

# UNehemiya

## *UMkhuleko KaNehemiya*

<sup>1</sup> La ngamazwi kaNehemiya indodana ka-Hakhaliya:

Kwathi ngenyanga kaKhisilevi ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili, ngisenqabeni yaseSusa, <sup>2</sup> uHanani, omunye wabafowethu, wafika evela koJuda elamanye amadoda, ngababuza ngama-Juda lawo ayeyinsalela asinda ebugqilini, njalo ngabuza ngeJerusalema.

<sup>3</sup> Bathi kimi, “Labo abasindayo ebugqilini ababuyelayo elizweni baphakathi kohlupho olumangalisayo lokuyangeka okukhulu. Umduli weJerusalema wadilika lamasango ayo atshiswa ngomlilo.”

<sup>4</sup> Ngathi sengizwile lezizinto ngahlala phansi ngakhala. Okwensuku ezithile ngalila, ngazila ukudla njalo ngikhuleka phambi kukaNkulunkulu wasezulwini. <sup>5</sup> Ngasengisithi:

“Oh THIXO, Nkulunkulu wasezulwini, uNkulunkulu omkhulu owesabekayo, ogcina isivumelwano sakhe sothando lalabo abamthandayo, abalalela imilayo yakhe, <sup>6</sup> ake kuthi indlebe yakho ilalele lamehlo akho avuleke ukuze uzwe umkhuleko okhulekwa yinceku yakho kuwe imini lobusuku, ikhulekela izinceku zakho, abantu bako-Israyeli. Ngiyazivuma izono ezenziwe

kuwe yithi ama-Israyeli, kugoqela mina lendlu kababa. <sup>7</sup> Senzile ububi kuwe. Kasilalelanga imilayo yakho, izimemezelo lemithetho owayinika inceku yakho uMosi.”

<sup>8</sup> Khumbula umlayo owalaya ngawo inceku yakho uMosi wathi, “Aluba lingathembekanga ngizalichithachitha phakathi kwezizwe, <sup>9</sup> kodwa nxa libuya kimi lilalele imilayo yami, lapho-ke loba abathunjiweyo bakini besemkhawulweni womhlaba, ngizabaqoqa besuka khonale ngibabuyise endaweni engiyikhethileyo ukuba likhaya leBizo lami.

<sup>10</sup> Bazinceku zakho labantu bakho owabahlengayo ngamandla akho amakhulu lesandla sakho esilamandla. <sup>11</sup> Oh Thixo, akuthi indlebe yakho ilalele umkhuleko wale inceku yakho, lomkhuleko wezinceku zakho ezithokoza ekwesabeni ibizo lakho. Phumelelisa inceku yakho lamuhla ngokuyipha isihawu phambi kwendoda le.”

Ngangingumphathi wezitsha zokudla kwenkosi.

## 2

### *U-Athazekisisi Uthumela UNehemiya EJerusalema*

<sup>1</sup> Ngenyanga kaNisani ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili weNkosi u-Athazekisisi, ngesikhathi ephiwa iwayini, ngalithatha iwayini ngalisa enkosini. Ngangingakaze ngivele kuyo ngidanile; <sup>2</sup> ngakho inkosi yangibuza yathi, “Kungani ubuso bakho bukhanya buhlobile kanje wena ungaguli? Lokhu ngeke kube

ngokunye ngaphandle kokudana okusenhliziyweni.”

Ngezwa ngisesaba kakhulu, <sup>3</sup> kodwa ngathi enkosini, “Phila lanini nkosi! Ubuso bami bungayekelelani na ukuhloba njengoba idolobho lapho okulele khona okhokho selingamanxiwa nje, lamasango alo atshiswa ngomlilo na?”

<sup>4</sup> Inkosi yathi kimi, “Pho ufunani?”

Ngasengikhuleka kuNkulunkulu wezulwini, <sup>5</sup> yikho ngasengiyiphendula inkosi ngathi, “Aluba kungaba yikuthanda kwenkosi njalo nxa inceku yakho ifumene umusa emehlweni ayo, kayingithumele kulelodolobho elikoJuda lapho okwambelwa khona okhokho ukuze ngiyolakha kakutsha.”

<sup>6</sup> Inkosi eyayihlezi lendlovukazi eceleni kwayo yangibuza yathi, “Uhambo lwakho luzathatha isikhathi esingakanani, njalo uzabuya nini?” Inkosi yathanda ukuthi ngihambe; yikho ngamisa isikhathi.

<sup>7</sup> Ngaphinde ngathi kuyo, “Nxa kuyikuthanda kwenkosi, ngicela izincwadi ziye kubabusi bangaphetsheya kweYufrathe, ukwenzela ukuthi bangivikele ohanjweni lwami ngize ngiyefika koJuda? <sup>8</sup> Njalo ngicela incwadi eya ku-Asafi, umphathi wegusu lenkosi, yikho ezanginika izigodo zokwenza izinsika zamasango esigodlo eduzane lethempeli lezomdule wedolobho kanye lezendlu engizahlala kuyo.” Kwathi ngoba isandla somusa sikaNkulunkulu wami sasiphezu kwami, inkosi yazamukela izicelo zami. <sup>9</sup> Yikho ngasengisiya kubabusi bangaphetsheya kweYufrathe ngabapha izincwadi zenkosi.

Inkosi yayingiphe futhi abalawuli bebutho kanye lamabutho amabhiza ukuba bangiphelekezele.

<sup>10</sup> Kwathi ukuba uSanibhalathi umHoroni loThobhiya um'Amoni owayeyinduna bekuzwa lokhu, bakhathazeka kakhulu ukuthi ukhona owayeselande ukuzathuthukisa inhlalo yaba-Israyeli.

### *UNehemiya Uhlola Imiduli YeJerusalema*

<sup>11</sup> Ngaya eJerusalema, kwathi sengihlale khona insuku ezintathu <sup>12</sup> ngaphuma kusebusuku ngilamadoda ambalwa. Ngangingazange ngitshele muntu ngalokho uNkulunkulu wami ayekubeke enhliziyweni yami ngeJerusalema. Ngangingelanyamazana ngaphandle kwaleyo engangiyigadile.

<sup>13</sup> Ebusuku ngaphuma ngeSango leSigodi ngaqonda uMthombo weKhanka leSango loBulongwe, ngihlola imiduli yeJerusalema, eyayibhidliziwe, kanye lamasango ayo ayetshiswe ngomlilo. <sup>14</sup> Ngaqhubeka sengiqonde eSangweni loMthombo leSiziba Senkosi, kodwa kwakungelantshukuntshu yokudlula ubabhemi wami engangimgadile; <sup>15</sup> yikho ngasengikhwela ngesigodi kusebusuku, ngihlola umduli. Ekucineni ngaphenduka ngangena ngeSango leSigodi. <sup>16</sup> Izinduna kazizange zikwazi ukuthi ngangiyiye ngaphi lokuthi ngangisenzani, ngoba ngangivele ngingakatsho lutho kubaJuda loba kubaphristi loba ezikhulwini loba ezinduneni loba lakubobani ababesakwenza umsebenzi.

<sup>17</sup> Ngasengisithi kubo, "Liyalubona uhlupho esiphakathi kwalo: iJerusalema selingamanxiwa

nje, lamasango alo atshisiwe ngomlilo. Wozani, siwakhe kutsha umduli weJerusalema ukuze singabi silokhu sihlaziswa.”<sup>18</sup> Ngaphinda ngabatshela ngesandla somusa sikaNkulunkulu wami kimi lokuthi inkosi yayitheni kimi.

Baphendula bathi, “Kasiqaliseni ukwakha.” Yikho bahle bawuqalisa umsebenzi lo omuhle.

<sup>19</sup> Kodwa kwathi ukuba uSanibhalathi umHaroni, loThobhiya induna yom’Amoni loGeshemi umArabhu bekuzwa lokho, basichithoza basihleka. Babuza bathi, “Kuyini lokhu elikwenzayo. Selihlamukele inkosi na?”

<sup>20</sup> Ngabaphendula ngokuthi, “UNkulunkulu wasezulwini uzasiphumelelisa. Thina izinceku zakhe sesiqalisa ukwakha kutsha, kodwa lina, kalilasabelo eJerusalema, loba imfanelo loba lungelo bani lomdabuko wenu.”

### 3

#### *Abakhi Bomduli*

<sup>1</sup> U-Eliyashibi umphristi omkhulu labanye bakhe abangabaphristi baya emsebenzini wokwakha bavuselela iSango leZimvu. Balinikela basebemisa kuhle izivalo zalo, bakha baze bayafika eMphotshongweni weKhulu, lawo abawunikelayo, baqhubeka bayafika eMphotshongweni kaHananeli. <sup>2</sup> Amadoda aseJerikho wona akha isigaba esilandelayo, kwathi uZakhuri indodana ka-Imri wakha eceleni kwabo.

<sup>3</sup> ISango leNhlanzi lakhiwa ngamadodana ka-Hasena. Amisa imigubazi yalo afaka lezivalo lamabhawudo kanye leminxibo yakhona. <sup>4</sup> UMeremothi indodana ka-Uriya, indodana kaHakhozi, yena wavuselela isigaba esilandelayo. Kusukela kuye kwakha uMeshulami indodana kaBherekhiya, indodana kaMeshezabeli, kwalandela kuye uZadokhi indodana kaBhana laye wayesakha. <sup>5</sup> Isigaba esilandelayo savuselelwa ngamadoda aseThekhowa, kodwa izikhulu zakhona zala ukusebenza ngaphansi kwabakhokheli babo.

<sup>6</sup> ISango leJeshana lavuselelwa nguJoyada indodana kaPhaseya loMeshulami indodana kaBhesodeya. Bamisa imigubazi yalo bafaka izivalo lamabhawudo leminxibo ezindaweni zakhona. <sup>7</sup> Eceleni kwabo, kwakuvuselela amadoda aseGibhiyoni lawaseMizipha, uMelathiya waseGibhiyoni loJadoni waseMeronothi, izindawo ezaziphethwe ngumbusi wangaphetsheya kweYufra. <sup>8</sup> U-Uziyeli indodana kaHarihaya, omunye wabakhandi begolide, wavuselela isigaba esilandelayo; uHananiya, omunye wabenzi bamakha, laye wavuselela isigaba esilandelayo. Balivuselela iJerusalema kwaze kwafika eMdulini Obanzi. <sup>9</sup> URefaya indodana kaHuri, umbusi wengxenywe yeJerusalema, walungisa isigaba esilandelayo. <sup>10</sup> Okubambene lalapha kwavuselelwa nguJedaya indodana kaHarumafi okwakumalungana lendlu yakhe, loHathushi indodana kaHashabhineya wavuselela eceleni kwakhe. <sup>11</sup> UMalikhija indodana

kaHarimi loHashubhi indodana kaPhahathi-Mowabi bavuselela esinye isigaba loMphotshongo Wamaziko. <sup>12</sup> UShalumi indodana kaHaloheshi, umbusi wengxenye yeJerusalema, wavuselela isigaba esilandelayo esizwa ngamadodakazi akhe.

<sup>13</sup> ISango leSigodi lavuselelwa nguHanuni lezakhamizi zaseZanowa. Balakha kutsha bafaka izivalo zalo lamabhawudo kanye leminxibo ezindaweni zakhona. Bavusa njalo umduli okwezinyathelo ezingamakhulu amahlanu kusiyafika eSangweni loBulongwe.

<sup>14</sup> Isango loBulongwe lalungiswa nguMalikhija indodana kaRekhabi, umbusi wesiqinti saseBhethi-Hakheremi. Walivuselela wafaka izivalo lamabhawudo leminxibo yakhona ezindaweni zakhona.

<sup>15</sup> ISango loMthombo lavuselelwa nguShaluni indodana kaKholi-Hoze, umbusi wesiqinti saseMizipha. Walivuselela, wafaka uphahla lezivalo lamabhawudo leminxibo ezindaweni zakhona. Wavuselela futhi umduli weSiziba saseSilowami, eceleni kweSivande senkosi kwaze kwayafika ezinyathelweni ezehla zisuka eDolobheni likaDavida. <sup>16</sup> Ngale kwakhe, uNehemiya indodana ka-Azibhuki, umbusi wengxenye yesiqinti saseBhethi Zuri wavuselela kwaze kwayafika maqondana lamathuna kaDavida, kusiyafika echibini lokwembiwa leNdlu yaMaqhawe.

<sup>17</sup> Kulandela yena, kwaba ngabaLevi ababesakha ngaphansi kukaRehumi indodana kaBhani. Eceleni kwakhe, kwakusakha uHashabhiya, umbusi wengxenywe yesiqinti seKheyila, owayesakhela isiqinti sakhe.

<sup>18</sup> Kulandela yena, kwakusakha amadoda akibo engaphansi kukaBhavayi indodana kaHenadadi, umbusi wenye ingxenywe yesiqinti saseKheyila.

<sup>19</sup> Kulandela yena, kungu-Ezeri indodana kaJeshuwa, umbusi waseMizipha, owavuselela esinye isigaba, kusukela endaweni eqondane lomqanso oya endlini yezikhali kwaze kwafika ejikweni.

<sup>20</sup> Kulandela yena, kunguBharukhi indodana kaZabhaiyi owakha esinye isigaba ngesivuvu, kusukela ejikweni kusiya entubeni engena endlini ka-Eliyashibi umphristi omkhulu.

<sup>21</sup> Kulandela yena, esinye isigaba savuselelwa nguMeremothi indodana ka-Uriya, indodana kaHakhozi, kusukela entubeni yako-Eliyashibi kusiya lapho ecina khona.

<sup>22</sup> Sekusuka lapho kwalungisa abaphristi bakulowomango. <sup>23</sup> Ngale kwabo, kwakusakha uBhenjamini loHashubhi belungisa phambi kwendlu yabo; kulandela bona, kwasebenza u-Azariya indodana kaMaseya, indodana ka-Ananiya, esakha eduze lendlu yakhe.

<sup>24</sup> Kulandela yena, uBhinuwi indodana kaHenadadi wavuselela esinye isigaba, kusukela endlini ka-Azariya kusiya ejikweni, <sup>25</sup> loPhalali indodana ka-Uzayi wasebenza maqondana lejiko lomphotshongo othutsha phezu kwesigodlo esingaphezulu kusiya egcekeni labalindi. Kulandela yena, kunguPhedaya



indodana kaPharoshi <sup>26</sup> lezincku zethempelini ezazihlala eqaqeni luka-Ofeli abakha baze bafika endaweni malungana leSango laManzi kusiya empumalanga kanye lomphotshongo othutshayo. <sup>27</sup> Kulandela bona, kwakungamadoda aseThekhowa avuselela esinye isigaba, kusukela emphotshongweni omkhulu othutshayo kusiya emdulini ka-Ofeli.

<sup>28</sup> Ngaphezulu kweSango leBhiza, kwakusakha abaphristi, ngulowo phambi kwendlu yakhe. <sup>29</sup> Kulandela bona, uZadokhi indodana ka-Imeri wayesakha phambi kwendlu yakhe. Kulandela yena, kwakunguShemaya indodana kaShekhaniya, umlindi weSango laseMpumalanga, laye owakhayo. <sup>30</sup> Owamlandelayo, nguHananiya indodana kaShelemiya, loHanuni, indodana yesithupha kaZalafi, laye wavuselela esinye isigaba. Owalandela bona nguMeshulami indodana kaBherekhiya owakha malungana lalapho ayehlala khona. <sup>31</sup> Kulandela yena, kwakunguMalikhija, omunye wabakhandi begolide, wakha kwaze kwayafika endlini yezincku zethempelini kanye labathengisi, malungana leSango lokuHlolwa, kuze kufike endlini engaphezulu kwejiko; <sup>32</sup> kwathi phakathi kwendlu engaphezu kwejiko leSango leZimvu abakhandi begolide labathengisi baba yibo abavuselelayo.

*Impikiswano Ekwakheni Kutsha*

<sup>1</sup> Kwathi uSanibhalathi esizwa ukuthi sasiwuvusa umduli, wazonda waze wagcwalelana. Wabahleka ulunya amaJuda, <sup>2</sup> wasesithi phambi kwabakhula bakhe lebuthe laseSamariya, “OkungamaJuda lokhu kuthi kwenzani kambe? Kungawuvusa umduli wakho na? Kuzayenza imihlatshelo na? Kuzawuqeda ngalanga linye? Kungakubuyisa na ukuphila ematsheni lawana azinqwaba zengcekeza etshe kanjeyana?”

<sup>3</sup> UThobhiya um’Amoni, owayeseceleni kwakhe wathi, “Lokhu abakwakhayo, loba nje ikhanka lingakhwela phezu kwakho, lingawudiliza umduli wabo wamatshe!”

<sup>4</sup> Sizwe, Oh Nkulunkulu wethu, ngoba siyeyiswa. Phindisela kubo emakhanda izithuko zabo. Banikele babe yimpango elizweni lobugqili. <sup>5</sup> Ungaligubuzeli icala labo kumbe wesule izono zabo emehlweni akho, ngoba bebehambaza abakhi.

<sup>6</sup> Ngakho sawakha umduli wonke waze waphakama okufika ingxenye yobude bawo, ngoba abantu basebenza ngenhliziyo yabo yonke.

<sup>7</sup> Kodwa kwathi ukuba uSanibhalathi, loThobhiya, lama-Arabhu, lama-Amoni lamadoda ase-Ashidodi besizwa ukuthi ukuvuselelwa kwemiduli yaseJerusalema kwasekuqhubekile njalo lezikhala zazivalwa bazonda kakhulu. <sup>8</sup> Baceba ukuba beze bazohlasela iJerusalema bavuse uthuli kulo.

<sup>9</sup> Kodwa sakhuleka kuNkulunkulu wethu sabeka abalindi emini lebusuku ukuthi balindele lokhukuhlaselwa.

<sup>10</sup> Kusenjalo, abantu bakoJuda bathi, “Amandla abasebenzi asededa, ikanti izibi zisezinengi okokuthi siyehluleka ukuqhubeka ngokwakha umduli.”

<sup>11</sup> Izitha zethu lazo zathi, “Besalibele nje futhi bengakasiboni, bazaqabuka sesiphakathi kwabo sesibabulala siwuphethe lumsebenzi.”

<sup>12</sup> Kwasekusithi amaJuda ababehlala eduze labo beza bazasitshela baphindaphinda besithi, “Lingaze liqonde ngaphi bazalihlasela kuphela.”

<sup>13</sup> Ngasengimisa abanye abantu ngezimuli zabo ezindaweni lapho umduli owawuphansi khona, ezazingeneka lula, behlomile ngezinkemba, lemikhonto langemitshoko.

<sup>14</sup> Ngemva kokuba sengiwuhlolisisile wonke umumo, ngasukuma ngathi ezikhulwini, lezinduna lakubantu bonke jikelele, “Lingabesabi. Khumbulani uThixo, omkhulu owesabekayo, lilwele abafowenu, amadodana lamadodakazi enu, abafazi benu lemizi yenu.”

<sup>15</sup> Kwathi izitha zethu sezizwile ukuthi sasesilazi icebo lazo lokuthi uNkulunkulu wayeselifubisile, sonke sabuyela kuwo umduli, ngulowo kowakhe umsebenzi.

<sup>16</sup> Kusukela ngalelolanga, ingxenye yamadoda engangilawo yenza umsebenzi, enye ingxenye yahloma ngemikhonto, lamahawu, lemitshoko lamabhatshi ensimbi. Izinduna zazimisa ngemva kwabo bonke abantu bakoJuda <sup>17</sup> ababesakha umduli. Labo ababethwala izinto zokwakha babesenza umsebenzi ngesandla

esisodwa ngesinye umuntu ephethe isikhali, <sup>18</sup> njalo ngulowo lalowo umakhi wayehlome inkemba ilengiswe eceleni kwakhe nxa esebenza. Kodwa indoda yokutshaya icilongo yahlala ikimi.

<sup>19</sup> Ngasengisithi ezikhulwini, lezinduna lakubantu bonke jikelele, “Umsebenzi ubanzi usabalele, njalo sehlukene kakhulu omunye komunye kulandela umduli. <sup>20</sup> Lingezwa ingabe kungaphi okukhala khona icilongo, phuthumani khona lize kithi. UNkulunkulu wethu uzasilwela!”

<sup>21</sup> Yikho sawuqhuba umsebenzi ingxenye yamadoda ihlomile ngemikhonto, kusukela emathathakusa kuze kuphume izinkanyezi. <sup>22</sup> Ngasonaleso isikhathi ngabuye ngathi ebantwini, “Akuthi yonke indoda kanye lomsizi wayo balale ngaphakathi kweJerusalema ebusuku, ukuze babengabalindi bethu ebusuku, babe ngabasebenzi emini.” <sup>23</sup> Mina labafowethu, lamadoda ayelami, labalindi ababelami kasizange sihlubule izigqoko zethu; ngulowo waphatha isikhali sakhe loba engena emanzini.

## 5

### *UNehemiya Usiza Abampofu*

<sup>1</sup> Ngalesosikhathi amadoda labomkabo bax-okozela kakhulu besola abazalwane babo bama-Juda. <sup>2</sup> Abanye babesithi, “Thina lamadodana lamadodakazi ethu sibanengi kakhulu; ukuthi sidle ukuze siphile kumele sizuze amabele.”

<sup>3</sup> Abanye babesithi, “Sesibambisa ngamasimu ethu, langezivini zethu kanye lemizi yethu ukuzuza amabele ngesikhathi sendlala.”

<sup>4</sup> Abanye njalo labo babesithi, “Sesiseboleka imali ukuze sikwazi ukubhadala imithelo yenkosi eyamasimu ethu lezivini zethu.

<sup>5</sup> Loba siyinyamanye legazi linye labantu bakithi njalo loba amadodana ethu elingana lawabo, kodwa sizibona sesifugela amadodana lamadodakazi ethu ebugqilini. Abanye bamadodakazi ethu bavele sebegqilaziwe, kodwa kasilamandla, ngoba amasimu ethu lezivini zethu sekungokwabanye.”

<sup>6</sup> Ngathi sengizwile ukukhala kwabo kanye lensolo yabo, ngathukuthela kakhulu.

<sup>7</sup> Ngakuhlolisisa kuhle konke lokhu engqondweni yami ngasengicala izikhulu lezinduna. Ngathi, “Libhadalisa abantu bakini inzuzo!”

Ngasengibiza umhlangano omkhulu ukuthi ngiqondane labo, <sup>8</sup> ngathi, “Ngokusemandleni ethu, sesabahlenga abazalwane bethu abangamaJuda ababethengiselwe kwabeZizwe. Kodwa manje selibathengisa abafowenu, babuye bathengiselwe kithi njalo!”

Bathula ngoba baswela abangakutsho.

<sup>9</sup> Ngaqhubeka ngathi, “Elikwenzayo kakulunganga. Kungani lingahambi ngokwesaba uNkulunkulu na ukuze lingaklolodelwa yizitha zethu zabeZizwe?

<sup>10</sup> Mina labafowethu labantu bami lathi siyabehleka abantu imali lamabele. Kodwa ukufuna inzuzo kakuphele!

<sup>11</sup> Babuyiseleni khona manje amasimu abo,

lezivini zabo, lezihlahla zabo zama-oliva kanye lezindlu zabo, njalo lenzuzo yokweboleka leyo eliyithathayo kubo, ingxenye eyodwa yekhulu emalini, emabeleni, ewayinini elitsha lemafutheni.”

<sup>12</sup> Bathi, “Sizakubuyisela. Njalo kasiyikubiza lutho kubo. Sizakwenza njengoba usitsho.”

Ngasengibiza abaphristi ngathi izikhulu lezinduna kabenze isifungo sokuthi bazakwenza lokho abakuthembisileyo. <sup>13</sup> Njalo ngathintitha amavingo esigqoko sami ngathi, “UNkulunkulu uzamthintitha kanje emkhupha endlini yakhe laselifeni lakhe wonke umuntu ongemi ngalesi isithembiso. Kanjalo umuntu onjalo kathintithwe achithwe!”

Besizwa lokho umhlangano wonke wathi, “Ameni,” badumisa uTHIXO. Abantu benza njengokuthembisa kwabo.

<sup>14</sup> Kwathi njalo, kusukela ngomnyaka wamatshumi amabili wokubusa kweNkosi u-Athazekisisi, sengibekiwe ukuba ngumbusi wabo elizweni lakoJuda, kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wakhe wamatshumi amathathu lambili, iminyaka elitshumi lambili, mina labazalwane bami kasizange sikuthinte ukudla okwakwabelwe umbusi. <sup>15</sup> Kodwa ababusi bangaphambili, labo abangandulelayo, babethwalisa nzima abantu ngokuthatha kubo amashekeli esiliva angamatshumi amane phezu kokudla lewayini. Labasekeli babo labo bathwalisa nzima abantu. Kodwa ngenxa yokumesaba uNkulunkulu mina kangikwenzanga lokho. <sup>16</sup> Esikhundleni salokho, ngazinikela emsebenzini womduli

lo. Wonke amadoda ayelami abuthana khona ukuzasebenza; kasizange sizizuzele umhlaba.

<sup>17</sup> Phezu kwalokho, amaJuda alikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu kanye lezinduna babesidla kwami kanye lalabo abeza kithi bevela ezizweni eziseduze. <sup>18</sup> Insuku ngensuku kwakuhlathwa inkabi eyodwa, lezimvu zekhethelo eziyisithupha, lenkukhu, kulungiselwe mina, kuthi kuzozonke insuku ezilitshumi kulethwe yonke imihlobo yewayini. Phezu kwakho konke lokhu, kangizange ngikubize lokho kudla okwakuyisabelo sombusi, ngoba abantu laba babethwele nzima ngezinto ezifunekayo.

<sup>19</sup> Ungikhumbule ngomusa, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ngenxa yakho konke esengikwenzele lababantu.

## 6

### *Ukuqhubeka Kwempikiswano Ekwakheni Kutsha*

<sup>1</sup> Kwathi ukuba ilizwi lifike kuSanibhalathi, loThobhiya, loGeshemi um'Arabhu lakuzo zonke izitha zethu ukuthi ngasengiwakhile kutsha umduli kungasasalanga sikhala kuwo loba nje ngalesosikhathi ngangingakafaki izivalo emasangweni, <sup>2</sup> uSanibhalathi loGeshemi bangithumela lelizwi: "Woza, kesihlangane komunye wemizi esemagcekeni ase-Ono."

Kodwa babeceba ukungenza kubi; <sup>3</sup> yikho ngasengithuma izithunywa kubo lale impendulo: "Ngiphezu komsebenzi omkhulu yikho ngeke ngize. Kungani umsebenzi ufanele ume ngiwutshiyela ukuza kini na?" <sup>4</sup> Kwaze kwaba

kane bengithumela mbiko munye, lami ngala ngampendulo nye.

<sup>5</sup> Kwathi ngesikhathi sesihlanu, uSanibhalathi wathuma inceku yakhe iphethe lona lelolizwi, ilencwadi esandleni ingavalwanga <sup>6</sup> ilotshwe ukuthi:

“Kubikwa phakathi kwezizwe loGeshemi uthi kuliqiniso ukuthi wena lamaJuda liceba ukuhlamuka, ngakho lakha umduli. Njalo, imbiko le ithi wena usufuna ukuba yinkosi yawo <sup>7</sup> futhi usuze wabeka abaphrofethi ukuthi benze lesisimemezelo ngawe eJerusalema esithi: ‘Sekulenkosi koJuda!’ Umbiko lo ungahle uyofika enkosini; yikho woza sibonisane.”

<sup>8</sup> Ngambuyisela impendulo le: “Akulanto enjalo mayelana lalokho othi kuyenzakala; konke kuphume engqondweni yakho.”

<sup>9</sup> Bonke babezama ukusethusela, bekhumbula besithi, “Izandla zabo zizaphela amandla bangabe besasebenza, yikho umsebenzi kawuyikuphela.”

Kodwa ngakhuleka ngathi, “Manje qinisa izandla zami.”

<sup>10</sup> Ngelinye ilanga ngaya endlini kaShemaya indodana kaDelaya, indodana kaMehethabheli, owayezivalele endlini yakhe. Wathi, “Kasihlangane endlini kaNkulunkulu, phakathi kwethempeli, sivale iminyango yethempeli, ngoba kulamadoda abuyayo ebusuku ukuzokubulala.”

<sup>11</sup> Kodwa ngathi, “Umuntu onjengami kungamfanela ukubaleka na? Kumbe umuntu onjengami angangena ethempelini ukusiza



impilo yakhe na? Kangiyi!” <sup>12</sup> Ngabona ukuthi wayengathunywanga nguNkulunkulu, kodwa wayenze isiphrofethi sokungilahla ngoba oThobhiya loSanibhalathi babemthengile. <sup>13</sup> Wayethengwe ukuthi angethuse ukuze ngenze isono ngokwenza lokhu, ukwenzela ukuthi bangiphe ibizo elibi ngizondakale.

<sup>14</sup> Bakhumbule oThobhiya loSanibhalathi, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ngenxa yalokho asebekwenzile; mkhumbule njalo umphrofethikazi uN-owadiya labo bonke labobaphrofethi abebekade bezama ukungethusa. <sup>15</sup> Ngakho umduli waphela ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili ku-Eluli, ngemva kwensuku ezingamatshumi amahlanu lambili.

### *Ukuqediswa Komduli*

<sup>16</sup> Izitha zethu zonke sezikuzwile lokho, zonke izizwe eziseduze zesaba zalahla ithemba, ngoba zanzelela ukuthi umsebenzi lo wenziwa uxhaswe nguNkulunkulu.

<sup>17</sup> Njalo, ngalezonsuku izikhulu zakoJuda zazithumezela izincwadi ezinengi kuThobhiya, lezimpendulo zikaThobhiya zabe zilokhu zifika kuzo. <sup>18</sup> Phela abanengi koJuda babebambelele kuye ngesifungo, ngoba wayengumkhwenyana kaShekhaniya indodana ka-Ara, futhi indodana yakhe uJehohanani yayithethe indodakazi kaMeshulami indodana kaBherekhiya. <sup>19</sup> Ikanti njalo babelokhu behlezi bengibikela ngezenzo zakhe ezinhle, basuke bayemtshela ukuthi

ngitheni. Njalo uThobhiya wathumezela izincwadi ukungethusela.

## 7

<sup>1</sup> Umduli usuyakhwe kutsha lezivalo sengizifakile ezindaweni zazo, abalindi bamasango labahlabeleli labaLevi bakhethwa. <sup>2</sup> Ngabeka umfowethu uHanani ukuphatha iJerusalema, kanye loHananiya umlawuli wesigodlo lenqaba ngoba wayeyindoda elobuqotho, emesabayo uNkulunkulu kulamadoda amanengi. <sup>3</sup> Ngathi kubo, “Amasango aseJerusalema makangavulwa ilanga lize litshise. Nxa abalindimasango belokhu besemsebenzini, kabavale iminyango bayinxibe. Njalo khethani izakhamizi zeJerusalema ukuba ngabalindi, abanye ezindaweni lapho abamiswe khona, abanye eduze lezindlu zabo.”

### *Uluhlu Lwezithunjwa Ezaphendukayo*

<sup>4</sup> Idolobho lalikhulu libanzi, kodwa kwakulabantu abalutshwana phakathi kwalo, lezindlu zazingakavuselelwa. <sup>5</sup> Kwathi uNkulunkulu wami wakubeka enhliziyweni yami ukuqoqa ndawonye izikhulu, lezinduna labantukazana nje ukuthi bazobhalisa ngezimuli. Ngathola umbhalo wezizukulwane walabo ababuya kuqala. Nanku engakuthola kubhaliwe lapho:

<sup>6</sup> laba yibo abantu belizwe abafikayo  
 bephuma ebugqilini ababethunjiwe  
 nguNebhukhadineza inkosi  
 yaseBhabhiloni. Baba yizigqili  
 (babuyela eJerusalema lakoJuda,

ngulowo waya emzini wakibo,  
 7 abeza kanye loZerubhabheli,  
 loJeshuwa, loNehemiya, lo-Azariya  
 loRamiya, loNahamani, loModekhayi,  
 loBhilishani loMisipherethi,  
 loBhigivayi, loNehumi loBhana):

uluhlu lwamadoda ako-Israyeli:

- 8 awesizukulwane  
 sikaPharoshi ayezinkulungwane ezimbili  
 lekhulu elilamatshumi ayisikhombisa  
 lambili (2,172),  
 9 akaShefathiya ayengamakhulu amathathu  
 amatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili (372),  
 10 aka-Ara ayengamakhulu ayisithupha  
 amatshumi amahlanu lambili (652),  
 11 akaPhahathi-Mowabi (ngosendo  
 lukaJeshuwa loJowabi) ayezinkulungwane  
 ezimbili lamakhulu ayisificaminwembili  
 letshumi lasificaminwembili (2,818),  
 12 aka-Elamu ayeyinkulungwane  
 elamakhulu amabili amatshumi  
 amahlanu lane (1,254),  
 13 akaZathu ayengamakhulu ayisificamin-  
 wembili amatshumi amane lanhlanu  
 (845),  
 14 akaZakhayi ayengamakhulu ayisikhom-  
 bisa amatshumi ayisithupha (760),  
 15 akaBhinuyi ayengamakhulu ayisithupha  
 amatshumi amane lasificaminwembili  
 (648),  
 16 akaBhebhayi ayengamakhulu ayisithupha  
 amatshumi amabili lasificaminwembili  
 (628),

- 17 aka-Azigadi ayezinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amabili lambili (2,322),
- 18 aka-Adonikhamu ayengamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi ayisithupha lasikhombisa (667),
- 19 akaBhigivayi ayezinkulungwane ezimbili lamatshumi ayisithupha lasikhombisa (2,067),
- 20 aka-Adini ayengamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amahlanu lanhlanu (655),
- 21 aka-Atheri (ngoHezekhiya) ayengamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificaminwembali (98),
- 22 akaHashumi ayengamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amabili lasificaminwembali (328),
- 23 akaBhezayi ayengamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amabili lane (324),
- 24 akaHarifi ayelikhulu letshumi lambili (112),
- 25 akaGibhiyoni ayengamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lanhlanu (95),
- 26 amadoda ayeseBhethilehema leNethofa ayelikhulu lamatshumi ayisificaminwembali lasificaminwembali (188),
- 27 ayese-Anathothi ayelikhulu lamatshumi amabili lasificaminwembali (128),
- 28 ayeseBethi Azimavethi ayengamatshumi amane lambili (42),
- 29 ayeseKhiriyaathi-Jeyarimi, leKhefira leBherothi ayengamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amane lantathu (743),

- <sup>30</sup> ayeseRama leGebha ayengamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amabili lanye (621),  
<sup>31</sup> ayeseMikhimashi ayelikhulu lamatshumi amabili lambili (122),  
<sup>32</sup> ayeseBhetheli le-Ayi ayelikhulu lamatshumi amabili lantathu (123),  
<sup>33</sup> awakweyinye iNebho ayengamatshumi amahlanu lambili (52),  
<sup>34</sup> awakweyinye i-Elamu ayeyinkulungwane elamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amahlanu lane (1,254),  
<sup>35</sup> ayeseHarimi ayengamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amabili (320),  
<sup>36</sup> aseJerikho ayengamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi amane lanhlanu (345),  
<sup>37</sup> ayeseLodi, eHadidi le-Ono ayengamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amabili lane (721),  
<sup>38</sup> ayeseSenaya ayezinkulungwane ezintathu lamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi amathathu (3,930).

### <sup>39</sup> Abaphristi:

- abesizukulwane  
 sikaJedaya (ngosendo lukaJeshuwa) babengamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lantathu (973),  
<sup>40</sup> abaka-Imeri babeyinkulungwane elamatshumi amahlanu lambili (1,052),  
<sup>41</sup> abakaPhashuri babeyinkulungwane lamakhulu amabili lamatshumi amane lasikhombisa (1,247),  
<sup>42</sup> abakaHarimi babeyinkulungwane eletshumi lasikhombisa (1,017).

<sup>43</sup> AbaLevi:  
 abesizukulwane  
 sikaJeshuwa (ngoKhadimiyeli ngosendo  
 lukaHodaviya) babengamatshumi  
 ayisikhombisa lane (74).

<sup>44</sup> Abahlabeleli:  
 Abesizukulwane  
 sika-Asafi babelikhulu lamatshumi amane  
 lasificaminwembili (148).

<sup>45</sup> Abalindimasango ethempeli:  
 abesizukulwane  
 sikaShalumi, lo-Atheri, loThalimoni,  
 lo-Akhubi, loHathitha loShobhayi  
 babelikhulu lamatshumi amathathu  
 lasificaminwembili (138).

<sup>46</sup> Izinceku zethempelini:  
 abesizukulwane  
 sikaZiha, loHasufa loThabhawothi,  
<sup>47</sup> loKherosi, loSiya, loPhadoni,  
<sup>48</sup> loLebhana, loHagabha, loShalimayi,  
<sup>49</sup> loHanani, loGideli, loGahari,  
<sup>50</sup> loReyaya, loRezini, loNekhoda,  
<sup>51</sup> loGazami, lo-Uza, loPhaseya,  
<sup>52</sup> loBhesayi, loMewunimi, loNefushesimi,  
<sup>53</sup> loBhakibhuki, loHakufa, loHahuri,  
<sup>54</sup> loBhaziluthi, loMehida, loHasha,  
<sup>55</sup> loBhakhosi, loSisera, loThema,  
<sup>56</sup> loNeziya loHathifa.  
<sup>57</sup> Abezizukulwane zezinceku  
 zikaSolomoni:  
 Abesizukulwane  
 sikaSothayi, loSoferethi loPherida,

58 loJayala, loDakhoni, loGideli,

59 loShefathiya, loHathili,

loPhokherethi-Hazebhayimi lo-Amoni.

60 Izinceku zethempelini labezizukulwane zezinceku zikaSolomoni babengamakhulu amathathu lamatshumi ayisificamunwe-munye lambili (392).

61 Abalandelayo laba bavela emadolob-heni aseTheli Mela, eTheli Hasha, eKherubi, e-Adoni, lase-Imeri, kodwa behluleka ukuveza ukuthi usendo lwabo lwaphuma ko-Israyeli:

62 abesizukulwane sikaDelaya, loThobhiya loNekhoda babengamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi amane lambili (642).

63 Ababephuma kubaphristi kwakuyil-aba:

abesizukulwane sikaHobhaya, esikaHakhozi lesikaBhazilayi (indoda eyayithethe indodakazi kaBhazilayi umGiliyadi layo yayibizwa ngalelo-bizo).

64 Laba baphenya imibhalo yembali yezimuli zabo, kodwa bayiswela ngakho basuswa ebuphristini kwathiwa bangcolile. 65 Ngakho-ke, umbusi wabalaya ukuthi bangakudli loba yikuphi ukudla okungcwele kuze kubekhona umphristi wokubuza inkatho i-Urimi leThumimi.

<sup>66</sup> Ixuku lonke lalilinani elifika  
 inkulungwane ezingamatshumi  
 amane lambili lamakhulu amathathu  
 amatshumi ayisithupha (42,360),  
<sup>67</sup> ngaphandle kwezinceku zabo  
 ezesilisa labesifazane ezazifika  
 inkulungwane eziyisikhombisa  
 lamakhulu amathathu amatshumi  
 amathathu lasikhombisa (7,337);  
 njalo belabahlabeleli besilisa  
 labesifazane abafika amakhulu  
 amabili amatshumi amane  
 lanhlanu (245). <sup>68</sup> Kwakulamabhiza  
 ayefika amakhulu ayisikhombisa  
 amatshumi amathathu lasithupha  
 (736), imbongolo ezingamakhulu  
 amabili amatshumi amane lanhlanu  
 (245), amakamela angamakhulu  
 amane amatshumi amathathu  
 lanhlanu (435), <sup>69</sup> labobabhemi  
 abazinkulungwane eziyisithupha  
 lamakhulu ayisikhombisa amatshumi  
 amabili (6,720).

<sup>70</sup> Ezinye inhloko zezimuli zancedisa  
 emsebenzini. Umbusi wanikela  
 esikhwameni esikhulu, amadrakhima  
 egolide ayinkulungwane (1,000), imiganu  
 engamatshumi amahlanu (50) lezigqoko  
 zabaphristi ezingamakhulu amahlanu  
 amatshumi amathathu (530). <sup>71</sup> Abanye  
 abazinhloko zezimuli baphosela esikhwameni  
 amadrakhima egolide azinkulungwane  
 ezingamatshumi amabili (20,000) lamamina  
 esiliva azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu



amabili (2,200). <sup>72</sup> Sekukonke okwaphiwa ngabantu bonke kwaba ngamadrakhima egolide azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili (20,000), amamina esiliva azinkulungwane ezimbili (2,000) lezigqoko zabaphristi ezingamatshumi ayisithupha lasikhombisa (67).

<sup>73</sup> Abaphristi, labaLevi, labalindimasango, labahlabeleli, lezincku zethempelini, kanye labanye abantu lo-Israyeli wonke, bahlala emadolobheni akibo.

## 8

### *U-Ezra Ufundela Abantu Umthetho*

<sup>1</sup> Kwathi sekuyinyanga yesikhombisa abako-Israyeli basebehlezi emadolobheni akibo. Bonke abantu babuthana ngangqondo yinye egcekeni elaliphambi kweSango laManzi. Bacela u-Ezra umbhali ukuthi alethe iNcwadi yoMthetho kaMosi, UTHIXO ayelaye ngawo ama-Israyeli.

<sup>2</sup> Yikho kwathi ngelanga lokuqala lenyanga yesikhombisa u-Ezra umphristi wawuletha uMthetho phambi komhlangano, owawugcweleamadoda labafazi labo bonke ababelokuzwisisa. <sup>3</sup> Wafunda kakhulu kusukela ekuphumeni kwelanga kwaze kwaba semini enkulu ekhangele egcekeni leSango laManzi phambi kwamadoda, labafazi labanye ababelokuzwisisa. Bonke abantu balalelisisa ukuzwa iNcwadi yoMthetho.

<sup>4</sup> U-Ezra umbhali wayemi phezu kwethala eliphakemeyo elalenziwe ngezigodo lenzelwe umkhosi lo. Eceleni kwakhe kwesokunene kwakumi uMathithiya, loShema, lo-Anaya,

lo-Uriya, loHilikhiya, loMaseya; kwathi kwesokhohlo kunguPhedaya, loMishayeli, loMalikhija, loHashumi, loHashibhadana, loZakhariya loMeshulami.

<sup>5</sup> U-Ezra wayivula incwadi. Bonke abantu babembona ngoba wayemi ekuphakameni ngaphezu kwabo; kwathi lapho eyivula abantu basukuma. <sup>6</sup> U-Ezra wamdumisa uTHIXO, uNkulunkulu omkhulu, kwathi bonke abantu baphendula baphakamisa izandla zabo bathi, “Ameni! Ameni!” Basebekhothama bekhonza uTHIXO bethe mbo ngobuso phansi.

<sup>7</sup> AbaLevi ababalisa uJeshuwa, loBhani, loSherebhiya, loJamini, lo-Akhubi, loShabhethayi, loHodiya, loMaseya, loKhelitha, lo-Azariya, lo-Jozabhadi, loHanani loPhelaya bafundisa abantu uMthetho abantu belokhu bemi khonapho. <sup>8</sup> Babebala eNcwadini yoMthetho kaNkulunkulu, bewuchasisa baveze lokho okutshoyo ukuze abantu bakuzwisise lokho okwakubalwa.

<sup>9</sup> Kwasekusithi uNehemiya umbusi, lo-Ezra umphristi lombhali, kanye labaLevi ababefundisa abantu bathi kubo bonke, “Lelilanga lingcwele kuTHIXO uNkulunkulu wenu. Lingalili kumbe likhale.” Kwakungoba bonke babekhala lapho babelalele amazwi oMthetho.

<sup>10</sup> UNehemiya wathi, “Hambani liyozitika ngokudla okumnandi lokunathwayo okumnandi, okunye likuthumele labo abangelakho okulungisiweyo. Ilanga lanamhla lingcwele kuTHIXO wethu. Malingadani, ngoba ukuthokoza kuKATHIXO kungamandla enu.”

<sup>11</sup> AbaLevi babathulisa bonke abantu, bathi, “Thulani, ngoba lolu lusuku olungcwele. Lingadani.”

<sup>12</sup> Kwathi abantu bonke basebehamba bayakudla banatha, bathumela okunye ukudla kwabanye bazithokozisa kakhulu, ngoba manje basebewazwisisa lawomazwi abasebewazwile.

<sup>13</sup> Ngosuku lwesibili lwenyanga, abazinhloko zezimuli zonke, kanye labaphristi labaLevi, babuthana ku-Ezra umbhali ukuba bahlolisise amazwi oMthetho. <sup>14</sup> Bakufumana kubhaliwe eMthethweni, owayaywa NGUTHIXO ngoMosi, ukuthi ama-Israyeli babemele bahlale ezihonqweni ngesikhathi somkhosi wenyanga yesikhombisa <sup>15</sup> lokuthi njalo lelizwi babemele balimemezele liye kuwo wonke amadolobho abo laseJerusalema elithi: “Phumani liye emaqaqeni liyokhwebula amagatsha ama-oliva lama-oliva eganga, lamamithili, lamalala lezihlahla ezilomthunzi, lenze izihonqo,” njengoba kulotshiwe.

<sup>16</sup> Ngakho abantu baphuma babuya lamagatsha bazakhela izihonqo ephahleni lwezindlu zabo, emagumeni abo, emagumeni endlu kaNkulunkulu lasegcekeni eliseSangweni laManzi lalale elaliseSangweni lika-Efrayimi.

<sup>17</sup> Ixuku lonke elavela ebugqilini lakha izihonqo lahlala kuzo. Kusukela ensukwini zikaJoshuwa indodana kaNuni kuze kube yilolosuku, ama-Israyeli ayengazange awenze kanjalo lowo mkhosi. Kwakukukhulu ukuthokoza kwabo.

<sup>18</sup> Insuku ngensuku, kusukela kolokuqala kusiya kolokucina, u-Ezra wayebala eNcwadini yoMthetho kaNkulunkulu. Bawuthakazelela

lowo mkhosi okwensuku eziyisikhombisa, kwathi ngosuku lwesificaminwembili, kwabakhona umhlangano omkhulu, njengokumisiweyo emthethweni.

## 9

### *Abako-Israyeli Bavuma Izone Zabo*

<sup>1</sup> Ngelanga lamatshumi amabili lane aleyonyanga, ama-Israyeli ahlangana ndawonye, azila ukudla egqoke amasaka njalo bezithele uthuli emakhanda abo.

<sup>2</sup> Labo ababengabako-Israyeli ngomdabuko bazehlukanisa kwabezizwe. Bema ezindaweni zabo bavuma izono zabo lobubi babokhokho babo. <sup>3</sup> Bema khonapho ababekhona babala eNcwadini yoMthetho KATHIXO uNkulunkulu wabo okwengxenyeye yesine yosuku, kwathi enye ingxenyeye yesine babevuma izono zabo njalo bekhonza uTHIXO uNkulunkulu wabo.

<sup>4</sup> Ethaleni kwakumi abaLevi, uJeshuwa, loBhani, loKhadimiyeli, loShebhaniya, loBhuni, loSherebhiya, loBhani loKhenani, abamemeza baqongisa amazwi kuTHIXO uNkulunkulu wabo. <sup>5</sup> Njalo abaLevi ababalisa uJeshuwa, loKhadimiyeli, loBhani, loHashabhineya, loSherebhiya, loHodiya, loShebhaniya, loPhethahiya bathi: “Sukumani lidumise uTHIXO uNkulunkulu wenu, okhona kusukela phakade kuze kube phakade.

Libusisiwe ibizo lakho elingcwele, sengathi lingaphakanyiswa ngaphezulu kwakho konke ukubusiswa lokudunyiswa. <sup>6</sup> Wena wedwa UNGU THIXO. Wenza amazulu, kanye lamazulu

aphezukonke, lazozonke izinkanyezi zawo, umhlaba lakho konke okukuwo, inlwandle lakho konke okukuzo. Uyapha ukuphila kukho konke, lamabutho wonke asezulwini ayakukhonza.

<sup>7</sup> UNGUTHIXO uNkulunkulu, owakhetha u-Abhrama wamkhupha e-Uri lamaKhaladiya wambiza ngokuthi ngu-Abhrahama. <sup>8</sup> Wabona ukuthi inhliziyo yakhe yayithembekile kuwe, ngakho wenza isivumelwano laye ukupha izizukulwane zakhe ilizwe lamaKhenani, lamaHithi, lama-Amori, lamaPherizi, lamaJebusi lamaGigashi. Usigcinile isithembiso sakho ngoba ulungile.

<sup>9</sup> Wakubona ukuhlupheka kwabokhokho bethu eGibhithe; wezwa ukukhala kwabo eLwandle oluBomvu. <sup>10</sup> Wathumela izibonakaliso ezingumangaliso lezimanga ku-Faro, kuzozonke izinduna zakhe lakubo bonke abantu belizwe lakhe, ngoba wawukwazi ukuthi amaGibhithe abaphatha njani ngodlakela. Wazenzela ibizo, elimiyo kuze kube lamuhla. <sup>11</sup> Walwehlukanisa ulwandle phambi kwabo, ukuze bedlule kulo emhlabathini owomileyo, kodwa waphosela labo ababebaxhuma ekujuleni, njengelitshe liphoselwa ethwaceni lwamanzi. <sup>12</sup> Emini wawubakhokhela ngensika yeyezi, ebusuku ngensika yomlilo ukubapha ukukhanya endleleni ababehamba ngayo.

<sup>13</sup> Wehla weza eNtabeni yaseSinayi; wakhuluma kubo usezulwini. Wabapha izimiso lemithetho eqondileyo njalo elungileyo, lez-

imemezelo lemilayo elungileyo. <sup>14</sup> Wabazisa ngeSabatha lakho elingcwele njalo wabapha imilayo, lezimiso lemithetho ngenceku yakho uMosi. <sup>15</sup> Ngesikhathi belambile wabapha isinkwa sivela ezulwini njalo ekomeni kwabo wabaletshela amanzi ephuma edwaleni; wabatshela ukuthi bangene balithathe ilizwe owafunga uphakamisa isandla ukubapha.

<sup>16</sup> Kodwa bona, okhokho bethu, baba yiziqholo baqinisa intamo, kabaze balalela imilayo yakho. <sup>17</sup> Bala ukulalela njalo behluleka ukukhumbula izimanga owazenzayo phakathi kwabo. Baqinisa intamo kwathi ekuhlamukeni kwabo bakhetha umkhokheli ukuze babuyele ebugqilini babo. Kodwa unguNkulunkulu oxolelayo, olomusa lesihawu, ophuza ukuthukuthela kodwa wandile ngothando. Ngakho kawubafulathelanga, <sup>18</sup> lalapho sebezibumbele isithombe sethole besithi, 'Lo ngunkulunkulu wenu owalikhuphayo eGibhithe,' lanxa benze amanyala esabekayo.

<sup>19</sup> Ngenxa yesihawu sakho esikhulu kawubakhalalanga enkangala. Emini insika yeyezi kayikhawulanga ukubakhokhela endleleni yabo, loba insika yomlilo ebusuku ukukhanyisa indlela ababemele bahambe ngayo. <sup>20</sup> Wanika uMoya wakho omuhle ukubafundisa. Kawuyigodlanga imana yakho emilonyeni yabo, njalo wabapha amanzi ukucitsha umhawu wabo. <sup>21</sup> Okweminyaka engamatshumi amane wabagcina enkangala; kabazange baswele lutho, izembatho zabo kaziguganga lezinyawo zabo kazivuvukanga.

<sup>22</sup> Wabapha imibuso lezizwe, wababela lemingcele ekude. Balithatha ilizwe likaSihoni inkosi yaseHeshibhoni lelizwe lika-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani. <sup>23</sup> Wenza amadodana abo aba manengi njengezinkanyezi zomkhathi, wabaletsha elizweni owawutshele okhokho babo ukuba bangene kulo balithathe. <sup>24</sup> Amadodana abo angena alithatha ilizwe. Wawehlukanisa phambi kwabo amaKhenani, ababehlala phakathi kwelizwe; wanikela amaKhenani kubo, ndawonye lamakhosi awo labantu belizwe, ukuba benze kubo njengokuthanda kwabo. <sup>25</sup> Bathumba amadolobho abiyelweyo lomhlaba ovundileyo; bazithatha izindlu ezazigcwaliswe ngakho konke okuhle, lemithombo eyayivele igejiwe, izivini, lezivande zama-oliva lezihlahla ezinengi ezezithelo. Badla bazitika bakhithika imikhaba; bazithokozisa ngokulunga kwakho okukhulu.

<sup>26</sup> Kodwa kabalalelanga bakuhlamukela; umthetho wakho bawubeka ngemva kwabo. Babulala abaphrofethi bakho, ababebakhuza ukuze babuyele kuwe; bahlambaza ngendlela eyesabekayo. <sup>27</sup> Ngakho wabanikela ezitheni zabo, zabancindezela. Kodwa kwathi sebencindezelwe bakhala kuwe. Usezulwini wabezwa, kwathi ngesihawu sakho esikhulu wabapha abakhululi, ababahlengayo ezandleni zezitha zabo.

<sup>28</sup> Kodwa bonela ukuphumula, baphinda njalo benza okubi phambi kwakho. Wase ubadela ezandleni zezitha zabo ukuthi zibabuse. Kwathi lapho sebekhala kuwe

njalo, wezwa usezulwini, kwathi ngesihawu sakho wabakhulula izikhathi ngezikhathi.

<sup>29</sup> Wabaxwayisa ukuthi babuyele emthethweni wakho, kodwa baqholoza kabaze bayilalela imilayo yakho. Benza isono ngezimiso zakho, okuthi nxa umuntu ezilalela aphile. Ngobuqholo bakufulathela, baqinisa intamo, bala ukulalela. <sup>30</sup> Okweminyaka eminengi wababekezelela. NgoMoya wakho wabakhuza ngabaphrofethi bakho. Kodwa kabananzanga, ngakho wabanikela ebantwini abakhelelene labo. <sup>31</sup> Kodwa ngomusa wakho omkhulu kawubaqedanga njalo kawubadelanga, ngoba unguNkulunkulu olomusa, olozwelo.

<sup>32</sup> Ngakho-ke manje, Oh Nkulunkulu wethu, uNkulunkulu omkhulu, olamandla njalo omangalisayo, ogcina isivumelwano sakhe sothando, ungadeleli bonke lobu ubunzima obusehleleyo thina laphezu kwamakhosi ethu labakhokheli, phezu kwabaphristi labaphrofethi bethu, phezu kwabobaba labantu bakho bonke, kusukela ensukwini zamakhosi ase-Asiriya kuze kube lamuhla.

<sup>33</sup> Kukho konke lokho okwenzakeleyo kithi, ubeqotho; wenze ngokuthembeka, thina sisenza okubi. <sup>34</sup> Amakhosi ethu, abakhokheli bethu, abaphristi bethu labobaba abawulandelanga umthetho wakho; abayinzanga imilayo yakho izixwayiso owabapha zona. <sup>35</sup> Loba babesembusweni wabo, bekhulisa ukulunga kwakho kubo elizweni elibanzi elivundileyo lelo owabapha lona, kabakukhonzanga futhi kabaguqkanga



ezindleleni zabo ezimbi.

<sup>36</sup> Kodwa ake ubone, siyizigqili lamuhla, izigqili elizweni owalipha okhokho bethu ukuthi badle izithelo zalo lezinye izinto ezinhle eziphuma kulo. <sup>37</sup> Ngenxa yezono zethu, isivuno salo esinengi siya emakhosini osuwabeke phezu kwethu. Abusa phezu kwemizimba yethu laphezu kwezinkomo zethu njengokuthanda kwawo. Siphakathi kosizi olumangalisayo.”

### *Isivumelwano Sabantu*

<sup>38</sup> “Ngenxa yakho konke lokhu, sesisenza isivumelwano esibophayo, sisibhala phansi, njalo abakhokheli bethu, abaLevi labaphristi bethu bafaka uphawu lwabo kuso.”

## 10

<sup>1</sup> Labo abafaka uphawu lwabo yilaba:

Umbusi:

uNehemiya indodana kaHakhaliya.

LoZedekhiya, <sup>2</sup> loSeraya, lo-Azariya, lo-Jeremiya,

<sup>3</sup> loPhashuri, lo-Amariya, loMalikhija,

<sup>4</sup> loHathushi, loShebhaniya, loMaluki,

<sup>5</sup> loHarimi, loMeremothi, lo-Obhadaya,

<sup>6</sup> loDanyeli, loGinethoni, loBharukhi,

<sup>7</sup> loMeshulami, lo-Abhija, loMijamini,

<sup>8</sup> loMaziya, loBhiligayi loShemaya.

Laba babe ngabaphristi.

- 9 AbaLevi:  
 uJeshuwa indodana ka-Azaniya,  
 uBhinuwi owamadodana kaHenadadi  
 loKhadimiyeli,  
 10 labasekeli babo: uShebhaniya, uHodiya,  
 uKhelitha, uPhelaya loHanani,  
 11 uMikha, uRehobhi, uHashabhiya,  
 12 uZakhuri, uSherebhiya, uShebhaniya,  
 13 uHodiya, uBhani loBheninu.
- 14 Abakhokheli babantu yilaba:  
 uPharoshi, uPhahathi-Mowabi, u-Elamu,  
 uZathu uBhani,  
 15 uBhuni, u-Azigadi, uBhebhayi,  
 16 u-Adonija, uBhigivayi, u-Adini,  
 17 u-Atheri, uHezekhiya, u-Azuri,  
 18 uHodiya, uHashumi, uBhezayi,  
 19 uHarifi, u-Anathothi, uNebhayi,  
 20 uMagiphiyashi, uMeshulami, uHeziri,  
 21 uMeshezabeli, uZadokhi, uJaduwa,  
 22 uPhelathiya, uHanani, u-Anaya,  
 23 uHosheya, uHananiya, uHashubhi,  
 24 uHaloheshi, uPhiliha, uShobeki,  
 25 uRehumi, uHashabhina, uMaseya,  
 26 u-Ahija, uHanani, u-Anani,  
 27 uMaluki, uHarimi loBhana.
- 28 Inengi labantu, abaphristi, abaLevi,  
 abalindimasango, abahlabeleli, lezinceku  
 zethempeli labo bonke abazehlukanisayo  
 ebantwini bezizwe ngenxa yoMthetho  
 kaNkulunkulu, kanye lamakhosikazi abo  
 lamadodana lamadodakazi abo ayeseqedisisa

29 bonke bahlanganyela labafowabo ababeyizikhulu, ukuzibopha ngesiqalekiso langesifungo ukuwulandela uMthetho kaNkulunkulu owanikwa ngoMosi inceku kaNkulunkulu lokulalela kuhle yonke imilayo, leziqondiso lezimemezelo ZIKATHIXO iNkosi yethu.

30 Sithembisa ukuthi kasiyikwendisa amadodakazi ethu ebantwini esakhelene labo loba sithathele amadodana ethu amadodakazi abo.

31 Nxa labo esakhelene labo beletha impahla kumbe amabele okuthengiswa ngeSabatha, kasiyikuthenga kubo ngeSabatha loba ngaliphi ilanga elingcwele. Kuwo wonke umnyaka wesikhombisa sizayekela amasimu ethu alaluke njalo sizacitsha zonke izikwelede.

32 Siyazethesa umlandu wokugcwalisa umlayo wokupha okwesithathu kweshekeli ngomnyaka okomsebenzi wendlu kaNkulunkulu: 33 okwesinkwa esibekwe etafuleni; okomnikelo wenjayelo owamabele lowokutshiswa; okweminikelo yamaSabatha, eyamadili okuThwaswa kweNyanga leminyeye imikhosi emisiweyo; eyiminikelo engcwele, iminikelo yesono yokubuyisana eka-Israyeli; leyayo yonke imilandu yendlini kaNkulunkulu.

34 Thina abaphristi, abaLevi labantu sesenze inkatho ukubona ukuthi yiphi imuli emele ilethe inkuni ngasiphi isikhathi endlini kaNkulunkulu ezokutshiswa e-alithareni LKATHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu, njengokulotshiweyo eMthethweni.

35 Njalo sizethesa umlandu wokuletha

endlini KATHIXO umnyaka ngomnyaka izithelo zakuqala zamabele ethu lokwezithelo zonke zezihlahla.

<sup>36</sup> Njengoba kulotshiwe njalo eMthethweni, sizaletsha amazibulo amadodana ethu, awenkomo zethu, lawemihlambi yethu yezimvu endlini kaNkulunkulu wethu, kubaphristi abasebenza khona.

<sup>37</sup> Futhi njalo, sizaletsha okuya eziphaleni zasendlini kaNkulunkulu, kubaphristi, okokuqala kwempuphu yethu, okweminikelo yamabele ethu, izithelo zezihlahla zethu zonke lewayini lethu elitsha kanye lamafutha. Njalo sizaletsha okwetshumi okwamabele ethu kubaLevi, ngoba ngabaLevi abaqoqa okwetshumi kuwo wonke amadolobho esisebenza kuwo. <sup>38</sup> Umphristi odabuka ku-Aroni kaphелеkezele abaLevi besamukela okwetshumi, njalo abaLevi kumele balethe okwetshumi okomnikelo wetshumi kuze endlini kaNkulunkulu, eziphaleni eziqondane lesikhwama.

<sup>39</sup> Abantu bako-Israyeli, kanye labaLevi, bamele balethe iminikelo yabo yamabele, iwayini elitsha lamafutha eziphaleni lapho okugcinwa khona impahla zendlu engcwele, njalo lapho okuhlala khona abaphristi abasebenzayo labalindimasango labahlabeleli.

“Kasiyikuyidela indlu kaNkulunkulu.”

## 11

*Izakhamizi Ezintsha ZeJerusalema*

<sup>1</sup> Abakhokheli babantu bafika bahlala eJerusalema. Abantu bonke basebesenzisa inkatho ukukhetha oyedwa etshumini ngalinye owayemele ayehlala eJerusalema, idolobho elingcwele, kuthi abaseleyo abayisificamunwemunye bahlale emadolobheni akibo. <sup>2</sup> Abantu bawabonga wonke amadoda azinikelayo ukuyahlala eJerusalema.

<sup>3</sup> Laba yibo abakhokheli bezigodi abayahlala eJerusalema (amanye ama-Israyeli, labaphristi, labaLevi, lezincku zethempelini kanye labezizukulwane zezisebenzi zikaSolomoni bahlala emadolobheni akoJuda, ngulowo esabelweni sakhe emadolobheni ehlukeneyo, <sup>4</sup> kwathi abanye babantu bakoJuda lakoBhenjamini bahlala eJerusalema):

Abesizukulwane sikaJuda:

U-Athaya indodana ka-Uziya, indodana kaZakhariya, indodana ka-Amariya, indodana kaShefathiya, indodana kaMahalaleli owosendo lukaPherezi;

<sup>5</sup> loMaseya indodana kaBharukhi, indodana kaKholi-Hoze, indodana kaHazaya, indodana ka-Adaya, indodana kaJoyaribi, indodana kaZakhariya, isizukulwane sikaShilo.

<sup>6</sup> Abesizukulwane sikaPherezi ababehlala eJerusalema babefika 468, amadoda aqinileyo.

<sup>7</sup> Abesizukulwane sikaBhenjamini:

uSalu indodana kaMeshulami, indodana kaJoyedi, indodana kaPhedaya, indodana kaKholaya, indodana kaMaseya, indodana ka-Ithiyeli, indodana kaJeshaya, <sup>8</sup> labalandeli bakhe, uGabhayi loSalayi, amadoda afika amakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi amabili lasificaminwembali (928).

<sup>9</sup> UJoweli indodana kaZikhiri wayenguye induna yabo, loJuda indodana kaHasenuwa wayephethe iSiqinti seSibili sedolobho.

<sup>10</sup> Ababesuka kubaphristi:

uJedaya; indodana kaJoyaribi; uJakhini;

<sup>11</sup> uSeraya indodana kaHilikhiya, indodana kaMeshulami, indodana kaZadokhi, indodana kaMerayothi, indodana ka-Ahithubi, umphathi endlini kaNkulunkulu, <sup>12</sup> labasekeli babo, abaqhuba umsebenzi wethempeli, amadoda afika amakhulu ayisificaminwembali lamatshumi amabili lambili (822);

u-Adaya indodana kaJerohamu, indodana kaPhelaliya, indodana ka-Amizi, indodana kaZakhariya, indodana kaPhashuri, indodana kaMalikhija, <sup>13</sup> labasekeli bakhe, ababe yizinhloko zezimuli, amadoda afika amakhulu amabili lamatshumi amane lambili (242);

u-Amashisayi indodana ka-Azareli, indodana ka-Ahizayi, indodana kaMeshilemothi, indodana ka-Imeri, <sup>14</sup> labasekeli bakhe, ababengamadoda aqinileyo alikhulu lamatshumi amabili

lasitshiyagalombili (128).

Induna yabo kwakunguZabhidiyeli indodana kaHagedolimi.

<sup>15</sup> Ababesuka kubaLevi:

uShemaya indodana kaHashubhi, indodana ka-Azirikhamu, indodana kaHashabhiya, indodana kaBhuni;

<sup>16</sup> uShabhethayi loJozabhadi, bobabili bezinduna zabaLevi ababekhangele umsebenzi waphandle kwendlu kaNkulunkulu;

<sup>17</sup> uMathaniya indodana kaMikha, indodana kaZabhidi, indodana ka-Asafi, umqondisi owayekhokhela inkonzo yokubonga lemkhulekweni;

uBhakhibhukhiya, engowesibili phakathi kwabasekeli bakhe;

u-Abhida indodana kaShamuwa, indodana kaGalali, indodana kaJeduthuni.

<sup>18</sup> AbaLevi ababesemzini ongcwele babefika amakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisificam-inwembali lane (284).

<sup>19</sup> Abalindimasango:

u-Akhubi, loThalimoni labasekeli babo, ababelinda amasango babengamadoda afika ikhulu elilamatshumi ayisikhombisa lamibili (172).

<sup>20</sup> Bonke abanye abako-Israyeli, kanye labaphristi labaLevi, babekuwo wonke amadolobho akoJuda, ngulowo esesabelweni sakwabo esomdabuko.

<sup>21</sup> Izinceku zethempelini zazihlala entabeni i-Ofeli, ziphethwe nguZiha loGishipha.

<sup>22</sup> Umlawuli wabaLevi eJerusalema waye ngu-Uzi indodana kaBhani, indodana kaHashabhiya, indodana kaMathaniya, indodana kaMikha. U-Uzi wayengomunye wabazukulu baka-Asafi, ababengabahlabeleli abakhangele inkonzo endlini kaNkulunkulu. <sup>23</sup> Abahlabeleli babengaphansi kwezimiso zenkosi, ezaziqondisa ababemele bakwenze insuku zonke.

<sup>24</sup> UPhethahiya indodana kaMeshezabeli, omunye wesizukulwane sikaZera indodana kaJuda, wayengumeluleki wenkosi mayelana lezindaba zonke zabantu.

<sup>25</sup> Mayelana lemizi kanye lamasimu ayo, abanye babantu bakoJuda bahlala eKhiriyathi Aribha lakweminye imizi eseduze, eDibhoni lemizini eseduze kwayo, eJekhabhizeli lemizana yakhona, <sup>26</sup> eJeshuwa, eMolada, eBhethi Phelethi, <sup>27</sup> eHazari-Shuwali, eBherishebha lemizana yakhona, <sup>28</sup> eZikhilagi, eMekhona lemizana yakhona, <sup>29</sup> e-Eni Rimoni, eZora, eJamuthi, <sup>30</sup> eZanowa, e-Adulami lemizana yakhona, eLakhishi lamasimu ayo, lase-Azekha lemizana yakhona. Yikho babehlala yonke indawo kusukela eBherishebha kusiya eSigodini sikaHinomu.

<sup>31</sup> Abesizukulwane sikaBhenjamini ababesuka eGebha bahlala eMikhimashi, e-Aya, eBhetheli lemizana yakhona, <sup>32</sup> e-Anathothi, eNobhi, le-Ananiya, <sup>33</sup> eHazori, eRama leGithayimi, <sup>34</sup> eHadidi, eZebhoyimi laseNebhalathi, <sup>35</sup> eLodi lase-Ono, njalo laseSigodini seZingcitshi.

<sup>36</sup> Abanye bezigaba zabaLevi bakoJuda bahlala koBhenjamini.



# 12

## *AbaPhristi LabaLevi*

<sup>1</sup> Laba ngabaphristi labaLevi  
ababuya loZerubhabheli indodana  
kaSheyalithiyeli kanye loJeshuwa:

USeraya, uJeremiya, u-Ezra,  
<sup>2</sup> u-Amariya, uMaluki, uHathushi,  
<sup>3</sup> uShekhaniya, uRehumi, uMeremothi,  
<sup>4</sup> u-Ido, uGinethoni, u-Abhija,  
<sup>5</sup> uMijamini, uMowadiya, uBhiliga,  
<sup>6</sup> uShemaya, uJoyaribi, uJedaya,  
<sup>7</sup> uSalu, u-Amoki, uHilikhiya loJedaya.

Laba babengabakhokheli babaphristi  
labakhulu babo ngezinsuku  
zikaJeshuwa.

<sup>8</sup> AbaLevi babe nguJeshuwa, loBhinuwi,  
loKhadimiyeli, loSherebhiya, loJuda njalo  
loMathaniya, okwathi yena, labakhula bakhe  
yibo ababekhokhela izingoma zenkonzo  
yokubonga. <sup>9</sup> UBhakhikhukhiya lo-Uni,  
labakhula babo, babesima ngale bakhangelane  
labo ezinkonzweni.

<sup>10</sup> UJeshuwa wayenguyise kaJoyakhimu,  
uyise ka-Eliyashibi,  
u-Eliyashibi uyise kaJoyada,  
<sup>11</sup> uJoyada uyise kaJonathani,  
uJonathani uyise kaJaduwa.

12 Ngezinsuku zikaJoyakhimu, laba babezinhloko zezimuli zabaphristi:

abendlu kaSeraya, nguMeraya;  
 abendlu kaJeremiya nguHananiya;  
 13 abendlu ka-Ezra, nguMeshulami;  
 abendlu ka-Amariya, nguJehohanani;  
 14 abendlu kaMaluki, nguJonathani;  
 abendlu kaShebhaniya, nguJosefa;  
 15 abendlu kaHarimi, ngu-Adina;  
 abendlu kaMeremothi, nguHelikhayi;  
 16 abendlu ka-Ido, nguZakhariya;  
 abendlu kaGinethoni, nguMeshulami;  
 17 abendlu ka-Abhija nguZikhiri;  
 abendlu kaMiniyamini lekaMowadiya,  
 nguPhilithayi;  
 18 abendlu kaBhiliga nguShamuwa;  
 abendlu kaShemaya nguJonathani;  
 19 abendlu kaJoyaribi, nguMathenayi;  
 abendlu kaJedaya, ngu-Uzi;  
 20 abendlu kaSalu, nguKhalayi;  
 abendlu ka-Amoki, ngu-Ebheri;  
 21 abendlu kaHilikhuya, nguHashabhiya;  
 abendlu kaJedaya nguNethaneli.

22 Abazinhloko zezindlu zabaLevi ngezinsuku zika-Eliyashibi, loJoyada, uJohanani loJaduwa, kanye lezabaphristi, babhalwa phansi kubusa uDariyu wasePhezhiya. 23 Abakhokheli bezimuli ezizukulwaneni zikaLevi kuze kube yisikhathi sikaJohanani indodana ka-Eliyashibi babhalwa phansi encwadini yemilando. 24 Abakhokheli

babaLevi babengoHashabhiya, loSherebhiya, lo-Jeshuwa indodana kaKhadimiyeli, labakhula babo ababesima baqondane labo nxa bedumisa njalo besenza inkonzo yokubonga, yilabo bevumela abanye, njengokwamiswa nguDavida umuntu kaNkulunkulu.

<sup>25</sup> UMathaniya, loBhakhikhukhiya, u-Obhadaya, uMeshulami, uThalimoni lo-Akhubi babe ngabalindimasango ababelinda iziphala emasangweni. <sup>26</sup> Bawenza umsebenzi lo ngezinsuku zikaJoyakhimu indodana kaJeshuwa, indodana kaJozadaki, langezinsuku zikaNehemiya umbusi lo-Ezra umphristi lombhali.

### *Ukunikelwa Komduli WaseJerusalema*

<sup>27</sup> Ekunikelweni komduli waseJerusalema, abaLevi badingwa lapho ababehlala khona balethwa eJerusalema ukuzathakazelela umkhosi wokunikelwa ngezingoma langokubonga langokutshaya izigubhu lamachacho lemiqangala. <sup>28</sup> Abahlabeleli labo balethwa ndawonye besuka emangweni oseduze leJerusalema, basuka emizini yamaNethofa, <sup>29</sup> eBhethi Giligali, lasemangweni waseGebha le-Azimavethi, ngoba abahlabeleli basebezakhele imizi eduze leJerusalema. <sup>30</sup> Kwathi lapho abaphristi labaLevi sebezihlambulule ngokomkhuba, bahlambulula abantu, amasango lomduli.

<sup>31</sup> Ngathi abakhokheli bakoJuda bakhwele phezu komduli. Njalo ngamisa amaqembu amakhulu amabili awabahlabeleli ukuthi babonge. Elinye lalimele likhwele phezulu

komduli kwesokunene, kusiya ngesangweni loBulongwe. <sup>32</sup> UHoshayiya lengxenye yabakhokheli bakoJuda babalandela, <sup>33</sup> kunye lo-Azariya, lo-Ezra, loMeshulami, <sup>34</sup> loJuda, loBhenjamini, loShemaya, loJeremiya, <sup>35</sup> kanye labanye abaphristi ababelamacilongo, loZakhariya indodana kaJonathani, indodana kaShemaya, indodana kaMathaniya indodana kaMikhaya, indodana kaZakhuri, indodana ka-Asafi, <sup>36</sup> labakhula bakhe oShemaya, lo-Azareli, loMilalayi, loGilalayi, loMayi, loNethaneli, loJuda loHanani bephethe amachacho njengokwakumiswe nguDavida umuntu kaNkulunkulu. U-Ezra umbhali nguye owayekhokhele udwendwe. <sup>37</sup> SebeseSangweni loMthombo baqhubeka bakhwela izinyathelo eziya eMzini kaDavida emqansweni oya emdulini bedlula ngaphezulu kwendlu kaDavida baya eSangweni laManzi ngempumalanga.

<sup>38</sup> Iqembu lesibili labahlabeleli lona lafulathela elakuqala laya le. Ngabalandela phezu komduli ngilengxenye yabantu, sedlula uMphotshongo waMaziko siqonda uMduli Obanzi, <sup>39</sup> sedlula isango lika-Efrayimi, leSango likaJeshana, iSango leNhlanzi, uMphotshongo kaHananeli loMphotshongo weKhulu saze sayafika eSangweni leZimvu. ESangweni laBalindi bafika bema.

<sup>40</sup> Amaqembu lawo abahlabeleli amabili ayesipha ukubonga asesima ezindaweni zawo endlini kaNkulunkulu; lami ngenze njalo, kanye lengxenye yezinduna, <sup>41</sup> labaphristi o-Eliyakhimu, loMaseya, loMiniyamini,

loMikhaya, lo-Eliyonayi, loZakhariya  
 loHananiya belamacilongo abo <sup>42</sup> njalo  
 loMaseya, loShemaya, lo-Eliyezari, lo-Uzi,  
 loJehohanani, loMalikhija, lo-Elamu lo-  
 Ezeri. Amaqembu abahlabeleli ahlabela  
 ekhokhelwa nguJezirahiya. <sup>43</sup> Ngalelolanga  
 banikela imihlatshelo emangalisayo, bethokoza  
 ngoba uTHIXO wayebaphe ukuthokoza  
 okukhulu. Abesifazane kanye labantwana labo  
 bathokoza. Umsindo wokuthokoza eJerusalema  
 wawuzwakala kude.

<sup>44</sup> Ngalesosikhathi kwakhethwa amadoda  
 ukugcina iziphala zalokho okwakulethwa,  
 izithelo zokuqala kanye lokwetshumi.  
 Okusuka emasimini aseduzane lamadolobho  
 babemele bakulethe eziphaleni lezo  
 zilinganiso ezazivumelwa nguMthetho  
 okwabaphristi labaLevi, ngoba uJuda  
 wayejabuliswe ngumsebenzi owawuqhutshwa  
 ngamaphristi lamaLevi. <sup>45</sup> Bayiphatha  
 inkonzo kaNkulunkulu wabo lenkonzo  
 yokuhlanjululwa, njalo benzenjalo labahlabeleli  
 kanye labalindimasango, njengemilayo  
 kaDavida lendodana yakhe uSolomoni.  
<sup>46</sup> Ngoba kudala, ensukwini zikaDavida lo-Asafi,  
 kwakulabaqondisi babahlabeleli labezingoma  
 zokudumisa lokubonga uNkulunkulu. <sup>47</sup> Yikho  
 ngezinsuku zikaZerubhabheli loNehemiya,  
 ama-Israyeli onke apha isabelo sansukuzonke  
 esabahlabeleli labalindimasango. Baphinda  
 njalo babeka eceleni esinye isabelo esabanye  
 abaLevi, kwathi abaLevi labo bacezula okunye  
 kwabo kwaba ngokwabosendo luka-Aroni.

# 13

## *Izenzo Zokulunga ZikaNehemiya Ezokucina*

<sup>1</sup> Ngalelolanga iNcwadi kaMosi yabalelwa abantu besizwa kwafunyanwa kuyo kubhaliwe ukuthi akungabi lam'Amoni loba um'Mowabi ovunyelwa emhlanganweni kaNkulunkulu, loba sekutheni, <sup>2</sup> ngoba babengahlangabezanga ama-Israyeli ngokudla lamanzi kodwa bathenga uB-halamu ukuba abaqalekise. (UNkulunkulu wethu kodwa waguqula isiqalekiso leso saba yisibusiso.) <sup>3</sup> Kwathi abantu sebewuzwile um-thetho, babasusa ko-Israyeli bonke labo ababed-abuka ezizweni.

<sup>4</sup> Mandulo kwalokhu, u-Eliyashibi umphristi nguyey wayephethe iziphala zendlu kaNku-lunkulu wethu. Wasuka wezwana kakhulu loThobhiya, <sup>5</sup> wasemlungisela indlu enkulu eyayikade isetshenziswa ukulondoloza amabele omnikelo lempepha kanye lempahla zethempeli, kanye njalo lamabele awokwetshumi, lewayini elitsha lamafutha, konke okwakumiswe ukuthi kube ngokwabaLevi, labahlabeleli labalindi-masango, kanye lezipho eziya kubaphristi.

<sup>6</sup> Kodwa kwathi kusenzakala konke lokhu, mina ngangingekho eJerusalema, ngoba ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lambili wokubusa kuka-Athazekisisi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngabuyela enkosini. Muva kwalokho ngacela invumo kuye <sup>7</sup> ngabuyela eJerusalema. Kulapho engafika ngabona khona ngaleyonto embi eyenziwa ngu-Eliyashibi ngokupha uThobhiya indlu emagumeni asendlini kaNkulunkulu. <sup>8</sup> Ngacaphuka

kakhulu ngaphosela phandle zonke impahla zikaThobhiya. <sup>9</sup> Ngakhupha ilizwi ukuthi kazihlanjululwe izindlu, ngasengibuyisela kuzo impahla zendlini kaNkulunkulu, ndawonye lamabele omnikelo lempepha.

<sup>10</sup> Ngezwa njalo ukuthi abaLevi babengaphiwanga lokho okwakuyisabelo sabo, lokuthi bonke abaLevi labahlabeleli ababeqhuba inkonzo basebebuyele emasimini abo. <sup>11</sup> Ngazikhwazela izinduna ngazibuza ngathi, “Kungani indlu kaNkulunkulu ingasakhathalelwa na?” Ngasengibabizela ndawonye ngababeka ezindaweni zemisebenzi yabo.

<sup>12</sup> Bonke abakoJuda baletha okwetshumi kwamabele, iwayini elitsha lamafutha eziphaleni. <sup>13</sup> Ngasengibeka uShelemiya umphristi, loZadokhi umbhali, lomLevi owayethiwa nguPhedaya ukuba baphathe iziphala, ngenza uHanani indodana kaZakhuri, indodana kaMathaniya, ukuba ngumsekeli wabo, ngoba amadoda la kwakuthiwa athembekile. Baphiwa umlandu wokwabela abafowabo isabelo sabo.

<sup>14</sup> Ungikhumbule ngalokhu, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, ungakucitshi lokho engikwenzele indlu kaNkulunkulu wami ngokuthembeka kanye lezinkonzo ezikuyo.

<sup>15</sup> Ngalezonsuku ngabona abantu bakoJuda bevoxa izikhamelo zewayini ngeSabatha njalo beletha amabele bewethesa kubobabhemi,

kunye lewayini, lamagrebisi, lomkhiwa leminye imithwalo. Konke lokhu babekuletha eJerusalema ngeSabatha. Ngakho-ke ngasengibaxwayisa ukuthi bangathengisi ukudla ngosuku lolo. <sup>16</sup> Abantu beThire ababehlala eJerusalema babeletha inhlanzi lemihlobo yonke yezimpahla bezithengisa eJerusalema ebantwini bakoJuda ngeSabatha. <sup>17</sup> Ngazikhuza izikhulu zakoJuda ngathi kuzo, “Manyala bani la eliwenzayo lingcolisa usuku lweSabatha na? <sup>18</sup> Kakusikho yini okwenziwa ngoyihlomkhulu, okwabangela ukuthi uTHIXO wethu, ehlisele kithi laphezu kwalelidolobho lobubunzima na? Manje selibuye lisandisa ulaka ku-Israyeli ngokugcolisa iSabatha.”

<sup>19</sup> Kwathi nxa selimathunzi emasangweni aseJerusalema kungakabi yiSabatha, ngalaya ukuthi iminyango kayivalwe ingaze yavulwa iSabatha ize idlule. Ngamisa emasangweni abanye abantu bami ukuze kungangeni mthwalo ngosuku lweSabatha. <sup>20</sup> Okwezikhathi ezimbalwa abathengi labathengisi bezinhlobo zonke zezimpahla balala ngaphandle kweJerusalema. <sup>21</sup> Kodwa ngabaxwayisa ngathi, “Lenzelani ukulala phansi komduli na? Lingakuphinda lokhu kuzakuba lokuxabana.” Kusukela kulesosikhathi kabasaphindanga beza ngeSabatha. <sup>22</sup> Ngasengilaya abaLevi ukuthi bazihlambulule besebesiyalinda amasango ukuze kugcinwe usuku lweSabatha lungcwele.

Ungikhumbule langalokhu njalo, Oh Nkulunkulu wami, njalo utshengise umusa kimi



mayelana lothando lwakho olukhulu.

<sup>23</sup> Phezu kwalokho, ngalezonsuku ngabona amadoda akoJuda ayethethe abafazi base-Ashidodi, le-Amoni laseMowabi. <sup>24</sup> Ingxenywe yabantwababo babekhuluma ulimi lwase-Ashidodi kumbe ulimi lwabanye abantu, bengakwazi ukukhuluma isiHebheru. <sup>25</sup> Ngabathethisa, ngakhuluma iziqalekiso phezu kwabo. Amanye amadoda ngawatshaya ngaze ngawasiphuna inwele zawo. Ngathi kabenze isifungo ngebizo likaNkulunkulu ngathi, “Lingendiseli amadodakazi enu emadodaneni abo, njalo lingathatheli amadodana enu amadodakazi abo futhi lani lingazithatheli wona. <sup>26</sup> Kwakungasimitshado enjengale yini eyenza uSolomoni inkosi yako-Israyeli yenze isono? Phakathi kwezizwe ezinengi kwakungelankosi efana laye. Wayethandwa nguNkulunkulu wakhe, njalo uNkulunkulu wamenza inkosi ka-Israyeli wonke, kodwa laye wahugelwa esonweni ngabafazi bezizweni. <sup>27</sup> Manjenge sesingezwa ukuthi lani selisenza wonke amanyala la esabekayo njalo kalisathembekanga kuNkulunkulu wethu ngokuthatha abafazi bezizwe na?”

<sup>28</sup> Omunye wamadodana kaJoyada indodana ka-Eliyashibi umphristi omkhulu wayengumkhwenyana kaSanibhalathi umHaroni. Ngahle ngamxotshela khatshana kwami.

<sup>29</sup> Ubakhumbule, Oh Nkulunkulu wami,

ngoba babungcolisile ubuphristi lesivumelwano sobuphristi lesabaLevi.

<sup>30</sup> Ngakho ngabahlambulula abaphristi labaLevi kuzozonke izinto zezizweni, ngababela imisebenzi yabo, ngulowo waqondana lomsebenzi wakhe. <sup>31</sup> Ngaphinde ngenza amalungiselelo okulethwa kwenkuni ngezikhathi ezimisiweyo, njalo lawezithelo zokuqala.

Ungikhumbule ngomusa, Oh Nkulunkulu wami.

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