host, had taken Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim; <sup>9</sup> and he made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel. <sup>10</sup> Ish-bosheth Saul's son was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and he reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David. <sup>11</sup> And the time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months. <sup>12</sup> And Abner the son of Ner, and the servants of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon. <sup>13</sup> And Joab the son of Zeruiah, and the servants of David, went out; and they met together by the pool of Gibeon, and sat down, the one on the one side of the pool, and the other on the other side of the pool. <sup>14</sup> And Abner said to Joab: 'Let the young men, I pray thee, arise and play before us.' And Joab said: 'Let them arise.' <sup>15</sup> Then they arose and passed over by number: twelve for Benjamin, and for Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of the servants of David. <sup>16</sup> And they caught every one his fellow by the head, and thrust his sword in his fellow's side; so they fell down together; wherefore that place was called Helkath-hazzurim, which is in Gibeon. <sup>17</sup> And the battle was very sore that day; and Abner was beaten, and the men of Israel, before the servants of David. <sup>18</sup> And the three sons of Zeruiah were there, Joab, and Abishai, and Asahel; and Asahel was as light of foot as one of the roes that are in the field. <sup>19</sup> And Asahel pursued after Abner; and in going he turned not to the right hand nor to the left from following Abner. <sup>20</sup> Then Abner looked behind him, and said: 'Is it thou, Asahel?' And he answered: 'It is I.' <sup>21</sup> And Abner said to him: 'Turn thee aside to thy right hand or to thy left, and lay thee hold on one of the young men, and take thee his armour.' But Asahel would not turn aside from following him. <sup>22</sup> And Abner said again to Asahel: 'Turn thee aside from following me; wherefore should I smite thee to the ground? how then should I hold up my face to Joab thy brother?' <sup>23</sup> Howbeit he refused to turn aside; wherefore Abner with the hinder end of the spear smote him in the groin, that the spear came out behind him; and he fell down there, and died in the same place; and it came to pass, that as many as came to the place where Asahel fell down and died stood still. <sup>24</sup> But Joab and Abishai pursued after Abner; and the sun went down when they were come to the hill of Ammah, that lieth before Giah by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon. <sup>25</sup> And the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together after Abner, and became one band, and stood on the top of a hill. <sup>26</sup> Then Abner called to Joab, and said: 'Shall the sword devour for ever? knowest thou not that it will be bitterness in the end? how long shall it be then, ere thou bid the people return from following their brethren?' <sup>27</sup> And Joab said: 'As G-d liveth, if thou hadst not spoken, surely then only after the morning the people had gone away, every one from following his brother.' <sup>28</sup> So Joab blew the horn, and all the people stood still, and pursued after Israel no more, neither fought they any more. <sup>29</sup> And Abner and his men went all that night through the Arabah; and they passed over the Jordan, and went through all Bithron, and came to Mahanaim. <sup>30</sup> And Joab returned from following Abner; and when he had gathered all the people together, there lacked of David's servants nineteen men and Asahel. <sup>31</sup> But the servants of David had smitten of Benjamin, even of Abner's men — three hundred and threescore men died. <sup>32</sup> And they took up Asahel, and buried him in the sepulchre of his father, which was in Beth-lehem. And Joab and his men went all night, and the day broke upon them at Hebron.

<sup>1</sup> ויהי אחרי-כן, וישאל דוד ביהוה לאמר האעלה באחת ערי יהודה, ויאמר יהוה אליו, עלה; ויאמר דוד אנה אעלה, ויאמר חברונה. <sup>2</sup> ויעל שם דוד, וגם שתי נשיו--אחינועם, הירזעלית, ואביגיל, אשת נבל הפרמלי. <sup>3</sup> ואנשיו אשר-עמו העלה דוד, איש וביתו; וישבו, בערי חברון. <sup>4</sup> ויבאו אנשי יהודה, וימשחו-שם את-דוד למלך על-בית יהודה; ויגדו לדוד, לאמר, אנשי יביש גלעד, אשר קברו את-שאול. <sup>5</sup> וישלח דוד מלאכים, אל-אנשי יביש גלעד; ויאמר אליהם, ברכים אתם ליהוה, אשר עשיתם החסד הזה עם-אדניכם עם-שאול, ותקברו אתו. <sup>6</sup> ועתה, יעש-יהוה עמכם חסד ואמת; וגם אנכי, אעשה אתכם הטובה הזאת, אשר עשיתם, הדבר הזה. <sup>7</sup> ועתה תחזקנה ידיכם, והיו לבני-חיל--כי-מת, אדניכם שאול; וגם-אתי, משחו בית-יהודה למלך--עליהם. <sup>8</sup> ואבנר בן-נר, שר-צבא אשר לשאול--לקח, את-איש בשת בן-שאול, ויעברהו, מחנים. <sup>9</sup> וימלכהו, אל-הגלעד, ואל-האשורי, ואל-זרעאל; ועל-אפרים, ועל-בנימין, ועל-ישראל, כלה. <sup>10</sup> בן-ארבעים שנה איש-בשת בן-שאול, במלכו על-ישראל, ושנים שנים, מלך; אך בית יהודה, היו אחרי דוד. <sup>11</sup> ויהי מספר הימים, אשר היה דוד מלך בחברון על-בית יהודה--שבע שנים, וששה חדשים. <sup>12</sup> ויצא אבנר בן-נר, ועבדי איש-בשת בן-שאול, ממחנים, גבעונה. <sup>13</sup> ויואב בן-צרויה ועבדי דוד, יצאו, ויפגשום על-ברכת גבעון, יחדו; וישבו אלה על-הברכה, מזה, ואלה על-הברכה, מזה. <sup>14</sup> ויאמר אבנר, אל-יואב, קומו נא הנערים, וישחקו לפנינו; ויאמר יואב, קמו. <sup>15</sup> וינקמו, ויעברו במספר--שנים עשר לבנימין, וליאיש בשת בן-שאול, ושנים עשר, מעבדי דוד. <sup>16</sup> ויחזקו איש בראש רעהו, וחרבו בצד רעהו, ויפלו, יחדו; ויקרא למקום ההוא, חלקת הצרים אשר בגבעון. <sup>17</sup> ותהי המלחמה קשה עד-מאד, ביום ההוא; וינגף אבנר ואנשי ישראל, לפני עבדי דוד. <sup>18</sup> ויהיו-שם, שלשה בני צרויה--יואב ואבישי, ועשהאל; ועשהאל קל ברגליו, כאחד הצבים אשר בשדה. <sup>19</sup> וירדף עשהאל, אחרי אבנר; ולא-נטה ללכת, על-הימין ועל-השמאל, מאחרי, אבנר. <sup>20</sup> ויפן אבנר, אחרי, ויאמר, האתה זה עשהאל; ויאמר, אנכי. <sup>21</sup> ויאמר לו אבנר, נטה לך על-ימינך או על-שמאלך, ואחז לך אחד מהנערים, וקח-לך את-חלצתו; ולא-אבה עשהאל, לסור מאחרי. <sup>22</sup> ויסף עוד אבנר, לאמר אל-עשהאל, סור לך, מאחרי: למה אכבה, ארצה, ואיך אשא פני, אל-יואב אחיד. <sup>23</sup> וימאן לסור, ויבהו אבנר באחרי החנית אל-החמש ותצא החנית מאחרי, ויפל-שם, וימת תחתו; ויהי כל-הבא אל-המקום אשר-נפל שם עשהאל, וימת--ויצמדו. <sup>24</sup> וירדפו יואב ואבישי, אחרי אבנר; והשמש באה--והמה באו עד-גבעת אמה, אשר על-פני-גיח דרך מדבר גבעון. <sup>25</sup> ויתקבצו בני-בנימין אחרי אבנר, ויהיו לאגדה אחת; ויעמדו, על ראש-גבעה אחת. <sup>26</sup> ויקרא אבנר אל-יואב, ויאמר הלנצח תאכל חרב--הלוא ידעתה, כי-מרה תהיה באחרונה; ועד-מתי לא-תאמר לעם, לשוב מאחרי אחיהם. <sup>27</sup> ויאמר יואב--חי האלהים, כי לולא דברת: כי אז מהבקר נעלה העם, איש מאחרי אחיו. <sup>28</sup> ויתקע יואב, בשופר, ויעמדו כל-העם, ולא-ירדפו עוד אחרי ישראל; ולא-יספו עוד, להלחם. <sup>29</sup> ואבנר ואנשיו, הלכו בערבה, כל, הלילה ההוא; ויעברו את-הירדן, וילכו כל-הבתרון, ויבאו, מחנים. <sup>30</sup> ויואב, שב מאחרי אבנר, ויקבץ, את-כל-העם; ויפקדו מעבדי דוד, תשעה-עשר איש--ועשהאל. <sup>31</sup> ועבדי דוד, הכו מבנימין, ובאנשי, אבנר: שלש-מאות וששים איש, מתו. <sup>32</sup> וישאו, את-עשהאל, ויקברהו בקבר אביו, אשר לחם; וילכו כל-הלילה, יואב ואנשיו, ויאר להם, בחברון.

<sup>1</sup> Now there was long war between the house of Saul and the house of David; and David waxed stronger and stronger, but the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker. <sup>2</sup> And unto David were sons born in Hebron; and his first-born was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; <sup>3</sup> and his second, Chileab, of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; <sup>4</sup> and the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital; <sup>5</sup> and the sixth, Ithream, of Eglah David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron. <sup>6</sup> And it came to pass, while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, that Abner showed himself strong in the house of Saul. <sup>7</sup> Now Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah; and Ish-bosheth said to Abner: 'Wherefore hast thou gone in unto my father's concubine?' <sup>8</sup> Then was Abner very wroth for the words of Ish-bosheth, and said: 'Am I a dog's head that belongeth to Judah? This day do I show kindness unto the house of Saul thy father, to his brethren, and to his friends, and have not delivered thee into the hand of David, and yet thou chargest me this day with a fault concerning this woman.' <sup>9</sup> G-d do so to Abner, and more also, if, as HaShem hath sworn to David, I do not even so to him; <sup>10</sup> to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beer-sheba.' <sup>11</sup> And he could not answer Abner another word, because he feared him. <sup>12</sup> And Abner sent messengers to David straightway, saying: 'Whose is the land?' saying also: 'Make thy league with me, and, behold, my hand shall be with thee, to bring over all Israel unto thee.' <sup>13</sup> And he said: 'Well; I will make a league with thee; but one thing I require of thee, that is, thou shalt not see my face, except thou first bring Michal Saul's daughter, when thou comest to see my face.' <sup>14</sup> And David sent messengers to Ish-bosheth Saul's son, saying: 'Deliver me my wife Michal, whom I betrothed to me for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines.' <sup>15</sup> And Ish-bosheth sent, and took her from her husband, even from Paltiel the son of Laish. <sup>16</sup> And her husband went with her, weeping as he went, and followed her to Bahurim. Then said Abner unto him: 'Go, return'; and he returned. <sup>17</sup> And Abner had communication with the elders of Israel, saying: 'In times past ye sought for David to be king over you; <sup>18</sup> now then do it; for HaShem hath spoken of David, saying: By the hand of My servant David I will save My people Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, and out of the hand of all their enemies.' <sup>19</sup> And Abner also spoke in the ears of Benjamin; and Abner went also to speak in the ears of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel, and to the whole house of Benjamin. <sup>20</sup> So Abner came to David to Hebron, and twenty men with him. And David made Abner and the men that were with him a feast. <sup>21</sup> And Abner said unto David: 'I will arise and go, and will gather all Israel unto my lord the king, that they may make a covenant with thee, and that thou mayest reign over all that thy soul desireth.' And David sent Abner away; and he went in peace. <sup>22</sup> And, behold, the servants of David and Joab came from a foray, and brought in a great spoil with them; but Abner was not with David in Hebron; for he had sent him away, and he was gone in peace. <sup>23</sup> When Joab and all the host that was with him were come, they told Joab, saying: 'Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he hath sent him away, and he is gone in peace.' <sup>24</sup> Then Joab came to the king, and said: 'What hast thou done? behold, Abner came unto thee; why is it that thou hast sent him away, and he is quite gone?' <sup>25</sup> Thou knowest Abner the son of Ner, that he came to deceive thee, and to know thy going out and thy coming in, and to know all that thou doest.' <sup>26</sup> And when Joab was come out from David, he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from Bor-sirah; but David knew it not. <sup>27</sup> And when Abner was returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside into the midst of the gate to speak with him quietly, and smote him there in the groin, that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother. <sup>28</sup> And afterward when David heard it, he said: 'I and my kingdom are guiltless before HaShem for ever from the blood of Abner the son of Ner; <sup>29</sup> let it fall upon the head of Joab, and upon all his father's house; and let there not fail from the house of Joab one that hath an issue, or that is a leper, or that leaneth on a staff, or that falleth by the sword, or that lacketh bread.' <sup>30</sup> So Joab and Abishai his brother slew Abner, because he had killed their brother Asahel at Gibeon in the battle. <sup>31</sup> And David said to Joab, and to all the people that were with him: 'Rend your clothes, and gird you with sackcloth, and wail before Abner.' And king David followed the bier. <sup>32</sup> And they buried Abner in Hebron; and the king lifted up his voice, and wept at the grave of Abner; and all the people wept. <sup>33</sup> And the king lamented for Abner, and said: Should Abner die as a churl dieth? <sup>34</sup> Thy hands were not bound, nor thy feet put into fetters; as a man falleth before the children of iniquity, so didst thou fall. And all the people wept again over him. <sup>35</sup> And all the people came to cause David to eat bread while it was yet day; but David swore, saying: 'G-d do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread, or aught else, till the sun be down.' <sup>36</sup> And all the people took notice of it, and it pleased them; whatsoever the king did, pleased all the people. <sup>37</sup> So all the people and all Israel understood that day that it was not of the king to slay Abner the son of Ner. <sup>38</sup> And the king said unto his servants: 'Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel? <sup>39</sup> And I am this day weak, and just anointed king; and these men the sons of Zeruiah are too hard for me; HaShem reward the evildoer according to his wickedness.'

<sup>1</sup> ותהי המלחמה, ארפה, בין בית שאול, ובין בית דוד; ודוד הלך וחקק, ובית שאול הלכים ודלים. <sup>2</sup> וילדו ויולדו לדוד בנים, בחברון; ויהי בכורו אמנון, לאחינעם הזרעאלית. <sup>3</sup> ומשנהו כלאב, לאביגיל לאביגיל אשת נבל הפרמלי; והשלשי אבשלום בן-מצבה, בת-תלמי מלך גשור. <sup>4</sup> והרביעי, אדניה בן-חגית; והחמישי, שפטיה בן-אביטל. <sup>5</sup> והששי יתרעם, לעגלה אשת דוד; אלה ילדו לדוד, בחברון. <sup>6</sup> ויהי, בהיות המלחמה, בין בית שאול, ובין בית דוד; ואבנר הנה מתחזק, בבית שאול. <sup>7</sup> ולשאול פלגש, ושמה רצפה בת-איה; ויאמר, אל-אבנר, מדוע באתה, אל-פילגש אבי. <sup>8</sup> ויחר לאבנר מאד על-דברי איש-בשת, ויאמר הראש כלב אנכי אשר ליהודה, היום אעשה-חסד עם-בית שאול אביך אל-אחיו ואל-מרעהו, ולא המצייתך ביד-דוד; ותפקד עלי עון האשה, היום. <sup>9</sup> כה-יעשה אלהים לאבנר, וכה יסיף לו: כי, כאשר נשבע יהוה לדוד--כי-כן, אעשה-לו. <sup>10</sup> להעביר הממלכה, מבית שאול; ולהקים את-כסא דוד, על-ישראל ועל-יהודה--מן-דן, ועד-באר שבע. <sup>11</sup> ולא-יכל עוד, להשיב את-אבנר דבר, מיראתו, אתו. <sup>12</sup> וישלח אבנר מלאכים אל-דוד תחתיו לאמר, למי-ארץ: לאמר, כרתה בריתך אתי, והנה ידי עמך, להסב אליך את-כל-ישראל. <sup>13</sup> ויאמר טוב-אני, אכרת אתך ברית: אך דבר אחד אנכי שאל מאתך לאמר, לא-תראה את-פני--כי אם-לפני הביאך את מיכל בת-שאול, בבואך לראות את-פני. <sup>14</sup> וישלח דוד מלאכים, אל-איש-בשת בן-שאול לאמר: תנה את-אשתי, את-מיכל, אשר ארשתי לי, במאה ערלות פלשתים. <sup>15</sup> וישלח איש בשת, ויקחה מעם איש--מעם, פלטיאל בן-לוש ליש. <sup>16</sup> וילך אתה אישה, הלוד ובה אחריה--עד-בחרים; ויאמר אליו אבנר לך שוב, וישב. <sup>17</sup> ודבר-אבנר הנה, עם-זקני ישראל לאמר: גם-תמול, גם-שלישם, היותם מבקשים את-דוד למלך, עליכם. <sup>18</sup> ועתה, עשו: כי יהוה, אמר אל-דוד לאמר, ביד דוד עבדי הושיע את-עמי ישראל מיד פלשתים, ומיד כל-איביהם. <sup>19</sup> וידבר גם-אבנר, באזני בנְמִין; וילך גם-אבנר, לדבר באזני דוד בחברון. את כל-אשר-טוב בעיני ישראל, ובעיני כל-בית בנְמִין. <sup>20</sup> ויבא אבנר אל-דוד חברון, ואתו עשרים אנשים; ויעש דוד לאבנר ולאנשים אשר-אתו, משתה. <sup>21</sup> ויאמר אבנר אל-דוד אקומה ואלכה ואקבצה אל-אדני המלך את-כל-ישראל, ויכרתו אתך ברית, ומלכת, בכל אשר-תאנה נפשך; וישלח דוד את-אבנר, וילך בשלום. <sup>22</sup> והנה עבדי דוד ויואב בא מהגדוד, ושלל רב עמם הביאו; ואבנר, איננו עם-דוד בחברון--כי שלחו, וילך בשלום. <sup>23</sup> ויואב וכל-הצבא אשר-אתו, באו; ויגדו ליואב, לאמר, בא-אבנר בן-נר אל-המלך, וישלחוהו וילך בשלום. <sup>24</sup> ויבא יואב אל-המלך, ויאמר מה עשית: הנה-בא אבנר אליך, למה-זה שלחתו וילך הלוד. <sup>25</sup> דעת את-אבנר בן-נר, כי לפתתך בא; ולדעת את-מוצאך, ואת-מבואך מוכאך, ולדעת, את כל-אשר אתה עשה. <sup>26</sup> ויצא יואב, מעם דוד, וישלח מלאכים אחרי אבנר, וישבו אתו מבור הסרה; ודוד, לא ידע. <sup>27</sup> וישב אבנר, חברון, וישתו יואב אל-תוד השער, לדבר אתו בשלי; ויכחו שם, החמש--וימת, בדם עשהאל אחיו. <sup>28</sup> וישמע דוד, מאחרי כן, ויאמר נקי אנכי וממלכתי מעם יהוה, עד-עולם--מדמי, אבנר בן-נר. <sup>29</sup> ויחלו על-ראש יואב, ואל כל-בית אביו; ואל-זכרת מבית יואב זב ומצרע ומחזיק בפלך, ונפל בחרב--וחסר-לחם. <sup>30</sup> ויואב ואבישי אחיו, הרגו לאבנר: על אשר המית את-עשהאל אחיהם, בגבעון--במלחמה. <sup>31</sup> ויאמר דוד אל-יואב ואל-כל-העם אשר-אתו, קרעו בגדיכם וחרגו שקים, וספדו, לפני אבנר; והמלך דוד, הלך אחרי המטה. <sup>32</sup> ויקברו את-אבנר, בחברון; וישא המלך את-קולו, ויבך אל-קבר אבנר, ויבכו, כל-העם. <sup>33</sup> ויקנן המלך אל-אבנר, ויאמר: הקמות נבל, ימות אבנר. <sup>34</sup> ידך לא-אסרות, ורגליך לא-לנחשתים הגשו, כנפול לפני בני-עולה, נפלת; ויספו כל-העם, לכבות עליו. <sup>35</sup> ויבא כל-העם, להברות את-דוד לחם--בעוד היום; וישבע דוד לאמר, כה יעשה-לי אלהים וכה יסיף, כי אם-לפני בוא-השמש אטעם-לחם, או כל-מאומה. <sup>36</sup> וכל-העם הכירו, וישב בעיניהם, בכל אשר עשה המלך, בעיני כל-העם טוב. <sup>37</sup> וידעו כל-העם וכל-ישראל, ביום ההוא: כי לא היתה מהמלך, להמית את-אבנר בן-נר. <sup>38</sup> ויאמר המלך, אל-עבדיו: הלא תדעו--כי-שר וגדול נפל היום הזה, בישראל. <sup>39</sup> ואנכי היום רך ומשוח מלך, והאנשים האלה בני צרויה קשים ממני: שלם יהוה לעשה הרעה, ברעתו.

<sup>1</sup> And when Saul's son heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands became feeble, and all the Israelites were affrighted. <sup>2</sup> And Saul's son had two men that were captains of bands; the name of the one was Baanah, and the name of the other Rechab, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin; for Beeroth also is reckoned to Benjamin; <sup>3</sup> and the Beerothites fled to Gittaim, and have been sojourners there until this day. <sup>4</sup> Now Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled; and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth. <sup>5</sup> And the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, went, and came about the heat of the day to the house of Ish-bosheth, as he took his rest at noon. <sup>6</sup> And they came thither into the midst of the house, as though they would have fetched wheat; and they smote him in the groin; and Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped. <sup>7</sup> Now when they came into the house, as he lay on his bed in his bed-chamber, they smote him, and slew him, and beheaded him, and took his head, and went by the way of the Arabah all night. <sup>8</sup> And they brought the head of Ish-bosheth unto David to Hebron, and said to the king: 'Behold the head of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, who sought thy life; and HaShem hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his seed.' <sup>9</sup> And David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said unto them: 'As HaShem liveth, who hath redeemed my soul out of all adversity, <sup>10</sup> when one told me, saying: Behold, Saul is dead, and he was in his own eyes as though he brought good tidings, I took hold of him, and slew him in Ziklag, instead of giving a reward for his tidings. <sup>11</sup> How much more, when wicked men have slain a righteous person in his own house upon his bed, shall I not now require his blood of your hand, and take you away from the earth?' <sup>12</sup> And David commanded his young men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hanged them up beside the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-bosheth, and buried it in the grave of Abner in Hebron.

<sup>1</sup> וישמע בן-שאול, כי מת אבנר בְּחֶבְרוֹן, וירפו, יָדָיו; וְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, נִבְהָלוּ. <sup>2</sup> וּשְׁנֵי אֲנָשִׁים שָׂרֵי-גִדּוּדִים הָיוּ בֶן-שָׁאוּל שֵׁם הָאֶחָד בַּעְנָה וְשֵׁם הַשֵּׁנִי רַכָּב, בְּנֵי רִמּוֹן הַבְּאֶרְתִּי--מִבְּנֵי בְנֵימִן: כי גם-בְּאֶרְוֹת, תַּחֲשֹׁב עַל-בְּנֵימִן. <sup>3</sup> וַיִּבְרְחוּ הַבְּאֶרְתִּים, גִּתִּימָה; וַיְהִי-שָׁם גָּרִים, עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. <sup>4</sup> וַלִּיהוֹנָתָן, בֶּן-שָׁאוּל, בֶּן, נָכָה רַגְלִים; בֶּן-חֲמִשׁ שָׁנִים הָיָה בְּבֹא שְׁמַעְתָּ שָׁאוּל וַיְהוֹנָתָן מִיִּזְרְעֶאל, וַתִּשְׁאַחֲזוּ אִמָּנָתוֹ וַתָּנֶס, וַיְהִי בַּחֲפֹזָה לָנוּס וַיִּפֹּל וַיִּפְסָח, וַיִּשְׁמוּ מִפִּיבִשֶׁת. <sup>5</sup> וַיֵּלְכוּ בְנֵי-רִמּוֹן הַבְּאֶרְתִּי, רַכָּב וּבַעְנָה, וַיָּבֹאוּ כָחֵם הַיּוֹם, אֶל-בֵּית אִישׁ בִּשְׁת; וְהוּא שָׁכַב, אֶת מִשְׁכַּב הַצֹּהָרִים. <sup>6</sup> וְהִנֵּה בָּאוּ עַד-תּוֹךְ הַבֵּית, לִקְחֵי חַטִּים, וַיִּכְּהוּ, אֶל-הַחֲמִשׁ; וְרַכָּב וּבַעְנָה אַחֲיוּ, נִמְלְטוּ. <sup>7</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ הַבֵּית, וְהוּא שָׁכַב עַל-מִטָּתוֹ בַּחֲדָר מִשְׁכָּבוֹ, וַיִּכְּהוּ וַיִּמָּתְהוּ, וַיִּסִּירוּ אֶת-רֹאשׁוֹ; וַיִּקְחוּ, אֶת-רֹאשׁוֹ, וַיֵּלְכוּ דֶּרֶךְ הָעֲרָבָה, כָּל-הַלַּיְלָה. <sup>8</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶת-רֹאשׁ אִישׁ-בִּשְׁת אֶל-דָּוִד, חֶבְרוֹן, וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, הִנֵּה-רֹאשׁ אִישׁ-בִּשְׁת בֶּן-שָׁאוּל אֵיבֶךָ אֲשֶׁר בִּקֵּשׁ אֶת-נַפְשְׁךָ; וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה לְאֹדְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ נִקְמוֹת, הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, מִשָּׁאוּל, וּמִזִּרְעוֹ. <sup>9</sup> וַיַּעַן דָּוִד אֶת-רַכָּב וְאֶת-בַּעְנָה אַחֲיוּ, בְּנֵי רִמּוֹן הַבְּאֶרְתִּי--וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם: חַי-יְהוָה, אֲשֶׁר-פָּדָה אֶת-נַפְשִׁי מִכָּל-צָרָה. <sup>10</sup> כִּי הִמְגִּיד לִי לֵאמֹר הִנֵּה-מֵת שָׁאוּל, וְהוּא-הָיָה כְּמַבְשֹׁר בְּעֵינָיו, וְאַחֲזָהּ בּוֹ, וְאַהֲרָגְהוּ בְּצִקְלָג--אֲשֶׁר לַתַּתִּי-לוֹ, בְּשָׂרָה. <sup>11</sup> אַף כִּי-אֲנָשִׁים רָשָׁעִים, הָרְגוּ אֶת-אִישׁ-צַדִּיק בְּבֵיתוֹ--עַל-מִשְׁכָּבוֹ; וְעַתָּה, הֲלוֹא אֲבִקֵּשׁ אֶת-דַּמּוֹ מִיָּדְכֶם, וּבְעֵרְתִי אֶתְכֶם, מִן-הָאָרֶץ. <sup>12</sup> וַיֵּצְאוּ דָּוִד אֶת-הַנְּעָרִים וַיַּהַרְגוּם, וַיִּקְצְצוּ אֶת-יְדֵיהֶם וְאֶת-רַגְלֵיהֶם, וַיִּתְּלוּ עַל-הַבֵּרֶכָה, בְּחֶבְרוֹן; וְאֶת רֹאשׁ אִישׁ-בִּשְׁת לָקְחוּ, וַיִּקְבְּרוּ בְּקֶבֶר-אֲבִנֵּר בְּחֶבְרוֹן.

<sup>1</sup> Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spoke, saying: 'Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh. <sup>2</sup> In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was thou that didst lead out and bring in Israel; and HaShem said to thee: Thou shalt feed My people Israel, and thou shalt be prince over Israel.' <sup>3</sup> So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a covenant with them in Hebron before HaShem; and they anointed David king over Israel. <sup>4</sup> David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. <sup>5</sup> In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah. <sup>6</sup> And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who spoke unto David, saying: 'Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither'; thinking: 'David cannot come in hither.' <sup>7</sup> Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion; the same is the city of David. <sup>8</sup> And David said on that day: 'Whosoever smiteth the Jebusites, and getteth up to the gutter, and taketh away the lame and the blind, that are hated of David's soul — '. Wherefore they say: 'There are the blind and the lame; he cannot come into the house.' <sup>9</sup> And David dwelt in the stronghold, and called it the city of David. And David built round about from Millo and inward. <sup>10</sup> And David waxed greater and greater; for HaShem, the G-d of hosts, was with him. <sup>11</sup> And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar-trees, and carpenters, and masons; and they built David a house. <sup>12</sup> And David perceived that HaShem had established him king over Israel, and that He had exalted his kingdom for His people Israel's sake. <sup>13</sup> And David took him more concubines and wives out of Jerusalem, after he was come from Hebron; and there were yet sons and daughters born to David. <sup>14</sup> And these are the names of those that were born unto him in Jerusalem: Shammua, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Solomon; <sup>15</sup> and Ibhar, and Elishua, and Nepheg, and Japhia; <sup>16</sup> and Elishama, and Eliada, and Eliphelet. <sup>17</sup> And when the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold. <sup>18</sup> Now the Philistines had come and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim. <sup>19</sup> And David inquired of HaShem, saying: 'Shall I go up against the Philistines? wilt Thou deliver them into my hand?' And HaShem said unto David: 'Go up; for I will certainly deliver the Philistines into thy hand.' <sup>20</sup> And David came to Baal-perazim, and David smote them there; and he said: 'HaShem hath broken mine enemies before me, like the breach of waters.' Therefore the name of that place was called Baal-perazim. <sup>21</sup> And they left their images there, and David and his men took them away. <sup>22</sup> And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim. <sup>23</sup> And when David inquired of HaShem, He said: 'Thou shalt not go up; make a circuit behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry-trees. <sup>24</sup> And it shall be, when thou hearest the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry-trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself; for then is HaShem gone out before thee to smite the host of the Philistines.' <sup>25</sup> And David did so, as HaShem commanded him, and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gezer.

<sup>1</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ כָּל-שִׁבְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶל-דָּוִד--הַבְּרוּנָה; וַיֹּאמְרוּ לֵאמֹר, הִנֵּנוּ עֲצָמָךְ וּבָשָׂרְךָ אֲנַחְנוּ. <sup>2</sup> גַּם-אֶתְמוּל גַּם-שְׁלֹשׁוֹם, בַּהֲיוֹת שְׂאוּל מֶלֶךְ עָלֵינוּ, אַתָּה הָיִיתָ מוֹצִיא מוֹצִיא וְהַמְבִּי, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה לְךָ, אַתָּה תִרְעָה אֶת-עַמִּי אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאַתָּה תִּהְיֶה לְנָגִיד, עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>3</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ כָּל-זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, הַבְּרוּנָה, וַיִּכְרֹת לָהֶם הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד בְּרִית בַּחְבְּרוֹן, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה; וַיִּמָּשְׁחוּ אֶת-דָּוִד לְמֶלֶךְ, עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>4</sup> בֶּן-שְׁלֹשִׁים שָׁנָה דָּוִד, בְּמָלְכוֹ; אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה, מֶלֶךְ. <sup>5</sup> בַּחְבְּרוֹן מֶלֶךְ עַל-יְהוּדָה, שִׁבְעַ שָׁנִים וְשִׁשָּׁה חֳדָשִׁים; וּבִירוּשָׁלַם מֶלֶךְ, שְׁלֹשִׁים וְשָׁלֹשׁ שָׁנָה, עַל כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְיְהוּדָה. <sup>6</sup> וַיֵּלֶךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ וַאֲנָשָׁיו יְרוּשָׁלַם, אֶל-הַיַּבְסִי יוֹשֵׁב הָאָרֶץ; וַיֹּאמֶר לְדָוִד לֵאמֹר, לֹא-תָבוֹא הִנֵּה, כִּי אִם-הִסִּירְךָ הָעוֹרִים וְהַפְסָחִים לֵאמֹר, לֹא-יָבוֹא דָּוִד הִנֵּה. <sup>7</sup> וַיִּלְכֹּד דָּוִד, אֶת מִצְדַּת צִיּוֹן--הִיא, עִיר דָּוִד. <sup>8</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, כָּל-מִכָּה יָבִסִי וַיַּגַּע בַּצַּנּוֹר, וְאֶת-הַפְסָחִים וְאֶת-הָעוֹרִים, שָׁנְאוּ שְׁנוּאֵי נָפֶשׁ דָּוִד; עַל-כֵּן, יֹאמְרוּ, עוֹר וּפֶסֶחַ, לֹא יָבוֹא אֶל-הַבֵּית. <sup>9</sup> וַיֵּשֶׁב דָּוִד בַּמִּצְדָּה, וַיִּקְרָא-לָהּ עִיר דָּוִד; וַיִּבֶן דָּוִד סָבִיב, מִן-הַמְּלֹא וּבֵיתָהּ. <sup>10</sup> וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד, הָלוֹךְ וְגָדוֹל; וַיְהִי אֱלֹהֵי צְבָאוֹת, עִמּוֹ. <sup>11</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח חִירָם מֶלֶךְ-צֹר מִלְּאָכִים, אֶל-דָּוִד, וַעֲצֵי אֲרָזִים, וְחֹרָשֵׁי עֵץ וְחֹרָשֵׁי אֲבָן קִיר; וַיָּבִנוּ-בֵּית, לְדָוִד. <sup>12</sup> וַיַּדַּע דָּוִד, כִּי-הִכִּינוּ יְהוָה לְמֶלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְכִי נָשָׂא מִמֶּלְכָתוֹ, בַּעֲבוּר עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>13</sup> וַיִּקַּח דָּוִד עוֹד פְּלִגְשִׁים וְנָשִׁים, מִירוּשָׁלַם, אַחֲרָי, בָּאוּ מִחְבְּרוֹן; וַיּוֹלְדוּ עוֹד לְדָוִד, בָּנִים וּבָנוֹת. <sup>14</sup> וְאַלְהָ, שְׁמוֹת הַיִּלָּדִים לוֹ--בִּירוּשָׁלַם: שְׁמוֹעַ וְשׁוּבָב, וְנֹתָן וְשִׁלְמָה. <sup>15</sup> וַיִּבְחָר וְאַלִישׁוּעַ, וְנָפֶגַ וַיִּפִּיעַ. <sup>16</sup> וְאַלִישָׁמַע וְאַלִידָע, וְאַלִיפֶלֶט. <sup>17</sup> וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים, כִּי-מָשְׁחוּ אֶת-דָּוִד לְמֶלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיַּעֲלוּ כָל-פְּלִשְׁתִּים, לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת-דָּוִד; וַיִּשְׁמַע דָּוִד, וַיֵּרֶד אֶל-הַמִּצְוֹדָה. <sup>18</sup> וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, בָּאוּ; וַיִּנָּטְשׁוּ, בְּעֶמְקֵי רְפָאִים. <sup>19</sup> וַיִּשְׁאַל דָּוִד בַּיהוָה, לֵאמֹר, הֲאֵעֲלֶה אֶל-פְּלִשְׁתִּים, הַתִּתְּנָם בְּיָדִי; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-דָּוִד עֲלֶה, כִּי-נָתַן אֶתְּךָ אֶת-הַפְּלִשְׁתִּים בְּיָדְךָ. <sup>20</sup> וַיָּבֹא דָּוִד בְּבַעַל-פְּרָצִים, וַיִּפְּסֵם שָׁם דָּוִד, וַיֹּאמֶר, פָּרֵץ יְהוָה אֶת-אִיְבֵי לִפְנֵי כְּפָרֵץ מֵיָם; עַל-כֵּן, קָרָא שֵׁם-הַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא--בַּעַל פְּרָצִים. <sup>21</sup> וַיַּעֲזְבוּ-שָׁם, אֶת-עֲצָבֵיהֶם; וַיִּשְׁאֲם דָּוִד, וַאֲנָשָׁיו. <sup>22</sup> וַיִּסְפוּ עוֹד פְּלִשְׁתִּים, לַעֲלוֹת; וַיִּנָּטְשׁוּ, בְּעֶמְקֵי רְפָאִים. <sup>23</sup> וַיִּשְׁאַל דָּוִד בַּיהוָה, וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא תַעֲלֶה; הִסֵּב, אֶל-אַחֲרֵיהֶם, וּבָאתָ לָהֶם, מִמּוֹל בְּכָאִים. <sup>24</sup> וַיְהִי בִשְׁמֹעַךְ כְּשִׁמְעָךָ אֶת-קוֹל צִעְדָּהּ, בְּרָאשֵׁי הַבְּכָאִים--אִז תִּחְרָץ: כִּי אִז, יֵצֵא יְהוָה לִפְנֶיךָ, לְהַכּוֹת, בַּמַּחֲגֵה פְּלִשְׁתִּים. <sup>25</sup> וַיַּעַשׂ דָּוִד כֵּן, כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּהוּ יְהוָה; וַיֵּךְ, אֶת-פְּלִשְׁתִּים, מִגִּבְעָה, עַד-בֶּאֱדָה גִּזְרָה.

<sup>1</sup> And David again gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. <sup>2</sup> And David arose, and went with all the people that were with him, from Baale-judah, to bring up from thence the ark of G-d, whereupon is called the Name, even the name of HaShem of hosts that sitteth upon the cherubim. <sup>3</sup> And they set the ark of G-d upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart. <sup>4</sup> And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was in the hill, with the ark of G-d, and Ahio went before the ark. <sup>5</sup> And David and all the house of Israel played before HaShem with all manner of instruments made of cypress-wood, and with harps, and with psalteries, and with timbrels, and with sistra, and with cymbals. <sup>6</sup> And when they came to the threshing-floor of Nacon, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of G-d, and took hold of it; for the oxen stumbled. <sup>7</sup> And the anger of HaShem was kindled against Uzzah; and G-d smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of G-d. <sup>8</sup> And David was displeased, because HaShem had broken forth upon Uzzah; and that place was called Perez-uzzah, unto this day. <sup>9</sup> And David was afraid of HaShem that day; and he said: 'How shall the ark of HaShem come unto me?' <sup>10</sup> So David would not remove the ark of HaShem unto him into the city of David; but David carried it aside into the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. <sup>11</sup> And the ark of HaShem remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months; and HaShem blessed Obed-edom, and all his house. <sup>12</sup> And it was told king David, saying: 'HaShem hath blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of G-d.' And David went and brought up the ark of G-d from the house of Obed-edom into the city of David with joy. <sup>13</sup> And it was so, that when they that bore the ark of HaShem had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. <sup>14</sup> And David danced before HaShem with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. <sup>15</sup> So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of HaShem with shouting, and with the sound of the horn. <sup>16</sup> And it was so, as the ark of HaShem came into the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looked out at the window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before HaShem; and she despised him in her heart. <sup>17</sup> And they brought in the ark of HaShem, and set it in its place, in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings before HaShem. <sup>18</sup> And when David had made an end of offering the burnt-offering and the peace-offerings, he blessed the people in the name of HaShem of hosts. <sup>19</sup> And he dealt among all the people, even among the whole multitude of Israel, both to men and women, to every one a cake of bread, and a cake made in a pan, and a sweet cake. So all the people departed every one to his house. <sup>20</sup> Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said: 'How did the king of Israel get him honour to-day, who uncovered himself to-day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!' <sup>21</sup> And David said unto Michal: 'Before HaShem, who chose me above thy father, and above all his house, to appoint me prince over the people of HaShem, over Israel, before HaShem will I make merry. <sup>22</sup> And I will be yet more vile than thus, and will be base in mine own sight; and with the handmaids whom thou hast spoken of, with them will I get me honour.' <sup>23</sup> And Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death.

<sup>1</sup> ויסף עוד דוד את-כל-בָּחור בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל, שְׁלֹשִׁים אֶלֶף. <sup>2</sup> וַיָּקָם וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד, וְכָל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ, מִבְּעָלִי, יְהוּדָה--לְהַעֲלוֹת מִשָּׁם, אֶת אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, אֲשֶׁר-נִקְרָא שֵׁם שָׁם יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת יֹשֵׁב הַכְּרִבִּים, עָלָיו. <sup>3</sup> וַיִּרְכְּבוּ אֶת-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, אֶל-עֲגֹלָה חֲדָשָׁה, וַיִּשְׁאָהוּ, מִבֵּית אֲבִינֶדָב אֲשֶׁר בַּגְּבֻעָה; וַעֲזָא וְאַחִיו, בְּנֵי אֲבִינֶדָב, נְהִיגִים, אֶת-הָעֲגֹלָה חֲדָשָׁה. <sup>4</sup> וַיִּשְׁאָהוּ, מִבֵּית אֲבִינֶדָב אֲשֶׁר בַּגְּבֻעָה, עִם, אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים; וְאַחִיו, הֵלֶךְ לִפְנֵי הָאֲרוֹן. <sup>5</sup> וְדוֹד וְכָל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, מִשְׁחַקִּים לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, בְּכָל, עֲצֵי כְרוֹשִׁים; וּבְכַנּוֹרוֹת וּבִנְבָלִים וּבְתַפִּים, וּבְמִנְעֻנְעִים וּבְצִלְצָלִים. <sup>6</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ, עַד-גֶּרֶן נָכוֹן; וַיִּשְׁלַח עֲזָא אֶל-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, וַיֹּאחֲזֵ בּוֹ--כִּי שָׁמָּה, הִבָּקֵר. <sup>7</sup> וַיַּחַר-אַף יְהוָה בְּעֲזָא, וַיַּכְהוּ שָׁם הָאֱלֹהִים עַל-הַשָּׂל; וַיָּמָת שָׁם, עִם אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים. <sup>8</sup> וַיַּחַר לְדָוִד, עַל אֲשֶׁר פָּרַץ יְהוָה פָּרִץ בְּעֲזָא; וַיִּקְרָא לְמָקוֹם הַהוּא, פָּרִץ עֲזָא, עַד, הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. <sup>9</sup> וַיֵּרָא דָּוִד אֶת-יְהוָה, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא; וַיֹּאמֶר, אֵיךְ יָבֹא אֵלַי אֲרוֹן יְהוָה. <sup>10</sup> וְלֹא-אָבָה דָּוִד, לְהִסִּיר אֵלָיו אֶת-אֲרוֹן יְהוָה--עַל-עֵיר דָּוִד; וַיִּטְהַר דָּוִד, בֵּית עֶבֶד-אָדָם הַגָּמִי. <sup>11</sup> וַיֵּשֶׁב אֲרוֹן יְהוָה בֵּית עֶבֶד אָדָם, הַגָּמִי--שְׁלֹשָׁה חֳדָשִׁים; וַיִּבָּרֶךְ יְהוָה אֶת-עֶבֶד אָדָם, וְאֶת-כָּל-בֵּיתוֹ. <sup>12</sup> וַיִּגַּד, לְמֶלֶךְ דָּוִד לֵאמֹר, בָּרַךְ יְהוָה אֶת-בֵּית עֶבֶד אָדָם וְאֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר-לוֹ, בַּעֲבוּר, אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים; וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד, וַיַּעַל אֶת-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים מִבֵּית עֶבֶד אָדָם עֵיר דָּוִד--בְּשִׁמְחָה. <sup>13</sup> וַיְהִי, כִּי צָעְדוּ נִשְׂאֵי אֲרוֹן-יְהוָה--שְׁשָׁה צָעָדִים; וַיִּזְבַּח שׁוֹר, וּמְרִיא. <sup>14</sup> וְדוֹד מִכְרֶכֶר בְּכָל-עֹז, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה; וְדָוִד, חָגוֹר אֶפֹּד בָּד. <sup>15</sup> וְדוֹד וְכָל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, מַעֲלִים אֶת-אֲרוֹן יְהוָה, בַּתְּרוּעָה, וּבְקוֹל שׁוֹפָר. <sup>16</sup> וְהָיָה אֲרוֹן יְהוָה, בָּא עֵיר דָּוִד; וּמִיכַל בַּת-שָׁאוּל נִשְׁקָפָה בְּעַד הַחֲלוֹן, וַתֵּרָא אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד מִפָּנָיו וּמִכְרֶכֶר לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, וַתִּבְזֵ לוֹ, בְּלִבָּהּ. <sup>17</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶת-אֲרוֹן יְהוָה, וַיַּצְגּוּ אֹתוֹ בְּמִקְוָמוֹ, בַּתוֹךְ הָאֹהֶל, אֲשֶׁר נָטָה-לוֹ דָּוִד; וַיַּעַל דָּוִד עֲלוֹת לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, וּשְׁלָמִים. <sup>18</sup> וַיְכַל דָּוִד, מִהַעֲלוֹת הָעוֹלָה וְהַשְּׁלָמִים; וַיִּבָּרֶךְ אֶת-הָעָם, בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת. <sup>19</sup> וַיַּחֲלֵק לְכָל-הָעָם לְכָל-הַמּוֹן יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְמֵאִישׁ וְעַד-אִשָּׁה, לְאִישׁ חֵלֶת לֶחֶם אַחַת, וְאֲשָׁפָר אֶחָד וְאִשְׁיִשָּׁה אַחַת; וַיֵּלֶךְ כָּל-הָעָם, אִישׁ לְבֵיתוֹ. <sup>20</sup> וַיֵּשֶׁב דָּוִד, לְבָרֶךְ אֶת-בֵּיתוֹ; וַתֵּצֵא מִיכַל בַּת-שָׁאוּל, לְקִרְאֹת דָּוִד, וַתֹּאמֶר מַה-נִּכְבַּד הַיּוֹם מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר נִגְלָה הַיּוֹם לְעֵינֵי אֲמָהוּת עֲבָדָיו, כִּהְגִּלוֹת נִגְלוֹת אֶחָד הָרָקִים. <sup>21</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, אֶל-מִיכַל, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר-בִּי מֵאֲבִיךָ וּמִכָּל-בֵּיתוֹ, לְצִוּוֹת אֹתִי נָגִיד עַל-עַם יְהוָה עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְשִׁחַקְתִּי, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה. <sup>22</sup> וַנִּקְלָתִי עוֹד מִזֹּאת, וְהִיִּיתִי שְׂפָל בְּעֵינָי; וְעַם-הָאֲמָהוּת אֲשֶׁר אִמְרָתִי, עִמָּם אֶכְבְּדָהּ. <sup>23</sup> וּלְמִיכַל, בַּת-שָׁאוּל, לֹא-הָיָה לָהּ, יֶלֶד--עַד, יוֹם מוֹתָהּ.

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass, when the king dwelt in his house, and HaShem had given him rest from all his enemies round about, <sup>2</sup> that the king said unto Nathan the prophet: 'See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of G-d dwelleth within curtains.' <sup>3</sup> And Nathan said to the king: 'Go, do all that is in thy heart; for HaShem is with thee.' <sup>4</sup> And it came to pass the same night, that the word of HaShem came unto Nathan, saying: <sup>5</sup> 'Go and tell My servant David: Thus saith HaShem: Shalt thou build Me a house for Me to dwell in?' <sup>6</sup> for I have not dwelt in a house since the day that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle. <sup>7</sup> In all places wherein I have walked among all the children of Israel, spoke I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed My people Israel, saying: Why have ye not built Me a house of cedar? <sup>8</sup> Now therefore thus shalt thou say unto My servant David: Thus saith HaShem of hosts: I took thee from the shepcote, from following the sheep, that thou shouldest be prince over My people, over Israel. <sup>9</sup> And I have been with thee whithersoever thou didst go, and have cut off all thine enemies from before thee; and I will make thee a great name, like unto the name of the great ones that are in the earth. <sup>10</sup> And I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be disquieted no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as at the first, <sup>11</sup> even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will cause thee to rest from all thine enemies. Moreover HaShem telleth thee that HaShem will make thee a house. <sup>12</sup> When thy days are fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, that shall proceed out of thy body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup> He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. <sup>14</sup> I will be to him for a father, and he shall be to Me for a son; if he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men; <sup>15</sup> but My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. <sup>16</sup> And thy house and thy kingdom shall be made sure for ever before thee; thy throne shall be established for ever.' <sup>17</sup> According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David. <sup>18</sup> Then David the king went in, and sat before HaShem; and he said: 'Who am I, O L-rd GOD, and what is my house, that Thou hast brought me thus far?' <sup>19</sup> And this was yet a small thing in Thine eyes, O L-rd GOD; but Thou hast spoken also of Thy servant's house for a great while to come; and this too after the manner of great men, O L-rd GOD. <sup>20</sup> And what can David say more unto Thee? for Thou knowest Thy servant, O L-rd GOD. <sup>21</sup> For Thy word's sake, and according to Thine own heart, hast Thou wrought all this greatness, to make Thy servant know it. <sup>22</sup> Therefore Thou art great, O HaShem G-d; for there is none like Thee, neither is there any G-d beside Thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. <sup>23</sup> And who is like Thy people, like Israel, a nation one in the earth, whom G-d went to redeem unto Himself for a people, and to make Him a name, and to do for Thy land great things and tremendous, even for you, in driving out from before Thy people, whom Thou didst redeem to Thee out of Egypt, the nations and their gods? <sup>24</sup> And Thou didst establish to Thyself Thy people Israel to be a people unto Thee for ever; and Thou, HaShem, becamest their G-d. <sup>25</sup> And now, O HaShem G-d, the word that Thou hast spoken concerning Thy servant, and concerning his house, confirm Thou it for ever, and do as Thou hast spoken. <sup>26</sup> And let Thy name be magnified for ever, that it may be said: HaShem of hosts is G-d over Israel; and the house of Thy servant David shall be established before Thee. <sup>27</sup> For Thou, O HaShem of hosts, the G-d of Israel, hast revealed to Thy servant, saying: I will build thee a house; therefore hath Thy servant taken heart to pray this prayer unto Thee. <sup>28</sup> And now, O L-rd GOD, Thou alone art G-d, and Thy words are truth, and Thou hast promised this good thing unto Thy servant; <sup>29</sup> now therefore let it please Thee to bless the house of Thy servant, that it may continue for ever before Thee; for Thou, O L-rd GOD, hast spoken it; and through Thy blessing let the house of Thy servant be blessed for ever.'

<sup>1</sup> וַיְהִי, כִּי-יָשָׁב הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּבֵיתוֹ; וַיְהִי הַגֵּיחַ-לוֹ מִסָּבִיב, מִכָּל-אַיָּבָיו. <sup>2</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-נָתָן הַנָּבִיא, רֹאה נָא, אֲנֹכִי יוֹשֵׁב בְּבֵית אֲרָזִים; וְאֶרְוֹן, הָאֱלֹהִים, יֹשֵׁב, בְּתוֹךְ הִרְיָעָה. <sup>3</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר נָתָן אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, כָּל אֲשֶׁר בִּלְבָבְךָ לֵךְ עָשָׂה: כִּי יְהוָה, עִמָּךְ. <sup>4</sup> וַיְהִי, בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא; וַיְהִי, דְּבַר-יְהוָה, אֶל-נָתָן, לֵאמֹר. <sup>5</sup> לֵךְ וְאָמַרְתָּ אֶל-עַבְדִּי אֶל-דָּוִד, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה: הֲאֵתָה תִּבְנֶה-לִּי בַּיִת, לְשָׁכְתִּי. <sup>6</sup> כִּי לֹא יֹשְׁבִי, בְּבֵית, לְמִיּוֹם הַעֲלֹתִי אֶת-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם, וְעַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה; וְאֵתָה, מִתְּהַלֵּךְ, בְּאֹהֶל, וּבְמִשְׁכָּן. <sup>7</sup> כָּכָל אֲשֶׁר-הִתְהַלַּכְתִּי, כָּכָל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, הִדְבַּר דְּבַרְתִּי אֶת-אֶחָד שְׂכֵטִי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי לְרַעוֹת אֶת-עַמִּי אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר: לָמָּה לֹא-בִנִיתֶם לִי, בַּיִת אֲרָזִים. <sup>8</sup> וְעַתָּה כֹּה-תֹאמַר לְעַבְדִּי דָּוִד, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, אֲנִי לִקְחֹתִיךָ מִן-הַנָּהָה, מֵאַחֲרֵי הַצֹּאן--לְהָיוֹת נֶגִיד, עַל-עַמִּי עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>9</sup> וְאֵתָה עִמָּךְ, כָּכָל אֲשֶׁר הִלַּכְתָּ, וְאַכְרַתָּה אֶת-כָּל-אַיָּבֶיךָ, מִפָּנֶיךָ; וְעָשִׂיתִי לְךָ שֵׁם גָּדוֹל, כְּשֵׁם הַגְּדֹלִים אֲשֶׁר בְּאֶרֶץ. <sup>10</sup> וְשִׁמְתִּי מְקוֹם לְעַמִּי לְיִשְׂרָאֵל וְנִטְעֵתִיו, וְשָׁכֵן תַּחֲתָיו, וְלֹא יִרְגֹזוּ, עוֹד; וְלֹא-יִסִּיפוּ בְנֵי-עוֹלָה לְעַנּוֹתוֹ, כְּאֲשֶׁר בְּרָאשׁוֹנָה. <sup>11</sup> וּלְמֶן-הַיּוֹם, אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי שְׂפָטִים עַל-עַמִּי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְהִנִּיחֹתִי לְךָ, מִכָּל-אַיָּבֶיךָ; וְהִגִּיד לְךָ יְהוָה, כִּי-בֵית יַעֲשֶׂה-לְךָ יְהוָה. <sup>12</sup> כִּי יִמְלְאוּ יָמֶיךָ, וְשָׁכַבְתָּ אֶת-אַבְתִּיךָ, וְהִקִּימְתִּי אֶת-זֶרְעֶךָ אַחֲרֶיךָ, אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא מִמֶּעֶיךָ; וְהָכִינְתִּי, אֶת-מַמְלַכְתּוֹ. <sup>13</sup> הוּא יִבְנֶה-בַּיִת, לְשָׁמִי; וְכִנֵּנְתִּי אֶת-כִּסֵּא מַמְלַכְתּוֹ, עַד-עוֹלָם. <sup>14</sup> אֲנִי אֶהְיֶה-לוֹ לְאָב, וְהוּא יִהְיֶה-לִּי לְבֶן--אֲשֶׁר, בְּהַעֲנוֹתוֹ, וְהִכַּחֲתִיו בְּשֹׁכֵט אֲנָשִׁים, וּבִגְנָעֵי בְנֵי אָדָם. <sup>15</sup> וְחִסְדִּי, לֹא-יִסּוּר מִמֶּנּוּ, כְּאֲשֶׁר הִסְרֹתִי מֵעַם שָׁאוּל, אֲשֶׁר הִסְרֹתִי מִלְפָּנֶיךָ. <sup>16</sup> וְנָאֵמֶן בֵּיתְךָ וּמַמְלַכְתְּךָ עַד-עוֹלָם, לְפָנֶיךָ: כִּסֵּאֲךָ, יִהְיֶה נָכוֹן עַד-עוֹלָם. <sup>17</sup> כָּכָל הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, וְכָכָל הַחֲזִיוֹן הַזֶּה--כֵּן דִּבַּר נָתָן, אֶל-דָּוִד. <sup>18</sup> וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד, וַיֵּשֶׁב לְפָנָי יְהוָה; וַיֹּאמֶר, מִי אֲנֹכִי אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה וּמִי בֵיתִי--כִּי הִבְאֵתָנִי, עַד-הֵלֶם. <sup>19</sup> וְתִקַּטֵּן עוֹד זֹאת בְּעֵינֶיךָ אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה, וְתִדְבַּר גַּם אֶל-בֵּית-עַבְדְּךָ לְמַרְחוּק; וְזֹאת תוֹרַת הָאָדָם, אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה. <sup>20</sup> וּמֵה-יִוִּסִּף דָּוִד עוֹד, לְדַבֵּר אֵלֶיךָ; וְאַתָּה יְדַעְתָּ אֶת-עַבְדְּךָ, אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה. <sup>21</sup> בְּעֶבֶר דְּבָרְךָ, וּכְלָבָד, עָשִׂיתָ, אֵת כָּל-הַגְּדוּלָּה הַזֹּאת--לְהוֹדִיעַ, אֶת-עַבְדְּךָ. <sup>22</sup> עַל-כֵּן גִּדַּלְתָּ, יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים: כִּי-אֵין כָּמוֹךָ, וְאֵין אֱלֹהִים זּוֹלָתְךָ, כָּכָל אֲשֶׁר-שָׁמַעְנוּ, בְּאֲזִינֵינוּ. <sup>23</sup> וּמִי כְעִמָּךְ כִּישְׂרָאֵל, גּוֹי אֶחָד בְּאֶרֶץ--אֲשֶׁר הִלְכוּ-אֱלֹהִים לְפָדוֹת-לוֹ לְעַם וְלָשׁוֹם לוֹ שֵׁם, וְלַעֲשׂוֹת לָכֶם הַגְּדוּלָּה וְהַנִּרְאוֹת לְאֶרֶצְךָ, מִפָּנָי עִמָּךְ אֲשֶׁר פָּדִיתָ לְךָ מִמִּצְרַיִם, גּוֹיִם וְאֱלֹהֵיו. <sup>24</sup> וְתִכְוִינֶן לְךָ אֶת-עִמָּךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל לְךָ, לְעַם--עַד-עוֹלָם; וְאַתָּה יְהוָה, הֵייתָ לָהֶם לֵאלֹהִים. <sup>25</sup> וְעַתָּה, יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים, הִדְבַּר אֲשֶׁר דְּבַרְתָּ עַל-עַבְדְּךָ וְעַל-בֵּיתוֹ, הִקָּם עַד-עוֹלָם; וְעָשָׂה, כְּאֲשֶׁר דְּבַרְתָּ. <sup>26</sup> וַיִּגְדַּל שִׁמְךָ עַד-עוֹלָם, לֵאמֹר, יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, אֱלֹהִים עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וּבֵית עַבְדְּךָ דָּוִד, יִהְיֶה נָכוֹן לְפָנֶיךָ. <sup>27</sup> כִּי-אַתָּה יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, גָּלִיתָה אֶת-אֲזֹן עַבְדְּךָ לְאֹמֶר, בַּיִת, אִבְנֶה-לְךָ; עַל-כֵּן, מִצָּא עַבְדְּךָ אֶת-לְבוֹ, לְהִתְפַּלֵּל אֵלֶיךָ, אֶת-הַתְּפִלָּה הַזֹּאת. <sup>28</sup> וְעַתָּה אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה, אַתָּה-הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים, וְדַבְּרִיךָ, יְהִיו אָמֶת; וְתִדְבַּר, אֶל-עַבְדְּךָ, אֶת-הַטּוֹבָה, הַזֹּאת. <sup>29</sup> וְעַתָּה, הוֹאֵל וּבָרֵךְ אֶת-בֵּית עַבְדְּךָ, לְהָיוֹת לְעוֹלָם, לְפָנֶיךָ: כִּי-אַתָּה אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה, דְּבַרְתָּ, וּמִבְרַכְתָּךְ, יְבָרֵךְ בֵּית-עַבְדְּךָ לְעוֹלָם.

<sup>1</sup> And after this it came to pass, that David smote the Philistines, and subdued them; and David took Metheg-ammah out of the hand of the Philistines. <sup>2</sup> And he smote Moab, and measured them with the line, making them to lie down on the ground; and he measured two lines to put to death, and one full line to keep alive. And the Moabites became servants to David, and brought presents. <sup>3</sup> David smote also Hadadezer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to establish his dominion at the river Euphrates. <sup>4</sup> And David took from him a thousand and seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen; and David houghed all the chariot horses, but reserved of them for a hundred chariots. <sup>5</sup> And when the Arameans of Damascus came to succour Hadadezer king of Zobah, David smote of the Arameans two and twenty thousand men. <sup>6</sup> Then David put garrisons in Aram of Damascus; and the Arameans became servants to David, and brought presents. And HaShem gave victory to David whithersoever he went. <sup>7</sup> And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem. <sup>8</sup> And from Betah and from Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, king David took exceeding much brass. <sup>9</sup> And when Toi king of Hamath heard that David had smitten all the host of Hadadezer, <sup>10</sup> then Toi sent Joram his son unto king David, to salute him, and to bless him — because he had fought against Hadadezer and smitten him; for Hadadezer had wars with Toi — and he brought with him vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and vessels of brass. <sup>11</sup> These also did king David dedicate unto HaShem, with the silver and gold that he dedicated of all the nations which he subdued: <sup>12</sup> of Aram, and of Moab, and of the children of Ammon, and of the Philistines, and of Amalek, and of the spoil of Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah. <sup>13</sup> And David got him a name when he returned from smiting the Arameans in the Valley of Salt, even eighteen thousand men. <sup>14</sup> And he put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom put he garrisons, and all the Edomites became servants to David. And HaShem gave victory to David whithersoever he went. <sup>15</sup> And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed justice and righteousness unto all his people. <sup>16</sup> And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the host; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder; <sup>17</sup> and Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, were priests; and Seraiah was scribe; <sup>18</sup> and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief ministers.

<sup>1</sup> וַיְהִי, אַחֲרֵי-כֵן, וַיִּדְּדָה דָּוִד אֶת-פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיִּכְנָעֵם; וַיִּקַּח דָּוִד אֶת-מֶתֶג אֲמָה, מִיַּד פְּלִשְׁתִּים. <sup>2</sup> וַיִּדְּדָה מוֹאָב, וַיִּמְדֹּד בַּחֲבֵל הַשָּׁכָב אוֹתָם אַרְצָה, וַיִּמְדֹּד שְׁנֵי-חֲבָלִים לַהֲמִית, וּמֵלֹא הַחֲבֵל לַחַיִּיּוֹת; וַתְּהִי מוֹאָב לְדָוִד, לְעֶבְדִּים נִשְׁאִי מִנְּחָה. <sup>3</sup> וַיִּדְּדָה דָּוִד, אֶת-הַדְּדָעֶזֶר בֶּן-רְחָב מֶלֶךְ צוֹבָה, בְּלָכְתּוֹ, לַהֲשִׁיב יָדוֹ בְּנֶהֱרֶ-פָּרֶת. <sup>4</sup> וַיִּלְכֹּד דָּוִד מִמֶּנּוּ, אֶלֶף וּשְׁבַע-מֵאוֹת פָּרָשִׁים, וְעֶשְׂרִים אֲלָף, אִישׁ רֶגֶלִי; וַיַּעֲקֹר דָּוִד אֶת-כָּל-הָרֶכֶב, וַיּוֹתֵר מִמֶּנּוּ מֵאָה רֶכֶב. <sup>5</sup> וַתָּבֹא, אֲרָם דְּמָשֶׁק, לַעְזֹר, לַהַדְּדָעֶזֶר מֶלֶךְ צוֹבָה; וַיִּדְּדָה דָּוִד בְּאֲרָם, עֶשְׂרִים-וּשְׁנַיִם אֲלָף אִישׁ. <sup>6</sup> וַיֵּשֶׁם דָּוִד נֹצְבִים, בְּאֲרָם דְּמָשֶׁק, וַתְּהִי אֲרָם לְדָוִד, לְעֶבְדִּים נוֹשְׂאֵי מִנְּחָה; וַיִּשַׁע יְהוָה אֶת-דָּוִד, בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר הָלַךְ. <sup>7</sup> וַיִּקַּח דָּוִד, אֶת שְׁלֹטִי הַזֶּהָב, אֲשֶׁר הָיוּ, אֵל עֲבָדֵי הַדְּדָעֶזֶר; וַיָּבִיֵּאם, יְרוּשָׁלַם. <sup>8</sup> וּמִבֶּטַח וּמִבְּרֹתֵי, עָרֵי הַדְּדָעֶזֶר: לָקַח הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד, נְחֹשֶׁת--הָרַבָּה מְאֹד. <sup>9</sup> וַיִּשְׁמַע, תַּעֲצִי מֶלֶךְ חֲמַת: כִּי הִכָּה דָּוִד, אֶת כָּל-חֵיל הַדְּדָעֶזֶר. <sup>10</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח תַּעֲצִי אֶת-יֹרָם-בְּנוֹ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ-דָּוִד לֵשְׁאֹל-לוֹ לְשָׁלוֹם וּלְבָרְכוֹ, עַל אֲשֶׁר נָלַחַם בַּהַדְּדָעֶזֶר וַיִּכֶּהוּ--כִּי-אִישׁ מִלְחָמוֹת תַּעֲצִי, הָיָה הַדְּדָעֶזֶר; וּבְיָדוֹ, הָיוּ כָּלִי-כֶסֶף וְכָלִי-זָהָב--וְכָלִי נְחֹשֶׁת. <sup>11</sup> גַּם-אֹתָם, הִקְדִּישׁ הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד לַיהוָה, עִם-הַכֶּסֶף וְהַזָּהָב אֲשֶׁר הִקְדִּישׁ, מִכָּל-הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר כָּבֵשׁ. <sup>12</sup> מֵאֲרָם וּמִמוֹאָב וּמִבְּנֵי עַמּוֹן, וּמִפְּלִשְׁתִּים וּמִעַמְלָק, וּמִשָּׁלַל הַדְּדָעֶזֶר בֶּן-רְחָב, מֶלֶךְ צוֹבָה. <sup>13</sup> וַיַּעַשׂ דָּוִד, שֵׁם, בְּשָׁבוֹ, מִהַכּוֹתוֹ אֶת-אֲרָם בְּגִיא-מֶלַח--שְׁמוֹנֶה עָשָׂר, אֲלָף. <sup>14</sup> וַיֵּשֶׁם בְּאֶדֹם נֹצְבִים, בְּכָל-אֶדֹם שֵׁם נֹצְבִים, וַיְהִי כָל-אֶדֹם, עֶבְדִּים לְדָוִד; וַיִּשַׁע יְהוָה אֶת-דָּוִד, בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר הָלַךְ. <sup>15</sup> וַיִּמְלֹךְ דָּוִד, עַל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיְהִי דָוִד, עֹשֶׂה מִשְׁפָּט וְצִדְקָה--לְכָל-עַמּוֹ. <sup>16</sup> וַיּוֹאֵב בֶּן-צְרוּיָה, עַל-הַצָּבָא; וַיְהוֹשָׁפָט בֶּן-אֲחִילוֹד, מִזְכִּיר. <sup>17</sup> וְצִדּוֹק בֶּן-אֲחִיטוֹב וְאֲחִימֶלֶךְ בֶּן-אֲבִיתָר, כֹּהֲנִים; וּשְׂרָיָה, סוֹפֵר. <sup>18</sup> וּבְנֵיָהוּ, בֶּן-יְהוֹיָדָע, וְהַכְּרֹתִי, וְהַפְּלֹתִי; וּבְנֵי דָוִד, כֹּהֲנִים הָיוּ.

<sup>1</sup> And David said: 'Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?' <sup>2</sup> Now there was of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Ziba, and they called him unto David; and the king said unto him: 'Art thou Ziba?' And he said: 'Thy servant is he.' <sup>3</sup> And the king said: 'Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of G-d unto him?' And Ziba said unto the king: 'Jonathan hath yet a son, who is lame on his feet.' <sup>4</sup> And the king said unto him: 'Where is he?' And Ziba said unto the king: 'Behold, he is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, in Lo-debar.' <sup>5</sup> Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, from Lo-debar. <sup>6</sup> And Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came unto David, and fell on his face, and prostrated himself. And David said: 'Mephibosheth!' And he answered: 'Behold thy servant!' <sup>7</sup> And David said unto him: 'Fear not; for I will surely show thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.' <sup>8</sup> And he bowed down, and said: 'What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?' <sup>9</sup> Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him: 'All that pertained to Saul and to all his house have I given unto thy master's son. <sup>10</sup> And thou shalt till the land for him, thou, and thy sons, and thy servants; and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have bread to eat; but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread continually at my table.' Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. <sup>11</sup> Then said Ziba unto the king: 'According to all that my lord the king commandeth his servant, so shall thy servant do; but Mephibosheth eateth at my table as one of the king's sons.' <sup>12</sup> Now Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Mica. And all that dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants unto Mephibosheth. <sup>13</sup> But Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem; for he did eat continually at the king's table; and he was lame on both his feet.

<sup>1</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד--הֲכִי יֵשׁ-עוֹד, אֲשֶׁר נֹתֵר לְבֵית שְׁאוּל; וְאֶעֱשֶׂה עִמּוֹ חֶסֶד, בְּעַבְיֹר יְהוֹנָתָן. <sup>2</sup> וּלְבֵית שְׁאוּל עֶבֶד וְשָׁמוֹ צִיבָא, וַיִּקְרְאוּ-לוֹ אֶל-דָּוִד; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵלָיו הֲאֵתָה צִיבָא, וַיֹּאמֶר עֲבָדֶךָ. <sup>3</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, הֲאֵפֶס עוֹד אִישׁ לְבֵית שְׁאוּל, וְאֶעֱשֶׂה עִמּוֹ, חֶסֶד אֱלֹהִים; וַיֹּאמֶר צִיבָא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, עוֹד בֶּן לְיְהוֹנָתָן נָכֵה רַגְלָיו. <sup>4</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר-לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֵיפֶה הוּא; וַיֹּאמֶר צִיבָא, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, הִנֵּה-הוּא בֵּית מְכִיר בֶּן-עַמִּיאל, בְּלוֹ דָּבָר. <sup>5</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח, הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד; וַיִּקְחֵהוּ, מִבֵּית מְכִיר בֶּן-עַמִּיאל--מְלוֹ דָּבָר. <sup>6</sup> וַיָּבֵא מִפִּיבִשֶׁת בֶּן-יְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן-שְׁאוּל, אֶל-דָּוִד, וַיִּפֹּל עַל-פָּנָיו, וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד מִפִּיבִשֶׁת, וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה עֲבָדֶךָ. <sup>7</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ דָּוִד אֶל-תִּירָא, כִּי עָשִׂה אֶעֱשֶׂה עִמָּךְ חֶסֶד בְּעַבְיֹר יְהוֹנָתָן אֲבִיךָ, וְהִשְׁבַּתִּי לְךָ, אֶת-כָּל-שְׂדֵה שְׁאוּל אֲבִיךָ; וְאֵתָה, תֹּאכֹל לֶחֶם עַל-שְׁלֹחָנִי--תָּמִיד. <sup>8</sup> וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה, וַיֹּאמֶר מָה עֲבָדֶךָ: כִּי פָנִיתָ, אֶל-הַפֶּלֶב הַמֵּת אֲשֶׁר כָּמוֹנִי. <sup>9</sup> וַיִּקְרָא הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-צִיבָא נָעַר שְׁאוּל--וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו: כָּל אֲשֶׁר הָיָה לְשְׁאוּל וּלְכָל-בֵּיתוֹ, נָתַתִּי לְבֶן-אֲדֹנֶיךָ. <sup>10</sup> וְעַבְדְּךָ לוֹ אֶת-הָאֲדָמָה אֲתָה וּבָנֶיךָ וְעַבְדֶּיךָ וְהַבָּאָה, וְהָיָה לְבֶן-אֲדֹנֶיךָ לֶחֶם וְאָכְלוּ, וּמִפִּיבִשֶׁת בֶּן-אֲדֹנֶיךָ, יֹאכֹל תָּמִיד לֶחֶם עַל-שְׁלֹחָנִי; וּלְצִיבָא, חֲמִשָּׁה עֶשְׂרֵי בָנִים--וְעֶשְׂרִים עֲבָדִים. <sup>11</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר צִיבָא, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, כָּכָל אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-עַבְדּוֹ, בֶּן יַעֲשֶׂה עֲבָדֶךָ; וּמִפִּיבִשֶׁת, אֲכַל עַל-שְׁלֹחָנִי, כָּאֶחָד, מִבְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>12</sup> וְלִמִּפִּיבִשֶׁת בֶּן-קָטָן, וְשָׁמוֹ מִיכָא; וְכָל מוֹשֵׁב בֵּית-צִיבָא, עֲבָדִים לִמִּפִּיבִשֶׁת. <sup>13</sup> וּמִפִּיבִשֶׁת, יָשָׁב בִּירוּשָׁלַם, כִּי עַל-שְׁלֹחַן הַמֶּלֶךְ תָּמִיד, הוּא אֹכֵל; וְהוּא פֶסֶח, שְׁתֵּי רַגְלָיו.

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass after this, that the king of the children of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his stead. <sup>2</sup> And David said: 'I will show kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father showed kindness unto me.' So David sent by the hand of his servants to comfort him concerning his father. And David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon. <sup>3</sup> But the princes of the children of Ammon said unto Hanun their lord: 'Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? hath not David sent his servants unto thee to search the city, and to spy it out, and to overthrow it?' <sup>4</sup> So Hanun took David's servants, and shaved off the one half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle, even to their buttocks, and sent them away. <sup>5</sup> When they told it unto David, he sent to meet them; for the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said: 'Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and then return.' <sup>6</sup> And when the children of Ammon saw that they were become odious to David, the children of Ammon sent and hired the Arameans of Beth-rehob, and the Arameans of Zobah, twenty thousand footmen, and the king of Maacah with a thousand men, and the men of Tob twelve thousand men. <sup>7</sup> And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men. <sup>8</sup> And the children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array at the entrance of the gate; and the Arameans of Zobah, and of Rehob, and the men of Tob and Maacah, were by themselves in the field. <sup>9</sup> Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him before and behind, he chose of all the choice men of Israel, and put them in array against the Arameans; <sup>10</sup> and the rest of the people he committed into the hand of Abishai his brother, and he put them in array against the children of Ammon. <sup>11</sup> And he said: 'If the Arameans be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me, but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee. <sup>12</sup> Be of good courage, and let us prove strong for our people, and for the cities of our G-d; and HaShem do that which seemeth Him good.' <sup>13</sup> So Joab and the people that were with him drew nigh unto the battle against the Arameans; and they fled before him. <sup>14</sup> And when the children of Ammon saw that the Arameans were fled, they likewise fled before Abishai, and entered into the city. Then Joab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Jerusalem. <sup>15</sup> And when the Arameans saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they gathered themselves together. <sup>16</sup> And Hadadezer sent, and brought out the Arameans that were beyond the River; and they came to Helam, with Shobach the captain of the host of Hadadezer at their head. <sup>17</sup> And it was told David; and he gathered all Israel together, and passed over the Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Arameans set themselves in array against David, and fought with him. <sup>18</sup> And the Arameans fled before Israel; and David slew of the Arameans seven hundred drivers of chariots, and forty thousand horsemen, and smote Shobach the captain of their host, so that he died there. <sup>19</sup> And when all the kings that were servants to Hadadezer saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they made peace with Israel, and served them. So the Arameans feared to help the children of Ammon any more.

<sup>1</sup> ויהי, אחר-כך, וימת, מלך בני עמון; וימלך חנון בנו, תחתיו. <sup>2</sup> ויאמר דוד אעשה-חסד עם-חנון בן-נחש, כאשר עשה אביו עמדי חסד, וישלח דוד לנחמו ביד-עבדיו, אל-אביו; ויבאו עבדי דוד, ארץ בני עמון. <sup>3</sup> ויאמרו שרי בני-עמון אל-חנון אדניהם, המכבד דוד את-אביו בעיניו--כי-שלח לך, מנתחמים; הלא בעבור חקר את-העיר, ולרגלה ולהפכה, שלח דוד את-עבדיו, אליך. <sup>4</sup> ויקח חנון את-עבדי דוד, ויגלח את-חצי זקנם, ויכרת את-מדויהם בחצי, עד שתותיהם; וישלחם. <sup>5</sup> ויגדו לדוד וישלח לקראתם, כי-היו האנשים נכלמים מאד; ויאמר המלך שבו בירחו, עד-יצמח זקנכם ושתכם. <sup>6</sup> ויראו בני עמון, כי נבאשו בדוד; וישלחו בני-עמון וישכרו את-ארם בית-רחוב ואת-ארם צובא, עשרים אלף רגלי, ואת-מלך מעכה אלף איש, ואיש טוב שנים-עשר אלף איש. <sup>7</sup> וישמע, דוד; וישלח, את-יואב, ואת כל-הצבא, הגברים. <sup>8</sup> ויצאו בני עמון, ויערכו מלחמה פתח השער; וארם צובא ורחוב ואיש-טוב ומעכה, לבדם בשדה. <sup>9</sup> וירא יואב, כי-היתה אליו פני המלחמה, מפנים, ומאחור; ויבחר, מכל בחורי בישראל ישראל, ויערף, לקראת ארם. <sup>10</sup> ואת, יתר העם, נתן, ביד אבשי אחיו; ויערף, לקראת בני עמון. <sup>11</sup> ויאמר, אם-תחזק ארם ממני--והיתה לי, לישועה; ואם-בני עמון יחזקו ממך, והלכתי להושיע לך. <sup>12</sup> חזק ונתחזק בעד-עמנו, ובעד ערי אלהינו; ויהוה, יעשה הטוב בעיניו. <sup>13</sup> ויגש יואב, והעם אשר עמו, למלחמה, בארם; ויגסו, מפניו. <sup>14</sup> ובני עמון ראו, כי-גס ארם, ויגסו מפני אבישי, ויבאו העיר; וישב יואב, מעל בני עמון, ויבא, ירושלם. <sup>15</sup> וירא ארם, כי נגף לפני ישראל; ויאספו, יחד. <sup>16</sup> וישלח הדדעזר, ויצא את-ארם אשר מעבר הנהר, ויבאו, חילים; ושוכד שר-צבא הדדעזר, לפנייהם. <sup>17</sup> ויגד לדוד, ויאסוף את-כל-ישראל ויעבר את-הירדן, ויבא, חלאמה; ויערכו ארם לקראת דוד, וילחמו עמו. <sup>18</sup> ויגס ארם, מפני ישראל, ויהרג דוד מארם שבע מאות רכב, וארבעים אלף פרשים; ואת שוכד שר-צבאו הכה, וימת שם. <sup>19</sup> ויראו כל-המלכים עבדי הדדעזר, כי נגפו לפני ישראל, וישלמו את-ישראל, ויעבדו; ויראו ארם, להושיע עוד את-בני עמון.

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass, at the return of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried at Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> And it came to pass at eventide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house; and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. <sup>3</sup> And David sent and inquired after the woman. And one said: 'Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?' <sup>4</sup> And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness; and she returned unto her house. <sup>5</sup> And the woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said: 'I am with child.' <sup>6</sup> And David sent to Joab, saying: 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David. <sup>7</sup> And when Uriah was come unto him, David asked of him how Joab did, and how the people fared, and how the war prospered. <sup>8</sup> And David said to Uriah: 'Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet.' And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of food from the king. <sup>9</sup> But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house. <sup>10</sup> And when they had told David, saying: 'Uriah went not down unto his house', David said unto Uriah: 'Art thou not come from a journey? wherefore didst thou not go down unto thy house?' <sup>11</sup> And Uriah said unto David: 'The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in booths; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open field; shall I then go into my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing.' <sup>12</sup> And David said to Uriah: 'Tarry here to-day also, and to-morrow I will let thee depart.' So Uriah abode in Jerusalem that day, and the morrow. <sup>13</sup> And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk; and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house. <sup>14</sup> And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. <sup>15</sup> And he wrote in the letter, saying: 'Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die.' <sup>16</sup> And it came to pass, when Joab kept watch upon the city, that he assigned Uriah unto the place where he knew that valiant men were. <sup>17</sup> And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab; and there fell some of the people, even of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also. <sup>18</sup> Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning the war; <sup>19</sup> and he charged the messenger, saying: 'When thou hast made an end of telling all the things concerning the war unto the king, <sup>20</sup> it shall be that, if the king's wrath arise, and he say unto thee: Wherefore went ye so nigh unto the city to fight? knew ye not that they would shoot from the wall? <sup>21</sup> who smote Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? did not a woman cast an upper millstone upon him from the wall, that he died at Thebez? why went ye so nigh the wall? then shalt thou say: Thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.' <sup>22</sup> So the messenger went, and came and told David all that Joab had sent him for. <sup>23</sup> And the messenger said unto David: 'The men prevailed against us, and came out unto us into the field, and we were upon them even unto the entrance of the gate. <sup>24</sup> And the shooters shot at thy servants from off the wall; and some of the king's servants are dead, and thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.' <sup>25</sup> Then David said unto the messenger: 'Thus shalt thou say unto Joab: Let not this thing displease thee, for the sword devoureth in one manner or another; make thy battle more strong against the city, and overthrow it; and encourage thou him.' <sup>26</sup> And when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she made lamentation for her husband. <sup>27</sup> And when the mourning was past, David sent and took her home to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased HaShem.

<sup>1</sup> וַיְהִי לַתְּשׁוּבָה הַשָּׁנָה לַעֲתֹצַת הַמִּלְחָמָה, וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד אֶת-יֹאבָב וְאֶת-עֲבָדָיו עִמּוֹ וְאֶת-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּשְׁחָתוּ אֶת-בְּנֵי עַמּוֹן, וַיִּצְרוּ, עַל-רַבָּה; וַדּוֹד, יוֹשֵׁב בִּירוּשָׁלַם. <sup>2</sup> וַיְהִי לַעֲתֹצַת הָעָרֵב, וַיָּקָם דָּוִד מֵעַל מִשְׁכְּבוֹ וַיִּתְּהַלֵּךְ עַל-גֵּג בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיֵּרָא אִשָּׁה רֹחֶצֶת, מֵעַל הַגֵּג; וְהָאִשָּׁה, טוֹבֶת מִרְאָה מְאֹד. <sup>3</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד, וַיִּדְרֹשׁ לָאִשָּׁה; וַיֹּאמֶר, הֲלוֹא-זֹאת בֵּת-שֹׁבַע בֵּת-אֱלִיעֶזֶר--אִשְׁתּוֹ, אֹרְיָה הַחֲתִי. <sup>4</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד מַלְאָכִים וַיִּקְחָהּ, וַתָּבוֹא אֵלָיו וַיִּשְׁכַּב עִמָּה, וְהִיא מִתְקַדֶּשֶׁת, מִטְּמֵאֶתָּה; וַתֵּשֶׁב, אֶל-בֵּיתָהּ. <sup>5</sup> וַתַּהַר, הָאִשָּׁה; וַתִּשְׁלַח וַתַּגֵּד לְדָוִד, וַתֹּאמֶר הִרָה אֲנִכִּי. <sup>6</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד, אֶל-יֹאבָב, שְׁלַח אֵלַי, אֶת-אֹרְיָה הַחֲתִי; וַיִּשְׁלַח יֹאבָב אֶת-אֹרְיָה, אֶל-דָּוִד. <sup>7</sup> וַיָּבֹא אֹרְיָה, אֵלָיו; וַיִּשְׁאַל דָּוִד, לְשָׁלוֹם יֹאבָב וְלְשָׁלוֹם הָעָם, וְלְשָׁלוֹם, הַמִּלְחָמָה. <sup>8</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְאֹרְיָה, רֵד לְבֵיתְךָ וְרַחֵץ רַגְלֶיךָ; וַיֵּצֵא אֹרְיָה מִבֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַתֵּצֵא אַחֲרָיו מִשְׁאֵת הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>9</sup> וַיִּשְׁכַּב אֹרְיָה, פֶּתַח בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֵת, כָּל-עֲבָדֵי אֲדָנָיו; וְלֹא יָרַד, אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ. <sup>10</sup> וַיִּגְדּוּ לְדָוִד לֵאמֹר, לֹא-יָרַד אֹרְיָה אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אֹרְיָה, הֲלוֹא מִדְּרָךְ אִתָּהּ בָּא--מִדּוּעַ, לֹא-יָרַדְתָּ אֶל-בֵּיתְךָ. <sup>11</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אֹרְיָה אֶל-דָּוִד, הָאֲרוֹן וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל וַיְהוּדָה יֹשְׁבִים בְּסֻכּוֹת וְאֲדָנִי יֹאבָב וְעֲבָדֵי אֲדָנִי עַל-פְּנֵי הַשָּׂדֶה חֲנִים, וְאֲנִי אָבוֹא אֶל-בֵּיתִי לֵאכֹל וּלְשִׁתּוֹת, וּלְשֹׁכַב עִם-אִשְׁתִּי; חֵידָה וְחִי נִפְשִׁיךָ, אִם-אֶעֱשֶׂה אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה. <sup>12</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אֹרְיָה, שֵׁב בְּזֶה גַם-הַיּוֹם--וּמָחָר אֲשַׁלְּחֶךָ; וַיֵּשֶׁב אֹרְיָה בִירוּשָׁלַם בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, וּמִמָּחָרָת. <sup>13</sup> וַיִּקְרָא-לוֹ דָּוִד, וַיֹּאכַל לֶפְנָיו וַיִּשְׁתְּ--וַיִּשְׁכְּרֵהוּ; וַיֵּצֵא בָּעָרֵב, לְשֹׁכַב בְּמִשְׁכְּבוֹ עִם-עֲבָדֵי אֲדָנָיו, וְאֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, לֹא יָרַד. <sup>14</sup> וַיְהִי בִבְקָר, וַיִּכְתֹּב דָּוִד סֵפֶר אֶל-יֹאבָב; וַיִּשְׁלַח, בְּיַד אֹרְיָה. <sup>15</sup> וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּסֵפֶר, לֵאמֹר: הָבוּ אֶת-אֹרְיָה, אֶל-מוֹל פְּנֵי הַמִּלְחָמָה הַחֲזָקָה, וְשִׁבְתֶּם מֵאַחֲרָיו, וְנִכְּה וּמָת. <sup>16</sup> וַיְהִי, בְּשִׁמּוֹר יֹאבָב אֶל-הָעִיר; וַיִּתֵּן, אֶת-אֹרְיָה, אֶל-הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר יָדַע, כִּי אֲנָשִׁי-חֵיל שָׁם. <sup>17</sup> וַיֵּצְאוּ אֲנָשֵׁי הָעִיר, וַיִּלָּחֲמוּ אֶת-יֹאבָב, וַיִּפֹּל מִן-הָעָם, מֵעֲבָדֵי דָוִד; וַיָּמָת, גַּם אֹרְיָה הַחֲתִי. <sup>18</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח, יֹאבָב; וַיִּגַּד לְדָוִד, אֶת-כָּל-דִּבְרֵי הַמִּלְחָמָה. <sup>19</sup> וַיֵּצֵאוּ אֶת-הַמִּלְחָאָד, לֵאמֹר: כָּכֻלּוֹתְךָ, אֵת כָּל-דִּבְרֵי הַמִּלְחָמָה--לְדַבֵּר אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>20</sup> וְהִנֵּה, אִם-תַּעֲלֶה חֲמַת הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאָמַר לְךָ, מִדּוּעַ נִגְשַׁתֶּם אֶל-הָעִיר לְהִלָּחֵם: הֲלוֹא יָדַעְתֶּם, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-יָרוּ מֵעַל הַחוֹמָה. <sup>21</sup> מִי-הִכָּה אֶת-אַבִּימֶלֶךְ בֶּן-יִרְבֵּשֶׁת, הֲלוֹא-אִשָּׁה הִשְׁלִיכָה עָלָיו פֶּלַח רֶכֶב מֵעַל הַחוֹמָה וַיָּמָת בְּתִבְזָן, לָמָּה נִגְשַׁתֶּם, אֶל-הַחוֹמָה; וְאָמַרְתָּ--גַּם עֲבָדְךָ אֹרְיָה הַחֲתִי, מָת. <sup>22</sup> וַיֵּלֶךְ, הַמִּלְחָאָד; וַיָּבֹא וַיִּגַּד לְדָוִד, אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר שָׁלַחוֹ יֹאבָב. <sup>23</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמִּלְחָאָד, אֶל-דָּוִד, כִּי-גִבְרִי עָלִינוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים, וַיֵּצְאוּ אֵלֵינוּ הַשָּׂדֶה; וְנִהְיָה עָלֵיהֶם, עַד-פֶּתַח הַשָּׁעַר. <sup>24</sup> וַיֵּרְאוּ הַמּוֹרָאִים אֶל-עֲבָדֶיךָ מֵעַל הַחוֹמָה, וַיָּמָתוּ מֵעֲבָדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְגַם, עֲבָדְךָ אֹרְיָה הַחֲתִי--מָת. <sup>25</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-הַמִּלְחָאָד, כֹּה-תֹאמַר אֶל-יֹאבָב אֶל-יָרֵעַ בְּעֵינֶיךָ אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה--כִּי-כֹזֶה וְכֹזֶה, תֹּאכַל הָחָרָב; הַחֲזֹק מִלְחָמָתְךָ אֶל-הָעִיר וְהָרָסָה, וַחֲזָקָהּ. <sup>26</sup> וַתִּשְׁמַע אִשְׁתּוֹ אֹרְיָה, כִּי-מָת אֹרְיָה אִשָּׁה; וַתִּסָּפֵד, עַל-בְּעָלָהּ. <sup>27</sup> וַיַּעֲבֹר הָאֲבָל, וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד וַיֹּאסֶפֶה אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ וַתְּהִי-לוֹ לָאִשָּׁה, וַתֵּלֶד לוֹ, בֶּן; וַיָּרֵעַ הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה דָּוִד, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה.

<sup>1</sup> And HaShem sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him: 'There were two men in one city: the one rich, and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds; <sup>3</sup> but the poor man had nothing save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and reared; and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own morsel, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. <sup>4</sup> And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him, but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.' <sup>5</sup> And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan: 'As HaShem liveth, the man that hath done this deserveth to die; <sup>6</sup> and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.' <sup>7</sup> And Nathan said to David: 'Thou art the man. Thus saith HaShem, the G-d of Israel: I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul; <sup>8</sup> and I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that were too little, then would I add unto thee so much more. <sup>9</sup> Wherefore hast thou despised the word of HaShem, to do that which is evil in My sight? Uriah the Hittite thou hast smitten with the sword, and his wife thou hast taken to be thy wife, and him thou hast slain with the sword of the children of Ammon. <sup>10</sup> Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from thy house; because thou hast despised Me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife. <sup>11</sup> Thus saith HaShem: Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun. <sup>12</sup> For thou didst it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.' <sup>13</sup> And David said unto Nathan: 'I have sinned against HaShem.' And Nathan said unto David: 'HaShem also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. <sup>14</sup> Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast greatly blasphemed the enemies of HaShem, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.' <sup>15</sup> And Nathan departed unto his house. And HaShem struck the child that Uriah's wife bore unto David, and it was very sick. <sup>16</sup> David therefore besought G-d for the child; and David fasted, and as often as he went in, he lay all night upon the earth. <sup>17</sup> And the elders of his house arose, and stood beside him, to raise him up from the earth; but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them. <sup>18</sup> And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead; for they said: 'Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spoke unto him, and he hearkened not unto our voice; how then shall we tell him that the child is dead, so that he do himself some harm?' <sup>19</sup> But when David saw that his servants whispered together, David perceived that the child was dead; and David said unto his servants: 'Is the child dead?' And they said: 'He is dead.' <sup>20</sup> Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel; and he came into the house of HaShem, and worshipped; then he came to his own house; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat. <sup>21</sup> Then said his servants unto him: 'What thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the child, while it was alive; but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread.' <sup>22</sup> And he said: 'While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept; for I said: Who knoweth whether HaShem will not be gracious to me, that the child may live? <sup>23</sup> But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.' <sup>24</sup> And David comforted Bath-sheba his wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her; and she bore a son, and called his name Solomon. And HaShem loved him; <sup>25</sup> and He sent by the hand of Nathan the prophet, and he called his name Jedidiah, for HaShem's sake. <sup>26</sup> Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and took the royal city. <sup>27</sup> And Joab sent messengers to David, and said: 'I have fought against Rabbah, yea, I have taken the city of waters. <sup>28</sup> Now therefore gather the rest of the people together, and encamp against the city, and take it; lest I take the city, and it be called after my name.' <sup>29</sup> And David gathered all the people together, and went to Rabbah, and fought against it, and took it. <sup>30</sup> And he took the crown of Malcam from off his head; and the weight thereof was a talent of gold, and in it were precious stones; and it was set on David's head. And he brought forth the spoil of the city, exceeding much. <sup>31</sup> And he brought forth the people that were therein, and put them under saws, and under harrows of iron, and under axes of iron, and made them pass through the brickkiln; and thus did he unto all the cities of the children of Ammon. And David and all the people returned unto Jerusalem.

<sup>1</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח יְהוָה אֶת-נָתָן, אֶל-דָּוִד; וַיָּבֹא אֵלָיו, וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ שְׁנֵי אַנְשִׁים הָיוּ בְּעִיר אַחַת, אֶחָד עָשִׂיר, וְאֶחָד רֹאשׁ. <sup>2</sup> לְעָשִׂיר, הָיָה צֹאן וּבָקָר--הֶרְבֵּה מְאֹד. <sup>3</sup> וְלָרֹשׁ אֵין-כֹּל, כִּי אִם-בֶּכְשָׁה אַחַת קִטְנָה אֲשֶׁר קָנָה, וַיַּחֲמֶהָ, וַתִּגְדֵּל עִמּוֹ וְעִם-בָּנָיו יַחְדָּו; מִפְתּוֹ תֹאכַל וּמִכֶּסֶּו תִּשְׁתֶּה, וּבְחִיקוֹ תִּשְׁכַּב, וַתְּהִי-לוֹ, כִּבְתָּ. <sup>4</sup> וַיָּבֹא הַלֵּד, לְאִישׁ הָעָשִׂיר, וַיַּחְמַל לְקַחַת מִצִּאֲנוֹ וּמִבָּקָרוֹ, לַעֲשׂוֹת לָאִרְחַ הַבָּא-לוֹ; וַיִּקַּח, אֶת-בֶּכְשָׁת הָאִישׁ הָרֹאשׁ, וַיַּעֲשֶׂהָ, לְאִישׁ הַבָּא אֵלָיו. <sup>5</sup> וַיַּחֲר-אֵף דָּוִד בְּאִישׁ, מְאֹד; וַיֹּאמֶר, אֶל-נָתָן, חִי-יְהוָה, כִּי בֶן-מְנוּת הָאִישׁ הָעָשִׂה זֹאת. <sup>6</sup> וְאֶת-הַבֶּכְשָׁה, יִשְׁלַם אַרְבַּעַתִּים; עֶקֶב, אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, וְעַל, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-חָמַל. <sup>7</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר נָתָן אֶל-דָּוִד, אַתָּה הָאִישׁ; כֹּה-אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲנֹכִי מִשְׁחִיתִיךָ לְמַלְכָּךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאֲנֹכִי הַצִּלְתִּיךָ, מִיַּד שָׂאוּל. <sup>8</sup> וְאַתָּה לָךְ אֶת-בֵּית אֲדֹנֶיךָ, וְאֶת-נָשֵׁי אֲדֹנֶיךָ בְּחִיקָךְ, וְאַתָּה לָךְ, אֶת-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיהוּדָה; וְאִם-מַעַט--וְאִסְפָּה לָךְ, כֶּהֱנָה וְכַהֲנָה. <sup>9</sup> מְדוּעַ בְּזִיתָ אֶת-דָּבָר יְהוָה, לַעֲשׂוֹת הָרָע בְּעֵינֵי בָעִינִי, אֶת אֹרֶזְיָה הַחֲתִי הַכִּיתָ בַּחֶרֶב, וְאֶת-אִשְׁתּוֹ לְקַחַת לָךְ לְאִשָּׁה; וְאֹתוֹ הִרְגָתָ, בַּחֶרֶב בְּנִי עִמּוֹן. <sup>10</sup> וְעַתָּה, לֹא-תִסּוּר חֶרֶב מִבֵּיתְךָ--עַד-עוֹלָם; עֶקֶב, כִּי בִזְתָנִי, וַתִּקַּח אֶת-אִשְׁתֹּי אֹרֶזְיָה הַחֲתִי, לְהָיוֹת לָךְ לְאִשָּׁה. <sup>11</sup> כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, הִנְנִי מְקִים עָלֶיךָ רָעָה מִבֵּיתְךָ, וְלִקְחֹתִי אֶת-נְשִׁיךָ לְעִינֶיךָ, וְנָתַתִּי לְרַעֲיָד; וְשָׁכַב עִם-נְשִׁיךָ, לְעִינֶי הַשָּׁמַשׁ הַזֹּאת. <sup>12</sup> כִּי אַתָּה, עָשִׂיתָ בְּסִתְרִי; וְאֲנִי, אֶעֱשֶׂה אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, נֶגֶד כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְנֶגֶד הַשָּׁמַשׁ. <sup>13</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-נָתָן, חֲטָאתִי לַיהוָה; וַיֹּאמֶר נָתָן אֶל-דָּוִד, גַּם-יְהוָה הֶעֱבִיר חֲטָאתְךָ--לֹא תָמוּת. <sup>14</sup> אָפְסֹ, כִּי-נִאָּץ נִאָּצְתָּ אֶת-אֲבִי יְהוָה, בַּדָּבָר, הַזֶּה; גַּם, הֵבֵן הִילֹד לָךְ--מוֹת יָמוּת. <sup>15</sup> וַיֵּלֶךְ נָתָן, אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ; וַיִּגַּף יְהוָה, אֶת-הַיֵּלֶד אֲשֶׁר יָלְדָה אִשְׁתֹּי-אֹרֶזְיָה לְדָוִד--וַיָּאָנֵשׁ. <sup>16</sup> וַיִּבְקֶשׁ דָּוִד אֶת-הָאֱלֹהִים, בַּעַד הַנָּעֹר; וַיֵּצֵם דָּוִד צוּם, וּבָא וָלֶן וְשָׁכַב אַרְצָה. <sup>17</sup> וַיִּקְמוּ זָקְנֵי בֵיתוֹ, עָלָיו, לְהַקְיָמוֹ, מִן-הָעָרֶץ; וְלֹא אָבָה, וְלֹא-בָרָא אֹתָם לָחֵם. <sup>18</sup> וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם הַשְּׂבִיעִי, וַיָּמָת הַיֵּלֶד; וַיֵּרְאוּ עֲבָדֵי דָוִד לְהִגִּיד לוֹ כִּי-מָת הַיֵּלֶד, כִּי אָמְרוּ הִנֵּה בְהָיוֹת הַיֵּלֶד חִי דִבְרָנוֹ אֵלָיו וְלֹא-שָׁמַע בְּקוֹלָנוֹ, וַאֲיֵךְ נֹאמַר אֵלָיו מָת הַיֵּלֶד, וַעֲשֶׂה רָעָה. <sup>19</sup> וַיֵּרָא דָוִד, כִּי עֲבָדָיו מִתְלַחֲשִׁים, וַיָּבִין דָּוִד, כִּי מָת הַיֵּלֶד; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-עֲבָדָיו הֵמָּת הַיֵּלֶד, וַיֹּאמְרוּ מָת. <sup>20</sup> וַיָּקָם דָּוִד מִהָעָרֶץ וַיֵּרַחֵץ וַיְסֻךְ, וַיַּחְלֹף שְׂמִלְתּוֹ, וַיָּבֹא בֵית-יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה; וַיָּבֹא, אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, וַיִּשְׁאֵל, וַיִּשְׁיֵמוּ לוֹ לָחֵם וַיֹּאכֵל. <sup>21</sup> וַיֹּאמְרוּ עֲבָדָיו אֵלָיו, מָה-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָה; בַּעֲבוּר הַיֵּלֶד חִי, צָמָת וַתִּבְךְ, וּכְאֲשֶׁר מָת הַיֵּלֶד, קָמָת וַתֹּאכֵל לָחֵם. <sup>22</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר--בָּעוֹד הַיֵּלֶד חִי, צָמָתִי וְאָבָכָה; כִּי אָמַרְתִּי מִי יוֹדַע, יַחַנְנִי וַיַּחְנְנִי יְהוָה וְחִי הַיֵּלֶד. <sup>23</sup> וְעַתָּה מָת, לָמָּה זֶה אֲנִי צֶם--הֵאוֹכֵל לְהַשִּׁיבוֹ, עוֹד; אֲנִי הַלֵּךְ אֵלָיו, וְהוּא לֹא-יָשׁוּב אֵלָי. <sup>24</sup> וַיִּנָּחֵם דָּוִד, אֶת בֶּת-שָׁבַע אִשְׁתּוֹ, וַיָּבֹא אֵלֶיהָ, וַיִּשְׁכַּב עִמָּה; וַתֵּלֶד בֶּן, וַיִּקְרָא וַתִּקְרָא אֶת-שְׁמוֹ שְׁלֹמֹה, וַיְהוָה, אֲהַבּוֹ. <sup>25</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח, בֶּיַד נָתָן הַנָּבִיא, וַיִּקְרָא אֶת-שְׁמוֹ, יְדִידְיָה--בַּעֲבוּר, יְהוָה. <sup>26</sup> וַיִּלְחֶם יוֹאָב, בַּרְבַּת בְּנֵי עִמּוֹן; וַיִּלְכֵּד, אֶת-עִיר הַמְּלוּכָה. <sup>27</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח יוֹאָב מְלָאכִים, אֶל-דָּוִד; וַיֹּאמֶר לְחַתְּמִי בַרְבָּה, גַּם-לְכַדְתִּי אֶת-עִיר הַמִּים. <sup>28</sup> וְעַתָּה, אֶסָּף אֶת-יָתֵר הָעָם, וְחִנֵּה עַל-הָעִיר, וְלִכְדָּהּ; פֶּן-אֶלְכַּד אֲנִי אֶת-הָעִיר, וְנִקְרָא שְׁמִי עָלֶיהָ. <sup>29</sup> וַיֹּאסֹף דָּוִד אֶת-כָּל-הָעָם, וַיֵּלֶךְ רַבְתָּה; וַיִּלְחֶם בָּהּ, וַיִּלְכְּדָהּ. <sup>30</sup> וַיִּקַּח אֶת-עֶטְרֶת-מֶלֶכָם מֵעַל רֹאשׁוֹ וּמִשְׁקָלָהּ כֶּכֶר זָהָב, וַאֲבָן יָקָרָה, וַתְּהִי, עַל-רֹאשׁ דָּוִד; וַשִּׁלַּל הָעִיר הַזֹּצִיא, הֶרְבֵּה מְאֹד. <sup>31</sup> וְאֶת-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר-בָּהּ הוֹצִיא, וַיִּשֶׁם בְּמַגֵּרָה וּבְחֹרָצִי הַבְּרָזֵל וּבְמַגְזֵרֹת הַבְּרָזֵל וְהָעֵבִיר אוֹתָם בַּמֶּלֶכָן בַּמִּלְבָּן, וְכֵן יַעֲשֶׂה, לְכָל עָרֵי בְנֵי-עִמּוֹן; וַיִּשָּׁב דָּוִד וְכָל-הָעָם, יְרוּשָׁלַם.

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass after this, that Absalom the son of David had a fair sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her. <sup>2</sup> And Amnon was so distressed that he fell sick because of his sister Tamar; for she was a virgin; and it seemed hard to Amnon to do any thing unto her. <sup>3</sup> But Amnon had a friend, whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother; and Jonadab was a very subtle man. <sup>4</sup> And he said unto him: 'Why, O son of the king, art thou thus becoming leaner from day to day? wilt thou not tell me?' And Amnon said unto him: 'I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister.' <sup>5</sup> And Jonadab said unto him: 'Lay thee down on thy bed, and feign thyself sick; and when thy father cometh to see thee, say unto him: Let my sister Tamar come, I pray thee, and give me bread to eat, and dress the food in my sight, that I may see it, and eat it at her hand.' <sup>6</sup> So Amnon lay down, and feigned himself sick; and when the king was come to see him, Amnon said unto the king: 'Let my sister Tamar come, I pray thee, and make me a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat at her hand.' <sup>7</sup> Then David sent home to Tamar, saying: 'Go now to thy brother Amnon's house, and dress him food.' <sup>8</sup> So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's house; and he was lying down. And she took dough, and kneaded it, and made cakes in his sight, and did bake the cakes. <sup>9</sup> And she took the pan, and poured them out before him; but he refused to eat. And Amnon said: 'Have out all men from me.' And they went out every man from him. <sup>10</sup> And Amnon said unto Tamar: 'Bring the food into the chamber, that I may eat of thy hand.' And Tamar took the cakes which she had made, and brought them into the chamber to Amnon her brother. <sup>11</sup> And when she had brought them near unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and said unto her: 'Come lie with me, my sister.' <sup>12</sup> And she answered him: 'Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel; do not thou this wanton deed.' <sup>13</sup> And I, whither shall I carry my shame? and as for thee, thou wilt be as one of the base men in Israel. Now therefore, I pray thee, speak unto the king; for he will not withhold me from thee.' <sup>14</sup> Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice; but being stronger than she, he forced her, and lay with her. <sup>15</sup> Then Amnon hated her with exceeding great hatred; for the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Amnon said unto her: 'Arise, be gone.' <sup>16</sup> And she said unto him: 'Not so, because this great wrong in putting me forth is worse than the other that thou didst unto me.' But he would not hearken unto her. <sup>17</sup> Then he called his servant that ministered unto him, and said: 'Put now this woman out from me, and bolt the door after her.' — <sup>18</sup> Now she had a garment of many colours upon her; for with such robes were the king's daughters that were virgins apparelled. — And his servant brought her out, and bolted the door after her. <sup>19</sup> And Tamar put ashes on her head, and rent her garment of many colours that was on her; and she laid her hand on her head, and went her way, crying aloud as she went. <sup>20</sup> And Absalom her brother said unto her: 'Hath Amnon thy brother been with thee? but now hold thy peace, my sister: he is thy brother; take not this thing to heart.' So Tamar remained desolate in her brother Absalom's house. <sup>21</sup> But when king David heard of all these things, he was very wroth. <sup>22</sup> And Absalom spoke unto Amnon neither good nor bad; for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar. <sup>23</sup> And it came to pass after two full years, that Absalom had sheep-shearers in Baal-hazor, which is beside Ephraim; and Absalom invited all the king's sons. <sup>24</sup> And Absalom came to the king, and said: 'Behold now, thy servant hath sheep-shearers; let the king, I pray thee, and his servants go with thy servant.' <sup>25</sup> And the king said to Absalom: 'Nay, my son, let us not all go, lest we be burdensome unto thee.' And he pressed him; howbeit he would not go, but blessed him. <sup>26</sup> Then said Absalom: 'If not, I pray thee, let my brother Amnon go with us.' And the king said unto him: 'Why should he go with thee?' <sup>27</sup> But Absalom pressed him, and he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him. <sup>28</sup> And Absalom commanded his servants, saying: 'Mark ye now, when Amnon's heart is merry with wine; and when I say unto you: Smite Amnon, then kill him, fear not; have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be valiant.' <sup>29</sup> And the servants of Absalom did unto Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and every man got him up upon his mule, and fled. <sup>30</sup> And it came to pass, while they were in the way, that the tidings came to David, saying: 'Absalom hath slain all the king's sons, and there is not one of them left.' <sup>31</sup> Then the king arose, and rent his garments, and lay on the earth; and all his servants stood by with their clothes rent. <sup>32</sup> And Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother, answered and said: 'Let not my lord suppose that they have killed all the young men the king's sons; for Amnon only is dead; for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar. <sup>33</sup> Now therefore let not my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that all the king's sons are dead; for Amnon only is dead.' <sup>34</sup> But Absalom fled. And the young man that kept the watch lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came much people in a roundabout way by the hill-side. <sup>35</sup> And Jonadab said unto the king: 'Behold, the king's sons are come; as thy servant said, so it is.' <sup>36</sup> And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of speaking, that, behold, the king's sons came, and lifted up their voice, and wept; and the king also and all his servants wept very sore. <sup>37</sup> But Absalom fled, and went to Talmai the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. And David mourned for his son every day. <sup>38</sup> So Absalom fled, and went to Geshur, and was there three years. <sup>39</sup> And the soul of king David failed with longing for Absalom; for he was comforted concerning Amnon, seeing he was dead.

<sup>1</sup> ויהי אחרי־כן, ולאבשלום בן־דוד אחות יפה--ושמה תמר; ויאהבה, אמנון בן־דוד. <sup>2</sup> ויצר לאמנון להתחלות, בעבור תמר אחת--כי בתולה, היא; ויפלא בעיני אמנון, לעשות לה מאומה. <sup>3</sup> ולאמנון רע, וישמו יונדב, בן־שמעה, אחי דוד; וינדב, איש חכם מאד. <sup>4</sup> ויאמר לו, מדוע אתה ככה דל בן־המלך בבקר בבקר--הלוא, תגיד לי; ויאמר לו, אמנון, את־תמר אחות אבשלום אחי, אני אהב. <sup>5</sup> ויאמר לו יהונדב, שכב על־משכבך והתחל; ובא אביך לראותך, ואמרת אליו תבא נא תמר אחותי ותברני לחם ועשתה לעיני את־הבריה, למען אשר אראה, ואכלתי מידך. <sup>6</sup> וישכב אמנון, ויתחל; ויבא המלך לראותו, ויאמר אמנון אל־המלך תבוא נא תמר אחתי ותלבב לעיני שתי לבבות, ואברה, מידה. <sup>7</sup> וישלח דוד אל־תמר, הביתה לאמר: לכי נא, בית אמנון אחיד, ועשי־לו, הבריה. <sup>8</sup> ותלך תמר, בית אמנון אחיה--והוא שכב; ותקח את־הכצק ותלוש ותלש ותלבב לעיניו, ותבשל את־הלכבות. <sup>9</sup> ותקח את־המשרת ותצק לפניו, וימאן לאכול; ויאמר אמנון, הוציאו כל־איש מעלי, ויצאו כל־איש, מעליו. <sup>10</sup> ויאמר אמנון אל־תמר, הביאי הבריה החדר, ואברה, מידך; ותקח תמר, את־הלכבות אשר עשתה, ותבא לאמנון אחיה, החדרה. <sup>11</sup> ותגש אליו, לאכל; ויחזק־בה ויאמר לה, בואי שכבי עמי אחותי. <sup>12</sup> ותאמר לו, אל־אחי אל־תענני--כי לא־יעשה כן, בישראל: אל־תעשה, את־הנבלה הזאת. <sup>13</sup> ואני, אנה אוליך את־חרפתי, ואתה תהיה כאחד הנבלים, בישראל; ועתה דבר־נא אל־המלך, כי לא ימנעני ממך. <sup>14</sup> ולא אבה, לשמע בקולה; ויחזק ממנה ויענה, וישכב אתה. <sup>15</sup> וישנאה אמנון, שנאה גדולה מאד--כי גדולה השנאה אשר שנאה, מאהבה אשר אהבה; ויאמר־לה אמנון, קומי לכי. <sup>16</sup> ותאמר לו, אל־אודת הרעה הגדולה הזאת, מאחרת אשר־עשית עמי, לשלחני; ולא אבה, לשמע לה. <sup>17</sup> ויקרא, את־נערו משרתו, ויאמר, שלחו־נא את־זאת מעלי החוצה; ונעל הדלת, אחריה. <sup>18</sup> ועליה כתנת פסים, כי כן תלבשן בנות־המלך הבתולות מעילים; ויצא אותה משרתו החוץ, ונעל הדלת אחריה. <sup>19</sup> ותקח תמר אפר על־ראשה, וכתנת הפסים אשר עליה קרעה; ותשם ידה על־ראשה, ותלך הלוך וצקה. <sup>20</sup> ויאמר אליה אבשלום אחיה, האמינון אחיד הנה עמד, ועתה אחותי החריש אחיד הוא, אל־תשיתי את־לבך לדבר הנה; ותשב תמר ושממה, בית אבשלום אחיה. <sup>21</sup> והמלך דוד--שמע, את כל־הדברים האלה; ויחר לו, מאד. <sup>22</sup> ולא־דבר אבשלום עם־אמנון, למרע ועד־טוב: כי־שנא אבשלום, את־אמנון, על־דבר אשר ענה, את תמר אחתו. <sup>23</sup> ויהי, לשנתים ימים, ויהיו גזזים לאבשלום, בבעל חצור אשר עם־אפרים; ויקרא אבשלום, לכל־בני המלך. <sup>24</sup> ויבא אבשלום, אל־המלך, ויאמר, הנה נא גזזים לעבדך; ילך־נא המלך ועבדיו, עם־עבדך. <sup>25</sup> ויאמר המלך אל־אבשלום, אל־בני אל־נא גלך פלגו, ולא נכבד, עליך; ויפרץ־בו ולא־אבה ללכת, ויברכהו. <sup>26</sup> ויאמר, אבשלום, ולא, ילך־נא אתנו אמנון אחי; ויאמר לו המלך, למה ילך עמך. <sup>27</sup> ויפרץ־בו, אבשלום; וישלח אתו את־אמנון, ואת כל־בני המלך. <sup>28</sup> ויצו אבשלום את־נערו לאמר, ראו נא כטוב לב־אמנון ביני ואמרתי אליכם הכו את־אמנון והמתם אותו--אל־תיראו: הלוא, כי אנכי צויתי אתכם--חזקו, והיו לבני־חיל. <sup>29</sup> ויעשו נערי אבשלום, לאמנון, כאשר צוה, אבשלום; ויקמו כל־בני המלך, וירכבו איש על־פרדו--ויגסו. <sup>30</sup> ויהי, המה בדרך, והשמעה באה, אל־דוד לאמר: הנה אבשלום את־כל־בני המלך, ולא־נותר מהם אחד. <sup>31</sup> ויקם המלך ויקרע את־בגדיו, וישכב ארצה; וכל־עבדיו נצבים, קרעי בגדים. <sup>32</sup> ויען יונדב בן־שמעה אחי־דוד ויאמר, אל־יאמר אדני את כל־הנערים בני־המלך המיתו--כי־אמנון לבדו, מת: כי־על־פי אבשלום, היתה שומה, מיום ענתו, את תמר אחתו. <sup>33</sup> ועתה אל־ישם אדני המלך אל־לבו, דבר לאמר, כל־בני המלך, מתו: כי־אם אמנון לבדו, מת. <sup>34</sup> ויברה, אבשלום; וישא הנער הצפה, את־עיניו, וירא והנה עם־רב הלכים מדרך אחריו, מצד ההר. <sup>35</sup> ויאמר יונדב אל־המלך, הנה בני־המלך באו: כדבר עבדך, כן הנה. <sup>36</sup> ויהי ככלתו לדבר, והנה בני־המלך באו, וישאו קולם, ויבכו; וגם־המלך, וכל־עבדיו, בכו, בכי גדול מאד. <sup>37</sup> ואבשלום ברת, וילך אל־תלמי כן עמיהור עמיהוד מלך גשור; ויתאבל על־בנו, כל־הימים. <sup>38</sup> ואבשלום ברת, וילך גשור; ויהי־שם, שלש שנים. <sup>39</sup> ותכל דוד המלך, לצאת אל־אבשלום: כי־נחם על־אמנון, כי־מת.

<sup>1</sup> Now Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that the king's heart was toward Absalom. <sup>2</sup> And Joab sent to Tekoa, and fetched thence a wise woman, and said unto her: 'I pray thee, feign thyself to be a mourner, and put on mourning apparel, I pray thee, and anoint not thyself with oil, but be as a woman that had a long time mourned for the dead; <sup>3</sup> and go in to the king, and speak on this manner unto him.' So Joab put the words in her mouth. <sup>4</sup> And when the woman of Tekoa spoke to the king, she fell on her face to the ground, and prostrated herself, and said: 'Help, O king.' <sup>5</sup> And the king said unto her: 'What aileth thee?' And she answered: 'Of a truth I am a widow, my husband being dead. <sup>6</sup> And thy handmaid had two sons, and they two strove together in the field, and there was none to part them, but the one smote the other, and killed him. <sup>7</sup> And, behold, the whole family is risen against thy handmaid, and they said: Deliver him that smote his brother, that we may kill him for the life of his brother whom he slew, and so destroy the heir also. Thus will they quench my coal which is left, and will leave to my husband neither name nor remainder upon the face of the earth.' <sup>8</sup> And the king said unto the woman: 'Go to thy house, and I will give charge concerning thee.' <sup>9</sup> And the woman of Tekoa said unto the king: 'My lord, O king, the iniquity be on me, and on my father's house; and the king and his throne be guiltless.' <sup>10</sup> And the king said: 'Whosoever saith aught unto thee, bring him to me, and he shall not touch thee any more.' <sup>11</sup> Then said she: 'I pray thee, let the king remember HaShem thy G-d, that the avenger of blood destroy not any more, lest they destroy my son.' And he said: 'As HaShem liveth, there shall not one hair of thy son fall to the earth.' <sup>12</sup> Then the woman said: 'Let thy handmaid, I pray thee, speak a word unto my lord the king.' And he said: 'Say on.' <sup>13</sup> And the woman said: 'Wherefore then hast thou devised such a thing against the people of G-d? for in speaking this word the king is as one that is guilty, in that the king doth not fetch home again his banished one. <sup>14</sup> For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again; neither doth G-d respect any person; but let him devise means, that he that is banished be not an outcast from him. <sup>15</sup> Now therefore seeing that I am come to speak this word unto my lord the king, it is because the people have made me afraid; and thy handmaid said: I will now speak unto the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his servant. <sup>16</sup> For the king will hear, to deliver his servant out of the hand of the man that would destroy me and my son together out of the inheritance of G-d. <sup>17</sup> Then thy handmaid said: Let, I pray thee, the word of my lord the king be for my comfort; for as an angel of G-d, so is my lord the king to discern good and bad; and HaShem thy G-d be with thee.' <sup>18</sup> Then the king answered and said unto the woman: 'Hide not from me, I pray thee, aught that I shall ask thee.' And the woman said: 'Let my lord the king now speak.' <sup>19</sup> And the king said: 'Is the hand of Joab with thee in all this?' And the woman answered and said: 'As thy soul liveth, my lord the king, none can turn to the right hand or to the left from aught that my lord the king hath spoken; for thy servant Joab, he bade me, and he put all these words in the mouth of thy handmaid; <sup>20</sup> to change the face of the matter hath thy servant Joab done this thing; and my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of an angel of G-d, to know all things that are in the earth.' <sup>21</sup> And the king said unto Joab: 'Behold now, I have granted this request; go therefore, bring the young man Absalom back.' <sup>22</sup> And Joab fell to the ground on his face, and prostrated himself, and blessed the king; and Joab said: 'To-day thy servant knoweth that I have found favour in thy sight, my lord, O king, in that the king hath performed the request of thy servant.' <sup>23</sup> So Joab arose and went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem. <sup>24</sup> And the king said: 'Let him turn to his own house, but let him not see my face.' So Absalom turned to his own house, and saw not the king's face. <sup>25</sup> Now in all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty; from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him. <sup>26</sup> And when he polled his head — now it was at every year's end that he polled it; because the hair was heavy on him, therefore he polled it — he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels, after the king's weight. <sup>27</sup> And unto Absalom there were born three sons, and one daughter, whose name was Tamar; she was a woman of a fair countenance. <sup>28</sup> And Absalom dwelt two full years in Jerusalem; and he saw not the king's face. <sup>29</sup> Then Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king; but he would not come to him; and he sent again a second time, but he would not come. <sup>30</sup> Therefore he said unto his servants: 'See, Joab's field is near mine, and he hath barley there; go and set it on fire.' And Absalom's servants set the field on fire. <sup>31</sup> Then Joab arose, and came to Absalom unto his house, and said unto him: 'Wherefore have thy servants set my field on fire?' <sup>32</sup> And Absalom answered Joab: 'Behold, I sent unto thee, saying: Come hither, that I may send thee to the king, to say: Wherefore am I come from Geshur? it were better for me to be there still; now therefore let me see the king's face; and if there be iniquity in me, let him kill me.' <sup>33</sup> So Joab came to the king, and told him; and when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king, and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king; and the king kissed Absalom.

<sup>1</sup> וַיֵּדַע, יוֹאָב בֶּן-צֵרוּיָה: כִּי-לֵב הַמֶּלֶךְ, עַל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם. <sup>2</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח יוֹאָב תְּקוּעָה, וַיִּקַּח מִשָּׁם אִשָּׁה חֲכָמָה; וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלֶיהָ הַתְּאֵבֶל־נָא וּלְבָשִׁי-נָא וּלְבָשִׁי-אֵבֶל, וְאֶל-תְּסוּכִי שָׁמָּה, וְהָיִית, כְּאִשָּׁה זֹה יָמִים רַבִּים מִתְאַבֵּלֶת עַל-מֵת. <sup>3</sup> וּבָאֵת, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְדַבַּרְתְּ אֵלָיו, כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה; וַיִּשֶׁם יוֹאָב אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים, בְּפִיהָ. <sup>4</sup> וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה הַתְּקִיעִית, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַתִּפֹּל עַל-אַפִּיָּה אֶרְצָה, וַתִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶי: וַתֹּאמֶר, הוֹשַׁעָה הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>5</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר-לָהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ, מַה-לָּךְ; וַתֹּאמֶר, אֲבָל אִשָּׁה-אַלְמָנָה אֲנִי--וַיָּמָת אִישִׁי. <sup>6</sup> וַיִּלְשָׁפְחֶתָּהּ, שְׁנֵי בָנִים, וַיַּצְנוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם בְּשָׂדֶה, וְאִין מִצִּיל בִּינֵיהֶם; וַיָּכּוּ הָאֶחָד אֶת-הָאֶחָד, וַיָּמָת אֹתוֹ. <sup>7</sup> וַהֲנֵה קָמָה כָּל-הַמִּשְׁפָּחָה עַל-שִׁפְחֶתָּהּ, וַיֹּאמְרוּ תֵּנִי אֶת-מִכָּה אֲחִיו וּנְמַתְהוּ בְּנֶפֶשׁ אֲחִיו אֲשֶׁר הָרַג, וּנִשְׁמִידָהּ, גַּם אֶת-הַיּוֹרֵשׁ; וְכִבּוּ, אֶת-גִּחְלֹתֶי אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁאָרָהּ, לְבָלְתִּי שׁוֹם-שִׁים-לְאִישִׁי שֵׁם וּשְׁאָרִית, עַל-פְּנֵי הָאָדָמָה. <sup>8</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הָאִשָּׁה, לְכִי לְבֵיתִךְ; וְאֲנִי, אֲצַוָּה עֲלֶיךָ. <sup>9</sup> וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה הַתְּקִיעִית, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, עָלִי אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ הַעֲזֹן, וְעַל-בֵּית אָבִי; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ וְכִסְאוֹ, נָקִי. <sup>10</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר, הַמֶּלֶךְ: הַמְדַּבֵּר אֵלַיךְ וְהִבֵּאתָ אֵלַי, וְלֹא-יִסִּיף עוֹד לִגְעַת בְּךָ. <sup>11</sup> וַתֹּאמֶר יִזְכֹּר-נָא הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, מִהֶרְבֵּית מִהֶרְבֶּת גָּאֹל הַדָּם לִשְׁחַת, וְלֹא יִשְׁמִידוּ, אֶת-בְּנֵי; וַיֹּאמֶר, חִי-יְהוָה, אִם-יִפֹּל מִשְׁעַרְת בְּנֶךָ, אֶרְצָה. <sup>12</sup> וַתֹּאמֶר, הָאִשָּׁה, תְּדַבֵּר-נָא שִׁפְחֶתָּהּ אֶל-אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ, דָּבָר; וַיֹּאמֶר, דְּבָרִי. <sup>13</sup> וַתֹּאמֶר, הָאִשָּׁה, וְלָמָּה תִּשְׁבָּתָה כְּזֹאת, עַל-עַם אֱלֹהִים; וּמְדַבֵּר הַמֶּלֶךְ הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, כְּאִשָּׁם, לְבָלְתִּי הָשִׁיב הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶת-נִדְחוֹ. <sup>14</sup> כִּי-מוֹת נָמוּת--וְכַמִּים הַנִּגָּרִים אֶרְצָה, אֲשֶׁר לֹא יֵאָסְפוּ; וְלֹא-יִשָּׂא אֱלֹהִים, נֶפֶשׁ, וְחֶשֶׁב מִחֲשָׁבוֹת, לְבָלְתִּי יָדַח מִמֶּנּוּ נִדַּח. <sup>15</sup> וְעַתָּה אֲשֶׁר-בָּאתִי לְדַבֵּר אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲדֹנִי, אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה--כִּי יֵרָאֵנִי, הָעָם; וַתֹּאמֶר שִׁפְחֶתָּהּ אֲדַבֵּרָה-נָא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, אוֹלִי יַעֲשֶׂה הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-דְּבָר אֲמָתוֹ. <sup>16</sup> כִּי יִשְׁמַע הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְהַצִּיל אֶת-אֲמָתוֹ מִכַּף הָאִישׁ, לְהַשְׁמִיד אֹתִי וְאֶת-בְּנֵי יָחַד, מִנְּחֻלַת אֱלֹהִים. <sup>17</sup> וַתֹּאמֶר, שִׁפְחֶתָּהּ, וְיְהוָה-נָא דָּבַר-אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְמַנְחָה: כִּי כְּמִלֵּאֵךְ הָאֱלֹהִים, בֶּן אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ לְשִׁמְעַ הַטוֹב וְהָרַע, וְיִהְיֶה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, יְהִי עִמָּךְ. <sup>18</sup> וַיַּעַן הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-הָאִשָּׁה, אֶל-נָא תִכְחָדִי מִמֶּנִּי דָּבָר, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי שָׂאֹל אֹתָךְ; וַתֹּאמֶר, הָאִשָּׁה, יְדַבֵּר-נָא, אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>19</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, הִנֵּד יוֹאָב אֵתָּהּ בְּכָל-זֹאת; וַתַּעַן הָאִשָּׁה וַתֹּאמֶר חִי-נִפְשֶׁךָ אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ אִם-אֵשׁ לְהַמִּין וּלְהַשְׁמִיל, מִכָּל אֲשֶׁר-דָּבַר אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ--כִּי-עֲבָדְךָ יוֹאָב הוּא צָנִי, וְהוּא שֵׁם בְּפִי שִׁפְחֶתָּהּ אֶת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה. <sup>20</sup> לְבַעֲבוֹר סָבַב אֶת-פְּנֵי הַדָּבָר, עָשָׂה עֲבָדְךָ יוֹאָב אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה; וְאֲדֹנִי חֶכֶם, כִּתְּכַמֵּת מִלֵּאֵךְ הָאֱלֹהִים, לְדַעַת, אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר בָּאָרֶץ. <sup>21</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-יוֹאָב, הֲנֵה-נָא עֲשִׂיתִי אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה; וְלָךְ הָשִׁיב אֶת-הַנֶּזֶר, אֶת-אַבְשָׁלוֹם. <sup>22</sup> וַיִּפֹּל יוֹאָב אֶל-פְּנָיו אֶרְצָה וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶי, וַיִּבָּרַךְ אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹאָב הַיּוֹם יָדַע עֲבָדְךָ כִּי-מִצְאָתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ, אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶת-דְּבָר עֲבָדְךָ. <sup>23</sup> וַיָּקָם יוֹאָב, וַיֵּלֶךְ גִּשּׁוּרָה; וַיָּבֵא אֶת-אַבְשָׁלוֹם, וַיְרוּשָׁלָּם. <sup>24</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ יֹסֵב אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, וּפְנֵי לֹא יֵרָאֶה; וַיֹּסֵב אַבְשָׁלוֹם אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, וּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ לֹא רָאָה. <sup>25</sup> וַיִּכְאַבְשָׁלוֹם, לֹא-הָיָה אִישׁ-יָפֵה בְּכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל--לְהֵלֵל מֵאֵד: מִכַּף רִגְלוֹ וְעַד קַדְקֶדוֹ, לֹא-הָיָה בּוֹ מוֹם. <sup>26</sup> וּבְגִלְחוֹ, אֶת-רֹאשׁוֹ, וְהָיָה מִקְּזֵן יָמִים לְיָמִים אֲשֶׁר יִגְלַח, כִּי-כָבֵד עָלָיו וּגְלַחוֹ; וַשְׁקֵל אֶת-שֹׁעַר רֹאשׁוֹ, מֵאֲתִים שְׁקָלִים בָּאֶבֶן הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>27</sup> וַיּוֹלְדוּ לְאַבְשָׁלוֹם שְׁלוֹשָׁה בָנִים, וּבַת אַחַת וּשְׁמָה תָמָר; הִיא הָיְתָה, אִשָּׁה יָפֶת מִרְאֶה. <sup>28</sup> וַיָּשֻׁב אַבְשָׁלוֹם בִּירוּשָׁלַם, שְׁנָתִים יָמִים; וּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, לֹא רָאָה. <sup>29</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח אַבְשָׁלוֹם אֶל-יוֹאָב, לְשַׁלֵּחַ אֹתוֹ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְלֹא אָבָה, לְבֹאוֹ אֵלָיו; וַיִּשְׁלַח עוֹד שְׁנִית, וְלֹא אָבָה לְבֹאוֹ. <sup>30</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-עֲבָדָיו רָחוּ חֵלְקָת יוֹאָב אֶל-יָדִי, וְלֹא-שָׁם שְׁעָרִים--לְכוּ, וְהוֹצִיתִי וְהִצִּיתִיהָ כְּאֵשׁ; וַיַּצִּתוּ עֲבָדֵי אַבְשָׁלוֹם, אֶת-הַחֲלָקָה--בְּאֵשׁ. <sup>31</sup> וַיָּקָם יוֹאָב, וַיָּבֵא אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם הַבֵּיתָה; וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו, לָמָּה הִצִּיתָ עֲבָדֶיךָ אֶת-הַחֲלָקָה אֲשֶׁר-לִי בְּאֵשׁ. <sup>32</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְשָׁלוֹם אֶל-יוֹאָב הֲנֵה שְׁלַחְתִּי אֵלַיךְ לֵאמֹר בֹּא הֲנֵה וְאֶשְׁלַחְתָּה אֹתָךְ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ לֵאמֹר, לָמָּה בָאתִי מִגִּשּׁוֹר--טוֹב לִי, עַד אֲנִי-שָׁם; וְעַתָּה, אֶרְאֶה פְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאִם-יֵשׁ-בִּי עוֹן, וְהִמָּתְנִי. <sup>33</sup> וַיָּבֵא יוֹאָב אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיַּגִּד לוֹ, וַיִּקְרָא אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם וַיָּבֵא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶי לוֹ עַל-אַפִּיו אֶרְצָה לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּשָּׁק הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְאַבְשָׁלוֹם.

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass after this, that Absalom prepared him a chariot and horses, and fifty men to run before him. <sup>2</sup> And Absalom used to rise up early, and stand beside the way of the gate; and it was so, that when any man had a suit which should come to the king for judgment, then Absalom called unto him, and said: 'Of what city art thou?' And he said: 'Thy servant is of one of the tribes of Israel.' <sup>3</sup> And Absalom said unto him: 'See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee.' <sup>4</sup> Absalom said moreover: 'Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man who hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!' <sup>5</sup> And it was so, that when any man came nigh to prostrate himself before him, he put forth his hand, and took hold of him, and kissed him. <sup>6</sup> And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment; so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel. <sup>7</sup> And it came to pass at the end of forty years, that Absalom said unto the king: 'I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto HaShem, in Hebron. <sup>8</sup> For thy servant vowed a vow while I abode at Geshur in Aram, saying: If HaShem shall indeed bring me back to Jerusalem, then I will serve HaShem.' <sup>9</sup> And the king said unto him: 'Go in peace.' So he arose, and went to Hebron. <sup>10</sup> But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying: 'As soon as ye hear the sound of the horn, then ye shall say: Absalom is king in Hebron.' <sup>11</sup> And with Absalom went two hundred men out of Jerusalem, that were invited, and went in their simplicity; and they knew not any thing. <sup>12</sup> And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered the sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom. <sup>13</sup> And there came a messenger to David, saying: 'The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom.' <sup>14</sup> And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem: 'Arise, and let us flee; for else none of us shall escape from Absalom; make speed to depart, lest he overtake us quickly, and bring down evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword.' <sup>15</sup> And the king's servants said unto the king: 'Behold, thy servants are ready to do whatsoever my lord the king shall choose.' <sup>16</sup> And the king went forth, and all his household after him. And the king left ten women, that were concubines, to keep the house. <sup>17</sup> And the king went forth, and all the people after him; and they tarried in Beth-merhak. <sup>18</sup> And all his servants passed on beside him; and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites, six hundred men that came after him from Gath, passed on before the king. <sup>19</sup> Then said the king to Ittai the Gittite: 'Wherefore goest thou also with us? return, and abide with the king; for thou art a foreigner, and also an exile from thine own place. <sup>20</sup> Whereas thou camest but yesterday, should I this day make thee go up and down with us, seeing I go whither I may? return thou, and take back thy brethren with thee in kindness and truth.' <sup>21</sup> And Ittai answered the king, and said: 'As HaShem liveth, and as my lord the king liveth, surely in what place my lord the king shall be, whether for death or for life, even there also will thy servant be.' <sup>22</sup> And David said to Ittai: 'Go and pass over.' And Ittai the Gittite passed over, and all his men, and all the little ones that were with him. <sup>23</sup> And all the country wept with a loud voice, as all the people passed over; and as the king passed over the brook Kidron, all the people passed over, toward the way of the wilderness. <sup>24</sup> And, lo, Zadok also came, and all the Levites with him, bearing the ark of the covenant of G-d; and they set down the ark of G-d — but Abiathar went up — until all the people had done passing out of the city. <sup>25</sup> And the king said unto Zadok: 'Carry back the ark of G-d into the city; if I shall find favour in the eyes of HaShem, He will bring me back, and show me both it, and His habitation; <sup>26</sup> but if He say thus: I have no delight in thee; behold, here am I, let Him do to me as seemeth good unto Him.' <sup>27</sup> The king said also unto Zadok the priest: 'Seest thou? return into the city in peace, and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz thy son, and Jonathan the son of Abiathar. <sup>28</sup> See, I will tarry in the plains of the wilderness, until there come word from you to announce unto me.' <sup>29</sup> Zadok therefore and Abiathar carried the ark of G-d back to Jerusalem; and they abode there. <sup>30</sup> And David went up by the ascent of the mount of Olives, and wept as he went up; and he had his head covered, and went barefoot; and all the people that were with him covered every man his head, and they went up, weeping as they went up. <sup>31</sup> And one told David, saying: 'Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom.' And David said: 'O HaShem, I pray Thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.' <sup>32</sup> And it came to pass, that when David was come to the top of the ascent, where G-d was wont to be worshipped, behold, Hushai the Archite came to meet him with his coat rent, and earth upon his head. <sup>33</sup> And David said unto him: 'If thou passest on with me, then thou wilt be a burden unto Me; <sup>34</sup> but if thou return to the city, and say unto Absalom: I will be thy servant, O king; as I have been thy father's servant in time past, so will I now be thy servant; then wilt thou defeat for me the counsel of Ahithophel.' <sup>35</sup> And hast thou not there with thee Zadok and Abiathar the priests? therefore it shall be, that what thing soever thou shalt hear out of the king's house, thou shalt tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests. <sup>36</sup> Behold, they have there with them their two sons, Ahimaaz Zadok's son, and Jonathan Abiathar's son; and by them ye shall send unto me every thing that ye shall hear.' <sup>37</sup> So Hushai David's friend came into the city; and Absalom was at the point of coming into Jerusalem.

<sup>1</sup> וַיְהִי, מֵאַחֲרֵי כֵן, וַיַּעַשׂ לוֹ אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, מִרְכָּבָה וּסָסִים; וַחֲמִשִּׁים אִישׁ, רָצִים לִפְנָיו. <sup>2</sup> וַהֲשָׁכִים, אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, וַעֲמַד, עַל-יַד דֶּרֶךְ הַשָּׁעַר; וַיְהִי כָל-הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר-יְהִי־לוֹ-רִיב לְבֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ לְמִשְׁפָּט, וַיִּקְרָא אֲבִשְׁלוֹם אֵלָיו וַיֹּאמֶר אִי-מָזָה עִיר אַתָּה, וַיֹּאמֶר, מֵאַחַד שְׁבִטֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל עֶבֶדְךָ. <sup>3</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, רָאֵה דְבָרְךָ טוֹבִים וְנֹכְחִים; וְשִׁמְעֵ אִין-לָךְ, מֵאַתְּ הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>4</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר, אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, מִי-יִשְׁמְנִי שֹׁפֵט, בְּאַרְצִי; וְעַלִּי, יָבֹא כָל-אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר-יְהִי־לוֹ-רִיב וּמִשְׁפָּט--וַהֲצַדִּיקְתִּיו. <sup>5</sup> וַיְהִי, בַּקֶּרֶב אִישׁ, לְהַשְׁתַּחֲוֹת, לוֹ; וְשָׁלַח אֶת-יָדוֹ וַהֲחִזִּיק לוֹ, וְנָשָׁק לוֹ. <sup>6</sup> וַיַּעַשׂ אֲבִשְׁלוֹם כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה, לְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲשֶׁר-יָבֹאוּ לְמִשְׁפָּט, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּגְנַב, אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, אֶת-לֵב, אֲנָשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>7</sup> וַיְהִי, מִקֵּץ אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה; וַיֹּאמֶר אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֵלֶכָּה נָא וְאֶשְׁלַם אֶת-נַדְרֵי אֲשֶׁר-נָדַרְתִּי לַיהוָה, בְּחֶבְרוֹן. <sup>8</sup> כִּי-נָדַר נָדַר עֶבֶדְךָ, בְּשִׁבְתִּי בְּגִשּׁוֹר בְּאֶרֶם לֵאמֹר: אִם-יִשְׁיֵב יָשׁוּב יִשִּׁיבִנִי יְהוָה יְרוּשָׁלַם, וְעַבַדְתִּי אֶת-יְהוָה. <sup>9</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר-לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ, לֵךְ בְּשָׁלוֹם; וַיָּקָם, וַיֵּלֶךְ חֶבְרוֹנָה. <sup>10</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח אֲבִשְׁלוֹם מְרָגְלִים, כָּל-שְׁבִטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר: כְּשִׁמְעֵכֶם, אֶת-קוֹל הַשֹּׁפָר, וְאֶמְרָתֶם, מֶלֶךְ אֲבִשְׁלוֹם בְּחֶבְרוֹן. <sup>11</sup> וְאֵת אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, הִלְכוּ מֵאֲתָנִים אִישׁ מִירוּשָׁלַם, קֶרְאִים, וְהַלְכִים לְחֶמֶס; וְלֹא יָדְעוּ, כָּל-דְּבָר. <sup>12</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח אֲבִשְׁלוֹם אֶת-אֲחִיתֹפֶל הַגִּילְגִּי יוֹעֵץ דָּוִד, מַעֲרִירוֹ מַגִּלָּה, בְּזִבְחוֹ, אֶת-הַזִּבְחִים; וַיְהִי הַקֹּשֶׁר אֲמֵץ, וַהֲעֵם הוֹלֵךְ וְרַב אֶת-אֲבִשְׁלוֹם. <sup>13</sup> וַיָּבֹא, הַמַּגִּיד, אֶל-דָּוִד, לֵאמֹר: הִנֵּה לִב-אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, אַחֲרֵי אֲבִשְׁלוֹם. <sup>14</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְכָל-עֶבְדָּיו אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ בִּירוּשָׁלַם, קוּמוּ וְנִבְרָחָה--כִּי לֹא-תִהְיֶה-לָנוּ פְּלִיטָה, מִפְּנֵי אֲבִשְׁלוֹם; מִהָרֹו לְלָכָת, סָן-יִמָּר וְהַשָּׁנָנוּ וְהַדִּיחַ עָלֵינוּ אֶת-הַרְעָה, וְהִכָּה הָעִיר, לִפִּי-חֶרֶב. <sup>15</sup> וַיֹּאמְרוּ עֲבָדֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ: כָּל אֲשֶׁר-יִבְחַר אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ, הִנֵּה עֶבְדֶּיךָ. <sup>16</sup> וַיֵּצֵא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְכָל-בֵּיתוֹ, בְּרִגְלָיו; וַיַּעֲזֹב הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶת עֶשֶׂר נָשִׁים פְּלִגְשִׁים--לְשֹׁמֵר הַבַּיִת. <sup>17</sup> וַיֵּצֵא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְכָל-הָעָם, בְּרִגְלָיו; וַיַּעֲמִדוּ, בֵּית הַמִּקְרָח. <sup>18</sup> וְכָל-עֲבָדָיו עֹבְרִים עַל-יָדוֹ, וְכָל-הַכְּרֹתִי וְכָל-הַפְּלִתִי; וְכָל-הַגִּתִּים שֵׁשׁ-מֵאוֹת אִישׁ, אֲשֶׁר-בָּאוּ בְּרִגְלוֹ מִגֵּת, עֹבְרִים, עַל-פְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>19</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-אֲתִי הַגִּתִּי, לָמָּה תֵּלֵךְ גַּם-אַתָּה אִתָּנִי; שׁוּב וְשֵׁב עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי-נִכְרִי אַתָּה, וְגַם-גִּלְהָ אַתָּה לְמִקְוֶמֶךָ. <sup>20</sup> תַּמּוּל בּוֹאֲךָ, וְהַיּוֹם אֲנוּעַךְ אֲנִיעֶךָ עִמָּנוּ לְלָכָת, וְאֲנִי הוֹלֵךְ, עַל אֲשֶׁר-אֲנִי הוֹלֵךְ; שׁוּב וְהִשָּׁב אֶת-אַחֶיךָ עִמָּךְ, חֶסֶד וְאֶמֶת. <sup>21</sup> וַיַּעַן אֲתִי אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיֹּאמֶר: חִי-יְהוָה, וְחִי אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ, כִּי אִם בְּמִקּוֹם אֲשֶׁר יְהִי־שָׁם אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ אִם-לְמֹת אִם-לְחַיִּים, כִּי-שָׁם יְהִי עֶבְדְּךָ. <sup>22</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אֲתִי, לֵךְ וְעֵבֵר; וַיַּעֲבֵר אֲתִי הַגִּתִּי, וְכָל-אֲנָשָׁיו, וְכָל-הַטָּף, אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ. <sup>23</sup> וְכָל-הָאָרֶץ, בֹּכִים קוֹל גָּדוֹל, וְכָל-הָעָם, עֹבְרִים; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ, עָבַר בְּנַחַל קֶדְרוֹן, וְכָל-הָעָם עֹבְרִים, עַל-פְּנֵי-דֶרֶךְ אֶת-הַמֶּדְבָּר. <sup>24</sup> וְהִנֵּה גַם-צָדוֹק וְכָל-הַלְוִיִּם אִתּוֹ, נִשְׂאִים אֶת-אֲרוֹן בְּרִית הָאֱלֹהִים, וַיֵּצְקוּ אֶת-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, וַיַּעַל אֲבִיתָר--עַד-תֵּם כָּל-הָעָם, לְעֹבֹר מִן-הָעִיר. <sup>25</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְצָדוֹק, הֵשֵׁב אֶת-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים הָעִיר: אִם-אֶמְצָא חֵן, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה--וְהִשָּׁבִנִי, וְהִרְאֵנִי אִתּוֹ וְאֵת-נְוָהוּ. <sup>26</sup> וְאִם כֹּה יֹאמֶר, לֹא הִפְצַתִּי בְּךָ: הַגִּנִּי--יַעֲשֶׂה-לִּי, כְּאֲשֶׁר טוֹב בְּעֵינָיו. <sup>27</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-צָדוֹק הַכֹּהֵן, הִרְוֹאֶה אַתָּה, שָׂכָה הָעִיר בְּשָׁלוֹם; וְאֲחִימֵעֵץ בְּנֵךְ וַיְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן-אֲבִיתָר, שְׁנֵי בְנֵיכֶם--אִתְּכֶם. <sup>28</sup> רְאוּ אֲנֹכִי מִתְמַהֲמָה, בַּעֲבֻרוֹת הַמֶּדְבָּר--עַד כּוֹא דָּבַר מַעֲמֵכֶם, לְהַגִּיד לִי. <sup>29</sup> וַיִּשָּׁב צָדוֹק וְאֲבִיתָר אֶת-אֲרוֹן הָאֱלֹהִים, יְרוּשָׁלַם; וַיִּשָּׁבוּ, שָׁם. <sup>30</sup> וְדָוִד עָלָה בַּמַּצְלָה הַזֹּתִים עָלָה וּבֹכָה, וְרָאשׁ לוֹ חִפּוּי, וְהוּא, הֹלֵךְ יָתֵף; וְכָל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ, חִפּוּ אִישׁ רֹאשׁוֹ, וְעָלוּ עָלָה, וּבָכָה. <sup>31</sup> וְדָוִד הִגִּיד לֵאמֹר, אֲחִיתֹפֶל בִּקְשָׁרִים עִם-אֲבִשְׁלוֹם; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, סָכֵל-נָא אֶת-עֲצַת אֲחִיתֹפֶל יְהוָה. <sup>32</sup> וַיְהִי דָוִד כֹּא עַד-הָרֹאשׁ, אֲשֶׁר-יִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה שָׁם לְאֱלֹהִים; וְהִנֵּה לִקְרָאתוֹ, חוּשֵׁי הָאָרֶץ, קָרוֹעַ כְּתָנָתוֹ, וְאֶדְמָה עַל-רֹאשׁוֹ. <sup>33</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ, דָּוִד: אִם עֹבְרָתָ אֲתִי, וְהִיָּת עָלִי לְמִשָּׂא. <sup>34</sup> וְאִם-הָעִיר תִּשׁוּב, וְאֶמְרָתָ לְאֲבִשְׁלוֹם עֶבְדְּךָ אֲנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶהְיֶה--עֶבֶד אֲבִיךָ וְאֲנִי מֵאֵן, וְעַתָּה וְאֲנִי עֶבְדְּךָ; וְהִפְרַתָּה לִּי, אֶת עֲצַת אֲחִיתֹפֶל. <sup>35</sup> וְהָלֹא עִמָּךְ שָׁם, צָדוֹק וְאֲבִיתָר הַכֹּהֲנִים; וְהִיָּה, כָּל-הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר תִּשְׁמַע מִבֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ--תִּגִּיד, לְצָדוֹק וּלְאֲבִיתָר הַכֹּהֲנִים. <sup>36</sup> הִנֵּה-שָׁם עִמָּם, שְׁנֵי בְנֵיהֶם--אֲחִימֵעֵץ לְצָדוֹק, וַיְהוֹנָתָן לְאֲבִיתָר; וַיִּשְׁלַחֲתֶם בִּידֵם אֵלַי, כָּל-דְּבָר אֲשֶׁר תִּשְׁמַעוּ. <sup>37</sup> וַיָּבֹא חוּשֵׁי רָעָה דָּוִד, הָעִיר; וְאֲבִשְׁלוֹם, יָבֹא יְרוּשָׁלַם.

<sup>1</sup> And when David was a little past the top, behold, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him, with a couple of asses saddled, and upon them two hundred loaves of bread, and a hundred clusters of raisins, and a hundred of summer fruits, and a bottle of wine. <sup>2</sup> And the king said unto Ziba: 'What meanest thou by these?' And Ziba said: 'The asses are for the king's household to ride on; and the bread and summer fruit for the young men to eat; and the wine, that such as are faint in the wilderness may drink.' <sup>3</sup> And the king said: 'And where is thy master's son?' And Ziba said unto the king: 'Behold, he abideth at Jerusalem; for he said: To-day will the house of Israel restore me the kingdom of my father.' <sup>4</sup> Then said the king to Ziba: 'Behold, thine is all that pertaineth unto Mephibosheth.' And Ziba said: 'I prostrate myself; let me find favour in thy sight, my lord, O king.' <sup>5</sup> And when king David came to Bahurim, behold, there came out thence a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera; he came out, and kept on cursing as he came. <sup>6</sup> And he cast stones at David, and at all the servants of king David; and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left. <sup>7</sup> And thus said Shimei when he cursed: 'Begone, begone, thou man of blood, and base fellow; <sup>8</sup> HaShem hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and HaShem hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son; and, behold, thou art taken in thine own mischief, because thou art a man of blood.' <sup>9</sup> Then said Abishai the son of Zeruiah unto the king: 'Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? let me go over, I pray thee, and take off his head.' <sup>10</sup> And the king said: 'What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? So let him curse, because HaShem hath said unto him: Curse David; who then shall say: Wherefore hast thou done so?' <sup>11</sup> And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants: 'Behold, my son, who came forth of my body, seeketh my life; how much more this Benjamite now? let him alone, and let him curse; for HaShem hath bidden him. <sup>12</sup> It may be that HaShem will look on mine eye, and that HaShem will requite me good for his cursing of me this day.' <sup>13</sup> So David and his men went by the way; and Shimei went along on the hill-side over against him, and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust. <sup>14</sup> And the king, and all the people that were with him, came weary; and he refreshed himself there. <sup>15</sup> And Absalom, and all the people, the men of Israel, came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him. <sup>16</sup> And it came to pass, when Hushai the Archite, David's friend, was come unto Absalom, that Hushai said unto Absalom: 'Long live the king, long live the king.' <sup>17</sup> And Absalom said to Hushai: 'Is this thy kindness to thy friend? why wentest thou not with thy friend?' <sup>18</sup> And Hushai said unto Absalom: 'Nay; but whom HaShem, and this people, and all the men of Israel have chosen, his will I be, and with him will I abide. <sup>19</sup> And again, whom should I serve? should I not serve in the presence of his son? as I have served in thy father's presence, so will I be in thy presence.' <sup>20</sup> Then said Absalom to Ahithophel: 'Give your counsel what we shall do.' <sup>21</sup> And Ahithophel said unto Absalom: 'Go in unto thy father's concubines, that he hath left to keep the house; and all Israel will hear that thou art abhorred of thy father; then will the hands of all that are with thee be strong.' <sup>22</sup> So they spread Absalom a tent upon the top of the house; and Absalom went in unto his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel. — <sup>23</sup> Now the counsel of Ahithophel, which he counselled in those days, was as if a man inquired of the word of G-d; so was all the counsel of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom.

<sup>1</sup> וְדָוִד, עָבַר מֵעֵט מִהָרָאֵשׁ, וְהִנֵּה צִיָּבָא נֹעַר מִפִּיבֹשֶׁת, לִקְרָאתוֹ; וְצֹמֵד חֲמָרִים חֲבָשִׁים, וְעֲלִיָּהֶם מֵאֲתִים לֶחֶם וּמֵאָה צִמּוּקִים וּמֵאָה קִיץ--וְגִבֵּל יֵין. <sup>2</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-צִיָּבָא, מָה-אֵלֶּה לָּךְ; וַיֹּאמֶר צִיָּבָא הַחֲמֹרִים לְבֵית-הַמֶּלֶךְ לְרֹכֵב, וּלְהֹלֵחַם וְהַלָּחֶם וְהַקִּיץ לְאֹכֹל הַנֹּעָרִים, וְהַיֵּין, לְשִׁתּוֹת הַיָּעֵף בַּמִּדְבָּר. <sup>3</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאַיָּה בֶן-אֲדֹנִיךָ; וַיֹּאמֶר צִיָּבָא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, הִנֵּה יוֹשֵׁב בִּירוּשָׁלַם--כִּי אָמַר, הַיּוֹם יָשִׁיבוּ לִי בֵית יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת מַמְלָכוֹת אָבִי. <sup>4</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְצִבָּא, הִנֵּה לָּךְ, כָּל אֲשֶׁר לְמִפִּיבֹשֶׁת; וַיֹּאמֶר צִיָּבָא הַשְׁתַּחֲוִיתִי, אֲמָצָא-חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>5</sup> וְכֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד, עַד-בַּחֹרִים; וְהִנֵּה מִשֹּׁם אִישׁ יוֹצֵא מִמִּשְׁפַּחַת בֵּית-שָׁאוּל, וְשָׁמוּ שְׁמַעִי בֶן-גֵּרָא, יֹצֵא יָצוּא, וּמִקְלָל. <sup>6</sup> וַיִּסְקַל בְּאֲבָנִים אֶת-דָּוִד, וְאֶת-כָּל-עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד; וְכָל-הָעָם, וְכָל-הַגִּבֹּרִים, מִמִּינּוֹ, וּמִשְׁמָאלוֹ. <sup>7</sup> וְכֹה-אָמַר שְׁמַעִי, בְּקִלְלוֹ; צֵא צֵא אִישׁ הַדְּמִים, וְאִישׁ הַבְּלִיעַל. <sup>8</sup> הַשִּׁיב עֲלֶיךָ יְהוָה כָּל דָּמֵי בֵית-שָׁאוּל, אֲשֶׁר מָלַכְתָּ תַּחְתּוֹ, וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה אֶת-הַמְּלוּכָה, בְּיַד אַבְשָׁלוֹם בְּנֶךְ; וְהִנֵּה, בִּרְעֻתְךָ, כִּי אִישׁ דְּמִים, אַתָּה. <sup>9</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְיָשִׁי בֶן-צְרוּיָה, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, לָמָּה יִקְלָל הַכֶּלֶב הַזֶּה, אֶת-אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ; אֲעֹבְרָה-נָא, וְאֶסִּירָה אֶת-רֹאשׁוֹ. <sup>10</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, מָה-לִּי וְלָכֶם בְּנֵי צְרוּיָה; כִּי כֹה יִקְלָל, וְכִי כִי יְהוָה אָמַר לוֹ קִלְל אֶת-דָּוִד, וּמִי יֹאמַר, מִדּוֹעַ עֲשִׂיתָהּ בֶּן. <sup>11</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אַבְיָשִׁי וְאֶל-כָּל-עַבְדָּיו, הִנֵּה בְנֵי אֲשֶׁר-יֹצֵא מִמַּעַי מִבְּקֹשׁ אֶת-נַפְשִׁי; וְאַף כִּי-עָתָה בֶּן-הַיְמִינִי, הִנָּחוּ לוֹ וַיִּקְלָל--כִּי אָמַר-לוֹ, יְהוָה. <sup>12</sup> אוֹלִי יִרְאֶה יְהוָה, בַּעֲוֹנֵי בְּעִינִי; וְהַשִּׁיב יְהוָה לִי טוֹבָה, תַּחַת קִלְתּוֹ הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. <sup>13</sup> וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו, בַּדֶּרֶךְ; וְשְׁמַעִי הִלֵּךְ בְּצִלְע הַהָר לַעֲמָתוֹ, הַלֹּךְ וַיִּקְלָל, וַיִּסְקַל בְּאֲבָנִים לַעֲמָתוֹ, וְעֹפֵר בַּעֲפָר. <sup>14</sup> וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְכָל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ, צִיִּפִּים; וַיִּנָּפֶשׁ, שָׁם. <sup>15</sup> וְאַבְשָׁלוֹם, וְכָל-הָעָם אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, בָּאוּ, יְרוּשָׁלַם; וְאַחִיתֹפֶל, אִתּוֹ. <sup>16</sup> וַיְהִי, כְּאֲשֶׁר-בָּא חוּשִׁי הָאֶרֶכִי רָעָה דָּוִד--אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם; וַיֹּאמֶר חוּשִׁי אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם, יְחִי הַמֶּלֶךְ יְחִי הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>17</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְשָׁלוֹם אֶל-חוּשִׁי, זֶה חֲסִדְךָ אֶת-רַעְךָ; לָמָּה לֹא-הִלַּכְתָּ, אֶת-רַעְךָ. <sup>18</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר חוּשִׁי, אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם, לֹא, כִּי אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר יְהוָה וְהָעָם הַזֶּה וְכָל-אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל--לֹא לוֹ אֶהְיֶה, וְאִתּוֹ אֲשִׁב. <sup>19</sup> וְהַשְׁנִיתִי, לְמִי אֲנִי אֶעֱבֹד--הֲלוֹא, לְפָנַי בָּנוּ; כְּאֲשֶׁר עֲבַדְתִּי לְפָנַי אָבִיד, בֶּן אֶהְיֶה לְפָנֶיךָ. <sup>20</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְשָׁלוֹם, אֶל-אַחִיתֹפֶל: הֲבֹ לָכֶם עֲצָה, מִה-נִּעֲשֶׂה. <sup>21</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אַחִיתֹפֶל, אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם, בּוֹא אֶל-פִּלְגֵּשִׁי אָבִיד, אֲשֶׁר הִנִּיחַ לְשֹׁמֹר הַבָּיִת; וְשָׁמַע כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, כִּי-נִבְאָשְׁתָּ אֶת-אָבִיד, וְחִזְקוּ, יְדֵי כָל-אֲשֶׁר אִתָּךְ. <sup>22</sup> וַיִּטּוּ לְאַבְשָׁלוֹם הָאֱהָל, עַל-הַגֵּג; וַיָּבֹאוּ אַבְשָׁלוֹם אֶל-פִּלְגֵּשִׁי אָבִיו, לְעִינֵי כָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>23</sup> וַעֲצַת אַחִיתֹפֶל, אֲשֶׁר יָעַץ בְּיָמֵם הָהֶם, כְּאֲשֶׁר יִשְׁאֵל-אִישׁ, בְּדֹבֵר הָאֱלֹהִים; בֶּן כָּל-עֲצַת אַחִיתֹפֶל, גַּם-לְדָּוִד גַּם לְאַבְשָׁלוֹם.

<sup>1</sup> Moreover Ahithophel said unto Absalom: 'Let me now choose out twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue after David this night; <sup>2</sup> and I will come upon him while he is weary and weak-handed, and will make him afraid; and all the people that are with him shall flee; and I will smite the king only; <sup>3</sup> and I will bring back all the people unto thee; when all shall have returned, save the man whom thou seekest, all the people will be in peace.' <sup>4</sup> And the saying pleased Absalom well, and all the elders of Israel. <sup>5</sup> Then said Absalom: 'Call now Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear likewise what he saith.' <sup>6</sup> And when Hushai was come to Absalom, Absalom spoke unto him, saying: 'Ahithophel hath spoken after this manner; shall we do after his saying? if not, speak thou.' <sup>7</sup> And Hushai said unto Absalom: 'The counsel that Ahithophel hath given this time is not good.' <sup>8</sup> Hushai said moreover: 'Thou knowest thy father and his men, that they are mighty men, and they are embittered in their minds, as a bear robbed of her whelps in the field; and thy father is a man of war, and will not lodge with the people. <sup>9</sup> Behold, he is hid now in some pit, or in some place; and it will come to pass, when they fall upon them at the first, and whosoever heareth it shall say: There is a slaughter among the people that follow Absalom; <sup>10</sup> then even he that is valiant, whose heart is as the heart of a lion, will utterly melt; for all Israel knoweth that thy father is a mighty man, and they that are with him are valiant men. <sup>11</sup> But I counsel that all Israel be gathered together unto thee, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, as the sand that is by the sea for multitude; and that thou go to battle in thine own person. <sup>12</sup> So shall we come upon him in some place where he shall be found, and we will light upon him as the dew falleth on the ground; and of him and of all the men that are with him we will not leave so much as one. <sup>13</sup> Moreover, if he withdraw himself into a city, then shall all Israel bring up ropes to that city, and we will draw it into the valley until there be not one small stone found there.' <sup>14</sup> And Absalom and all the men of Israel said: 'The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel.' — For HaShem had ordained to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that HaShem might bring evil upon Absalom. <sup>15</sup> Then said Hushai unto Zadok and to Abiathar the priests: 'Thus and thus did Ahithophel counsel Absalom and the elders of Israel; and thus and thus have I counselled. <sup>16</sup> Now therefore send quickly, and tell David, saying: Lodge not this night in the plains of the wilderness, but in any wise pass over; lest the king be swallowed up, and all the people that are with him.' <sup>17</sup> Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed by En-rogel; and a maid-servant used to go and tell them; and they went and told king David; for they might not be seen to come into the city. <sup>18</sup> But a lad saw them, and told Absalom; and they went both of them away quickly, and came to the house of a man in Bahurim, who had a well in his court; and they went down thither. <sup>19</sup> And the woman took and spread the covering over the well's mouth, and strewed groats thereon; and nothing was known. <sup>20</sup> And Absalom's servants came to the woman to the house; and they said: 'Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?' And the woman said unto them: 'They are gone over the brook of water.' And when they had sought and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem. <sup>21</sup> And it came to pass, after they were departed, that they came up out of the well, and went and told king David; and they said unto David: 'Arise ye, and pass quickly over the water; for thus hath Ahithophel counselled against you.' <sup>22</sup> Then David arose, and all the people that were with him, and they passed over the Jordan; by the morning light there lacked not one of them that was not gone over the Jordan. <sup>23</sup> And when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his ass, and arose, and got him home, unto his city, and set his house in order, and strangled himself; and he died, and was buried in the sepulchre of his father. <sup>24</sup> When David was come to Mahanaim, Absalom passed over the Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him. <sup>25</sup> And Absalom had set Amasa over the host instead of Joab. Now Amasa was the son of a man, whose name was Ithra the Jesraelite, that went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruiah Joab's mother. <sup>26</sup> And Israel and Absalom pitched in the land of Gilead. <sup>27</sup> And it came to pass, when David was come to Mahanaim, that Shobi the son of Nahash of Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and Machir the son of Ammiel of Lo-debar, and Barzillai the Gileadite of Rogelim, <sup>28</sup> brought beds, and basins, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and meal, and parched corn, and beans, and lentils, and parched pulse, <sup>29</sup> and honey, and curd, and sheep, and cheese of kine, for David, and for the people that were with him, to eat; for they said: 'The people is hungry, and faint, and thirsty, in the wilderness.'

<sup>1</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אַחִיתֹּפֶל, אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם: אֲבַחֲרָה נָא, שְׁנַיִם-עָשָׂר אֶלֶף אִישׁ, וְאִקְוִמָה וְאֶרְדָּפָה אַחֲרֵי-דָוִד, הַלֵּילָה. <sup>2</sup> וְאָבֹא עָלָיו, וְהוּא יִגַּע וַיִּרְפֶּה יָדָיו, וְהִחַרְדְּתִי אוֹתוֹ, וְנָס כָּל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ; וְהִפִּיתִי אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְבִדּוֹ. <sup>3</sup> וְאֲשִׁיבָה כָּל-הָעָם, אֵלָיךְ: כְּשׁוֹב הַכֹּל--הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר אִתָּה מִבְּקֶשׁ, כָּל-הָעָם יִהְיֶה שְׁלוֹם. <sup>4</sup> וַיִּישֶׁר הַדָּבָר, בְּעֵינֵי אַבְשָׁלוֹם, וּבְעֵינָיו, כָּל-זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>5</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר, אַבְשָׁלוֹם, קְרָא נָא, גַּם לְחוּשֵׁי הָאֲרָבִי; וְנִשְׁמָעָה מֶה-בְּפִי, גַּם-הוּא. <sup>6</sup> וַיָּבֹא חוּשִׁי, אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם, וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְשָׁלוֹם אֵלָיו לֵאמֹר כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה דַּבֵּר אַחִיתֹּפֶל, הַנֶּעֱשֶׂה אֶת-דְּבָרוֹ; אִם-אֵין, אִתָּה דָּבָר. <sup>7</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר חוּשִׁי, אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם: לֹא-טוֹבָה הַעֲצָה אֲשֶׁר-יַעֲזֹב אַחִיתֹּפֶל, בַּפֶּעַם הַזֹּאת. <sup>8</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר חוּשִׁי, אִתָּה יָדְעָתָ אֶת-אֲבִיךָ וְאֶת-אֲנָשָׁיו כִּי גִבֹּרִים הֵמָּה וּמְרִי נֶפֶשׁ הֵמָּה, כְּדֹב שֹׁכוֹל, בַּשָּׂדֶה; וְאֲבִיךָ אִישׁ מִלְחָמָה, וְלֹא יִלִּין אֶת-הָעָם. <sup>9</sup> הֲנִה עִתָּה הוּא-נִחָבָא בְּאַחַת הַפְּתָחִים, אוֹ בְּאַחַד הַמְּקוֹמֹת; וְהִיָּה, בְּנִפְל בָּהֶם בַּתְּחִלָּה, וְשָׁמַע הַשָּׂמַע וְאָמַר, הִיתָה מִגִּפָּה בָּעַם אֲשֶׁר אַחֲרֵי אַבְשָׁלוֹם. <sup>10</sup> וְהוּא גַם-בֶּן-חֵיל, אֲשֶׁר לְבֹו כָּלֵב הָאֲרִיָּה--הַמָּס יָמָס: כִּי-יָדַע כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל כִּי-גִבּוֹר אֲבִיךָ, וּבְנֵי-חֵיל אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ. <sup>11</sup> כִּי יַעֲצָתִי, הָאֶסֶף יֶאֱסֹף עָלֶיךָ כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל מִדָּן וְעַד-בָּאָר שָׁבַע, כַּחוֹל אֲשֶׁר-עַל-הַיָּם, לְרֹב; וּפְנִיָּה לְחָכִים, בְּקִרְבִּי. <sup>12</sup> וּבָאֵנוּ אֵלָיו, בְּאַחַת הַמְּקוֹמֹת אֲשֶׁר נִמְצָא שָׁם, וְנִחַנּוּ עָלָיו, כְּאֲשֶׁר יִפֹּל הַטֹּל עַל-הָאֲדָמָה; וְלֹא-נֹתֵר בּוֹ וּבְכָל-הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ, גַּם-אֶחָד. <sup>13</sup> וְאִם-אֶל-עִיר, יֶאֱסֹף--וְהִשְׂאִיאוּ כָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל-הָעִיר הַהִיא, חֲבָלִים; וְסָחֲבֻנוּ אוֹתוֹ עַד-הַנַּחֲל, עַד אֲשֶׁר-לֹא-נִמְצָא שָׁם גַּם-צָרוֹר. <sup>14</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְשָׁלוֹם, וְכָל-אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, טוֹבָה עֲצַת חוּשִׁי הָאֲרָבִי, מֵעֲצַת אַחִיתֹּפֶל; וַיְהִיָּה צִוְּהָ, לְהַפֵּר אֶת-עֲצַת אַחִיתֹּפֶל הַטּוֹבָה, לְכַעֲבוֹר הַבֵּיא יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְשָׁלוֹם, אֶת-הָרָעָה. <sup>15</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר חוּשִׁי, אֶל-צָדוֹק וְאֶל-אַבִּיתָר הַכֹּהֲנִים, כְּזֹאת וְכֹזֹאת יַעֲזֹב אַחִיתֹּפֶל אֶת-אַבְשָׁלוֹם, וְאֵת זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְכֹזֹאת וְכֹזֹאת, יַעֲצָתִי אֲנִי. <sup>16</sup> וְעִתָּה שְׁלַחוּ מִהֲרָה וְהִגִּידוּ לְדָוִד לֵאמֹר, אֶל-תֵּלֵן הַלֵּילָה בְּעֲרֵבוֹת הַמִּדְבָּר, וְגַם, עֲבוֹר תַּעֲבוֹרוּ--פֶּן יִבְלַע לְמֶלֶךְ, וְלְכָל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ. <sup>17</sup> וַיַּהֲוִינָתָן וְאֲחִימַעֲזָן עֲמָדִים בְּעֵין-רֹגֵל, וְהִלָּכָה הַשִּׁפְחָה וְהִגִּידָה לָהֶם, וְהֵם יֵלְכוּ, וְהִגִּידוּ לְמֶלֶךְ דָּוִד: כִּי לֹא יוֹכְלוּ לְהִרְאוֹת, לְבֹא הָעִירָה. <sup>18</sup> וַיֵּרָא אִתָּם נֹעַר, וַיִּגַּד לְאַבְשָׁלוֹם; וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם מִהֲרָה וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-בֵּית-אִישׁ בְּבַחֲוִירִים, וְלוֹ בָּאָר בְּחֻצְרוֹ--וַיִּרְדּוּ שָׁם. <sup>19</sup> וַתִּקַּח הָאִשָּׁה, וַתִּפְרֹשׁ אֶת-הַמֶּסֶד עַל-פְּנֵי הַבָּאָר, וַתִּשְׁטַח עָלָיו, הָרַפּוֹת; וְלֹא נֹדַע, דָּבָר. <sup>20</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ עַבְדֵי אַבְשָׁלוֹם אֶל-הָאִשָּׁה הַבִּיתָה, וַיֹּאמְרוּ אִיָּה אַחִימַעֲזָן וַיַּהֲוִינָתָן, וַתֹּאמֶר לָהֶם הָאִשָּׁה, עֲבְרוּ מִיֵּכֶל הַמָּיִם; וַיִּבְקְשׁוּ וְלֹא מָצְאוּ, וַיֵּשְׁבוּ יְרוּשָׁלַם. <sup>21</sup> וַיְהִי אַחֲרֵי לִכְתָּם, וַיַּעֲלוּ מִהַבָּאָר, וַיֵּלְכוּ, וַיִּגִּדוּ לְמֶלֶךְ דָּוִד; וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל-דָּוִד, קוּמוּ וְעֲבְרוּ מִהֲרָה אֶת-הַמָּיִם--כִּי-כָכָה יַעֲזֹב עֲלֵיכֶם, אַחִיתֹּפֶל. <sup>22</sup> וַיָּקָם דָּוִד, וְכָל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ, וַיַּעֲבְרוּ, אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן: עַד-אוֹר הַבֶּקָר, עַד-אֶחָד לֹא נַעֲדָר, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-עָבַר, אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן. <sup>23</sup> וְאַחִיתֹּפֶל רָאָה, כִּי לֹא נַעֲשֶׂתָה עֲצָתוֹ, וַיַּחֲבֹשׁ אֶת-הַחֲמֹר וַיָּקָם וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ אֶל-עִירוֹ, וַיִּצֹו אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ וַיַּחֲבֹק; וַיָּמָת, וַיִּקְבֹּר בְּקִבְרֵי אָבִיו. <sup>24</sup> וְדָוִד, בָּא מִחֲנִיָּמָה; וְאַבְשָׁלוֹם, עָבַר אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן--הוּא, וְכָל-אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמּוֹ. <sup>25</sup> וְאֶת-עַמְּשָׂא, שֵׁם אַבְשָׁלוֹם תַּחַת יוֹאָב--עַל-הַצָּבָא; וְעַמְּשָׂא בֶן-אִישׁ, וְשִׁמּוֹ יִתְרָא הַיִּשְׂרָאֵלִי, אֲשֶׁר-בָּא אֶל-אַבִּיגַיִל בַּת-נָחֹשׁ, אֲחוֹת צְרוּיָה אִם יוֹאָב. <sup>26</sup> וַיַּחֲזֵן יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאַבְשָׁלוֹם, אֶרֶץ הַגִּלְעָד. <sup>27</sup> וַיְהִי, כְּבֹא דָוִד מִחֲנִיָּמָה; וְשָׁבִי בֶן-נָחֹשׁ מִרַבַּת בְּנֵי-עַמּוֹן, וּמִכִּיר בֶן-עַמִּיאֵל מֵלֹא דָבָר, וּבְרָזִלִי הַגִּלְעָדִי, מִרְגִּלִים. <sup>28</sup> מִשְׁכָּב וְסָפוֹת וּכְלֵי יוֹצֵר, וְחִטִּים וְשִׁעָרִים וְקִמְחָ וְקִלְי, וּפּוֹל וְעֹדֶשִׁים, וְקִלְי. <sup>29</sup> וַדְּבַשׁ וְחִמָּאָה, וְצֹאן וְשִׁפּוֹת בָּקָר, הִגִּישׁוּ לְדָוִד וְלָעָם אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ, לֶאֱכֹל: כִּי אֲמָרוּ--הָעָם רָעַב וְעָיַף וְצָמָא, בַּמִּדְבָּר.

<sup>1</sup> And David numbered the people that were with him, and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them. <sup>2</sup> And David sent forth the people, a third part under the hand of Joab, and a third part under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and a third part under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said unto the people: 'I will surely go forth with you myself also.' <sup>3</sup> But the people said: 'Thou shalt not go forth; for if we flee away, they will not care for us; neither if half of us die, will they care for us; but thou art worth ten thousand of us: therefore now it is better that thou be ready to succour us out of the city.' <sup>4</sup> And the king said unto them: 'What seemeth you best I will do.' And the king stood by the gate-side, and all the people went out by hundreds and by thousands. <sup>5</sup> And the king commanded Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying: 'Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with Absalom.' And all the people heard when the king gave all the captains charge concerning Absalom. <sup>6</sup> So the people went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was in the forest of Ephraim. <sup>7</sup> And the people of Israel were smitten there before the servants of David, and there was a great slaughter there that day of twenty thousand men. <sup>8</sup> For the battle was there spread over the face of all the country; and the forest devoured more people that day than the sword devoured. <sup>9</sup> And Absalom chanced to meet the servants of David. And Absalom was riding upon his mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great terebinth, and his head caught hold of the terebinth, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that was under him went on. <sup>10</sup> And a certain man saw it, and told Joab, and said: 'Behold, I saw Absalom hanging in a terebinth.' <sup>11</sup> And Joab said unto the man that told him: 'And, behold, thou sawest it, and why didst thou not smite him there to the ground? and I would have had to give thee ten pieces of silver, and a girdle.' <sup>12</sup> And the man said unto Joab: 'Though I should receive a thousand pieces of silver in my hand, yet would I not put forth my hand against the king's son; for in our hearing the king charged thee and Abishai and Ittai, saying: Beware that none touch the young man Absalom. <sup>13</sup> Otherwise if I had dealt falsely against mine own life — and there is no matter hid from the king — then thou thyself wouldest have stood aloof.' <sup>14</sup> Then said Joab: 'I may not tarry thus with thee.' And he took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the terebinth. <sup>15</sup> And ten young men that bore Joab's armour compassed about and smote Absalom, and slew him. <sup>16</sup> And Joab blew the horn, and the people returned from pursuing after Israel; for Joab held back the people. <sup>17</sup> And they took Absalom, and cast him into the great pit in the forest, and raised over him a very great heap of stones; and all Israel fled every one to his tent. — <sup>18</sup> Now Absalom in his life-time had taken and reared up for himself the pillar, which is in the king's dale; for he said: 'I have no son to keep my name in remembrance'; and he called the pillar after his own name; and it is called Absalom's monument unto this day. <sup>19</sup> Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok: 'Let me now run, and bear the king tidings, how that HaShem hath avenged him of his enemies.' <sup>20</sup> And Joab said unto him: 'Thou shalt not be the bearer of tidings this day, but thou shalt bear tidings another day; but this day thou shalt bear no tidings, forasmuch as the king's son is dead.' <sup>21</sup> Then said Joab to the Cushite: 'Go tell the king what thou hast seen.' And the Cushite bowed down unto Joab, and ran. <sup>22</sup> Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok yet again to Joab: 'But come what may, let me, I pray thee, also run after the Cushite.' And Joab said: 'Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou wilt have no reward for the tidings?' <sup>23</sup> 'But come what may, said he, I will run.' And he said unto him: 'Run.' Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the Plain, and overran the Cushite. <sup>24</sup> Now David sat between the two gates; and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate unto the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone. <sup>25</sup> And the watchman cried, and told the king. And the king said: 'If he be alone, there is tidings in his mouth.' And he came apace, and drew near. <sup>26</sup> And the watchman saw another man running; and the watchman called unto the porter, and said: 'Behold another man running alone.' And the king said: 'He also bringeth tidings.' <sup>27</sup> And the watchman said: 'I think the running of the foremost is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok.' And the king said: 'He is a good man, and cometh with good tidings.' <sup>28</sup> And Ahimaaz called, and said unto the king: 'All is well.' And he bowed down before the king with his face to the earth, and said: 'Blessed be HaShem thy G-d, who hath delivered up the men that lifted up their hand against my lord the king.' <sup>29</sup> And the king said: 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' And Ahimaaz answered: 'When Joab sent the king's servant, and me thy servant, I saw a great tumult, but I knew not what it was.' <sup>30</sup> And the king said: 'Turn aside, and stand here.' And he turned aside, and stood still. <sup>31</sup> And, behold, the Cushite came; and the Cushite said: 'Tidings for my lord the king; for HaShem hath avenged thee this day of all them that rose up against thee.' <sup>32</sup> And the king said unto the Cushite: 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' And the Cushite answered: 'The enemies of my lord the king and all that rise up against thee to do thee hurt, be as that young man is.'

<sup>1</sup> וַיִּפְקֹד דָּוִד, אֶת-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ; וַיִּשָּׂם עָלֵיהֶם, שָׂרֵי אֲלָפִים וְשָׂרֵי מֵאוֹת. <sup>2</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד אֶת-הָעָם, הַשְּׁלִישִׁית בְּיַד-יֹאבָב וְהַשְּׁלִישִׁית בְּיַד אֲבִישַׁי בֶּן-צְרוּיָה אַחֵי יֹאבָב, וְהַשְּׁלִישִׁית, בְּיַד אֶתִּי הַגִּתִּי; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הָעָם, יֵצֵא אֲצֵא גַם-אֲנִי עִמָּכֶם. <sup>3</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הָעָם לֹא תֵצֵא, כִּי אִם-נָס נָנוּס לֹא-יֵשִׁימוּ אֵלֵינוּ לֵב וְאִם-יָמָתוּ חֲצִינוּ לֹא-יֵשִׁימוּ אֵלֵינוּ לֵב--כִּי-עָתָה כְּמָנוּ, עֲשֻׁרָה אֲלָפִים; וְעָתָה טוֹב, כִּי-תִהְיֶה-לָּנוּ מַעֲרִיר לְעִזִּיר לְעֹזֹר. <sup>4</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר-יִיטֵב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם אֲעֻשֶׂה; וַיַּעֲמֵד הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-יַד הַשָּׁעַר, וְכָל-הָעָם יֵצְאוּ, לְמֵאוֹת וּלְאֲלָפִים. <sup>5</sup> וַיֵּצֵאוּ הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-יֹאבָב וְאֶת-אֲבִישַׁי וְאֶת-אֶתִּי, לֵאמֹר, לֵאט-לִי, לְנַעַר לְאַבְשָׁלוֹם; וְכָל-הָעָם שָׁמְעוּ, בְּצֹאת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים--עַל-דִּבְרֵי אֲבָשָׁלוֹם. <sup>6</sup> וַיֵּצֵא הָעָם הַשָּׂדֶה, לְקִרְיַת יִשְׂרָאֵל; וְתָהִי הַמִּלְחָמָה, בְּיַעַר אֶפְרַיִם. <sup>7</sup> וַיִּנָּגְפוּ שָׁם עִם יִשְׂרָאֵל, לִפְנֵי עַבְדֵי דָוִד; וְתָהִי-שָׁם הַמַּגָּפָה גְדוֹלָה, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא--עֲשָׂרִים אֲלָף. <sup>8</sup> וְתָהִי-שָׁם הַמִּלְחָמָה נִפְצוֹת נִפְצוֹת, עַל-פְּנֵי כָל-הָאָרֶץ; וַיִּרְבַּ הַיַּעַר לֵאכֹל בָּעָם, מֵאֲשֶׁר אָכְלָה הַחֶרֶב בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא. <sup>9</sup> וַיִּקְרָא, אֲבָשָׁלוֹם, לִפְנֵי, עַבְדֵי דָוִד; וְאַבְשָׁלוֹם רָכַב עַל-הַפָּרָד, וַיָּבֵא הַפָּרָד תַּחַת שׁוֹבֵךְ הָאֵלָה הַגְּדוֹלָה וַיַּחֲזֹק רֹאשׁוֹ בָּאֵלָה וַיִּתֵּן בֵּין הַשָּׁמַיִם וּבֵין הָאָרֶץ, וְהַפָּרָד אֲשֶׁר-תַּחְתָּיו, עָבַר. <sup>10</sup> וַיֵּרָא אִישׁ אֶחָד, וַיִּגַּד לְיֹאבָב; וַיֹּאמֶר, הִנֵּה רָאִיתִי אֶת-אֲבָשָׁלוֹם, תָּלוּי, בָּאֵלָה. <sup>11</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר יֹאבָב, לְאִישׁ הַמַּגִּיד לוֹ, וְהִנֵּה רָאִיתָ, וּמְדוּעַ לֹא-הִפַּתִּיו שָׁם אֶרְצָה; וְעָלִי, לְתֹת לָךְ עֲשֻׁרָה כֶּסֶף, וְחִגְרָה, אֶתָּה. <sup>12</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הָאִישׁ, אֶל-יֹאבָב, וְלֹא וְלֹא אֲנֹכִי שָׁקֵל עַל-כִּפִּי אֶלֶף כֶּסֶף, לֹא-אֲשַׁלַּח יָדִי אֶל-בֶּן-הַמֶּלֶךְ; כִּי בְּאֲזִינוּ עוֹנֵה הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶתָּה וְאֶת-אֲבִישַׁי וְאֶת-אֶתִּי לֵאמֹר, לֵאמֹר, שְׁמְרוּ-מִי, בְּנֹעַר בְּאֲבָשָׁלוֹם. <sup>13</sup> או-עֲשִׂיתִי בְּנַפְשׁוֹ בְּנַפְשִׁי שָׁקֵר, וְכָל-דִּבְרֵי לֹא-יִפְחַד מִן-הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְאַתָּה, תִּתְּנֵצֵב מִגִּד. <sup>14</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר יֹאבָב, לֹא-כֵן אֲחִילָה לִפְנֵיךְ; וַיִּקַּח שְׁלִשָּׁה שִׁבְטִים כֶּכֶּף, וַיַּחֲקֹעַם בְּלֵב אֲבָשָׁלוֹם--עוֹדְנוּ חַי, בְּלֵב הָאֵלָה. <sup>15</sup> וַיִּסְבּוּ עֲשֻׁרָה נְעָרִים, נִשְׁאִי כָלִי יֹאבָב; וַיָּכּוּ אֶת-אֲבָשָׁלוֹם, וַיִּמָּתֶהוּ. <sup>16</sup> וַיִּתְּקַע יֹאבָב, בַּשָּׁפָר, וַיִּשָּׁב הָעָם, מִרְדֹּף אַחֲרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: כִּי-הָשִׁיךְ יֹאבָב, אֶת-הָעָם. <sup>17</sup> וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת-אֲבָשָׁלוֹם, וַיִּשְׁלְכוּ אֹתוֹ בְּיַעַר אֶל-הַפַּחַת הַגְּדוֹל, וַיַּצְבּוּ עָלָיו גִּל-אֲבִנִּים, גְּדוֹל מְאֹד; וְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל--נָסוּ, אִישׁ לְאִהְלוֹ. <sup>18</sup> וְאַבְשָׁלוֹם לָקַח, וַיַּצְבּ לוֹ בַּחַיּוֹ אֶת-מַצֵּבַת אֲשֶׁר בְּעֵמֶק-הַמֶּלֶךְ--כִּי אָמַר אִין-לִי בֹן, בְּעֵבִיר הַזִּכִּיר שְׁמִי; וַיִּקְרָא לַמַּצֵּבַת, עַל-שְׁמוֹ, וַיִּקְרָא לָהּ יָד אֲבָשָׁלוֹם, עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה. <sup>19</sup> וְאַחִימַעֲזָן בֶּן-צְדוֹק, אָמַר, אֲרוּצָה נָא, וְאַבְשָׁרָה אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי-שָׁפְטוּ יְהוָה, מִיַּד אֲבִיו. <sup>20</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ יֹאבָב, לֹא אִישׁ בְּשָׂרָה אֶתָּה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, וּבִשְׂרָתָה, בַּיּוֹם אַחֵר; וְהַיּוֹם הַזֶּה לֹא תִבָּשֶׁר, כִּי-עַל-בֶּן בֶּן-הַמֶּלֶךְ מָת. <sup>21</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר יֹאבָב לְכּוּשִׁי, לָךְ הִגַּד לְמֶלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר רָאִיתָ; וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ כּוּשִׁי לְיֹאבָב, וַיֵּרָץ. <sup>22</sup> וַיֹּסֶף עוֹד אַחִימַעֲזָן בֶּן-צְדוֹק, וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-יֹאבָב, וַיְהִי מָה, אֶרְצָה-נָא גַם-אֲנִי אַחֲרֵי הַכּוּשִׁי; וַיֹּאמֶר יֹאבָב, לְמָה-זֶּה אַתָּה רֹץ בְּנִי, וּלְכָה, אִין-בְּשׁוּרָה מִצָּאָת. <sup>23</sup> וַיְהִי-מָה אֲרוּץ, וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ רוּץ; וַיֵּרָץ אַחִימַעֲזָן דֶּרֶךְ הַכֶּכֶר, וַיַּעֲבֹר אֶת-הַכּוּשִׁי. <sup>24</sup> וְדוֹד יוֹשֵׁב, בֵּין-שְׁנֵי הַשָּׁעָרִים; וַיִּלָּךְ הַצָּפָה אֶל-גִּג הַשָּׁעַר, אֶל-הַחוֹמָה, וַיִּשָּׂא אֶת-עֵינָיו וַיִּרְא, וְהִנֵּה-אִישׁ רֹץ לְבָדוּ. <sup>25</sup> וַיִּקְרָא הַצָּפָה, וַיִּגַּד לְמֶלֶךְ, וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, אִם-לְבָדוּ בְּשׁוּרָה בְּפִי; וַיִּלָּךְ הַלּוֹד, וַקָּרַב. <sup>26</sup> וַיֵּרָא הַצָּפָה, אִישׁ-אַחֵר רֹץ, וַיִּקְרָא הַצָּפָה אֶל-הַשָּׁעַר, וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה-אִישׁ רֹץ לְבָדוּ; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, גַּם-זֶה מִבָּשֶׁר. <sup>27</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר, הַצָּפָה, אֲנִי רָאִיתִי אֶת-מְרוּצַת הָרֹאשׁוֹן, כְּמַרְצַת אַחִימַעֲזָן בֶּן-צְדוֹק; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אִישׁ-טוֹב זֶה, וְאֶל-בְּשׁוּרָה טוֹכָה יָבוֹא. <sup>28</sup> וַיִּקְרָא אַחִימַעֲזָן, וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁלוֹם, וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ לְמֶלֶךְ לְאִפְיוֹ, אֶרְצָה; וַיֹּאמֶר, בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ, אֲשֶׁר סָגַר אֶת-הָאֲנָשִׁים, אֲשֶׁר-נִשְׂאוּ אֶת-יָדָם בְּאֲדָנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>29</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, שָׁלוֹם לְנַעַר לְאַבְשָׁלוֹם; וַיֹּאמֶר אַחִימַעֲזָן רָאִיתִי הַהֶמוֹן הַגְּדוֹל לְשַׁלַּח אֶת-עֶבֶד הַמֶּלֶךְ יֹאבָב, וְאֶת-עַבְדֵּךְ, וְלֹא יָדַעְתִּי, מָה. <sup>30</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, סֹב הַתִּיצֵב כֹּה; וַיִּסֹּב, וַיַּעֲמֵד. <sup>31</sup> וְהִנֵּה הַכּוּשִׁי, בָּא; וַיֹּאמֶר הַכּוּשִׁי, יְתִבָּשֶׁר אֲדָנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ--כִּי-שָׁפְטָךְ יְהוָה הַיּוֹם, מִיַּד כָּל-הַקָּמִים עָלֶיךָ. <sup>32</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הַכּוּשִׁי, הַשָּׁלוֹם לְנַעַר לְאַבְשָׁלוֹם; וַיֹּאמֶר הַכּוּשִׁי, יְהִי כְּנַעַר אֲבִי אֲדָנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְכָל אֲשֶׁר-קָמוּ עָלֶיךָ, לְרָעָה.

<sup>1</sup> And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, thus he said: 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!' <sup>2</sup> And it was told Joab: 'Behold, the king weepeth and mourneth for Absalom.' <sup>3</sup> And the victory that day was turned into mourning unto all the people; for the people heard say that day: 'The king grieveth for his son.' <sup>4</sup> And the people got them by stealth that day into the city, as people that are ashamed steal away when they flee in battle. <sup>5</sup> And the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice: 'O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!' <sup>6</sup> And Joab came into the house to the king, and said: 'Thou hast shamed this day the faces of all thy servants, who this day have saved thy life, and the lives of thy sons and of thy daughters, and the lives of thy wives, and the lives of thy concubines; <sup>7</sup> in that thou lovest them that hate thee, and hatest them that love thee. For thou hast declared this day, that princes and servants are nought unto thee; for this day I perceive, that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it had pleased thee well. <sup>8</sup> Now therefore arise, go forth, and speak to the heart of thy servants; for I swear by HaShem, if thou go not forth, there will not tarry a man with thee this night; and that will be worse unto thee than all the evil that hath befallen thee from thy youth until now.' <sup>9</sup> Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto all the people, saying: 'Behold, the king doth sit in the gate'; and all the people came before the king. Now Israel had fled every man to his tent. <sup>10</sup> And all the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying: 'The king delivered us out of the hand of our enemies, and he saved us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he is fled out of the land from Absalom. <sup>11</sup> And Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now, therefore, why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?' <sup>12</sup> And king David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying: 'Speak unto the elders of Judah, saying: Why are ye the last to bring the king back to his house? — For the speech of all Israel was come to the king, to bring him to his house. — <sup>13</sup> Ye are my brethren, ye are my bone and my flesh; wherefore then should ye be the last to bring back the king?' <sup>14</sup> And say ye to Amasa: Art thou not my bone and my flesh? G-d do so to me, and more also, if thou be not captain of the host before me continually in the room of Joab.' <sup>15</sup> And he bowed the heart of all the men of Judah, even as the heart of one man; so that they sent unto the king: 'Return thou, and all thy servants.' <sup>16</sup> So the king returned, and came to the Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to bring the king over the Jordan. <sup>17</sup> And Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjamite, who was of Bahurim, made haste and came down with the men of Judah to meet king David. <sup>18</sup> And there were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him. And they rushed into the Jordan before the king. <sup>19</sup> And the ferryboat passed to and fro to bring over the king's household, and to do what he thought good. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, when he would go over the Jordan. <sup>20</sup> And he said unto the king: 'Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did iniquitously the day that my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart. <sup>21</sup> For thy servant doth know that I have sinned; therefore, behold, I am come this day the first of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king.' <sup>22</sup> But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered and said: 'Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed HaShem'S anointed?' <sup>23</sup> And David said: 'What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries unto me? shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel? for do not I know that I am this day king over Israel?' <sup>24</sup> And the king said unto Shimei: 'Thou shalt not die.' And the king swore unto him. <sup>25</sup> And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king; and he had neither dressed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came home in peace. <sup>26</sup> And it came to pass, when he was come to Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said unto him: 'Wherefore wentest not thou with me, Mephibosheth?' <sup>27</sup> And he answered: 'My lord, O king, my servant deceived me; for thy servant said: I will saddle me an ass, that I may ride thereon, and go with the king; because thy servant is lame. <sup>28</sup> And he hath slandered thy servant unto my lord the king; but my lord the king is as an angel of G-d; do therefore what is good in thine eyes. <sup>29</sup> For all my father's house were deserving of death at the hand of my lord the king; yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet? or why should I cry any more unto the king?' <sup>30</sup> And the king said unto him: 'Why speakest thou any more of thy matters? I say: Thou and Ziba divide the land.' <sup>31</sup> And Mephibosheth said unto the king: 'Yea, let him take all, forasmuch as my lord the king is come in peace unto his own house.' <sup>32</sup> And Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim; and he passed on to Jordan with the king, to bring him on the way over the Jordan. <sup>33</sup> Now Barzillai was a very aged man, even fourscore years old; and he had provided the king with sustenance while he lay at Mahanaim; for he was a very great man. <sup>34</sup> And the king said unto Barzillai: 'Come thou over with me, and I will sustain thee with me in Jerusalem.' <sup>35</sup> And Barzillai said unto the king: 'How many are the days of the years of my life, that I should go up with the king unto Jerusalem? <sup>36</sup> I am this day fourscore years old; can I discern between good and bad? can thy servant taste what I eat or what I drink? can I hear any more the voice of singing men and singing women? wherefore then should thy servant be yet a burden unto my lord the king?' <sup>37</sup> Thy servant would but just go over the Jordan with the king; and why should the king recompense it me with such a reward? <sup>38</sup> Let thy servant, I pray thee, turn back, that I may die in mine own city, by the grave of my father and my mother. But behold thy servant Chimham; let him go over with my lord the king; and do to him what shall seem good unto thee.' <sup>39</sup> And the king answered: 'Chimham shall go over with me, and I will do to him that which shall seem good unto thee; and whatsoever thou shalt require of me, that will I do for thee.' <sup>40</sup> And all the people went over the Jordan, and the king went over; and the king kissed Barzillai, and blessed him; and he returned unto his own place. <sup>41</sup> So the king went over to Gilgal, and Chimham went over with him; and all the people of Judah brought the king over, and also half the people of Israel. <sup>42</sup> And, behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said unto the king: 'Why have our brethren the men of Judah stolen thee away, and brought the king, and his household, over the Jordan, and all David's men with him?' <sup>43</sup> And all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel: 'Because the king is near of kin to us; wherefore then are ye angry for this matter? have we eaten at all of the king's cost? or hath any gift been given us?' <sup>44</sup> And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said: 'We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more right in David than ye; why then did ye despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king?' And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

וַיִּרְגַּז הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיַּעַל עַל-עֲלֵית הַשָּׁעָר--וַיִּבְרָךְ; וְכֹה אָמַר בְּלִכְתּוֹ, בְּנִי אֲבִשְׁלוֹם בְּנֵי בְנֵי אֲבִשְׁלוֹם.  
מִי-יִתֵּן מוֹתִי אֲנִי תַחַתַּיָּה, אֲבִשְׁלוֹם בְּנֵי בְנִי.<sup>2</sup> וַיֵּגַד, לְיוֹאָב: הִנֵּה הַמֶּלֶךְ בָּכָה וַיִּתְאַבֵּל, עַל-אֲבִשְׁלוֹם.  
וַתְּהִי הַתַּשְׁעָה בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, לְאֶבֶל--לְכָל-הָעָם: כִּי-שָׁמַע הָעָם, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמֹר, נִגְעַצַּב הַמֶּלֶךְ,  
עַל-בְּנוֹ.<sup>4</sup> וַיִּתְגַּבַּב הָעָם בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, לְבֹאֵה הָעִיר: כַּאֲשֶׁר יִתְגַּבַּב, הָעָם הַנִּגְלָמִים--בְּנוֹסֶם, בַּמִּלְחָמָה.  
וַהֲמֶלֶךְ לֹאֵט אֶת-פָּנָיו, וַיִּזְעַק הַמֶּלֶךְ קוֹל גָּדוֹל: בְּנִי, אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, אֲבִשְׁלוֹם, בְּנֵי בְנִי.<sup>6</sup> וַיָּבֵא יוֹאָב  
אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, הַבַּיִת: וַיֹּאמֶר הַבִּשְׁתָּ הַיּוֹם אֶת-פָּנָי כָּל-עֶבְדֶּיךָ, הַמִּמְלָטִים אֶת-נַפְשָׁךְ הַיּוֹם, וְאֵת נַפְשִׁי  
בְּנִיד וּבְנֵתִיד, וְנָפֶשׁ נָשִׁיד וְנָפֶשׁ פִּלְגָּנִישִׁיד.<sup>7</sup> לֹא־הִבָּה, אֶת-שִׁנְאִיד, וּלְשִׁנְאָה, אֶת-אֲהֶבִיד: כִּי הַגִּדָּה הַיּוֹם,  
כִּי אֵין לָךְ שָׂרִים וְעֲבָדִים--כִּי יִדְעָתִי הַיּוֹם כִּי לֹא לֹאֵ אֲבִשְׁלוֹם חַי וְכָלְנוּ הַיּוֹם מֵתִים, כִּי-אֵז יָשָׁר  
עֲצִינִיד.<sup>8</sup> וְעַתָּה קוֹם צֵא, וְדַבֵּר עַל-לֵב עֶבְדֶּיךָ: כִּי בִיהִנֵּה נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי כִּי-אֵינִיד יוֹצֵא, אִם-לִילִין אִישׁ  
אֶתְּךָ הַלַּיְלָה, וְרָעָה לָךְ זֹאת מִכָּל-הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר-בָּאָה עֲלֶיךָ, מִנְּעִרֶיךָ עַד-עֲתָה.<sup>9</sup> וַיָּקָם הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיֵּשֶׁב  
בַּשָּׁעַר; וּלְכָל-הָעָם הַגִּידוּ לֵאמֹר, הִנֵּה הַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹשֵׁב בַּשָּׁעַר, וַיָּבֵא כָל-הָעָם לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל  
נָס אִישׁ לֹאֲהִלּוֹ.<sup>10</sup> וַיְהִי כָל-הָעָם נָדוֹן, בְּכָל-שִׁבְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר: הַמֶּלֶךְ הִצִּילָנוּ מִכַּף אֲבִיבֵנו  
וְהוּא מִלְּטָנוּ מִכַּף פִּלְשִׁתִּים, וְעַתָּה בָּרַח מִן-הָאָרֶץ, מֵעַל אֲבִשְׁלוֹם.<sup>11</sup> וְאֲבִשְׁלוֹם אֲשֶׁר מִשְׁחָנוּ עֲלֵינוּ,  
מָת בַּמִּלְחָמָה; וְעַתָּה, לָמָּה אַתֶּם מִחְרָשִׁים--לְהַשִּׁיב אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ.<sup>12</sup> וַהֲמֶלֶךְ דָּוִד, שָׁלַח אֶל-צִדּוֹק  
וְאֶל-אֲבִינֶתָר הַכֹּהֲנִים לֵאמֹר, דַּבְּרוּ אֶל-זִקְנֵי יְהוּדָה לֵאמֹר, לָמָּה תִּהְיוּ אֲחֻרָנִים לְהַשִּׁיב אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ  
אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ; וְדַבֵּר, כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, בָּא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ.<sup>13</sup> אַחֲרֵי אֵתָם, עֲצָמִי וּבִשְׂרֵי אֵתָם; וְלָמָּה תִּהְיוּ  
אֲחֻרָנִים, לְהַשִּׁיב אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ.<sup>14</sup> וְלַעֲמָשָׂא, תִּמְרוּ, הֲלוֹא עֲצָמִי וּבִשְׂרֵי, אֵתָה; כֹּה יַעֲשֶׂה-לִּי אֱלֹהִים,  
וְכֹה יוֹסִיף, אִם-לֹא שָׁר-צָבָא תִּהְיֶה לִפְנֵי כָל-הַיָּמִים, תַּחַת יוֹאָב.<sup>15</sup> וַיֵּט אֶת-לֵבָב כָּל-אִישׁ-יְהוּדָה,  
כַּאֲשֶׁר אָחָד; וַיִּשְׁלַחוּ, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, שׁוֹב אִתָּה, וְכָל-עֶבְדֶּיךָ.<sup>16</sup> וַיָּשֶׁב הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיָּבֵא עַד-הַיַּרְדֵּן; וַיַּהֲדֶה בָּא  
הַגִּלְגָּלָה, לְלַכַּת לְקִרְאֵת הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְהַעֲבִיר אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן.<sup>17</sup> וַיַּהֲמֶר, שְׁמַעִי בֶן-גֵּרָא בֶן-הַיָּמִינִי,  
אֲשֶׁר, מִבְּחֹרִים; וַיֵּרֶד עִם-אִישׁ יְהוּדָה, לְקִרְאֵת הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד.<sup>18</sup> וְאֶלָּף אִישׁ עִמּוֹ, מִבְּנֵימֹן, וַיְצִיבָא נַעַר  
בֵּית שְׂאוּל, וְחִמְשַׁת עָשָׂר בְּנָיו וְעַשְׂרִים עֶבְדָיו אִתּוֹ; וַצִּלְחוּ הַיַּרְדֵּן, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ.<sup>19</sup> וַעֲבָרָה הָעֲבָרָה,  
לְעִבְרֵי אֶת-בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְלַעֲשׂוֹת הַטוֹב, בְּעִנְיָו; וְשְׁמַעִי בֶן-גֵּרָא, נָפַל לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּעָבְרוֹ, בַּיַּרְדֵּן.  
<sup>20</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-יַחֲשָׁב-לִי אֲדֹנִי עוֹן, וְאֵל-תִּזְכֹּר אֵת אֲשֶׁר הִעֲנֶה עֲבָדְךָ, בַּיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר-יָצָא  
אֲדֹנִי-הַמֶּלֶךְ מִירוּשָׁלָּם--לָשׁוֹם הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-לְבֹ.<sup>21</sup> כִּי יָדַע עֲבָדְךָ, כִּי אֲנִי חַטָּאתִי; וְהִנֵּה-בָאתִי הַיּוֹם,  
רֹאשׁוֹן לְכָל-בֵּית יוֹסֵף, לָרֶדֶת, לְקִרְאֵת אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ.<sup>22</sup> וַיַּעַן אֲבִישִׁי בֶן-צְרוּיָה, וַיֹּאמֶר, תַּחַת זֹאת,  
לֹא יוֹמַת שְׁמַעִי: כִּי קָלַל, אֶת-מִשְׁחֵי יְהוָה.<sup>23</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, מַה-לִּי וְלָכֶם בְּנֵי צְרוּיָה--כִּי-תִּהְיוּ-לִי הַיּוֹם,  
לְשָׁטָן; הַיּוֹם, יוֹמַת אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל--כִּי הֲלוֹא יִדְעָתִי, כִּי הַיּוֹם אֲנִי-מֶלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל.<sup>24</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ  
אֶל-שְׁמַעִי, לֹא תָמוּת; וַיִּשְׁבַּע לוֹ, הַמֶּלֶךְ.<sup>25</sup> וּמִפִּיבִש

<sup>1</sup> Now there happened to be there a base fellow, whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite; and he blew the horn, and said: 'We have no portion in David, neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse; every man to his tents, O Israel.' <sup>2</sup> So all the men of Israel went up from following David, and followed Sheba the son of Bichri; but the men of Judah did cleave unto their king, from the Jordan even to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> And David came to his house at Jerusalem; and the king took the ten women his concubines, whom he had left to keep the house, and put them in ward, and provided them with sustenance, but went not in unto them. So they were shut up unto the day of their death, in widowhood, with their husband alive. <sup>4</sup> Then said the king to Amasa: 'Call me the men of Judah together within three days, and be thou here present.' <sup>5</sup> So Amasa went to call the men of Judah together; but he tarried longer than the set time which he had appointed him. <sup>6</sup> And David said to Abishai: 'Now will Sheba the son of Bichri do us more harm than did Absalom; take thou thy lord's servants, and pursue after him, lest he get him fortified cities, and escape out of our sight.' <sup>7</sup> And there went out after him Joab's men, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, and all the mighty men; and they went out of Jerusalem, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri. <sup>8</sup> When they were at the great stone which is in Gibeon, Amasa came to meet them. And Joab was girded with his apparel of war that he had put on, and thereon was a girdle with a sword fastened upon his loins in the sheath thereof; and as he went forth it fell out. <sup>9</sup> And Joab said to Amasa: 'Is it well with thee, my brother?' And Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him. <sup>10</sup> But Amasa took no heed to the sword that was in Joab's hand; so he smote him therewith in the groin, and shed out his bowels to the ground, and struck him not again; and he died. And Joab and Abishai his brother pursued after Sheba the son of Bichri. <sup>11</sup> And there stood by him one of Joab's young men, and said: 'He that favoureth Joab, and he that is for David let him follow Joab.' <sup>12</sup> And Amasa lay wallowing in his blood in the midst of the highway. And when the man saw that all the people stood still, he carried Amasa out of the highway into the field, and cast a garment over him, when he saw that every one that came by him stood still. <sup>13</sup> When he was removed out of the highway, all the people went on after Joab, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri. <sup>14</sup> And he went through all the tribes of Israel unto Abel, and to Beth-maacah, and all the Berites; and they were gathered together, and went in also after him. <sup>15</sup> And they came and besieged him in Abel of Beth-maacah, and they cast up a mound against the city, and it stood in the moat; and all the people that were with Joab battered the wall, to throw it down. <sup>16</sup> Then cried a wise woman out of the city: 'Hear, hear; say, I pray you, unto Joab: Come near hither, that I may speak with thee.' <sup>17</sup> And he came near unto her; and the woman said: 'Art thou Joab?' And he answered: 'I am.' Then she said unto him: 'Hear the words of thy handmaid.' And he answered: 'I do hear.' <sup>18</sup> Then she spoke, saying: 'They were wont to speak in old time, saying: They shall surely ask counsel at Abel; and so they ended the matter. <sup>19</sup> We are of them that are peaceable and faithful in Israel; seekest thou to destroy a city and a mother in Israel? why wilt thou swallow up the inheritance of HaShem?' <sup>20</sup> And Joab answered and said: 'Far be it, far be it from me, that I should swallow up or destroy. <sup>21</sup> The matter is not so; but a man of the hill-country of Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, hath lifted up his hand against the king, even against David; deliver him only, and I will depart from the city.' And the woman said unto Joab: 'Behold, his head shall be thrown to thee over the wall.' <sup>22</sup> Then the woman went unto all the people in her wisdom. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri, and threw it out to Joab. And he blew the horn, and they were dispersed from the city, every man to his tent. And Joab returned to Jerusalem unto the king. <sup>23</sup> Now Joab was over all the host of Israel; and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and over the Pelethites; <sup>24</sup> and Adoram was over the levy; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder; <sup>25</sup> and Sheva was scribe; and Zadok and Abiathar were priests; <sup>26</sup> and Ira also the Jairite was chief minister unto David.

<sup>1</sup> וְשֵׁם נִקְרָא אִישׁ בְּלִיעֵל, וְשֵׁמוֹ שָׁבַע בֶּן-בִּכְרִי--אִישׁ יְמִינִי; וַיִּתְקַע בַּשֹּׁפָר, וַיֹּאמֶר אֵין-לָנוּ חֵלֶק בְּדָוִד וְלֹא נַחֲלֶה-לָנוּ בֶּבֶן-יִשְׁי--אִישׁ לֹאֲהֶלְיוֹ, יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>2</sup> וַיַּעַל כָּל-אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, מֵאַחֲרֵי דָוִד, אַחֲרָי, שָׁבַע בֶּן-בִּכְרִי; וְאִישׁ יְהוּדָה דָּבְקוֹ בַּמֶּלֶכָּם, מִן-הִירְדֵּן וְעַד-יְרוּשָׁלַם. <sup>3</sup> וַיָּבֵא דָוִד אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, יְרוּשָׁלַם, וַיִּקַּח הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת עֶשְׂר־נָשִׁים פְּלִגְשִׁים אֲשֶׁר הֵנִיחַ לְשֹׁמֵר הַבַּיִת וַיִּתְּנֵם בֵּית-מִשְׁמֶרֶת וַיִּכְלָכֻלָם, וְאֶלִיהֶם לֹא-בָא; וַתִּהְיֶינָה צָרֻרוֹת עַד-יוֹם מָתוֹן, אֲלֻמֹּנוֹת חַיּוֹת. <sup>4</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-עֲמָשָׂא, הֲזַעֲק-לִי אֶת-אִישׁ-יְהוּדָה שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים; וְאַתָּה, פֹּה עֲמֹה. <sup>5</sup> וַיֵּלֶךְ עֲמָשָׂא, לְהִזְעִיק אֶת-יְהוּדָה; וַיִּיחַר וַיּוֹחַר, מִן-הַמוֹעֵד אֲשֶׁר יָעָדוֹ. <sup>6</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, אֶל-אַבִּישַׁי, עֲתָה יֵרַע לָנוּ שָׁבַע בֶּן-בִּכְרִי, מִן-אַבְשָׁלוֹם; אַתָּה קַח אֶת-עַבְדֵי אֲדֹנֶיךָ, וְרֹדְף אַחֲרָיו--פֶּן-מָצֵא לוֹ עָרִים בְּצֻרוֹת, וַהֲצִיל עֵינָיו. <sup>7</sup> וַיֵּצְאוּ אַחֲרָיו אַנְשֵׁי יוֹאָב, וַהֲפֹרְתִי וַהֲפֹלְתִי וְכָל-הַגִּבּוֹרִים; וַיֵּצְאוּ, מִירוּשָׁלַם, לְרֹדְף, אַחֲרָי שָׁבַע בֶּן-בִּכְרִי. <sup>8</sup> הֵם, עִם-הָאָבֶן הַגְּדוֹלָה אֲשֶׁר בְּגִבְעוֹן, וְעֲמָשָׂא, בָּא לַפְּנִיָּהֶם; וַיּוֹאֵב חָגוֹר מִדּוֹ לִבְשׁוֹ, וְעָלוּ חָגוֹר חָרֵב מִצְמַדֹּת עַל-מִתְנָיו בַּתְּעָרָה, וְהוּא יָצָא, וַתִּפֹּל. <sup>9</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹאָב לְעֲמָשָׂא, הֲשָׁלוֹם אַתָּה אָחִי; וַתַּחֲזֵז יָד-יָמִינִי יוֹאָב, בְּזִקְן עֲמָשָׂא--לְנִשֶּׁק-לוֹ. <sup>10</sup> וְעֲמָשָׂא לֹא-נִשְׁמַר בַּחֲרֵב אֲשֶׁר בֵּיד-יוֹאָב, וַיִּכְהוּ בָּהּ אֶל-הַחֹמֶשׁ וַיִּשְׁפֹּךְ מֵעִיו אַרְצָה וְלֹא-שָׁנָה לוֹ--וַיָּמָת; וַיּוֹאֵב, וְאַבִּישַׁי אַחֲיוֹ, רֹדְף, אַחֲרָי שָׁבַע בֶּן-בִּכְרִי. <sup>11</sup> וְאִישׁ עָמַד עָלָיו, מִנְּעָרֵי יוֹאָב; וַיֹּאמֶר, מִי אֲשֶׁר חָפֵץ בַּיּוֹאֵב וּמִי אֲשֶׁר-לְדָוִד--אַחֲרֵי יוֹאָב. <sup>12</sup> וְעֲמָשָׂא מִתְגַּלְל בָּדָם, בַּתּוֹךְ הַמִּסְלָה; וַיֵּרָא הָאִישׁ כִּי-עָמַד כָּל-הָעָם, וַיִּסֹּב אֶת-עֲמָשָׂא מִן-הַמִּסְלָה הַשָּׂדֶה וַיִּשְׁלַךְ עָלָיו בָּגֵד, כַּאֲשֶׁר רָאָה, כָּל-הַבָּא עָלָיו וְעָמַד. <sup>13</sup> כַּאֲשֶׁר הִגָּה, מִן-הַמִּסְלָה--עֹבֵר כָּל-אִישׁ, אַחֲרֵי יוֹאָב, לְרֹדְף, אַחֲרָי שָׁבַע בֶּן-בִּכְרִי. <sup>14</sup> וַיַּעֲבֵר בְּכָל-שִׁבְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲבֵלָה וּבֵית מַעֲכָה--וְכָל-הַבְּרִיִּם; וַיִּקְהֲלוּ, וַיָּבִיאוּ אֶף-אַחֲרָיו. <sup>15</sup> וַיָּבִיאוּ וַיֵּצְרוּ עָלָיו, בְּאֲבֵלָה בֵּית הַמַּעֲכָה, וַיִּשְׁפְּכוּ סִלְלָה אֶל-הָעִיר, וַתַּעֲמֹד בַּחֹל; וְכָל-הָעָם אֲשֶׁר אֶת-יוֹאָב, מִשְׁחִיתֵם לְהַפִּיל הַחוּמָה. <sup>16</sup> וַתִּקְרָא אִשָּׁה חֲכָמָה, מִן-הָעִיר; שָׁמְעוּ שָׁמְעוּ, אֶמְרוּ-נָא אֶל-יוֹאָב, קֵרֵב עַד-הַנָּה, וְאִדְבָּרָה אֵלֶיךָ. <sup>17</sup> וַיִּקְרַב אֵלֶיהָ, וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה הֲאֵתָה יוֹאָב וַיֹּאמֶר אָנִי; וַתֹּאמֶר לוֹ, שָׁמַע דְּבָרֵי אֲמָתְךָ, וַיֹּאמֶר, שָׁמַע אָנֹכִי. <sup>18</sup> וַתֹּאמֶר, לֵאמֹר: דִּבֵּר וְדַבְּרוּ בְּרֹאשׁוֹנָה לֵאמֹר, שְׂאוֹל יִשְׁאָלוּ בְּאֲבֵל וְכֵן תִּתְּמוּ. <sup>19</sup> אָנֹכִי, שְׁלָמִי אֲמוּנִי יִשְׂרָאֵל; אַתָּה מִבְּקֶשׁ, לְהַמִּית עִיר וְאִם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל--לְמָה תְּבַלַּע, נַחֲלֹת יְהוָה. <sup>20</sup> וַיַּעַן יוֹאָב, וַיֹּאמֶר: חֲלִילָה חֲלִילָה לִי, אִם-אֲבַלַּע וְאִם-אֲשִׁחִית. <sup>21</sup> לֹא-כֵן הִדְבַּר, כִּי אִישׁ מִהֵר אֶפְרַיִם שָׁבַע בֶּן-בִּכְרִי שָׁמוּ נִשָּׂא יָדוֹ בַּמֶּלֶךְ בְּדָוִד--תָּנוּ-אֹתוֹ לְבָדוֹ, וְאֵלֶכָה מֵעַל הָעִיר; וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֶל-יוֹאָב, הִנֵּה רֹאשׁוֹ מִשְׁלָךְ אֵלֶיךָ בְּעֵד הַחוּמָה. <sup>22</sup> וַתְּבוֹא הָאִשָּׁה אֶל-כָּל-הָעָם בַּחֲקֻמָּתָהּ, וַיִּכְרְתוּ אֶת-רֹאשׁ שָׁבַע בֶּן-בִּכְרִי וַיִּשְׁלְכוּ אֶל-יוֹאָב, וַיִּתְקַע בַּשֹּׁפָר, וַיִּפְּצוּ מֵעַל-הָעִיר אִישׁ לֹאֲהֶלְיוֹ; וַיּוֹאֵב שָׁב יְרוּשָׁלַם, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ. <sup>23</sup> וַיּוֹאֵב, אֶל כָּל-הַצָּבָא יִשְׂרָאֵל; וּבְנִיָּה, בֶּן-יְהוֹיָדָע, עַל-הַכְּרִי הַכְּרִיתִי, וְעַל-הַפִּלְתִּי. <sup>24</sup> וְאַדְרָם, עַל-הַמָּס; וַיְהוֹשִׁפֹט בֶּן-אַחִילוֹד, הַמִּזְכִּיר. <sup>25</sup> וְשִׂיא וְשָׁוְא, סֹפֵר; וְצִדּוֹק וְאַבְיָתָר, כֹּהֲנִים. <sup>26</sup> וְגַם, עִירָא הַיֶּזְרִי, הָיָה כֹהֵן, לְדָוִד.

<sup>1</sup> And there was a famine in the days of David three years, year after year; and David sought the face of HaShem. And HaShem said: 'It is for Saul, and for his bloody house, because he put to death the Gibeonites.' <sup>2</sup> And the king called the Gibeonites, and said unto them — now the Gibeonites were not of the children of Israel, but of the remnant of the Amorites; and the children of Israel had sworn unto them; and Saul sought to slay them in his zeal for the children of Israel and Judah — <sup>3</sup> and David said unto the Gibeonites: 'What shall I do for you? and wherewith shall I make atonement, that ye may bless the inheritance of HaShem?' <sup>4</sup> And the Gibeonites said unto him: 'It is no matter of silver or gold between us and Saul, or his house; neither is it for us to put any man to death in Israel.' And he said: 'What say ye that I should do for you?' <sup>5</sup> And they said unto the king: 'The man that consumed us, and that devised against us, so that we have been destroyed from remaining in any of the borders of Israel, <sup>6</sup> let seven men of his sons be delivered unto us, and we will hang them up unto HaShem in Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of HaShem.' And the king said: 'I will deliver them.' <sup>7</sup> But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of HaShem'S oath that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul. <sup>8</sup> But the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore unto Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholahite; <sup>9</sup> and he delivered them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them in the mountain before HaShem, and they fell all seven together; and they were put to death in the days of harvest, in the first days, at the beginning of barley harvest. <sup>10</sup> And Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth, and spread it for her upon the rock, from the beginning of harvest until water was poured upon them from heaven; and she suffered neither the birds of the air to rest on them by day, nor the beasts of the field by night. <sup>11</sup> And it was told David what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done. <sup>12</sup> And David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from the men of Jabesh-gilead, who had stolen them from the broad place of Beth-shan, where the Philistines had hanged them, in the day that the Philistines slew Saul in Gilboa; <sup>13</sup> and he brought up from thence the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son; and they gathered the bones of them that were hanged. <sup>14</sup> And they buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the country of Benjamin in Zela, in the sepulchre of Kish his father; and they performed all that the king commanded. And after that G-d was entreated for the land. <sup>15</sup> And the Philistines had war again with Israel; and David went down, and his servants with him, and fought against the Philistines; and David waxed faint. <sup>16</sup> And Ishbibenob, who was of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose spear was three hundred shekels of brass in weight, he being girded with new armour, thought to have slain David. <sup>17</sup> But Abishai the son of Zeruiah succoured him, and smote the Philistine, and killed him. Then the men of David swore unto him, saying: 'Thou shalt go no more out with us to battle, that thou quench not the lamp of Israel.' <sup>18</sup> And it came to pass after this, that there was again war with the Philistines at Gob; then Sibbecai the Hushathite slew Saph, who was of the sons of the giant. <sup>19</sup> And there was again war with the Philistines at Gob; and Elhanan the son of Jaare-oregim the Beth-lehemite slew Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. <sup>20</sup> And there was again war at Gath, where was a champion, that had on every hand six fingers, and on every foot six toes, four and twenty in number; and he also was born to the giant. <sup>21</sup> And when he taunted Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimea David's brother slew him. <sup>22</sup> These four were born to the giant in Gath; and they fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants.

<sup>1</sup> וַיְהִי רָעָב בִּימֵי דָוִד שְׁלֹשׁ שָׁנִים, שָׁנָה אַחֲרֵי שָׁנָה, וַיִּבְקֹשׁ דָּוִד, אֶת-פָּנָי יְהוָה; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, אֶל-שָׂאוּל וְאֶל-בֵּית הַדְּמִים, עַל אֲשֶׁר-הִמִּית, אֶת-הַגִּבְעֹנִים. <sup>2</sup> וַיִּקְרָא הַמֶּלֶךְ לַגִּבְעֹנִים, וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם: וְהַגִּבְעֹנִים לֹא מִבְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הֵמָּה, כִּי אִם-מִיִּתֵּר הָאֲמֹרִי, וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל נִשְׁבְּעוּ לָהֶם, וַיִּבְקֹשׁ שָׂאוּל לְהַכְתָּם בְּקִנְאָתוֹ לִבְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיְהוּדָה. <sup>3</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-הַגִּבְעֹנִים, מָה אַעֲשֶׂה לָכֶם; וּבְמָה אֲכַפֵּר, וּבְכֻכּוֹ אֶת-נִחְלַת יְהוָה. <sup>4</sup> וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ הַגִּבְעֹנִים, אִין-לִי לָנוּ כֶּסֶף וְזָהָב עִם-שָׂאוּל וְעִם-בֵּיתוֹ, וְאִין-לָנוּ אִישׁ, לְהָמִית בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיֹּאמֶר מָה-אַתֶּם אֲמֹרִים, אַעֲשֶׂה לָכֶם. <sup>5</sup> וַיֹּאמְרוּ, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר כָּלְנוּ, וְאֲשֶׁר דָּמָה-לָנוּ; נִשְׁמָדְנוּ, מִהֲתִיצֵב בְּכָל-גִּבְלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>6</sup> יִתֵּן-יְתֵן- לָנוּ שְׁבַעַה אֲנָשִׁים, מִבְּנָיו, וְהוֹקֵעֲנוּם לַיהוָה, בְּגִבְעַת שָׂאוּל בַּחִיר יְהוָה; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲנִי אֶתֵּן. <sup>7</sup> וַיַּחְמַל הַמֶּלֶךְ, עַל-מְפִיבֹשֶׁת בֶּן-יְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן-שָׂאוּל; עַל-שְׁבַעַת יְהוָה, אֲשֶׁר בִּינָתָם--בֶּין דָּוִד, וּבֵין יְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן-שָׂאוּל. <sup>8</sup> וַיִּקַּח הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-שְׁנֵי בָנֵי רִצְפָּה בַת-אֵיהָ, אֲשֶׁר יָלְדָה לְשָׂאוּל, אֶת-אַרְמֹנִי, וְאֶת-מְפִיבֹשֶׁת; וְאֶת-חַמִּשָּׁת, בָּנֵי מִיכָל בַּת-שָׂאוּל, אֲשֶׁר יָלְדָה לְעֹדְרִיאֵל בֶּן-בְּרוּזִלִי, הַמִּחְלָתִי. <sup>9</sup> וַיִּתֵּןם בְּיַד הַגִּבְעֹנִים, וַיִּקְיָצֵם בְּהָר לִפְנֵי יְהוָה, וַיַּפְּלוּ שִׁבְעָתִים שְׁבַעַתָּם, יָחַד; וְהֵם וְהֵמָּה הָמְתוּ בִּימֵי קָצִיר, בְּרֹאשֵׁינִים, תַּחֲלַת בַּתְּחִלַת, קָצִיר שְׁעִירִים. <sup>10</sup> וַתִּקַּח רִצְפָּה בַת-אֵיהָ אֶת-הַשֶּׁקֶ וַתִּטְהֹר לָהּ אֶל-הַצּוּר, מִתַּחֲלַת קָצִיר, עַד נִתְּךְ-מֵימַם עֲלֵיהֶם, מִן-הַשָּׁמַיִם; וְלֹא-נִתְּנָה עוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם לִנְיֹחַ עֲלֵיהֶם, יוֹמָם, וְאֶת-חַיַּת הַשָּׂדֶה, לִילָה. <sup>11</sup> וַיַּגֵּד, לְדָוִד, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָה רִצְפָּה בַת-אֵיהָ, פִּלְגָשׁ שָׂאוּל. <sup>12</sup> וַיִּלְךְ דָּוִד, וַיִּקַּח אֶת-עַצְמוֹת שָׂאוּל וְאֶת-עַצְמוֹת יְהוֹנָתָן בָּנוּ, מֵאֵת, בְּעָלֵי יִבִּישׁ גִּלְעָד--אֲשֶׁר גָּנְבוּ אֹתָם מִרְחֹב בֵּית-שָׁן, אֲשֶׁר תְּלוּם תִּלְאוּם שֵׁם הַפְּלִשְׁתִּים שָׁמָּה פְּלִשְׁתִּים, בְּיוֹם הַכּוֹת פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֶת-שָׂאוּל, בְּגִלְבָּעַ. <sup>13</sup> וַיַּעַל מִשָּׁם אֶת-עַצְמוֹת שָׂאוּל, וְאֶת-עַצְמוֹת יְהוֹנָתָן בָּנוּ; וַיֹּאסְפוּ, אֶת-עַצְמוֹת הַמּוֹקְעִים. <sup>14</sup> וַיִּקְבְּרוּ אֶת-עַצְמוֹת-שָׂאוּל וַיְהוֹנָתָן-בָּנוּ בְּאֶרֶץ בְּנִימִן בְּצִלְעַ, בְּקִבְרֵי קִישׁ אֲבִיו, וַיַּעֲשׂוּ, כָּל אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיַּעֲתֵר אֱלֹהִים לְאֶרֶץ, אַחֲרֵי-כֵן. <sup>15</sup> וַתְּהִי-עוֹד מִלְחָמָה לְפִלְשְׁתִּים, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיֵּרֶד דָּוִד וַיַּעֲבְדֵי עִמּוֹ, וַיִּלְחַמוּ אֶת-פְּלִשְׁתִּים--וַיַּעַף דָּוִד. <sup>16</sup> וַיֵּשְׁבוּ וַיִּשְׁכְּנוּ בְּנֹב אֲשֶׁר בִּילִידֵי הָרֶפָּה, וּמִשְׁקַל קִינוֹ שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת מִשְׁקַל נְחֹשֶׁת, וְהוּא, תְּגוּר חֲדָשָׁה; וַיֹּאמֶר, לְהַכּוֹת אֶת-דָּוִד. <sup>17</sup> וַיַּעֲזֹר-לוֹ אֲבִישַׁי בֶּן-צְרוּיָה, וַיִּךְ אֶת-הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי וַיִּמָּתֶהוּ; אִזּוֹ נִשְׁבְּעוּ אֲנָשֵׁי-דָוִד לֹא לֵאמֹר, לֹא-תֵצֵא עוֹד אֶתְנוֹ מִלְחָמָה, וְלֹא תִכָּבֶה, אֶת-נֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>18</sup> וַיְהִי, אַחֲרֵי-כֵן, וַתְּהִי-עוֹד הַמִּלְחָמָה בְּגוֹב, עִם-פְּלִשְׁתִּים; אִזּוֹ הִכָּה, סִבְכִי הַחֲשָׁשִׁי, אֶת-סָפָה, אֲשֶׁר בִּילִידֵי הָרֶפָּה. <sup>19</sup> וַתְּהִי-עוֹד הַמִּלְחָמָה בְּגוֹב, עִם-פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיִּךְ אֶלְחָנָן בֶּן-יִעָרִי אֲרָגִים בֵּית הַלְחָמִי, אֶת גִּלְיָת הַגִּתִּי, וַעֲץ חֲנִיתוֹ, כַּמָּנֹר אֲרָגִים. <sup>20</sup> וַתְּהִי-עוֹד מִלְחָמָה, בְּגַת; וַיְהִי אִישׁ מִדִּין מְדוֹן, וַאֲצַבְעַת יָדוֹ וַאֲצַבְעַת רַגְלָיו שֵׁשׁ וְשֵׁשׁ עָשָׂרִים וְאַרְבַּע מִסָּפָה, וְגַם-הוּא, יָלַד לְהָרֶפָּה. <sup>21</sup> וַיַּחֲרֹף, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיַּכֶּהוּ, יְהוֹנָתָן, בֶּן-שִׁמְעִי שִׁמְעָה, אַחִי דָוִד. <sup>22</sup> אֶת-אַרְבַּעַת אֵלֶּה יָלְדוּ לְהָרֶפָּה, בְּגַת; וַיַּפְּלוּ בְּיַד-דָּוִד, וּבְיַד עַבְדָּיו.

<sup>1</sup> And David spoke unto HaShem the words of this song in the day that HaShem delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul; <sup>2</sup> and he said: HaShem is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; <sup>3</sup> The G-d who is my rock, in Him I take refuge; my shield, and my horn of salvation, my high tower, and my refuge; my saviour, Thou savest me from violence. <sup>4</sup> Praised, I cry, is HaShem, and I am saved from mine enemies. <sup>5</sup> For the waves of Death compassed me. The floods of Belial assailed me. <sup>6</sup> The cords of Sheol surrounded me; the snares of Death confronted me. <sup>7</sup> In my distress I called upon HaShem, yea, I called unto my G-d; and out of His temple He heard my voice, and my cry did enter into His ears. <sup>8</sup> Then the earth did shake and quake, the foundations of heaven did tremble; they were shaken, because He was wroth. <sup>9</sup> Smoke arose up in His nostrils, and fire out of His mouth did devour; coals flamed forth from Him. <sup>10</sup> He bowed the heavens also, and came down; and thick darkness was under His feet. <sup>11</sup> And He rode upon a cherub, and did fly; yea, He was seen upon the wings of the wind. <sup>12</sup> And He made darkness pavilions round about Him, gathering of waters, thick clouds of the skies. <sup>13</sup> At the brightness before Him coals of fire flamed forth. <sup>14</sup> HaShem thundered from heaven, and the Most High gave forth His voice. <sup>15</sup> And He sent out arrows, and scattered them; lightning, and discomfited them. <sup>16</sup> And the channels of the sea appeared, the foundations of the world were laid bare by the rebuke of HaShem, at the blast of the breath of His nostrils. <sup>17</sup> He sent from on high, He took me; He drew me out of many waters; <sup>18</sup> He delivered me from mine enemy most strong, from them that hated me, for they were too mighty for me. <sup>19</sup> They confronted me in the day of my calamity; but HaShem was a stay unto me. <sup>20</sup> He brought me forth also into a large place; He delivered me, because He delighted in me. <sup>21</sup> HaShem rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands hath He recompensed me. <sup>22</sup> For I have kept the ways of HaShem, and have not wickedly departed from my G-d. <sup>23</sup> For all His ordinances were before me; and as for His statutes, I did not depart from them. <sup>24</sup> And I was single-hearted toward Him, and I kept myself from mine iniquity. <sup>25</sup> Therefore hath HaShem recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to my cleanness in His eyes. <sup>26</sup> With the merciful Thou dost show Thyself merciful, with the upright man Thou dost show Thyself upright, <sup>27</sup> With the pure Thou dost show Thyself pure; and with the crooked Thou dost show Thyself subtle. <sup>28</sup> And the afflicted people Thou dost save; but Thine eyes are upon the haughty, that Thou mayest humble them. <sup>29</sup> For Thou art my lamp, O HaShem; and HaShem doth lighten my darkness. <sup>30</sup> For by Thee I run upon a troop; by my G-d do I scale a wall. <sup>31</sup> As for G-d, His way is perfect; the word of HaShem is tried; He is a shield unto all them that take refuge in Him. <sup>32</sup> For who is G-d, save HaShem? and who is a Rock, save our G-d? <sup>33</sup> The G-d who is my strong fortress, and who letteth my way go forth straight; <sup>34</sup> Who maketh my feet like hinds', and setteth me upon my high places; <sup>35</sup> Who traineth my hands for war, so that mine arms do bend a bow of brass. <sup>36</sup> Thou hast also given me Thy shield of salvation; and Thy condescension hath made me great. <sup>37</sup> Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, and my feet have not slipped. <sup>38</sup> I have pursued mine enemies, and destroyed them; neither did I turn back till they were consumed. <sup>39</sup> And I have consumed them, and smitten them through, that they cannot arise; yea, they are fallen under my feet. <sup>40</sup> For Thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle; Thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me. <sup>41</sup> Thou hast also made mine enemies turn their backs unto me; yea, them that hate me, that I might cut them off. <sup>42</sup> They looked, but there was none to save; even unto HaShem, but He answered them not. <sup>43</sup> Then did I beat them small as the dust of the earth, I did stamp them as the mire of the streets, and did tread them down. <sup>44</sup> Thou also hast delivered me from the contentions of my people; Thou hast kept me to be the head of the nations; a people whom I have not known serve me. <sup>45</sup> The sons of the stranger dwindle away before me; as soon as they hear of me, they obey me. <sup>46</sup> The sons of the stranger fade away, and come halting out of their close places. <sup>47</sup> HaShem liveth, and blessed be my Rock; and exalted be the G-d, my Rock of salvation; <sup>48</sup> Even the G-d that executeth vengeance for me, and bringeth down peoples under me, <sup>49</sup> And that bringeth me forth from mine enemies; yea, Thou liftest me up above them that rise up against me; Thou deliverest me from the violent man. <sup>50</sup> Therefore I will give thanks unto Thee, O HaShem, among the nations, and will sing praises unto Thy name. <sup>51</sup> A tower of salvation is He to His king; and showeth mercy to His anointed, to David and to his seed, for evermore.

<sup>1</sup> וַיִּדְבֹּר דָּוִד לַיהוָה, אֶת-דִּבְרֵי הַשִּׁירָה הַזֹּאת, בַּיּוֹם הַצֵּיל יְהוָה אֹתוֹ מִכָּף כָּל-אֹיְבָיו, וּמִכָּף שָׂאוֹל. <sup>2</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר: יְהוָה סֹלֵעִי וּמַצְדָּתִי, וּמַפְלְטִי-לִי. <sup>3</sup> אֱלֹהֵי צוּרִי, אַחֲסֶה-בּוֹ; מִגִּנִּי וּקְרָן יִשְׁעִי, מִשְׁגָּבִי וּמְנוּסִי, מִשְׁעִי, מִחֲמַס תִּשְׁעֵנִי. <sup>4</sup> מִהֲלֵל, אֶקְרָא יְהוָה; וּמֵאִיְבִי, אֲשַׁע. <sup>5</sup> כִּי אֶפְהָנִי, מִשְׁבָּרִי-מוֹת; נִחְלִי בְלִיעֵל, יִבְעֹתֵנִי. <sup>6</sup> תְּחִלִּי שָׂאוֹל, סִבְנִי; קִדְמִנִי, מִקְשֵׁי-מוֹת. <sup>7</sup> בְּצַר-לִי אֶקְרָא יְהוָה, וְאֵל-אֱלֹהֵי אֶקְרָא; וַיִּשְׁמַע מִהִיכְלוֹ קוֹלִי, וַשׁוֹעֲתִי בְּאָזְנוֹ. <sup>8</sup> וַתִּגַּעַשׁ וַיִּתְּגַעַשׁ וַתִּרְעַשׁ הָאָרֶץ, מוֹסְדוֹת הַשָּׁמַיִם יִרְגָּזוּ; וַיִּתְּגַעְשׁוּ, כִּי-חָרָה לוֹ. <sup>9</sup> עָלָה עָשָׁן בְּאַפּוֹ, וְאֵשׁ מִפִּיו תֹּאכַל; גְּחֹלִים, בָּעָרוֹ מִמֶּנּוּ. <sup>10</sup> וַיֵּט שָׁמַיִם, וַיִּרְדּוּ; וַעֲרָפֶל, תַּחַת רַגְלָיו. <sup>11</sup> וַיִּרְכַּב עַל-כְּרוּב, וַיַּעֲף; וַיֵּרָא, עַל-כְּנָפֵי-רוּחַ. <sup>12</sup> וַיֵּשֶׁת חֹשֶׁךְ סִבִּיבֹתָיו, סִכּוֹת; חֹשֶׁרֶת-מַיִם, עָבִי שְׁחָקִים. <sup>13</sup> מִנְּגֶה, נִגְדוּ; בָּעָרוֹ, גְּחֹלִי-אֵשׁ. <sup>14</sup> יִרְעַם מִן-שָׁמַיִם, יְהוָה; וַעֲלִיּוֹן, יִתֵּן קוֹלוֹ. <sup>15</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח חֲצִצִּים, וַיִּפְיֹצֵם; בָּרֶק, וַיַּהֲמֵם וַיַּהֲ. <sup>16</sup> וַיֵּרָאוּ אֶפְקֵי יָם, יִגְלוּ מִסְדּוֹת תְּבֵל; בְּגַעֲרַת יְהוָה, מִנְּשַׁמַּת רוּחַ אָפּוֹ. <sup>17</sup> יִשְׁלַח מִמְּרוֹם, יִקְחֵנִי; וַיִּשְׁנִי, מִמַּיִם רַבִּים. <sup>18</sup> יַצִּילֵנִי, מֵאִיְבִי עוֹ; מִשְׁנֹאֵי, כִּי אֲמַצּוֹ מִמֶּנִּי. <sup>19</sup> יִקְדָּמֵנִי, בַּיּוֹם אִידִי; וַיְהִי יְהוָה מִשְׁעֵן, לִי. <sup>20</sup> וַיֵּצֵא לְמִרְחָב, אֹתִי; וַיַּחֲלִצֵנִי, כִּי-חָפֵץ בִּי. <sup>21</sup> יִגְמֹלֵנִי יְהוָה, בְּצַדִּיקוֹתַי; כִּבְר יְדִי, יִשִּׁיב לִי. <sup>22</sup> כִּי שָׁמַרְתִּי, דִּרְכֵי יְהוָה; וְלֹא רָשַׁעְתִּי, מֵאֲלֹהֵי. <sup>23</sup> כִּי כָל-מִשְׁפָּט, לִנְגִּדִי; וַחֲקוֹתָיו, לֹא-אֲסוּר מִמֶּנֶּה. <sup>24</sup> וְאֶהְיֶה תָמִים, לוֹ; וְאֶשְׁתַּמְּרָה, מִעוֹנִי. <sup>25</sup> וַיִּשָּׁב יְהוָה לִי, בְּצַדִּיקוֹתַי; כִּבְרִי, לִנְגִּד עֵינָיו. <sup>26</sup> עַם-חֲסִיד, תִּתְחַסֵּד; עַם-גִּבּוֹר תָּמִים, תִּתְמַם. <sup>27</sup> עַם-נֶכֶד, תִּתְבָּר; וְעַם-עֲקֹשׁ, תִּתְפַּל. <sup>28</sup> וְאֶת-עַם עֲנִי, תוֹשִׁיעַ; וַעֲיִנִּיד עַל-רַמִּים, תִּשְׁפִּיל. <sup>29</sup> כִּי-אֶתָּה יִירִי, יְהוָה; וַיְהִי, יְגִיָּה חֲשָׁפִי. <sup>30</sup> כִּי בָּכָה, אַרְוִץ גְּדוּד; בְּאַלְהֵי, אֲדַלֶּג-שׁוּר. <sup>31</sup> הָאֵל, תָּמִים דָּרְכוֹ; אֲמַרְתָּ יְהוָה, צְרוּפָה-- מִגֵּן הוּא, לְכָל הַחֲסִידִים בּוֹ. <sup>32</sup> כִּי מִי-אֵל, מִבְּלָעַדִּי יְהוָה; וּמִי צוּר, מִבְּלָעַדִּי אֱלֹהֵינוּ. <sup>33</sup> הָאֵל מְעוֹזִי, חֵיל; וַיִּתֵּר תָּמִים, דְּרָכּוֹ דָּרְכִי. <sup>34</sup> מִשְׁנֵה רַגְלִיו רַגְלִי, כְּאֵילוֹת; וְעַל כְּמַתִּי, יַעֲמִדֵנִי. <sup>35</sup> מִלִּמַּד יְדִי, לְמַלְחָמָה; וַנַּחַת קֶשֶׁת-נַחוּשָׁה, זִרְעֹתִי. <sup>36</sup> וַתִּתֵּן-לִי, מִגֵּן יִשְׁעִד; וַעֲנֹתָד, תִּרְבֵּנִי. <sup>37</sup> תִּרְחִיב צַעֲדִי, תַּחֲתֵנִי; וְלֹא מַעֲדוֹ, קִרְסִלִּי. <sup>38</sup> אֲרַדְּפָה אִיְבִי, וְאֶשְׁמִידֵם; וְלֹא אֲשׁוּב, עַד-כְּלוֹתָם. <sup>39</sup> וְאֶכְלֵם וְאֶמְחָצֵם, וְלֹא יִקְוּמוּן; וַיִּפְּלוּ, תַּחַת רַגְלִי. <sup>40</sup> וַתִּזְרַנִּי חֵיל, לְמַלְחָמָה; תִּכְרִיעַ קִמִּי, תַּחֲתֵנִי. <sup>41</sup> וְאִיְבִי, תַּתָּה לִי עֶרְף; מִשְׁנֹאֵי, וְאֶצְמִיתָם. <sup>42</sup> יִשְׁעוֹ, וְאֵין מוֹשִׁיעַ; אֵל-יְהוָה, וְלֹא עֲנָם. <sup>43</sup> וְאֶשְׁחָקֵם, כַּעֲפֹר-אָרֶץ; כְּטִיט-חוּצוֹת אֲדָקֵם, אֲרַקְעֵם. <sup>44</sup> וַתִּפְּלֹטֵנִי, מִרַּיְבִי עָמִי; תִּשְׁמַרְנִי לְרֹאשׁ גּוֹיִם, עַם לֹא-יִדְעֹתִי יַעֲבֹדֵנִי. <sup>45</sup> בְּנִי נֶכֶד, יִתְכַּחֲשׁוּ-לִי; לְשִׁמוּעַ אֲזֹן, יִשְׁמְעוּ לִי. <sup>46</sup> בְּנִי נֶכֶד, יִבְלוּ; וַיִּחְגְּרוּ, מִמִּסְגְּרוֹתָם. <sup>47</sup> חִי-יְהוָה, וּבִירוּד צוּרִי; וַיִּרֶם, אֱלֹהֵי צוּר יִשְׁעִי. <sup>48</sup> הָאֵל, הַנִּתָּן נִקְמַת לִי; וּמִרִיד עַמִּים, תַּחֲתֵנִי. <sup>49</sup> וּמוֹצִיאִי, מֵאִיְבִי; וּמִקְמִי, תִּרְוַמְמֵנִי, מֵאִישׁ חֲמָסִים, תַּצִּילֵנִי. <sup>50</sup> עַל-כֵּן אוֹדֶד יְהוָה, בַּגּוֹיִם; וּלְשִׁמְךָ, אֲזַמֵּר. <sup>51</sup> מַגְדִּיל מַגְדּוֹל, יִשְׁוּעוֹת מְלָכּוֹ; וְעֹשֶׂה-חֲסֵד לְמַשִּׁיחוֹ לְדָוִד וּלְזָרְעוֹ, עַד-עוֹלָם.

<sup>1</sup> Now these are the last words of David: The saying of David the son of Jesse, and the saying of the man raised on high, the anointed of the G-d of Jacob, and the sweet singer of Israel: <sup>2</sup> The spirit of HaShem spoke by me, and His word was upon my tongue. <sup>3</sup> The G-d of Israel said, The Rock of Israel spoke to me: 'Ruler over men shall be the righteous, even he that ruleth in the fear of G-d, <sup>4</sup> And as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, a morning without clouds; when through clear shining after rain, the tender grass springeth out of the earth.' <sup>5</sup> For is not my house established with G-d? for an everlasting covenant He hath made with me, ordered in all things, and sure; for all my salvation, and all my desire, will he not make it to grow? <sup>6</sup> But the ungodly, they are as thorns thrust away, all of them, for they cannot be taken with the hand; <sup>7</sup> But the man that toucheth them must be armed with iron and the staff of a spear; and they shall be utterly burned with fire in their place. <sup>8</sup> These are the names of the mighty men whom David had: Josheb-basshebeth a Tahchemonite, chief of the captains; the same was Adino the Eznite; he lifted up his spear against eight hundred, whom he slew at one time. <sup>9</sup> And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the son of an Ahohite, one of the three mighty men with David, when they jeopardied their lives against the Philistines that were there gathered together to battle, and the men of Israel were gone away; <sup>10</sup> he stood firm, and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand did cleave unto the sword; and HaShem wrought a great victory that day; and the people returned after him only to strip the slain. <sup>11</sup> And after him was Shammah the son of Age the Ararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was a plot of ground full of lentils; and the people fled from the Philistines. <sup>12</sup> But he stood in the midst of the plot, and defended it, and slew the Philistines; and HaShem wrought a great victory. <sup>13</sup> And three of the thirty chief went down, and came to David in the harvest time unto the cave of Adullam; and the troop of the Philistines were encamped in the valley of Rephaim. <sup>14</sup> And David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Beth-lehem. <sup>15</sup> And David longed, and said: 'Oh that one would give me water to drink of the well of Beth-lehem, which is by the gate!' <sup>16</sup> And the three mighty men broke through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Beth-lehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David; but he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto HaShem. <sup>17</sup> And he said: 'Be it far from me, O HaShem, that I should do this; shall I drink the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives?' therefore he would not drink it. These things did the three mighty men. <sup>18</sup> And Abishai, the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah, was chief of the three. And he lifted up his spear against three hundred and slew them, and had a name among the three. <sup>19</sup> He was most honourable of the three; therefore he was made their captain; howbeit he attained not unto the first three. <sup>20</sup> And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel, who had done mighty deeds, he smote the two altar-hearths of Moab; he went down also and slew a lion in the midst of a pit in time of snow; <sup>21</sup> and he slew an Egyptian, a goodly man; and the Egyptian had a spear in his hand; but he went down to him with a staff, and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and slew him with his own spear. <sup>22</sup> These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and had a name among the three mighty men. <sup>23</sup> He was more honourable than the thirty, but he attained not to the first three. And David set him over his guard. <sup>24</sup> Asahel the brother of Joab was one of the thirty; Elhanan the son of Dodo of Beth-lehem; <sup>25</sup> Shammah the Harodite, Elikah the Harodite; <sup>26</sup> Helez the Paltite, Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite; <sup>27</sup> Abiezer the Anathothite, Mebunnai the Hushathite; <sup>28</sup> Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai the Netophathite; <sup>29</sup> Heleb the son of Baanah the Netophathite, Ittai the son of Ribai of Gibeah of the children of Benjamin; <sup>30</sup> Benaiah a Pirathonite, Hiddai of Nahale-gaash; <sup>31</sup> Abi-albon the Arbathite, Azmaveth the Barhumite; <sup>32</sup> Eliahba the Shaalbonite, of the sons of Jashen, Jonathan; <sup>33</sup> Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam the son of Sharar the Ararite; <sup>34</sup> Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai, the son of the Maacathite, Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite; <sup>35</sup> Hezrai the Carmelite, Paarai the Arbite; <sup>36</sup> Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani the Gadite; <sup>37</sup> Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Beerothite, armour-bearer to Joab the son of Zeruiah; <sup>38</sup> Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite; <sup>39</sup> Uriah the Hittite. Thirty and seven in all.

<sup>1</sup> ואֵלֶּה דְּבָרֵי דָוִד, הָאֲחֵרִים: נֹאֵם דָּוִד בֶּן-יִשִׁי, וְנֹאֵם הַגִּבּוֹר הַקָּם עַל--מְשִׁיחַ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, וְנֹעִים זְמֵרוֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>2</sup> רוּחַ יְהוָה, דָּבַר-בִּי; וּמָלְתִּי, עַל-לְשׁוֹנִי. <sup>3</sup> אָמַר אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, לִי דָבָר צוֹר יִשְׂרָאֵל: מוֹשֵׁל, בָּאָדָם--צָדִיק, מוֹשֵׁל יִרְאֵת אֱלֹהִים. <sup>4</sup> וּכְאוּר בָּקָר, יִזְרַח-שָׁמֶשׁ; בָּקָר לֹא עֲבוֹת, מִנְּגַה מִמָּטָר דָּשָׁא מֵאֲרָץ. <sup>5</sup> כִּי-לֹא-כֵן בֵּיתִי, עַם-אֵל: כִּי בְרִית עוֹלָם שָׁם לִי, צְרוּכָה בְּכָל וְשִׁמְרָה--כִּי-כָל-יִשְׁעֵי וְכָל-חִפְצֵי, כִּי-לֹא יִצְמִיחַ. <sup>6</sup> וּבְלִיעֵל, כְּקוֹץ מִנֶּד פִּלָּהֶם: כִּי-לֹא בִיד, יִקְחוּ. <sup>7</sup> וְאִישׁ יַגֵּעַ בָּהֶם, יִמָּלֵא בְרוֹז וְעֵץ חֲנִית; וּבָאֵשׁ, שָׂרוּף יִשְׂרָפוּ בַשֶּׁבֶת. <sup>8</sup> אֵלֶּה שְׁמוֹת הַגִּבּוֹרִים, אֲשֶׁר לְדָוִד: יֹשֵׁב בַּשֶּׁבֶת תַּחֲכַמְנִי רֹאשׁ הַשְּׁלֹשִׁי, הוּא עֲדִינוּ הַעֲצָנוּ--עַל-שְׁמִנָּה מֵאוֹת חָלָל, בַּפַּעַם אֶחָד אָחַת. <sup>9</sup> וְאַחֲרוֹ אֶלְעָזָר בֶּן-דָּדִי לְדָוִד, בֶּן-אַחֲחִי; בַּשְּׁלֹשָׁה גִבּוֹרִים הַגִּבּוֹרִים עַם-דָּוִד, בַּחֲרָפָם בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים נֶאֱסָפוּ-שָׁם לְמַלְחָמָה, וַיַּעֲלוּ, אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>10</sup> הוּא קָם וַיִּד בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים עַד כִּי-יִגְעָה יְדוֹ, וַתִּדְּבַק יְדוֹ אֶל-הַחֶרֶב, וַיַּעַשׂ יְהוָה תְּשׁוּעָה גְדוֹלָה, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא; וְהָעָם יִשְׁבּוּ אַחֲרָיו, אַךְ-לִפְשָׁט. <sup>11</sup> וְאַחֲרָיו שָׁמָּה בֶן-אַגָּא, הָרָרִי; וַיֶּאֱסָפוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים לַחֲנִיָּה, וּתְהִי-שָׁם חֲלֻקַּת הַשָּׂדֶה מְלֵאָה עֲדָשִׁים, וְהָעָם נָס, מִפְּנֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים. <sup>12</sup> וַיִּתְּיֹצֵב בְּתוֹךְ-הַחֲלֻקָּה וַיִּצְיֵלָהּ, וַיִּד אֶת-פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיַּעַשׂ יְהוָה, תְּשׁוּעָה גְדוֹלָה. <sup>13</sup> וַיִּרְדּוּ שְׁלֹשִׁים שְׁלֹשָׁה מֵהַשְּׁלֹשִׁים רֹאשׁ, וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-קִצִּיר אֶל-דָּוִד--אֶל-מַעְרַת, עֲדָלָם; וַחֲנִית פְּלִשְׁתִּים, חֲנֵה בַעֲמָק רִפְאִים. <sup>14</sup> וְדָוִד, אִזּוּ בַּמַּצּוּדָה; וּמַצֵּב פְּלִשְׁתִּים, אִזּוּ בֵּית לָחֶם. <sup>15</sup> וַיִּתְּאֻנֶּה דָוִד, וַיֹּאמֶר: מִי יִשְׁקֹנֵי מַיִם, מִבְּאֵר בֵּית-לָחֶם אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׂעַר. <sup>16</sup> וַיִּבְקְעוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת הַגִּבּוֹרִים בַּמַּחְנֶה פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיִּשְׁאֲבוּ-מַיִם מִבְּאֵר בֵּית-לָחֶם אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׂעַר, וַיִּשְׁאוּ, וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-דָּוִד; וְלֹא אָבָה לְשִׁתּוֹתָם, וַיִּסּוּד אֹתָם לַיהוָה. <sup>17</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר חֲלִילָה לִי יְהוָה מַעֲשֵׂתִי זֹאת, הִדָּם הָאֲנָשִׁים הַהֵלֵכִים בְּנַפְשׁוֹתָם, וְלֹא אָבָה, לְשִׁתּוֹתָם; אֵלֶּה עָשׂוּ, שְׁלֹשֶׁת הַגִּבּוֹרִים. <sup>18</sup> וְאַבִּישַׁי אֲחִי יוֹאָב בֶּן-צְרוּיָה, הוּא רֹאשׁ הַשְּׁלֹשִׁי הַשְּׁלֹשָׁה, וְהוּא עוֹרֵר אֶת-חֲנִיתוֹ, עַל-שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת חָלָל; וְלוֹ-שָׁם, בַּשְּׁלֹשָׁה. <sup>19</sup> מִן-הַשְּׁלֹשָׁה הָכִי נִכְבֵּד, וַיְהִי לָהֶם לְשָׂר; וְעַד-הַשְּׁלֹשָׁה, לֹא-בָּא. <sup>20</sup> וּבְנֵיהוּ בֶן-יְהוֹיָדָע בֶּן-אִישׁ-חַי חֵיל רַב-פְּעָלִים, מִקִּבְצָאֵל; הוּא הִכָּה, אֶת שְׁנֵי אֲרָאֵל מוֹאָב, וְהוּא יָרַד וְהִכָּה אֶת-הָאֲרִיָּה הָאֲרִי בְּתוֹךְ הַבָּאָר, בַּיּוֹם הַשֶּׁלֶג. <sup>21</sup> וְהוּא-הִכָּה אֶת-אִישׁ מִצְרִי אֲשֶׁר אִישׁ מִרְאָה, וּבְיַד הַמִּצְרִי חֲנִית, וַיִּרַד אֵלָיו, בַּשֶּׁבֶט; וַיַּגִּזֵּל אֶת-הַחֲנִית מִיַּד הַמִּצְרִי, וַיַּהַרְגֵהוּ בַּחֲנִיתוֹ. <sup>22</sup> אֵלֶּה עָשָׂה, בְּנֵיהוּ בֶן-יְהוֹיָדָע; וְלוֹ-שָׁם, בַּשְּׁלֹשָׁה הַגִּבּוֹרִים. <sup>23</sup> מִן-הַשְּׁלֹשִׁים נִכְבֵּד, וְאֶל-הַשְּׁלֹשָׁה לֹא-בָּא; וַיִּשְׁמְהוּ דָוִד, אֶל-מַשְׁמַעְתּוֹ. <sup>24</sup> עָשָׂהאֵל אֲחִי-יוֹאָב, בַּשְּׁלֹשִׁים; אֶלְחָנָן בֶּן-דָּדִי, בֵּית לָחֶם. <sup>25</sup> שָׁמָּה, הַחֲרָדִי, אֶלִּיקָא, הַחֲרָדִי. <sup>26</sup> חֲלִץ, הַפְּלִטִי, עִירָא בֶן-עֲקָשׁ, הַתְּקוּעִי. <sup>27</sup> אַבִּיעֶזֶר, הַעֲנַתִּי, מִבְּנֵי הַחֲשָׁתִי. <sup>28</sup> צִלְמוֹן, הָאֲחֲחִי, מִהָרִי, הַנְּטָפְתִי. <sup>29</sup> חֶלֶב בֶּן-בַּעֲנָה, הַנְּטָפְתִי; אֹתִי, בֶּן-רִיבִי, מִגִּבְעַת, בְּנֵי בְנִימִן. <sup>30</sup> בְּנֵיהוּ, פְּרַעֲתָנִי, הַדִּי, מִנְּחֻלִי גַעַשׁ. <sup>31</sup> אֲבִי-עֲלִבוֹן, הַעֲרַבְתִּי, עֲזִמּוֹת, הַבְּרַחְמִי. <sup>32</sup> אֶלִּיהֶבָא, הַשַּׁעֲלִבְנִי, בְּנֵי יִשָּׁן, יְהוֹנָתָן. <sup>33</sup> שָׁמָּה, הַהָרָרִי, אֲחִיאָם בֶּן-שָׁרָר, הָאֲרָרִי. <sup>34</sup> אֶלִּיפֶלֶט בֶּן-אַחֲסִיבִי, בֶּן-הַמַּעֲכָתִי; אֶלִּיעָם בֶּן-אַחִיתָפֶל, הַגִּלְגָּי. <sup>35</sup> חֲצֵרוֹ חֲצִירִי, הַכְּרַמְלִי, פַּעֲרִי, הָאֲרָבִי. <sup>36</sup> יִגָּאֵל בֶּן-נֹתָן מִצְבָּה, בְּנֵי הַגָּדִי. <sup>37</sup> צֶלֶק, הַעֲמָנִי; נַחֲרִי, הַבְּאֲרָתִי--נִשְׂאִי נִשְׂא, כָּלִי יוֹאָב בֶּן-צְרוּיָה. <sup>38</sup> עִירָא, הַיִּתְרִי, גָּרֵב, הַיִּתְרִי. <sup>39</sup> אוּרִיָּה, הַחֲתִי--כָּל, שְׁלֹשִׁים וְשִׁבְעָה.

<sup>1</sup> And again the anger of HaShem was kindled against Israel, and He moved David against them, saying: 'Go, number Israel and Judah.' <sup>2</sup> And the king said to Joab the captain of the host that was with him: 'Go now to and fro through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, and number ye the people, that I may know the sum of the people.' <sup>3</sup> And Joab said unto the king: 'Now HaShem thy G-d add unto the people, how many soever they may be, a hundredfold, and may the eyes of my lord the king see it; but why doth my lord the king delight in this thing?' <sup>4</sup> Notwithstanding the king's word prevailed against Joab, and against the captains of the host. And Joab and the captains of the host went out from the presence of the king, to number the people of Israel. <sup>5</sup> And they passed over the Jordan, and pitched in Aroer, on the right side of the city that is in the middle of the valley of Gad, and unto Jazer; <sup>6</sup> then they came to Gilead, and to the land of Tahtim-hodshi; and they came to Dan-jaan, and round about to Zidon, <sup>7</sup> and came to the stronghold of Tyre, and to all the cities of the Hivites, and of the Canaanites; and they went out to the south of Judah, at Beer-sheba. <sup>8</sup> So when they had gone to and fro through all the land, they came to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and twenty days. <sup>9</sup> And Joab gave up the sum of the numbering of the people unto the king; and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men that drew the sword; and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand men. <sup>10</sup> And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto HaShem: 'I have sinned greatly in what I have done; but now, O HaShem, put away, I beseech Thee, the iniquity of Thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.' <sup>11</sup> And when David rose up in the morning, the word of HaShem came unto the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying: <sup>12</sup> 'Go and speak unto David: Thus saith HaShem: I lay upon thee three things; choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.' <sup>13</sup> So Gad came to David, and told him, and said unto him: 'Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thy foes while they pursue thee? or shall there be three days' pestilence in thy land? now advise thee, and consider what answer I shall return to Him that sent Me.' <sup>14</sup> And David said unto Gad: 'I am in a great strait; let us fall now into the hand of HaShem; for His mercies are great; and let me not fall into the hand of man.' <sup>15</sup> So HaShem sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed; and there died of the people from Dan even to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men. <sup>16</sup> And when the angel stretched out his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, HaShem repented Him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people: 'It is enough; now stay thy hand.' And the angel of HaShem was by the threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite. <sup>17</sup> And David spoke unto HaShem when he saw the angel that smote the people, and said: 'Lo, I have sinned, and I have done iniquitously; but these sheep, what have they done? let Thy hand, I pray Thee, be against me, and against my father's house.' <sup>18</sup> And Gad came that day to David, and said unto him: 'Go up, rear an altar unto HaShem in the threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite.' <sup>19</sup> And David went up according to the saying of Gad, as HaShem commanded. <sup>20</sup> And Araunah looked forth, and saw the king and his servants coming on toward him; and Araunah went out, and bowed down before the king with his face to the ground. <sup>21</sup> And Araunah said: 'Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant?' And David said: 'To buy the threshing-floor of thee, to build an altar unto HaShem, that the plague may be stayed from the people.' <sup>22</sup> And Araunah said unto David: 'Let my lord the king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him; behold the oxen for the burnt-offering, and the threshing-instruments and the furniture of the oxen for the wood.' <sup>23</sup> All this did Araunah the king give unto the king. And Araunah said unto the king: 'HaShem thy G-d accept thee.' <sup>24</sup> And the king said unto Araunah: 'Nay; but I will verily buy it of thee at a price; neither will I offer burnt-offerings unto HaShem my G-d which cost me nothing.' So David bought the threshing-floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. <sup>25</sup> And David built there an altar unto HaShem, and offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings. So HaShem was entreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

<sup>1</sup> וַיִּסַּף, אִף-יְהוָה, לַחֲרוֹת, בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיִּסֶּת אֶת-דָּוִד בָּהֶם לְאֹמֶר, לֵךְ מִנָּה אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֶת-יְהוּדָה. <sup>2</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-יוֹאָב שַׂר-הַחֵיָל אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ, שׁוּט-נָא בְּכָל-שִׁבְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִדָּן וְעַד-בְּאֵר שָׁבַע, וּפְקֹדוּ, אֶת-הָעָם; וַיִּדְעַתִּי, אֵת מִסְפַּר הָעָם. <sup>3</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹאָב אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיֹּסֶף יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶל-הָעָם כָּהֶם וְכֵהֶם מֵאָה פְעָמִים, וְעֵינִי אֲדֹנִי-הַמֶּלֶךְ, רְאוּת; וְאֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְמָה חֲפֹץ בְּדַבֵּר הַזֶּה. <sup>4</sup> וַיִּחְזַק דָּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-יוֹאָב, וְעַל שָׂרֵי הַחֵיָל; וַיֵּצֵא יוֹאָב וְשָׂרֵי הַחֵיָל, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, לִפְקֹד אֶת-הָעָם, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל. <sup>5</sup> וַיַּעֲבְרוּ, אֶת-הַיַּרְדֵּן; וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּצִרְיֹעַר, יַמִּין הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר בְּתוֹךְ-הַנָּחַל הַגָּד--וְאֶל-יַעֲזָר. <sup>6</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ, הַגִּלְעָדָה, וְאֶל-אֶרֶץ תַּחְתִּים, חֲדָשִׁי; וַיָּבֹאוּ דִנָּה יַעֲזֹן, וְסָבִיב אֶל-צִידוֹן. <sup>7</sup> וַיָּבֹאוּ, מִבְּצֵר-צָר, וְכָל-עָרֵי הַחֹוֵי, וְהַכְּנַעֲנִי; וַיָּצֵאוּ אֶל-נֶגֶב יְהוּדָה, בְּאֵר שָׁבַע. <sup>8</sup> וַיֵּשְׁטוּ, בְּכָל-הָאֶרֶץ; וַיָּבֹאוּ מִקְצֵה תְּשֻׁעָה חֲדָשִׁים, וְעֹשָׁרִים יוֹם--יְרוּשָׁלַם. <sup>9</sup> וַיִּתֵּן יוֹאָב אֶת-מִסְפַּר מִפְקֹד-הָעָם, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַתְּהִי יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁמֹנֶה מֵאוֹת אֶלֶף אִישׁ-חֵיָל, שְׁלֹף חֶרֶב, וְאִישׁ יְהוּדָה, חֲמֵשׁ-מֵאוֹת אֶלֶף אִישׁ. <sup>10</sup> וַיָּד לֵב-דָּוִד אִתּוֹ, אַחֲרֵי-כֵן סָפַר אֶת-הָעָם; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-יְהוָה, חֲטָאתִי מָאד אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתִי, וְעַתָּה יְהוָה הַעֲבֵר-נָא אֶת-עוֹן עַבְדְּךָ, כִּי נִסְפַלְתִּי מֵאֵד. <sup>11</sup> וַיָּקָם דָּוִד, בִּבְקָר; וַדְּבַר-יְהוָה, הָיָה אֶל-גָּד הַנָּבִיא, חֹזֶה דָּוִד, לֵאמֹר. <sup>12</sup> הַלֹּוֹד וְדַבְּרָת אֶל-דָּוִד, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה--שְׁלֹשׁ, אֲנֹכִי נוֹטֵל עָלֶיךָ: בַּחֲר-לֶךְ אַחַת-מֵהֶם, וְאֶעֱשֶׂה-לָּךְ. <sup>13</sup> וַיָּבֹא-גָד אֶל-דָּוִד, וַיִּגַּד-לוֹ; וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הַתְּבֹוא לֶךְ שִׁבְעֵ-שָׁנִים רָעַב בְּאֶרְצְךָ אִם-שְׁלֹשָׁה חֲדָשִׁים גָּסָד לִפְנֵי-צָרֶיךָ וְהוּא רֹדְפְךָ, וְאִם-הָיִית שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים דָּבַר בְּאֶרְצְךָ--עַתָּה דַע וּרְאֵה, מָה-אֲשִׁיב שְׁלַחִי דָבַר. <sup>14</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-גָּד, צַר-לִי מָאד; נִפְלָה-נָא בִיד-יְהוָה כִּי-רַבִּים רַחֲמוֹ, וַיְבִיד-אֲדָם אֶל-אֶפְלָה. <sup>15</sup> וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה דָּבַר בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל, מִהַבְקָר וְעַד-צֶת מוֹעֵד; וַיָּמָת מִן-הָעָם, מִדָּן וְעַד-בְּאֵר שָׁבַע, שִׁבְעִים אֶלֶף, אִישׁ. <sup>16</sup> וַיִּשְׁלַח יְדוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ יְרוּשָׁלַם, לְשַׁחֲתָהּ, וַיִּנָּחֶם יְהוָה אֶל-הָרָעָה, וַיֹּאמֶר לִמְלָאךְ הַמִּשְׁחִית בָּעָם רַב עַתָּה הֶרֶף יָדְךָ; וּמִלֵּאךְ יְהוָה הָיָה, עִם-גֶּרֶן הָאוֹרֵנָה הַיְבֹסִי. <sup>17</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-יְהוָה בְּרֹאֲתוֹ אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַמֶּכָּה בָּעָם, וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה אֲנֹכִי חֲטָאתִי וְאֲנֹכִי הָעֲוִיתִי, וְאֵלֶּה הַצֹּאן, מָה עָשׂוּ: תְּהִי נָא יָדְךָ בִּי, וּבְבֵית אָבִי. <sup>18</sup> וַיָּבֹא-גָד אֶל-דָּוִד, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא; וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ, עֲלֵה הָקָם לַיהוָה מִזִּבְחַת, בָּגֶרֶן, אֲרִנְיָה אֲרֹנָה הַיְבֹסִי. <sup>19</sup> וַיַּעַל דָּוִד כְּדָבַר-גָּד, כְּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה. <sup>20</sup> וַיִּשְׁקֹף אֲרֹנָה, וַיֵּרָא אֶת-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶת-עַבְדָּיו, עֹבְרִים, עָלָיו; וַיֵּצֵא אֲרֹנָה, וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶי לַמֶּלֶךְ אַפְּיוֹ אֶרְצָה. <sup>21</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אֲרֹנָה, מְדוּעַ בָּא אֲדֹנִי-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-עַבְדִּי; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְקִנּוּת מַעֲמָד אֶת-הַגֶּרֶן, לְבָנוֹת מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה, וְתַעֲצֹר הַמַּגִּפָּה, מֵעַל הָעָם. <sup>22</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר אֲרֹנָה אֶל-דָּוִד, יָקוֹחַ וַיַּעַל אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינָיו; רֹאֵה הַבָּקָר לַעֲלֹה, וְהַמֶּרְגִּים וְכָלִי הַבָּקָר לַעֲצִים. <sup>23</sup> הִכֵּל, נָתַן אֲרֹנָה הַמֶּלֶךְ--לַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיֹּאמֶר אֲרֹנָה אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ יִרְצֶךָ. <sup>24</sup> וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-אֲרֹנָה, לֹא כִי-קִנּוּ אֶקְנֶה מֵאוֹתָךְ בְּמַחִיר, וְלֹא אֶעֱלֶה לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵי, עֲלוֹת חֹנָם; וַיִּקֶּן דָּוִד אֶת-הַגֶּרֶן וְאֶת-הַבָּקָר, בְּכֶסֶף שְׁקָלִים חֲמִשִּׁים. <sup>25</sup> וַיָּבֶן שָׁם דָּוִד מִזְבֵּחַ לַיהוָה, וַיַּעַל עֲלוֹת וּשְׁלָמִים; וַיַּעֲתֵר יְהוָה לְאֶרֶץ, וַתַּעֲצֹר הַמַּגִּפָּה מֵעַל יִשְׂרָאֵל.

Faith Symbols

- Christian✝.
- Dharmic🌀.
- Jewish✡.
- Muslim: Shia🕌, Sunni🕌.
- Pagan: Apollo☀, Hermes🐍.
- Pantheist🌐.
- Atheist🌀.