1 Kings

1 King David was old and advanced in years.
They covered him with blankets, but he could
not get warm.
2 His servants said to him, “Let a young virgin
be found for my lord the king. Let her attend the
king and care for him. She can lie in your arms
so that my lord the king may be warm.”
3 They searched throughout the territory of
Israel for a beautiful young woman. They found
Abishag the Shunammite and brought her to the
king.
4 The young woman was very beautiful. She
cared for the king and served him, but the king
did not have sexual relations with her.
5 Adonijah son of Haggith exalted himself,
saying, “I will be king.” He acquired a chariot
and horsemen, with fifty men to run ahead of
him.
6 His father had never displeased him by
asking, “Why have you done this?” He was also
very handsome and had been born after
Absalom.
7 He conferred with Joab son of Zeruiah and
Abiathar the priest, and they supported
Adonijah.
8 But Zadok the priest, Benaiah son of
Jehoiada, Nathan the prophet, Shimei, Rei, and
David’s mighty warriors did not side with
Adonijah.

9 Adonijah sacrificed sheep, cattle, and
fattened animals beside the stone of Zoheleth,
near En-rogel. He invited all his brothers, the
king's sons, and all the men of Judah who served
the king.
10 But he did not invite Nathan the prophet,
Benaiah, the mighty warriors, or his brother
Solomon.
11 Nathan said to Bathsheba, Solomon's
mother, "Have you not heard that Adonijah son
of Haggith has become king, and our lord David
does not know it?
12 Now come, let me advise you so that you
may save your life and the life of your son
Solomon.
13 Go in to King David and say to him, 'My lord
the king, did you not swear to your servant,
"Your son Solomon will reign after me and sit on
my throne"? Why, then, has Adonijah become
king?'
14 While you are still there speaking with the
king, I will come in after you and confirm your
words."
15 Bathsheba went in to the king in his
chamber. The king was very old, and Abishag
the Shunammite was attending him.
16 Bathsheba bowed down and paid homage to
the king. The king asked, "What do you want?"
17 She said to him, "My lord, you swore to your
servant by the LORD your God, 'Your son
Solomon will reign after me and sit on my
throne.'
18 But now Adonijah has become king, and
you, my lord the king, do not know it.

19 He has sacrificed many oxen, fattened
animals, and sheep. He has invited all the king's
sons, Abiathar the priest, and Joab the
commander of the army, but he has not invited
your servant Solomon.
20 My lord the king, the eyes of all Israel are on
you, waiting for you to tell them who will sit on
the throne of my lord the king after him.
21 Otherwise, when my lord the king rests with
his ancestors, my son Solomon and I will be
counted as offenders."
22 While she was still speaking with the king,
Nathan the prophet arrived.
23 They told the king, "Nathan the prophet is
here." He came before the king and bowed with
his face to the ground.
24 Nathan said, "My lord the king, have you
said, 'Adonijah will reign after me and sit on my
throne'?
25 For today he has gone down and sacrificed
many oxen, fattened animals, and sheep. He has
invited all the king's sons, the commanders of
the army, and Abiathar the priest. They are
eating and drinking in his presence and saying,
'Long live King Adonijah!'
26 But he did not invite me, your servant, or
Zadok the priest, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, or
your servant Solomon.
27 Has this happened by order of my lord the
king, without your letting your servant know
who will sit on the throne of my lord the king
after him?"
28 King David answered, "Call Bathsheba to

me." She came into the king's presence and
stood before him.
29 The king swore, "As the LORD lives, who has
redeemed my life from every distress,
30 just as I swore to you by the LORD, the God
of Israel, saying, 'Your son Solomon will reign
after me and sit on my throne in my place,' so I
will do this very day."
31 Bathsheba bowed with her face to the
ground and paid homage to the king. She said,
"May my lord King David live forever!"

32 King David said, "Call Zadok the priest,
Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah son of
Jehoiada to me." They came before the king.
33 The king said to them, "Take your lord's
servants with you. Have my son Solomon ride
on my own mule and bring him down to Gihon.
34 There Zadok the priest and Nathan the
prophet are to anoint him king over Israel. Blow
the ram's horn and say, 'Long live King
Solomon!'
35 Then come up after him. He is to come and
sit on my throne and reign in my place. I have
appointed him ruler over Israel and Judah."
36 Benaiah son of Jehoiada answered the king,
"Amen! May the LORD, the God of my lord the
king, say so.
37 As the LORD has been with my lord the king,
so may he be with Solomon and make his throne
greater than the throne of my lord King David."
38 So Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet,
Benaiah son of Jehoiada, the Cherethites, and the

Pelethites went down. They had Solomon ride
on King David's mule and brought him to Gihon.
39 Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from
the tent and anointed Solomon. They blew the
ram's horn, and all the people shouted, "Long
live King Solomon!"
40 All the people went up after him, playing
flutes and rejoicing with great joy, so that the
earth split with the sound.
41 Adonijah and all his guests heard it as they
finished eating. When Joab heard the sound of
the ram's horn, he asked, "Why is the city in
such an uproar?"
42 While he was still speaking, Jonathan son of
Abiathar the priest arrived. Adonijah said,
"Come in! You are a worthy man and must be
bringing good news."
43 But Jonathan answered Adonijah, "On the
contrary! Our lord King David has made
Solomon king.
44 The king sent Zadok the priest, Nathan the
prophet, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, the
Cherethites, and the Pelethites with him. They
had him ride on the king's mule.
45 Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet
anointed him king at Gihon. They have come up
from there rejoicing, and the city is in an uproar.
That is the noise you heard.
46 Solomon has also taken his seat on the royal
throne.
47 The king's servants also came to bless our
lord King David, saying, 'May God make
Solomon's name more renowned than yours and

his throne greater than yours.' Then the king
bowed on his bed.
48 The king also said, 'Blessed be the LORD, the
God of Israel, who today has provided someone
to sit on my throne while my own eyes see it.' "
49 All Adonijah's guests were terrified. They
got up and went their separate ways.
50 Adonijah was afraid of Solomon, so he got
up, went, and took hold of the horns of the altar.
51 Solomon was told, "Adonijah is afraid of
King Solomon. He has taken hold of the horns of
the altar and says, 'Let King Solomon swear to
me today that he will not put his servant to
death by the sword.' "
52 Solomon said, "If he proves to be a worthy
man, not one of his hairs will fall to the ground.
But if evil is found in him, he will die."
53 King Solomon sent men to bring him down
from the altar. He came and bowed before King
Solomon, and Solomon said to him, "Go home."

2

1 As the time of David's death drew near, he
gave these instructions to his son Solomon:
2 "I am going the way of all the earth. Be
strong and show yourself a man.
3 Keep the charge of the LORD your God: walk
in his ways and keep his statutes,
commandments, judgments, and testimonies, as
written in the law of Moses, so that you may act
wisely in all you do and wherever you turn.
4 Then the LORD may fulfill the word he spoke
concerning me: 'If your sons watch their

conduct and walk faithfully before me with all
their heart and all their soul, you will never lack
a man on the throne of Israel.'
5 You also know what Joab son of Zeruiah did
to me—what he did to the two commanders of
Israel's armies, Abner son of Ner and Amasa son
of Jether. He killed them, shedding the blood of
war in peacetime and putting the blood of war
on the belt around his waist and the sandals on
his feet.
6 Act according to your wisdom, and do not let
his gray head go down to Sheol in peace.

7 But show faithful kindness to the sons of
Barzillai the Gileadite. Let them be among those
who eat at your table, for they came to my aid
when I was fleeing from your brother Absalom.
8 You also have with you Shimei son of Gera,
the Benjaminite from Bahurim. He cursed me
with a bitter curse on the day I went to
Mahanaim. But he came down to meet me at the
Jordan, and I swore to him by the LORD, 'I will
not put you to death by the sword.'
9 Now do not leave him unpunished. You are a
wise man and will know what to do to him.
Bring his gray head down to Sheol in blood."
10 David rested with his ancestors and was
buried in the City of David.

11 David reigned over Israel for forty years:
seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in
Jerusalem.
12 Solomon took his seat on the throne of his
father David, and his kingdom was firmly
established.

13 Adonijah son of Haggith came to Bathsheba,
Solomon's mother. She asked, "Do you come in
peace?" He answered, "In peace."
14 He said, "I have something to say to you."
She answered, "Speak."
15 He said, "You know that the kingdom was
mine, and all Israel looked to me to be king. But
the kingdom passed to my brother, for it was his
from the LORD.
16 Now I have just one request to make of you.
Do not refuse me." She said, "Speak."
17 He said, "Please speak to King Solomon—he
will not refuse you—and ask him to give me
Abishag the Shunammite as my wife."
18 Bathsheba said, "Very well. I will speak to
the king on your behalf."
19 So Bathsheba went to King Solomon to
speak to him on behalf of Adonijah. The king
rose to meet her, bowed to her, and sat on his
throne. He had a throne placed for the king's
mother, and she sat at his right.
20 She said, "I have one small request to make
of you. Do not refuse me." The king answered,
"Ask, my mother. I will not refuse you."
21 She said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be
given to your brother Adonijah as his wife."
22 King Solomon answered his mother, "Why
do you ask for Abishag the Shunammite for
Adonijah? Ask for the kingdom for him too,
since he is my older brother—for him, Abiathar
the priest, and Joab son of Zeruiah!"
23 Then King Solomon swore by the LORD,
"May God punish me ever so severely! Adonijah

has made this request at the cost of his life.
24 As the LORD lives, who has established me
and seated me on the throne of my father David,
and who has made a dynasty for me as he
promised, Adonijah will be put to death this
very day."
25 King Solomon sent Benaiah son of Jehoiada,
who struck Adonijah down, and he died.

26 To Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go to
your fields in Anathoth. You deserve to die, but I
will not put you to death today, because you
carried the ark of the Lord GOD before my
father David and shared in all my father's
afflictions."
27 So Solomon removed Abiathar from being
the LORD's priest, fulfilling the word the LORD
had spoken at Shiloh concerning the house of
Eli.

28 The news reached Joab. He had sided with
Adonijah, though he had not sided with
Absalom. Joab fled to the tent of the LORD and
took hold of the horns of the altar.
29 King Solomon was told, "Joab has fled to the
tent of the LORD and is beside the altar."
Solomon sent Benaiah son of Jehoiada, saying,
"Go, strike him down."
30 Benaiah came to the tent of the LORD and
said to him, "The king says, 'Come out.' " But he
answered, "No, I will die here." Benaiah
reported to the king, "This is what Joab said, and
this is how he answered me."
31 The king said to him, "Do as he has said.
Strike him down and bury him. So remove from

me and my father's house the guilt for the blood
Joab shed without cause.
32 The LORD will bring his blood back on his
own head, because he struck down two men
more righteous and better than himself.
Without my father David's knowledge, he killed
them with the sword: Abner son of Ner,
commander of Israel's army, and Amasa son of
Jether, commander of Judah's army.
33 Their blood will come back on the head of
Joab and on the heads of his descendants
forever. But for David, his descendants, his
house, and his throne, there will be peace from
the LORD forever."
34 Benaiah son of Jehoiada went up, struck
Joab down, and killed him. He was buried at his
house in the wilderness.
35 The king appointed Benaiah son of Jehoiada
to command the army in his place, and he
appointed Zadok the priest in Abiathar's place.
36 Then the king sent for Shimei and said to
him, "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem and
live there. Do not leave it to go anywhere else.
37 Know for certain that on the day you leave
and cross the Kidron Valley, you will surely die.
Your blood will be on your own head."
38 Shimei answered the king, "The order is
good. Your servant will do as my lord the king
has said." Shimei lived in Jerusalem for a long
time.
39 At the end of three years, two of Shimei's
slaves ran away to Achish son of Maacah, king of
Gath. Shimei was told, "Your slaves are in Gath."

40 Shimei got up, saddled his donkey, and went
to Achish at Gath to look for his slaves. He went
and brought his slaves back from Gath.
41 Solomon was told that Shimei had gone
from Jerusalem to Gath and returned.
42 The king sent for Shimei and said to him,
“Did I not make you swear by the LORD and
warn you, ‘Know for certain that on the day you
leave to go anywhere else, you will surely die’?
And you said to me, ‘The order is good; I have
heard you.’
43 Why, then, have you not kept the oath sworn
by the LORD or the command I gave you?”
44 The king also said to Shimei, “You know in
your own heart all the evil you did to my father
David. The LORD will bring your evil back on
your own head.
45 But King Solomon will be blessed, and
David’s throne will be established before the
LORD forever.”
46 The king gave the order to Benaiah son of
Jehoiada. He went out and struck Shimei down,
and he died. So the kingdom was established in
Solomon’s hands.

3

1 Solomon made a marriage alliance with
Pharaoh king of Egypt. He married Pharaoh’s
daughter and brought her to the City of David
until he finished building his own palace, the
house of the LORD, and the wall around
Jerusalem.

2 The people, however, were sacrificing at the
high places, because a house for the name of the
LORD had not yet been built.
3 Solomon loved the LORD and walked in the
statutes of his father David, except that he
sacrificed and burned incense at the high places.
4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there,
for that was the principal high place. Solomon
offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.
5 At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in
a dream at night. God said, “Ask what I should
give you.”
6 Solomon said, “You have shown great faithful
love to your servant David, my father, as he
walked before you in faithfulness,
righteousness, and uprightness of heart toward
you. You have kept this great faithful love for
him by giving him a son to sit on his throne, as
he does today.
7 Now, LORD my God, you have made your
servant king in place of my father David. But I
am only a child and do not know how to conduct
myself.
8 Your servant is among your people whom
you have chosen, a great people, too numerous
to be numbered or counted.
9 So give your servant a listening heart to
judge your people and to distinguish good from
evil. For who can judge this great people of
yours?”
10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked
for this.
11 God said to him, “Because you have asked

for this, and have not asked for long life or
riches for yourself, or for the lives of your
enemies, but have asked for discernment to
hear a case,
12 I will do as you have asked. I give you a
wise and discerning heart, so that there has
been no one like you before you, and no one like
you will arise after you.
13 I also give you what you have not asked for:
both riches and honor, so that throughout your
days no other king will be like you.
14 And if you walk in my ways, keeping my
statutes and commandments as your father
David did, I will prolong your life."
15 Solomon awoke and realized it had been a
dream. He came to Jerusalem, stood before the
ark of the covenant of the Lord, offered burnt
offerings and peace offerings, and held a feast
for all his servants.
16 Then two prostitutes came to the king and
stood before him.
17 One woman said, "Please, my lord, this
woman and I live in the same house, and I gave
birth while she was there in the house.
18 On the third day after I gave birth, this
woman gave birth too. We were together, with
no one else in the house; only the two of us were
there.
19 This woman's son died during the night
because she lay on him.
20 She got up in the middle of the night and
took my son from beside me while I, your
servant, was sleeping. She laid him in her arms
and laid her dead son in mine.

21 When I got up in the morning to nurse my
son, he was dead. But when I looked closely at
him that morning, he was not the son I had
borne."
22 The other woman said, "No! The living one
is my son, and the dead one is yours." But the
first said, "No! The dead one is your son, and the
living one is mine." So they argued before the
king.
23 The king said, "This one says, 'The living
child is my son, and the dead one is yours,' and
this one says, 'No! The dead one is your son, and
the living one is mine.' "

24 Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." So
they brought a sword before the king.
25 The king said, "Cut the living child in two,
and give half to one woman and half to the
other."
26 The woman whose son was alive was deeply
moved with compassion for her son. She said to
the king, "Please, my lord, give her the living
child! Do not kill him!" But the other said, "He
will be neither mine nor yours. Cut him in two!"
27 The king answered, "Give her the living
child, and do not kill him. She is his mother."
28 All Israel heard of the judgment the king
had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king,
because they saw that God's wisdom was in him
to administer justice.

4

1 King Solomon ruled over all Israel.

2 These were his officials: Azariah son of
Zadok was the priest;
3 Elihoreph and Ahijah, sons of Shisha, were
secretaries; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was the
recorder;
4 Benaiah son of Jehoiada commanded the
army; Zadok and Abiathar were priests;
5 Azariah son of Nathan supervised the district
governors; Zabud son of Nathan was a priest
and the king's friend;
6 Ahishar managed the palace; and Adoniram
son of Abda supervised the forced labor.
7 Solomon had twelve district governors over
all Israel. They supplied food for the king and
his household, each responsible for providing it
for one month of the year.
8 These were their names: Ben-hur, in the hill
country of Ephraim;
9 Ben-deker, in Makaz, Shaalbim,
Beth-shemesh, and Elon-beth-hanan;
10 Ben-hesed, in Arubboth; Socoh and all the
land of Hepher were under him;
11 Ben-abinadab, in all the region of Dor;
Taphath, Solomon's daughter, was his wife;
12 Baana son of Ahilud, in Taanach, Megiddo,
and all Beth-shean, which is beside Zarethan
below Jezreel, from Beth-shean to Abel-meholah
and beyond Jokmeam;
13 Ben-geber, in Ramoth-gilead; under him
were the villages of Jair son of Manasseh in
Gilead, and the region of Argob in Bashan, sixty
large cities with walls and bronze bars;
14 Ahinadab son of Iddo, in Mahanaim;

15 Ahimaaz, in Naphtali; he too had married a
daughter of Solomon, Basemath;
16 Baana son of Hushai, in Asher and Aloth;
17 Jehoshaphat son of Paruah, in Issachar;
18 Shimei son of Ela, in Benjamin;
19 Geber son of Uri, in the land of Gilead, the
land of Sihon king of the Amorites and Og king
of Bashan. There was one governor in that land.
20 Judah and Israel were as numerous as the
sand by the sea. They ate, drank, and rejoiced.
21 Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from
the Euphrates River to the land of the Philistines
and the border of Egypt. They brought tribute
and served Solomon throughout his life.
22 Solomon's daily provisions were about 150
bushels of fine flour and 300 bushels of meal,
23 ten fattened cattle, twenty pasture-fed
cattle, and a hundred sheep and goats, besides
deer, gazelles, roe deer, and fattened birds.
24 For he ruled over all the region west of the
Euphrates, from Tiphsah to Gaza, and over all
the kings west of the river. He had peace on
every side.
25 Judah and Israel lived in safety, each under
his own vine and fig tree, from Dan to
Beersheba, throughout Solomon's days.
26 Solomon had forty thousand stalls for his
chariot horses and twelve thousand horsemen.
27 These governors supplied food for King
Solomon and all who came to King Solomon's
table, each in his own month. They let nothing
be lacking.

28 They also brought barley and straw for the
horses and steeds wherever it was needed, each
according to his assignment.
29 God gave Solomon very great wisdom and
understanding, and breadth of mind like the
sand on the seashore.
30 Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of
all the people of the east and all the wisdom of
Egypt.
31 He was wiser than anyone else: wiser than
Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Calcol, and
Darda, the sons of Mahol. His fame spread to all
the surrounding nations.
32 He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his
songs numbered a thousand and five.
33 He spoke about trees, from the cedar in
Lebanon to the hyssop growing out of the wall.
He also spoke about animals, birds, creeping
creatures, and fish.
34 People from all nations came to hear
Solomon's wisdom, sent by all the kings of the
earth who had heard of his wisdom.

5

1 Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to
Solomon when he heard that Solomon had been
anointed king in his father's place, for Hiram
had always been David's friend.
2 Solomon sent this message to Hiram:
3 "You know that my father David could not
build a house for the name of the LORD his God
because of the wars that surrounded him, until
the LORD put his enemies under the soles of his
feet.

4 But now the LORD my God has given me rest
on every side. There is no adversary and no
calamity.
5 I intend to build a house for the name of the
LORD my God, as the LORD told my father
David: 'Your son, whom I will set on your throne
in your place, will build the house for my name.'
6 So order cedars from Lebanon to be cut for
me. My servants will work with yours, and I will
pay you whatever wages you specify for your
servants. You know that none of us knows how
to cut timber like the Sidonians."
7 When Hiram heard Solomon's words, he
rejoiced greatly and said, "Blessed be the LORD
today, who has given David a wise son to rule
this great people!"
8 Hiram sent this message to Solomon: "I have
heard the message you sent me. I will do all you
desire concerning cedar and cypress timber.
9 My servants will bring it down from
Lebanon to the sea, and I will make it into rafts
to go by sea to the place you specify. I will break
up the rafts there, and you can take the timber
away. In return, fulfill my desire by supplying
food for my household."
10 So Hiram supplied Solomon with all the
cedar and cypress timber he desired.
11 Solomon gave Hiram about 100,000 bushels
of wheat as food for his household and about
1,000 gallons of oil from crushed olives.
Solomon gave this to Hiram year after year.

12 The LORD gave Solomon wisdom, as he had
promised him. There was peace between Hiram

and Solomon, and the two made a covenant.
13 King Solomon conscripted a labor force
from all Israel, numbering thirty thousand men.
14 He sent them to Lebanon in shifts of ten
thousand a month. They spent one month in
Lebanon and two months at home. Adoniram
supervised the conscripted labor.
15 Solomon also had seventy thousand burden
bearers and eighty thousand stonecutters in the
hill country,
16 besides Solomon's 3,300 officials who
supervised the work and directed the people
doing it.
17 At the king's command, they quarried large,
costly stones, dressed stones for laying the
foundation of the house.
18 Solomon's builders, Hiram's builders, and
the men of Gebal cut and prepared the timber
and stones to build the house.

6

1 In the four hundred eightieth year after the
Israelites came out of Egypt, in the fourth year
of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of
Ziv, the second month, he began building the
house of the LORD.
2 The house King Solomon built for the LORD
was about 90 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 45 feet
high.
3 The porch in front of the main hall of the
house extended about 30 feet across the width
of the house and projected about 15 feet in front
of it.

4 He made windows with narrowing frames
for the house.
5 He built a structure against the walls around
the house, around both the main hall and the
inner sanctuary, and made side chambers all
around.
6 The lowest story was about 7.5 feet wide, the
middle one 9 feet wide, and the third 10.5 feet
wide. He had made ledges around the outside of
the house so that the beams would not be
inserted into its walls.
7 The house was built with stones finished at
the quarry. No hammer, axe, or any iron tool
was heard in the house while it was being built.
8 The entrance to the middle story of side
chambers was on the right side of the house.
Stairs led up to the middle story and from the
middle to the third.
9 He built the house and finished it, roofing it
with cedar beams and planks.
10 He built the side structure around the whole
house, each story about 7.5 feet high, and
attached it to the house with cedar timbers.
11 The word of the LORD came to Solomon:
12 "As for this house you are building, if you
walk in my statutes, carry out my judgments,
and keep all my commandments by walking in
them, I will fulfill with you the word I spoke to
your father David.
13 I will dwell among the Israelites and will
not forsake my people Israel."
14 So Solomon built the house and finished it.
15 He lined the inside walls of the house with
cedar boards, covering the interior with wood

from the floor to the ceiling. He covered the
floor of the house with cypress planks.
16 He partitioned off about 30 feet at the rear
of the house with cedar boards from the floor to
the top of the walls. He made this interior space
the inner sanctuary, the Most Holy Place.
17 The house's main hall in front of it was
about 60 feet long.
18 The cedar inside the house was carved with
gourds and open flowers. Everything was cedar;
no stone could be seen.
19 He prepared the inner sanctuary deep
within the house to place the ark of the
covenant of the LORD there.
20 The inner sanctuary was about 30 feet long,
30 feet wide, and 30 feet high. He overlaid it
with pure gold and covered the altar with cedar.
21 Solomon overlaid the interior of the house
with pure gold. He stretched gold chains across
the front of the inner sanctuary and overlaid it
with gold.
22 He overlaid the entire house with gold until
the whole house was covered. He also overlaid
with gold the entire altar belonging to the inner
sanctuary.
23 In the inner sanctuary he made two
cherubim of olive wood, each about 15 feet high.
24 One wing of a cherub was about 7.5 feet
long, and the other wing was also about 7.5 feet
long. From one wingtip to the other it measured
about 15 feet.
25 The second cherub also measured about 15
feet. Both cherubim had the same dimensions
and form.

26 One cherub was about 15 feet high, and so
was the other cherub.
27 He placed the cherubim inside the inner
room of the house, with their wings spread out.
One cherub's wing touched one wall, and the
other cherub's wing touched the other wall.
Their wings toward the middle of the house
touched each other, wing to wing.
28 He overlaid the cherubim with gold.
29 All around the walls of the house, in both
the inner and outer rooms, he carved figures of
cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers.
30 He overlaid the floor of the house with gold,
in both the inner and outer rooms.
31 For the entrance to the inner sanctuary he
made doors of olive wood. The lintel and
doorposts occupied a fifth of the wall.
32 He carved cherubim, palm trees, and open
flowers on the two olive-wood doors and
overlaid them with gold, spreading the gold over
the cherubim and palm trees.
33 Likewise, for the entrance to the main hall
he made olive-wood doorposts occupying a
fourth of the wall.
34 He made two doors of cypress wood. Each
door had two folding leaves.
35 He carved cherubim, palm trees, and open
flowers on them and covered them with gold
fitted to the carved work.
36 He built the inner courtyard with three
courses of dressed stone and one course of
cedar beams.
37 In the fourth year, in the month of Ziv, the
foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

38 In the eleventh year, in the month of Bul,
the eighth month, the house was finished in all
its details and according to all its specifications.
He spent seven years building it.

7

1 Solomon spent thirteen years building his
own palace and completed the whole palace.
2 He built the House of the Forest of Lebanon,
about 150 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet
high, with four rows of cedar pillars and cedar
beams resting on the pillars.
3 It was roofed with cedar above the beams
resting on the pillars, forty-five beams in all,
fifteen in each row.
4 There were three rows of window frames,
with windows facing one another in three tiers.
5 All the doorways and doorposts had
rectangular frames, and the windows faced one
another in three tiers.
6 He made the Hall of Pillars, about 75 feet
long and 45 feet wide. In front was a porch, with
pillars and a canopy before it.
7 He made the Hall of the Throne, where he
would administer justice, the Hall of Judgment.
It was paneled with cedar from one side of the
floor to the other.
8 His own residence, in another courtyard
farther in from the hall, was built in the same
way. He also made a house like this hall for
Pharaoh's daughter, whom Solomon had
married.
9 All these were built with costly stones,
dressed to size and sawn on the inner and outer

faces, from the foundation to the coping and outside as far as the great courtyard.
10 The foundation was laid with costly, large stones, some about 15 feet long and others about 12 feet long.
11 Above these were costly stones dressed to size, and cedar timber.
12 The great courtyard had three courses of dressed stone and one course of cedar beams all around, as did the inner courtyard of the house of the LORD and the porch of the house.

13 King Solomon sent for Hiram from Tyre.
14 He was the son of a widow from the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a bronze worker. He was filled with wisdom, understanding, and knowledge for doing every kind of work in bronze. He came to King Solomon and carried out all his work.
15 He cast the two bronze pillars. One pillar was about 27 feet high, and a cord about 18 feet long encircled the second pillar.
16 He made two capitals of cast bronze to set on top of the pillars. One capital was about 7.5 feet high, and the second capital was also about 7.5 feet high.
17 There were networks of latticework and cords of chainwork for the capitals on top of the pillars, seven for one capital and seven for the other.
18 He made the pillars, with two rows around the one network to cover the capitals above the pomegranates. He did the same for the second capital.

19 The capitals on top of the pillars in the
porch were shaped like lilies and measured
about 6 feet.
20 The capitals on the two pillars were also
above the rounded part beside the network.
There were two hundred pomegranates in rows
around the second capital.
21 He erected the pillars at the porch of the
main hall. He erected the right pillar and named
it Jachin; he erected the left pillar and named it
Boaz.
22 The tops of the pillars were shaped like
lilies. So the work on the pillars was finished.
23 He made the Sea of cast metal, circular in
shape, about 15 feet from rim to rim and 7.5 feet
high. A cord about 45 feet long encircled it.
24 Gourds encircled it below its rim, ten for
about every 18 inches, all the way around the
Sea. The gourds were in two rows, cast as one
piece with it.
25 It stood on twelve oxen: three facing north,
three west, three south, and three east. The Sea
rested above them, and all their hindquarters
faced inward.
26 It was about 3 inches thick, and its rim was
shaped like the rim of a cup, like a lily blossom.
It held about 11,000 gallons.

27 He made ten bronze stands, each about 6
feet long, 6 feet wide, and 4.5 feet high.
28 This was the construction of the stands:
they had panels set between frames.
29 On the panels between the frames were
lions, oxen, and cherubim. Above the frames

was a support, and below the lions and oxen were hanging wreaths.
30 Each stand had four bronze wheels and bronze axles. Its four corners had supports cast beneath the basin, each beside the wreaths.
31 Its opening rose about 18 inches inside and above the crown. The opening was round, shaped like a pedestal, about 27 inches across. There were carvings around its opening, but its panels were square, not round.
32 The four wheels were below the panels, and the wheel axles were attached to the stand. Each wheel was about 27 inches high.
33 The wheels were made like chariot wheels. Their axles, rims, spokes, and hubs were all cast metal.
34 Each stand had four supports at its four corners; its supports were part of the stand itself.
35 At the top of the stand was a circular rim about 9 inches high. The supports and panels on top of the stand were part of it.
36 He carved cherubim, lions, and palm trees on the surfaces of its supports and on its panels, according to the space available, with wreaths all around.
37 He made all ten stands in this way. All had the same casting, dimensions, and form.

38 He made ten bronze basins, each holding about 220 gallons and measuring about 6 feet across. There was one basin on each of the ten stands.
39 He placed five stands on the right side of the house and five on its left. He placed the Sea on

the right side of the house, toward the east,
facing south.
40 Hiram made the basins, shovels, and bowls.
So Hiram finished all the work he did for King
Solomon for the house of the LORD:
41 the two pillars; the two bowl-shaped
capitals on top of the pillars; and the two
networks covering the two bowl-shaped capitals
on top of the pillars;
42 the four hundred pomegranates for the two
networks, two rows of pomegranates for each
network to cover the two bowl-shaped capitals
above the pillars;
43 the ten stands and the ten basins on the
stands;
44 the one Sea and the twelve oxen beneath
the Sea;
45 and the pots, shovels, and bowls. All these
utensils that Hiram made for King Solomon for
the house of the LORD were of polished bronze.
46 The king had them cast in the clay ground of
the Jordan plain, between Succoth and Zarethan.
47 Solomon left all the utensils unweighed
because they were so very numerous. The
weight of the bronze was not determined.
48 Solomon made all the furnishings for the
house of the LORD: the golden altar and the
golden table on which the bread of the Presence
was placed;
49 the lampstands of pure gold, five on the
right and five on the left before the inner
sanctuary; the flowers, lamps, and tongs of gold;
50 the dishes, wick trimmers, bowls, spoons,

and firepans of pure gold; and the gold door
sockets for the doors of the inner room, the Most
Holy Place, and for the doors of the main hall of
the house.
51 So all the work King Solomon did for the
house of the LORD was finished. Solomon
brought in the things his father David had
dedicated—the silver, gold, and utensils—and
put them in the treasuries of the house of the
LORD.

8

1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel,
all the heads of the tribes, and the leaders of the
ancestral families of the Israelites before King
Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the
covenant of the LORD from the City of David,
which is Zion.
2 All the men of Israel assembled before King
Solomon at the festival in the month of Ethanim,
the seventh month.
3 All the elders of Israel came, and the priests
took up the ark.
4 They brought up the ark of the LORD, the
tent of meeting, and all the sacred utensils in the
tent. The priests and Levites brought them up.
5 King Solomon and the whole congregation of
Israel assembled with him were before the ark,
sacrificing so many sheep and cattle that they
could not be counted or numbered.
6 The priests brought the ark of the covenant
of the LORD to its place in the inner sanctuary of
the house, the Most Holy Place, beneath the
wings of the cherubim.

7 The cherubim spread their wings over the
place of the ark, sheltering the ark and its poles
from above.
8 The poles extended so far that their ends
could be seen from the Holy Place in front of the
inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen from
outside. They remain there to this day.
9 There was nothing in the ark except the two
stone tablets Moses had placed there at Horeb,
where the LORD made a covenant with the
Israelites when they came out of Egypt.
10 When the priests came out of the Holy
Place, the cloud filled the house of the LORD.
11 The priests could not stand to minister
because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD
had filled the house of the LORD.

12 Then Solomon said,
"The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick
darkness.
13 I have indeed built you a lofty house, a settled
place for you to dwell forever."
14 The king turned and blessed the whole
assembly of Israel, while the whole assembly of
Israel stood.
15 He said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of
Israel, who spoke with his mouth to my father
David and has fulfilled with his hand what he
said:
16 'From the day I brought my people Israel
out of Egypt, I chose no city from all the tribes of
Israel in which to build a house for my name to
be there. But I chose David to rule my people
Israel.'

17 My father David had it in his heart to build
a house for the name of the LORD, the God of
Israel.
18 But the LORD said to my father David, ‘Since
you had it in your heart to build a house for my
name, you did well to have this in your heart.
19 Yet you will not build the house. Your son,
who will come from your own body, will build
the house for my name.’
20 The LORD has fulfilled the word he spoke. I
have succeeded my father David and taken my
seat on the throne of Israel, as the LORD
promised. I have built the house for the name of
the LORD, the God of Israel.
21 I have made a place there for the ark, which
holds the covenant of the LORD that he made
with our ancestors when he brought them out of
Egypt.”
22 Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD
in the presence of the whole assembly of Israel
and spread out his hands toward heaven.
23 He said, “LORD, God of Israel, there is no
God like you in heaven above or on earth below.
You keep covenant and faithful love with your
servants who walk before you with all their
heart.
24 You have kept what you promised your
servant David, my father. You spoke with your
mouth and have fulfilled it with your hand, as it
is today.
25 Now, LORD, God of Israel, keep for your
servant David, my father, what you promised
him: ‘You will never lack a man before me to sit
on the throne of Israel, if only your sons watch

their conduct and walk before me as you have
walked before me.'
26 Now, God of Israel, let the word you spoke
to your servant David, my father, be confirmed.
27 But will God really dwell on earth? Heaven,
even the highest heaven, cannot contain
you—how much less this house I have built!
28 Yet attend to your servant's prayer and plea,
LORD my God. Listen to the cry and the prayer
your servant offers before you today.
29 May your eyes be open toward this house
night and day, toward the place of which you
said, 'My name will be there.' Listen to the
prayer your servant prays toward this place.
30 Listen to the plea of your servant and your
people Israel when they pray toward this place.
Hear in heaven, your dwelling place; hear and
forgive.
31 When someone sins against his neighbor
and is required to take an oath, and the oath is
brought before your altar in this house,
32 then hear in heaven, act, and judge your
servants. Condemn the wicked, bringing his
conduct back on his own head, and vindicate the
righteous, giving him according to his
righteousness.
33 When your people Israel are defeated by an
enemy because they have sinned against you,
and they return to you, acknowledge your name,
and pray and plead with you in this house,
34 then hear in heaven, forgive the sin of your
people Israel, and bring them back to the land
you gave their ancestors.

35 When the heavens are shut and there is no
rain because they have sinned against you, and
they pray toward this place, acknowledge your
name, and turn from their sin because you have
afflicted them,
36 then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of
your servants and your people Israel. Teach
them the good way in which they should walk,
and send rain on your land, which you gave
your people as an inheritance.
37 When there is famine in the land, or plague,
blight, mildew, locusts, or devouring insects;
when an enemy besieges them in the cities of
their land; whatever plague or sickness there
may be,
38 whatever prayer or plea is made by any
person or by all your people Israel, as each
knows the affliction of his own heart and
spreads out his hands toward this house,
39 then hear in heaven, your dwelling place.
Forgive, act, and give to each according to all his
ways, for you know his heart. You alone know
the hearts of all humanity.
40 Then they may fear you all the days they
live in the land you gave our ancestors.
41 As for the foreigner who does not belong to
your people Israel but comes from a distant land
because of your name—
42 for they will hear of your great name, your
mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when
he comes and prays toward this house,
43 hear in heaven, your dwelling place, and do
all that the foreigner calls on you to do. Then all

the peoples of the earth may know your name
and fear you, as your people Israel do, and know
that this house I have built bears your name.
44 When your people go out to war against
their enemy, by whatever way you send them,
and they pray to the LORD toward the city you
have chosen and the house I have built for your
name,
45 then hear their prayer and plea in heaven,
and uphold their cause.
46 When they sin against you—for there is no
one who does not sin—and you become angry
with them and hand them over to an enemy, and
their captors carry them away to the enemy's
land, far or near,
47 if they come to their senses in the land
where they have been taken captive, repent, and
plead with you in the land of their captors,
saying, 'We have sinned, acted perversely, and
done wickedly,'
48 and return to you with all their heart and
all their soul in the land of their enemies who
took them captive, and pray to you toward their
land, which you gave their ancestors, the city
you have chosen, and the house I have built for
your name,
49 then hear their prayer and plea in heaven,
your dwelling place, and uphold their cause.
50 Forgive your people who have sinned
against you and all the transgressions by which
they have rebelled against you. Grant them
compassion in the sight of their captors, so that
their captors may have compassion on them.

51 For they are your people and your
inheritance, whom you brought out of Egypt,
out of the iron furnace.
52 May your eyes be open to your servant's
plea and to the plea of your people Israel,
listening to them whenever they call to you.
53 For you set them apart as your inheritance
from all the peoples of the earth, as you spoke
through your servant Moses when you brought
our ancestors out of Egypt, Lord GOD."

54 When Solomon finished offering all this
prayer and plea to the LORD, he rose from
before the altar of the LORD, where he had been
kneeling with his hands spread toward heaven.
55 He stood and blessed the whole assembly of
Israel in a loud voice:
56 "Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to
his people Israel according to all he promised.
Not one word has failed of all his good promise
spoken through his servant Moses.
57 May the LORD our God be with us as he was
with our ancestors. May he never leave us or
forsake us.
58 May he incline our hearts to himself, so that
we walk in all his ways and keep the
commandments, statutes, and judgments he
gave our ancestors.
59 May these words of mine, with which I have
pleaded before the LORD, be near the LORD our
God day and night, so that he may uphold the
cause of his servant and his people Israel, as
each day requires.
60 Then all the peoples of the earth may know

that the LORD is God; there is no other.
61 Let your hearts be wholly devoted to the
LORD our God, walking in his statutes and
keeping his commandments, as you do today."
62 The king and all Israel with him offered
sacrifices before the LORD.
63 Solomon offered peace offerings to the
LORD: twenty-two thousand cattle and a
hundred twenty thousand sheep and goats. So
the king and all the Israelites dedicated the
house of the LORD.
64 That day the king consecrated the middle of
the courtyard in front of the house of the LORD.
There he offered the burnt offering, the grain
offering, and the fat of the peace offerings,
because the bronze altar before the LORD was
too small to hold the burnt offering, the grain
offering, and the fat of the peace offerings.
65 At that time Solomon celebrated the festival,
and all Israel with him, a great assembly from
Lebo-hamath to the Brook of Egypt, before the
LORD our God, for seven days and another
seven days, fourteen days in all.
66 On the eighth day he sent the people away.
They blessed the king and went to their tents,
joyful and glad of heart for all the good the
LORD had done for his servant David and his
people Israel.

9

1 When Solomon had finished building the
house of the LORD, the royal palace, and
everything else he desired to make,

2 the LORD appeared to Solomon a second
time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon.
3 The LORD said to him, “I have heard your
prayer and the plea you made before me. I have
consecrated this house you have built, to put my
name there forever. My eyes and my heart will
be there always.
4 As for you, if you walk before me as your
father David did, with integrity of heart and
uprightness, doing all I have commanded you
and keeping my statutes and judgments,
5 then I will establish your royal throne over
Israel forever, as I promised your father David:
‘You will never lack a man on the throne of
Israel.’
6 But if you and your sons turn away from
following me and do not keep the
commandments and statutes I have set before
you, but go and serve other gods and bow down
to them,
7 then I will cut Israel off from the land I have
given them, and I will cast out of my presence
this house I consecrated for my name. Israel will
become a proverb and a byword among all
peoples.
8 Though this house is lofty, everyone who
passes by it will be appalled and hiss. They will
ask, ‘Why has the LORD done this to this land
and this house?’
9 They will answer, ‘Because they forsook the
LORD their God, who brought their ancestors
out of Egypt, and clung to other gods, bowing
down to them and serving them. That is why the

LORD has brought all this calamity on them.' "

10 At the end of the twenty years in which
Solomon built the two houses, the house of the
LORD and the royal palace,
11 King Solomon gave Hiram twenty towns in
the land of Galilee. Hiram king of Tyre had
supplied Solomon with all the cedar timber,
cypress timber, and gold he desired.
12 Hiram came from Tyre to see the towns
Solomon had given him, but they did not please
him.
13 He said, "What are these towns you have
given me, my brother?" He called them the land
of Cabul, as they are called to this day.
14 Hiram had sent the king about 9,000 pounds
of gold.
15 This is the account of the forced labor King
Solomon conscripted to build the house of the
LORD, his own palace, the Millo, the wall of
Jerusalem, Hazor, Megiddo, and Gezer.
16 Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up,
captured Gezer, and burned it with fire. He
killed the Canaanites living in the city and gave
it as a wedding gift to his daughter, Solomon's
wife.
17 Solomon rebuilt Gezer and Lower
Beth-horon,
18 Baalath, and Tadmor in the wilderness, in
the land,
19 as well as all Solomon's storage cities, the
cities for his chariots and horsemen, and
everything Solomon desired to build in
Jerusalem, Lebanon, and all the land he ruled.

20 As for all the people remaining from the
Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and
Jebusites, who were not Israelites—
21 their descendants who remained in the land
after them, whom the Israelites had been unable
to destroy completely—Solomon conscripted
them for forced labor, as they remain to this day.
22 But Solomon made no Israelites slaves. They
were his soldiers, servants, officials, officers, and
commanders of his chariots and horsemen.
23 Solomon's chief officials in charge of the
work numbered five hundred fifty. They
directed the people doing the work.
24 Pharaoh's daughter went up from the City
of David to the house he had built for her. Then
he built the Millo.
25 Three times a year Solomon offered burnt
offerings and peace offerings on the altar he had
built for the LORD. He also burned incense on
the altar before the LORD. So he completed the
house.
26 King Solomon built a fleet at Ezion-geber,
near Eloth, on the shore of the Red Sea in the
land of Edom.
27 Hiram sent his servants with the fleet,
sailors who knew the sea, alongside Solomon's
servants.
28 They went to Ophir, obtained about 16 tons
of gold there, and brought it to King Solomon.

10

1 When the queen of Sheba heard of Solomon's
fame in connection with the name of the LORD,
she came to test him with difficult questions.

2 She arrived in Jerusalem with a very large
retinue, with camels carrying spices, a great
amount of gold, and precious stones. She came
to Solomon and spoke to him about everything
on her heart.
3 Solomon answered all her questions.
Nothing was hidden from the king that he could
not explain to her.
4 When the queen of Sheba saw all Solomon's
wisdom, the palace he had built,
5 the food on his table, the seating of his
servants, the attendance of his ministers and
their clothing, his cupbearers, and the burnt
offerings he offered at the house of the LORD,
she was left breathless.
6 She said to the king, "The report I heard in
my own land about your words and your
wisdom was true.
7 But I did not believe the reports until I came
and saw with my own eyes. Not even half was
told me! Your wisdom and prosperity surpass
the report I heard.
8 How happy your men are! How happy these
servants of yours are, who stand before you
continually and hear your wisdom!
9 Blessed be the LORD your God, who
delighted in you and set you on the throne of
Israel! Because of the LORD's everlasting love
for Israel, he has made you king to administer
justice and righteousness."
10 She gave the king about 9,000 pounds of
gold, a great quantity of spices, and precious
stones. Never again did such an abundance of

spices arrive as the queen of Sheba gave King Solomon.
11 Hiram's fleet, which carried gold from Ophir, also brought a great quantity of almug wood and precious stones from Ophir.
12 From the almug wood the king made supports for the house of the LORD and the royal palace, as well as lyres and harps for the singers. No almug wood like it has arrived or been seen again to this day.
13 King Solomon gave the queen of Sheba everything she desired and asked for, besides what he gave her out of King Solomon's royal generosity. Then she and her servants returned to her own land.
14 The weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was about 25 tons,
15 besides what came from the traveling traders and the trade of the merchants, and from all the kings of Arabia and the governors of the land.
16 King Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold, using about 15 pounds of gold for each shield.
17 He also made three hundred smaller shields of hammered gold, using nearly 4 pounds of gold for each shield. The king placed them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.
18 The king made a great ivory throne and overlaid it with fine gold.
19 The throne had six steps, and the top of its back was rounded. There were armrests on both sides of the seat, with two lions standing beside the armrests.

20 Twelve lions stood on the six steps, on
either side. Nothing like it had been made in any
kingdom.
21 All King Solomon's drinking vessels were
gold, and all the utensils of the House of the
Forest of Lebanon were pure gold. None were
silver, for silver was considered of no value in
Solomon's days.
22 For the king had a fleet of Tarshish at sea
with Hiram's fleet. Once every three years the
fleet of Tarshish came, carrying gold, silver,
ivory, monkeys, and peacocks.
23 King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the
earth in wealth and wisdom.
24 The whole earth sought an audience with
Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his
heart.
25 Each brought his gift: articles of silver and
gold, clothing, weapons, spices, horses, and
mules, year after year.

26 Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen.
He had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve
thousand horsemen. He stationed them in the
chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.
27 The king made silver as plentiful as stones
in Jerusalem, and cedars as abundant as the
sycamore fig trees in the foothills.
28 Solomon's horses were imported from Egypt
and Kue. The king's merchants bought them
from Kue at a price.
29 A chariot was imported from Egypt for six
hundred pieces of silver, and a horse for a
hundred fifty. Through these merchants they

were also exported to all the kings of the Hittites
and the kings of Aram.

11

1 King Solomon loved many foreign women
along with Pharaoh's daughter: Moabite,
Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite
women.
2 They were from the nations about which the
LORD had told the Israelites, "You must not
intermarry with them, nor they with you, for
they will surely turn your hearts after their
gods." Yet Solomon clung to them in love.
3 He had seven hundred wives of royal rank
and three hundred concubines, and his wives
turned his heart away.
4 When Solomon was old, his wives turned his
heart after other gods. His heart was not wholly
devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of his
father David had been.
5 Solomon followed Ashtoreth, the goddess of
the Sidonians, and Milcom, the abomination of
the Ammonites.
6 Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD
and did not follow the LORD fully, as his father
David had.

7 Then Solomon built a high place for
Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, on the hill
facing Jerusalem, and for Molech, the
abomination of the Ammonites.
8 He did the same for all his foreign wives,
who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

9 The LORD was angry with Solomon because
his heart had turned away from the LORD, the
God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice
10 and had commanded him not to follow
other gods. But he did not keep what the LORD
had commanded.
11 The LORD said to Solomon, “Because you
have done this and have not kept my covenant
and the statutes I commanded you, I will surely
tear the kingdom away from you and give it to
your servant.
12 Yet I will not do this during your lifetime,
for the sake of your father David. I will tear it
from your son’s hand.
13 But I will not tear away the whole kingdom.
I will give your son one tribe for the sake of my
servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem,
which I have chosen.”
14 The LORD raised up an adversary against
Solomon, Hadad the Edomite, who was of the
royal family of Edom.
15 When David was in Edom, Joab the army
commander went up to bury the slain and
struck down every male in Edom.
16 For Joab and all Israel remained there six
months, until he had cut off every male in Edom.
17 But Hadad fled to Egypt, with some
Edomites who were his father’s servants. Hadad
was then a little child.
18 They left Midian and came to Paran. Taking
men from Paran with them, they went to Egypt,
to Pharaoh king of Egypt. He gave Hadad a
house, assigned him food, and gave him land.

19 Hadad found great favor in Pharaoh's sight,
and Pharaoh gave him the sister of his own wife,
Queen Tahpenes, as his wife.
20 Tahpenes' sister bore him his son Genubath.
Tahpenes weaned him in Pharaoh's palace, and
Genubath lived in Pharaoh's palace among
Pharaoh's sons.
21 While in Egypt, Hadad heard that David had
rested with his ancestors and that Joab the army
commander was dead. Hadad said to Pharaoh,
"Let me go, so that I may return to my own land."
22 Pharaoh asked him, "What have you lacked
with me that you now want to go to your own
land?" He answered, "Nothing, but please let me
go."
23 God also raised up an adversary against
Solomon, Rezon son of Eliada, who had fled
from his master Hadadezer king of Zobah.
24 He gathered men around him and became
leader of a band when David killed the men of
Zobah. They went to Damascus, settled there,
and ruled in Damascus.
25 He was an adversary of Israel throughout
Solomon's days, besides the trouble Hadad
caused. He detested Israel and ruled over Aram.
26 Jeroboam son of Nebat, an Ephraimite from
Zeredah and a servant of Solomon, also rebelled
against the king. His mother's name was Zeruah,
and she was a widow.
27 This is the account of his rebellion against
the king: Solomon built the Millo and closed the
breach in the city of his father David.
28 Jeroboam was a capable man. When
Solomon saw that the young man was

industrious, he put him in charge of all the forced labor of the house of Joseph.

29 At that time, as Jeroboam was leaving Jerusalem, the prophet Ahijah of Shiloh met him on the road. Ahijah was wearing a new cloak, and the two of them were alone in the countryside.

30 Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces.

31 He said to Jeroboam, “Take ten pieces for yourself, for this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘I am about to tear the kingdom from Solomon’s hand and give you ten tribes.

32 But he will have one tribe for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel.

33 This is because they have forsaken me and bowed down to Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Sidonians, to Chemosh, the god of Moab, and to Milcom, the god of the Ammonites. They have not walked in my ways, doing what is right in my sight and keeping my statutes and judgments, as his father David did.

34 Yet I will not take the whole kingdom from his hand. I will keep him as ruler all the days of his life for the sake of my servant David, whom I chose and who kept my commandments and statutes.

35 But I will take the kingdom from his son’s hand and give you the ten tribes.

36 I will give his son one tribe, so that my servant David may always have a lamp before me in Jerusalem, the city I have chosen for

myself to put my name there.
37 I will take you, and you will reign over all
you desire. You will be king over Israel.
38 If you listen to all I command you, walk in
my ways, and do what is right in my sight,
keeping my statutes and commandments as my
servant David did, I will be with you. I will build
you a secure dynasty, as I built for David, and
give Israel to you.
39 I will afflict David's descendants because of
this, but not forever.' "
40 Solomon sought to kill Jeroboam, but
Jeroboam fled to Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt.
He remained in Egypt until Solomon's death.
41 The rest of Solomon's acts, all he did, and
his wisdom—are they not written in the Book of
the Acts of Solomon?
42 Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel
for forty years.
43 Solomon rested with his ancestors and was
buried in the city of his father David. His son
Rehoboam reigned in his place.

12

1 Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel
had come to Shechem to make him king.
2 When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard of it, he
was still in Egypt, where he had fled from King
Solomon. Jeroboam was living in Egypt.
3 They sent for him, and Jeroboam came with
the whole assembly of Israel. They said to
Rehoboam,

4 “Your father made our yoke oppressive. Now
ease the harsh service and lighten the heavy
yoke your father imposed on us, and we will
serve you.”
5 He told them, “Go away for three days, then
return to me.” So the people went away.
6 King Rehoboam consulted the elders who
had served his father Solomon while he was
alive. He asked, “How do you advise me to
answer these people?”
7 They said to him, “If today you will be a
servant to these people, serve them, answer
them, and speak kindly to them, they will be
your servants always.”
8 But he rejected the advice the elders gave
him and consulted the young men who had
grown up with him and served him.
9 He asked them, “What do you advise? How
should we answer these people who have said to
me, ‘Lighten the yoke your father imposed on
us’?”
10 The young men who had grown up with
him said, “Tell these people who said to you,
‘Your father made our yoke heavy; now lighten
it for us,’ this: ‘My little finger is thicker than my
father’s waist!
11 My father loaded you with a heavy yoke; I
will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you
with whips; I will discipline you with
scorpions.’ ”
12 Jeroboam and all the people came to
Rehoboam on the third day, as the king had said,
“Return to me on the third day.”

13 The king answered the people harshly. He
rejected the advice the elders had given him
14 and spoke to them according to the young
men's advice: "My father made your yoke heavy;
I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined
you with whips; I will discipline you with
scorpions."
15 So the king did not listen to the people, for
this turn of events was from the LORD, to fulfill
the word the LORD had spoken to Jeroboam son
of Nebat through Ahijah of Shiloh.
16 When all Israel saw that the king would not
listen to them, the people answered the king,
"What share do we have in David? We have no
inheritance in the son of Jesse! To your tents,
Israel! Look after your own house now, David!"
So Israel went to their tents.
17 But Rehoboam reigned over the Israelites
living in the cities of Judah.
18 King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who
supervised the forced labor, but all Israel stoned
him to death. King Rehoboam hurried to get into
his chariot and flee to Jerusalem.
19 So Israel has been in rebellion against the
house of David to this day.
20 When all Israel heard that Jeroboam had
returned, they sent for him to come to the
assembly and made him king over all Israel. No
one followed the house of David except the tribe
of Judah alone.
21 When Rehoboam came to Jerusalem, he
assembled all the house of Judah and the tribe
of Benjamin, a hundred eighty thousand chosen

warriors, to fight the house of Israel and restore
the kingdom to Rehoboam son of Solomon.

22 But the word of God came to Shemaiah the
man of God:
23 “Tell Rehoboam son of Solomon, king of
Judah, all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and
the rest of the people,
24 ‘This is what the LORD says: You must not
go up and fight your brothers, the Israelites.
Each of you must return home, for this has come
from me.’ ” They listened to the word of the
LORD and returned home, according to the
word of the LORD.

25 Jeroboam rebuilt Shechem in the hill
country of Ephraim and lived there. From there
he went out and rebuilt Penuel.
26 Jeroboam said in his heart, “Now the
kingdom will return to the house of David.
27 If these people go up to offer sacrifices at
the house of the LORD in Jerusalem, their hearts
will return to their lord, Rehoboam king of
Judah. They will kill me and return to
Rehoboam king of Judah.”
28 So the king took counsel and made two
golden calves. He said to the people, “It is too
much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are
your gods, Israel, who brought you up from
Egypt!”
29 He placed one in Bethel and the other in
Dan.
30 This became a sin, for the people went as
far as Dan to appear before one of them.

31 He made a shrine for the high places and
appointed priests from among the people who
were not descendants of Levi.
32 Jeroboam instituted a festival on the
fifteenth day of the eighth month, like the
festival in Judah, and went up to the altar. He
did this in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves he had
made. He stationed in Bethel the priests of the
high places he had made.
33 He went up to the altar he had made in
Bethel on the fifteenth day of the eighth month,
a month he had devised in his own heart. He
instituted a festival for the Israelites and went
up to the altar to burn incense.

13

1 A man of God came from Judah to Bethel by
the word of the LORD, while Jeroboam stood
beside the altar to burn incense.
2 He cried out against the altar by the word of
the LORD: “Altar, altar! This is what the LORD
says: ‘A son will be born to the house of David,
Josiah by name. He will sacrifice on you the
priests of the high places who burn incense on
you, and they will burn human bones on you.’ ”
3 That same day he gave a sign, saying, “This is
the sign the LORD has spoken: the altar will split
apart, and the ashes on it will spill out.”
4 When the king heard the word the man of
God proclaimed against the altar at Bethel,
Jeroboam stretched out his hand from the altar
and said, “Seize him!” But the hand he stretched

out against him withered, and he could not
draw it back.
5 The altar split apart, and the ashes spilled
from the altar, according to the sign the man of
God had given by the word of the LORD.
6 The king said to the man of God, “Please seek
the favor of the LORD your God and pray for me,
so that my hand may be restored.” The man of
God sought the LORD’s favor, and the king’s
hand was restored, becoming as it had been
before.
7 The king said to the man of God, “Come home
with me and refresh yourself, and I will give you
a gift.”
8 But the man of God answered the king, “Even
if you gave me half your house, I would not go
with you. I will not eat bread or drink water in
this place,
9 for I was commanded by the word of the
LORD, ‘You must not eat bread or drink water, or
return by the way you came.’ ”
10 So he went another way and did not return
by the way he had come to Bethel.
11 An old prophet lived in Bethel. His son
came and told him everything the man of God
had done that day in Bethel. They also told their
father the words he had spoken to the king.
12 Their father asked them, “Which way did he
go?” His sons had seen the way taken by the
man of God who came from Judah.
13 He said to his sons, “Saddle the donkey for
me.” They saddled the donkey for him, and he
mounted it.

14 He went after the man of God and found
him sitting under the terebinth tree. He asked,
“Are you the man of God who came from
Judah?” He answered, “I am.”
15 He said to him, “Come home with me and
eat bread.”
16 But he answered, “I cannot return with you
or go in with you. I will not eat bread or drink
water with you in this place,
17 for I was told by the word of the LORD, ‘You
must not eat bread or drink water there, or
return by the way you came.’ ”
18 The other said to him, “I too am a prophet
like you, and an angel spoke to me by the word
of the LORD, saying, ‘Bring him back with you to
your house, so that he may eat bread and drink
water.’ ” But he was lying to him.
19 So the man of God went back with him, ate
bread in his house, and drank water.
20 While they were sitting at the table, the
word of the LORD came to the prophet who had
brought him back.
21 He cried out to the man of God who came
from Judah, “This is what the LORD says:
‘Because you have disobeyed the word of the
LORD and have not kept the command the LORD
your God gave you,
22 but have returned and eaten bread and
drunk water in the place where he told you, “You
must not eat bread or drink water,” your body
will not come to the tomb of your ancestors.’ ”
23 After he had eaten bread and drunk, the old
prophet saddled the donkey for the prophet he
had brought back.

24 The man went on his way, and a lion met
him on the road and killed him. His body lay
thrown on the road, with the donkey standing
beside it and the lion standing beside the body.
25 Men passing by saw the body thrown on the
road and the lion standing beside the body. They
went and reported it in the city where the old
prophet lived.
26 When the prophet who had brought him
back from the road heard it, he said, “It is the
man of God who disobeyed the word of the
LORD. The LORD has handed him over to the
lion, which mauled him and killed him,
according to the word the LORD spoke to him.”
27 He said to his sons, “Saddle the donkey for
me.” So they saddled it.
28 He went and found his body thrown on the
road, with the donkey and the lion standing
beside it. The lion had not eaten the body or
mauled the donkey.
29 The prophet lifted the body of the man of
God, laid it on the donkey, and brought it back.
The old prophet came to the city to mourn him
and bury him.
30 He laid the body in his own tomb, and they
mourned him, saying, “Alas, my brother!”
31 After burying him, he said to his sons,
“When I die, bury me in the tomb where the man
of God is buried. Lay my bones beside his bones,
32 for the word he proclaimed by the word of
the LORD against the altar at Bethel and against
all the shrines of the high places in the cities of
Samaria will surely come to pass.”

33 Even after this, Jeroboam did not turn from
his evil way. He again appointed priests of the
high places from among the people. He
ordained anyone who wished, and that person
became a priest of the high places.
34 This became sin for the house of Jeroboam,
leading to its elimination and destruction from
the face of the earth.

14

1 At that time Abijah son of Jeroboam became
ill.
2 Jeroboam said to his wife, “Please get up and
disguise yourself, so that no one will recognize
you as Jeroboam’s wife. Go to Shiloh. Ahijah the
prophet is there; he told me I would be king
over this people.
3 Take ten loaves, some cakes, and a flask of
honey with you, and go to him. He will tell you
what will happen to the boy.”
4 Jeroboam’s wife did so. She went to Shiloh
and came to Ahijah’s house. Ahijah could no
longer see, for his eyes had grown dim with age.
5 The LORD had told Ahijah, “Jeroboam’s wife
is coming to consult you about her son, for he is
ill. You are to tell her such and such. When she
arrives, she will pretend to be someone else.”
6 When Ahijah heard her footsteps as she
came through the doorway, he said, “Come in,
Jeroboam’s wife. Why are you pretending to be
someone else? I have been sent to you with a
hard message.

7 Go and tell Jeroboam, ‘This is what the LORD,
the God of Israel, says: I raised you up from
among the people and made you ruler over my
people Israel.
8 I tore the kingdom away from the house of
David and gave it to you. But you have not been
like my servant David, who kept my
commandments and followed me with all his
heart, doing only what was right in my sight.
9 You have done more evil than all who were
before you. You have gone and made yourself
other gods and cast images to provoke me to
anger, and you have thrown me behind your
back.
10 Therefore I am bringing calamity on the
house of Jeroboam. I will cut off every male
belonging to Jeroboam in Israel, whether slave
or free. I will sweep away the house of Jeroboam
as dung is swept away until it is all gone.
11 Dogs will eat anyone belonging to Jeroboam
who dies in the city, and the birds of the sky will
eat anyone who dies in the countryside, for the
LORD has spoken.’
12 Now get up and go home. When your feet
enter the city, the child will die.
13 All Israel will mourn him and bury him. He
alone of Jeroboam’s house will receive burial,
because in him, in the house of Jeroboam,
something good toward the LORD, the God of
Israel, has been found.
14 The LORD will raise up for himself a king
over Israel who will cut off the house of
Jeroboam this very day—indeed, even now!

15 The LORD will strike Israel, shaking it like a
reed in the water. He will uproot Israel from this
good land he gave their ancestors and scatter
them beyond the Euphrates River, because they
have made their Asherah poles, provoking the
LORD to anger.
16 He will give Israel up because of the sins
Jeroboam committed and caused Israel to
commit."
17 Jeroboam's wife got up and left. She came to
Tirzah, and as she crossed the threshold of the
house, the boy died.
18 They buried him, and all Israel mourned
him, according to the word the LORD had
spoken through his servant Ahijah the prophet.
19 The rest of Jeroboam's acts, how he fought
and how he reigned, are written in the Book of
the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.
20 Jeroboam reigned for twenty-two years. He
rested with his ancestors, and his son Nadab
reigned in his place.
21 Rehoboam son of Solomon reigned in Judah.
He was forty-one years old when he became
king, and he reigned seventeen years in
Jerusalem, the city the LORD had chosen from
all the tribes of Israel to put his name there. His
mother's name was Naamah the Ammonite.
22 Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD. By
the sins they committed, they provoked him to
jealousy more than all their ancestors had done.
23 They too built high places, sacred pillars,
and Asherah poles for themselves on every high
hill and under every flourishing tree.

24 There were also male cult prostitutes in the
land. They practiced all the abominations of the
nations the LORD had driven out before the
Israelites.
25 In the fifth year of King Rehoboam, Shishak
king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem.
26 He took the treasures of the house of the
LORD and the treasures of the royal palace. He
took everything, including all the gold shields
Solomon had made.
27 King Rehoboam made bronze shields to
replace them and entrusted them to the
commanders of the guards who watched the
entrance to the royal palace.
28 Whenever the king went to the house of the
LORD, the guards carried the shields, then
returned them to the guardroom.
29 The rest of Rehoboam's acts and all he
did—are they not written in the Book of the
Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?
30 There was war between Rehoboam and
Jeroboam all their days.
31 Rehoboam rested with his ancestors and
was buried with them in the City of David. His
mother's name was Naamah the Ammonite. His
son Abijam reigned in his place.

15

1 In the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam son
of Nebat, Abijam became king over Judah.
2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem. His
mother's name was Maacah daughter of
Abishalom.

3 He walked in all the sins his father had
committed before him. His heart was not wholly
devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of his
ancestor David had been.
4 Yet for David's sake the LORD his God gave
him a lamp in Jerusalem, raising up his son after
him and establishing Jerusalem.
5 For David had done what was right in the
sight of the LORD and had not turned aside from
anything he commanded him all the days of his
life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.
6 There was war between Rehoboam and
Jeroboam all the days of his life.
7 The rest of Abijam's acts and all he did—are
they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of
the Kings of Judah? There was war between
Abijam and Jeroboam.
8 Abijam rested with his ancestors, and they
buried him in the City of David. His son Asa
reigned in his place.

9 In the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of
Israel, Asa became king of Judah.
10 He reigned forty-one years in Jerusalem.
His mother's name was Maacah daughter of
Abishalom.
11 Asa did what was right in the sight of the
LORD, as his ancestor David had.
12 He expelled the male cult prostitutes from
the land and removed all the idols his ancestors
had made.
13 He also removed his mother Maacah from
her position as queen mother, because she had
made an abominable image for Asherah. Asa cut

down her abominable image and burned it at
the Kidron Brook.
14 But the high places were not removed.
Nevertheless, Asa's heart was wholly devoted to
the LORD all his days.
15 He brought into the house of the LORD the
things his father had dedicated and his own
dedicated things: silver, gold, and utensils.
16 There was war between Asa and Baasha
king of Israel all their days.
17 Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah
and fortified Ramah to prevent anyone from
going out or coming in to Asa king of Judah.
18 Asa took all the silver and gold remaining in
the treasuries of the house of the LORD and the
royal palace, and entrusted them to his servants.
King Asa sent them to Ben-hadad son of
Tabrimmon, son of Hezion, king of Aram, who
lived in Damascus, with this message:
19 "There is a covenant between me and you,
as there was between my father and your father.
I have sent you a bribe of silver and gold. Go,
break your covenant with Baasha king of Israel,
so that he will withdraw from me."
20 Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent his
army commanders against the cities of Israel.
He struck Ijon, Dan, Abel-beth-maacah, and all
Chinneroth, along with all the land of Naphtali.
21 When Baasha heard of it, he stopped
fortifying Ramah and stayed in Tirzah.
22 King Asa summoned all Judah, with no one
exempt. They carried away the stones and
timber Baasha had used to build Ramah. With

them King Asa fortified Geba of Benjamin and Mizpah.

23 The rest of all Asa's acts, all his mighty deeds, all he did, and the cities he built—are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? In his old age, however, his feet became diseased.

24 Asa rested with his ancestors and was buried with them in the city of his ancestor David. His son Jehoshaphat reigned in his place.

25 Nadab son of Jeroboam became king over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah. He reigned over Israel two years.

26 He did evil in the sight of the LORD and walked in his father's way and in the sin by which his father had caused Israel to sin.

27 Baasha son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him. Baasha struck him down at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines, while Nadab and all Israel were besieging Gibbethon.

28 Baasha killed him in the third year of Asa king of Judah and reigned in his place.

29 As soon as he became king, he struck down the whole house of Jeroboam. He left no one belonging to Jeroboam alive, until he had destroyed the house, according to the word the LORD had spoken through his servant Ahijah of Shiloh.

30 This was because of the sins Jeroboam committed and caused Israel to commit, and the provocation by which he had provoked the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger.

31 The rest of Nadab's acts and all he did—are
they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of
the Kings of Israel?
32 There was war between Asa and Baasha
king of Israel all their days.
33 In the third year of Asa king of Judah,
Baasha son of Ahijah became king over all Israel
in Tirzah. He reigned twenty-four years.
34 He did evil in the sight of the LORD and
walked in Jeroboam's way and in the sin by
which Jeroboam had caused Israel to sin.

16

1 The word of the LORD came to Jehu son of
Hanani against Baasha:
2 "I raised you up from the dust and made you
ruler over my people Israel. But you have
walked in Jeroboam's way and caused my
people Israel to sin, provoking me to anger with
their sins.
3 Now I am sweeping away every remnant of
Baasha and his house. I will make your house
like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat.
4 Dogs will eat anyone belonging to Baasha
who dies in the city, and the birds of the sky will
eat anyone belonging to him who dies in the
countryside."
5 The rest of Baasha's acts, what he did, and
his mighty deeds—are they not written in the
Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?
6 Baasha rested with his ancestors and was
buried in Tirzah. His son Elah reigned in his
place.

7 The word of the LORD also came through the
prophet Jehu son of Hanani against Baasha and
his house, because of all the evil he had done in
the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger
with the work of his hands and becoming like
the house of Jeroboam, and because he had
struck down that house.
8 In the twenty-sixth year of Asa king of Judah,
Elah son of Baasha became king over Israel in
Tirzah. He reigned two years.
9 His servant Zimri, commander of half his
chariots, conspired against him. Elah was in
Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of
Arza, who managed the palace in Tirzah.
10 Zimri came in, struck him down, and killed
him in the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of
Judah. He reigned in his place.
11 As soon as he became king and sat on his
throne, he struck down the whole house of
Baasha. He left no male belonging to him alive,
nor any of his relatives or friends.
12 So Zimri destroyed the whole house of
Baasha according to the word the LORD had
spoken against Baasha through Jehu the
prophet,
13 because of all the sins of Baasha and his son
Elah, which they committed and caused Israel to
commit, provoking the LORD, the God of Israel,
to anger with their worthless idols.
14 The rest of Elah's acts and all he did—are
they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of
the Kings of Israel?
15 In the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of

Judah, Zimri reigned seven days in Tirzah. The
army was encamped against Gibbethon, which
belonged to the Philistines.
16 The army in the camp heard that Zimri had
conspired and killed the king. That very day in
the camp, all Israel made Omri, the army
commander, king over Israel.
17 Omri went up from Gibbethon with all
Israel, and they besieged Tirzah.
18 When Zimri saw that the city had been
captured, he went into the citadel of the royal
palace and burned the palace down over
himself. So he died,
19 because of the sins he had committed, doing
evil in the sight of the LORD, walking in
Jeroboam's way and in the sin he had
committed, causing Israel to sin.
20 The rest of Zimri's acts and the conspiracy
he plotted—are they not written in the Book of
the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

21 Then the people of Israel divided into two
groups. Half the people followed Tibni son of
Ginath to make him king, and half followed
Omri.
22 But the people following Omri prevailed
over those following Tibni son of Ginath. Tibni
died, and Omri became king.

23 In the thirty-first year of Asa king of Judah,
Omri became king over Israel. He reigned
twelve years, six of them in Tirzah.
24 He bought the hill of Samaria from Shemer
for about 150 pounds of silver and built on the

hill. He named the city he built Samaria, after
Shemer, the owner of the hill.
25 Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, doing
more evil than all who were before him.
26 He walked in all the way of Jeroboam son of
Nebat and in the sin by which Jeroboam had
caused Israel to sin, provoking the LORD, the
God of Israel, to anger with their worthless idols.
27 The rest of Omri's acts, what he did, and the
mighty deeds he performed—are they not
written in the Book of the Chronicles of the
Kings of Israel?
28 Omri rested with his ancestors and was
buried in Samaria. His son Ahab reigned in his
place.

29 Ahab son of Omri became king over Israel
in the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah.
Ahab son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria
for twenty-two years.
30 Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the sight
of the LORD than all who were before him.
31 As if walking in the sins of Jeroboam son of
Nebat were a trivial thing, he married Jezebel
daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and
went and served Baal and bowed down to him.
32 He erected an altar for Baal in the temple of
Baal he had built in Samaria.
33 Ahab made an Asherah pole. Ahab did more
to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger
than all the kings of Israel before him.
34 In his days Hiel of Bethel rebuilt Jericho. He
laid its foundation at the cost of Abiram his
firstborn and set up its gates at the cost of Segub

his youngest, according to the word the LORD had spoken through Joshua son of Nun.

17

1 Elijah the Tishbite, one of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there will be neither dew nor rain these years except at my word.”
2 The word of the LORD came to him:
3 “Leave here, turn eastward, and hide by the Cherith Brook, facing the Jordan.
4 You will drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."
5 He went and did according to the word of the LORD. He went and lived by the Cherith Brook, facing the Jordan.
6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.
7 After a time the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.
8 The word of the LORD came to him:
9 “Get up, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there. I have commanded a widow there to feed you.”
10 So he got up and went to Zarephath. When he came to the city gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her, “Please bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.”
11 As she went to get it, he called to her, “Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand too.”
12 She said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have no cake of bread, only a handful of flour in

the jar and a little oil in the jug. I am gathering
two sticks so that I can go and prepare it for
myself and my son. We will eat it and die."
13 Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid. Go and
do as you have said. But first make me a small
cake of bread from it and bring it out to me.
Afterward make something for yourself and
your son.

14 For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel,
says: 'The jar of flour will not run out, and the
jug of oil will not fail, until the day the LORD
sends rain on the ground.' "
15 She went and did as Elijah said. She, Elijah,
and her household ate for days.
16 The jar of flour did not run out, and the jug
of oil did not fail, according to the word the
LORD had spoken through Elijah.

17 After these things, the son of the woman
who owned the house became ill. His illness
grew so severe that no breath remained in him.
18 She said to Elijah, "What have you to do
with me, man of God? Have you come to bring
my guilt to remembrance and cause my son's
death?"
19 He said to her, "Give me your son." He took
him from her arms, carried him to the upstairs
room where he was staying, and laid him on his
own bed.
20 He cried out to the LORD, "LORD my God,
have you also brought calamity on the widow
with whom I am staying by causing her son's
death?"

21 He stretched himself out over the child three
times and cried out to the LORD, “LORD my God,
please let this child’s life return within him.”
22 The LORD heard Elijah’s voice. The child’s
life returned within him, and he revived.
23 Elijah took the child, brought him down
from the upstairs room into the house, and gave
him to his mother. Elijah said, “Look, your son is
alive!”
24 The woman said to Elijah, “Now I know that
you are a man of God and that the word of the
LORD in your mouth is true.”

18

1 After a long time, in the third year, the word
of the LORD came to Elijah: “Go, present yourself
to Ahab, and I will send rain on the ground.”
2 So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab.
The famine was severe in Samaria.
3 Ahab called Obadiah, who managed the
palace. Obadiah feared the LORD greatly.
4 When Jezebel was cutting off the prophets of
the LORD, Obadiah had taken a hundred
prophets and hidden them in caves, fifty in each,
supplying them with bread and water.
5 Ahab said to Obadiah, “Go through the land
to all the springs of water and all the brooks.
Perhaps we can find grass and keep the horses
and mules alive, so that we do not lose the
livestock.”
6 They divided the land between them to travel
through it. Ahab went one way by himself, and
Obadiah went another way by himself.

7 As Obadiah was on the road, Elijah met him.
He recognized him, fell facedown, and said, “Is it
you, my lord Elijah?”
8 He answered, “It is I. Go, tell your master,
‘Elijah is here.’ ”
9 But he said, “How have I sinned, that you are
handing your servant over to Ahab to have me
killed?
10 As the LORD your God lives, there is no
nation or kingdom where my master has not
sent to look for you. When they said, ‘He is not
here,’ he made the kingdom or nation swear
that they could not find you.
11 And now you say, ‘Go, tell your master,
“Elijah is here.” ’
12 When I leave you, the Spirit of the LORD
will carry you somewhere I do not know. If I go
and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill
me. Yet I, your servant, have feared the LORD
from my youth.
13 Has my lord not been told what I did when
Jezebel was killing the prophets of the LORD? I
hid a hundred of the LORD’s prophets in caves,
fifty in each, and supplied them with bread and
water.
14 And now you say, ‘Go, tell your master,
“Elijah is here.” ’ He will kill me!”

15 Elijah said, “As the LORD of hosts lives,
before whom I stand, I will surely present
myself to him today.”
16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told
him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

17 When Ahab saw Elijah, he said to him, “Is it
you, you troubler of Israel?”
18 He answered, “I have not brought trouble
on Israel. You and your father’s house have, by
forsaking the LORD’s commandments, and you
have followed the Baals.
19 Now send and gather all Israel to me at
Mount Carmel, along with the four hundred fifty
prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets
of Asherah who eat at Jezebel’s table.”
20 So Ahab sent throughout all Israel and
gathered the prophets at Mount Carmel.
21 Elijah approached all the people and said,
“How long will you keep limping between two
opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; if
Baal, follow him.” But the people did not answer
him a word.
22 Elijah said to the people, “I alone am left as a
prophet of the LORD, but Baal’s prophets
number four hundred fifty.
23 Let two bulls be given to us. Let them
choose one bull, cut it in pieces, and place it on
the wood, but set no fire to it. I will prepare the
other bull and place it on the wood, but set no
fire to it.
24 You call on the name of your god, and I will
call on the name of the LORD. The God who
answers by fire is God.” All the people answered,
“The proposal is good.”
25 Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose
one bull and prepare it first, for you are many.
Call on the name of your god, but set no fire to
it.”

26 They took the bull given to them, prepared
it, and called on the name of Baal from morning
until noon, saying, “Baal, answer us!” But there
was no voice and no answer. They limped
around the altar that had been made.
27 At noon Elijah mocked them: “Cry louder,
for he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or
occupied, or on a journey. Perhaps he is asleep
and must be awakened.”
28 They cried aloud and cut themselves with
swords and spears according to their custom,
until blood flowed over them.
29 After noon passed, they continued
prophesying until the time of the offering. But
there was no voice, no answer, and no attention.
30 Elijah said to all the people, “Come near me.”
All the people came near him, and he repaired
the altar of the LORD that had been torn down.
31 Elijah took twelve stones, according to the
number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to
whom the word of the LORD had come, saying,
“Israel will be your name.”
32 With the stones he built an altar in the
name of the LORD and made a trench around
the altar with room for about 13 quarts of seed.
33 He arranged the wood, cut the bull in
pieces, and placed it on the wood.
34 He said, “Fill four jars with water and pour
it over the burnt offering and the wood.” Then
he said, “Do it a second time,” and they did it a
second time. He said, “Do it a third time,” and
they did it a third time.
35 The water flowed around the altar, and he
also filled the trench with water.

36 At the time of the offering, Elijah the
prophet approached and said, “LORD, God of
Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known
today that you are God in Israel, that I am your
servant, and that I have done all these things at
your word.
37 Answer me, LORD, answer me, so that these
people may know that you, LORD, are God, and
that you have turned their hearts back.”
38 Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed
the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the
dust, and licked up the water in the trench.
39 When all the people saw it, they fell
facedown and said, “The LORD, he is God! The
LORD, he is God!”
40 Elijah said to them, “Seize the prophets of
Baal! Do not let one of them escape!” They
seized them, and Elijah brought them down to
the Kishon Brook and slaughtered them there.
41 Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink,
for there is the sound of a downpour.”
42 Ahab went up to eat and drink. Elijah went
up to the summit of Carmel, bent down to the
ground, and put his face between his knees.
43 He said to his servant, “Please go up and
look toward the sea.” He went up, looked, and
said, “There is nothing.” “Go back,” he said seven
times.
44 On the seventh time he said, “A small cloud
like a man’s palm is rising from the sea.” Elijah
said, “Go up and tell Ahab, ‘Harness the chariot
and go down, so that the rain does not stop
you.’ ”

45 Meanwhile the sky grew dark with clouds
and wind, and there was a heavy rain. Ahab
rode away to Jezreel.
46 The hand of the LORD was on Elijah. He
fastened his clothing at the waist and ran ahead
of Ahab as far as the entrance to Jezreel.

19

1 Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done
and how he had killed all the prophets with the
sword.
2 Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying,
"May the gods punish me ever so severely if, by
this time tomorrow, I have not made your life
like the life of one of them."
3 When he saw this, he got up and fled for his
life. He came to Beersheba in Judah and left his
servant there.
4 He himself went a day's journey into the
wilderness, came to a broom bush, and sat
beneath it. He asked to die, saying, "It is enough!
Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than
my ancestors."
5 He lay down and slept beneath a broom
bush. An angel touched him and said, "Get up
and eat."
6 He looked, and there by his head were a cake
of bread baked on hot stones and a jug of water.
He ate and drank, then lay down again.
7 The angel of the LORD came a second time,
touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, for the
journey is too much for you."

8 He got up, ate, and drank. In the strength of
that food he traveled forty days and forty nights
to Horeb, the mountain of God.
9 There he entered the cave and spent the
night. The word of the LORD came to him:
“What are you doing here, Elijah?”
10 He answered, “I have been very zealous for
the LORD, the God of hosts. The Israelites have
forsaken your covenant, torn down your altars,
and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone
am left, and they are seeking to take my life.”
11 He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain
before the LORD.” Then the LORD was passing
by. A great, powerful wind tore the mountains
apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD,
but the LORD was not in the wind. After the
wind came an earthquake, but the LORD was
not in the earthquake.
12 After the earthquake came fire, but the
LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire
came a still, small voice.
13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face
in his cloak, went out, and stood at the entrance
to the cave. A voice came to him and said, “What
are you doing here, Elijah?”
14 He answered, “I have been very zealous for
the LORD, the God of hosts. The Israelites have
forsaken your covenant, torn down your altars,
and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone
am left, and they are seeking to take my life.”

15 The LORD said to him, “Go, return on your
way to the wilderness of Damascus. When you
arrive, anoint Hazael king over Aram.

16 Anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel,
and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from
Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.
17 Jehu will kill anyone who escapes Hazael's
sword, and Elisha will kill anyone who escapes
Jehu's sword.
18 Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all
whose knees have not bowed to Baal and whose
mouths have not kissed him."
19 He departed from there and found Elisha
son of Shaphat plowing. Twelve teams of oxen
were before him, and he was with the twelfth.
Elijah passed by him and threw his cloak over
him.
20 Elisha left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and
said, "Please let me kiss my father and mother,
and then I will follow you." He answered, "Go
back, for what have I done to you?"
21 Elisha turned back from following him, took
the team of oxen, and slaughtered them. He
used the oxen's equipment as fuel to cook their
meat and gave it to the people, and they ate.
Then he got up, followed Elijah, and served him.

20

1 Ben-hadad king of Aram gathered his whole
army, with thirty-two kings, horses, and
chariots. He went up, besieged Samaria, and
fought against it.
2 He sent messengers into the city to Ahab
king of Israel.

3 He told him, “This is what Ben-hadad says:
‘Your silver and gold are mine, and your wives
and finest children are mine.’ ”
4 The king of Israel answered, “As you say, my
lord the king. I and all I have are yours.”
5 The messengers returned and said, “This is
what Ben-hadad says: ‘I sent you word, saying,
“You must give me your silver, gold, wives, and
children.”
6 But about this time tomorrow I will send my
servants to you, and they will search your house
and your servants’ houses. They will lay hands
on everything precious in your eyes and take it
away.’ ”
7 The king of Israel called all the elders of the
land and said, “Please take note and see that this
man seeks harm. He sent to me for my wives,
children, silver, and gold, and I did not refuse
him.”
8 All the elders and all the people told him, “Do
not listen or consent.”
9 He told Ben-hadad’s messengers, “Tell my
lord the king, ‘I will do all you first demanded of
your servant, but I cannot do this.’ ” The
messengers left and brought him the answer.
10 Ben-hadad sent him this message: “May the
gods punish me ever so severely if Samaria’s
dust is enough for a handful for each of the
people following me.”
11 The king of Israel answered, “Tell him, ‘One
who puts on armor should not boast like one
who takes it off.’ ”
12 When Ben-hadad heard this message, he
and the kings were drinking in the shelters. He

told his servants, “Take your positions!” So they took their positions against the city.

13 A prophet approached Ahab king of Israel and said, “This is what the LORD says: ‘Have you seen this whole great multitude? Today I will give it into your hand, and you will know that I am the LORD.’ ”

14 Ahab asked, “Through whom?” He answered, “This is what the LORD says: ‘Through the young attendants of the provincial governors.’ ” Ahab asked, “Who will begin the battle?” He answered, “You.”

15 He mustered the young attendants of the provincial governors, and they numbered two hundred thirty-two. After them he mustered all the people, all the Israelites, seven thousand.

16 They went out at noon, while Ben-hadad was drinking himself drunk in the shelters with the thirty-two kings who were helping him.

17 The young attendants of the provincial governors went out first. Ben-hadad sent men out, and they reported to him, “Men have come out of Samaria.”

18 He said, “If they have come out for peace, take them alive. If they have come out for war, take them alive.”

19 So the young attendants of the provincial governors and the army following them came out of the city.

20 Each struck down his opponent. The Arameans fled, and Israel pursued them. Ben-hadad king of Aram escaped on horseback with horsemen.

21 The king of Israel went out and struck the
horses and chariots, inflicting a great defeat on
the Arameans.
22 The prophet approached the king of Israel
and said, “Go, strengthen yourself and consider
carefully what you must do, for at the turn of the
year the king of Aram will come up against you.”

23 The servants of the king of Aram said to
him, “Their gods are gods of the hills; that is why
they were stronger than we were. But let us
fight them on the plain, and we will surely be
stronger than they are.
24 Do this: remove each king from his position
and put governors in their places.
25 Muster an army like the army you lost,
horse for horse and chariot for chariot. We will
fight them on the plain and surely be stronger
than they are.” He listened to them and did so.

26 At the turn of the year, Ben-hadad mustered
the Arameans and went up to Aphek to fight
Israel.
27 The Israelites were mustered, supplied with
provisions, and went out to meet them. They
camped opposite them like two small flocks of
goats, while the Arameans filled the land.
28 The man of God approached the king of
Israel and said, “This is what the LORD says:
‘Because the Arameans have said, “The LORD is
a God of the hills, but he is not a God of the
valleys,” I will give this whole great multitude
into your hand, and you will all know that I am
the LORD.’ ”

29 They camped opposite one another for
seven days. On the seventh day battle was
joined, and the Israelites struck down a hundred
thousand Aramean foot soldiers in one day.
30 The survivors fled into the city of Aphek,
and the wall fell on twenty-seven thousand of
the men who remained. Ben-hadad fled into the
city and entered an inner room.

31 His servants said to him, “We have heard
that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful
kings. Let us put sackcloth around our waists
and ropes on our heads, and go out to the king
of Israel. Perhaps he will spare your life.”
32 They tied sackcloth around their waists and
put ropes on their heads. They came to the king
of Israel and said, “Your servant Ben-hadad says,
‘Please let me live.’ ” He answered, “Is he still
alive? He is my brother!”
33 The men were watching for a favorable sign
and quickly seized on his words. They said,
“Your brother Ben-hadad!” He said, “Go and
bring him.” Ben-hadad came out to him, and
Ahab brought him up into the chariot.
34 Ben-hadad said to him, “I will restore the
cities my father took from your father, and you
may establish trading quarters in Damascus, as
my father did in Samaria.” Ahab said, “I will
release you under a covenant.” So he made a
covenant with him and let him go.

35 One of the company of prophets said to his
companion by the word of the LORD, “Please
strike me.” But the man refused to strike him.

36 He said to him, “Because you have not
obeyed the voice of the LORD, a lion will strike
you down when you leave me.” When he left
him, a lion found him and struck him down.
37 The prophet found another man and said,
“Please strike me.” The man struck him and
wounded him.
38 Then the prophet went and waited for the
king beside the road. He disguised himself with
a bandage over his eyes.
39 As the king passed by, he cried out to him,
“Your servant went into the thick of the battle. A
man turned aside and brought me another man,
saying, ‘Guard this man. If he goes missing, your
life will answer for his life, or you must pay
about 75 pounds of silver.’
40 But while your servant was busy here and
there, the man was gone.” The king of Israel said
to him, “That is your sentence; you have decided
it yourself.”
41 He quickly removed the bandage from his
eyes, and the king of Israel recognized him as
one of the prophets.
42 He said to him, “This is what the LORD says:
‘Because you have released from your hand the
man I devoted to destruction, your life will
answer for his life, and your people for his
people.’ ”
43 The king of Israel went home sullen and
angry, and came to Samaria.

21

1 After these things, Naboth the Jezreelite had

a vineyard in Jezreel beside the palace of Ahab
king of Samaria.
2 Ahab said to Naboth, “Give me your vineyard
so that I may have it for a vegetable garden,
since it is near my house. I will give you a better
vineyard in exchange, or, if you prefer, I will pay
you its value in silver.”
3 Naboth answered Ahab, “The LORD forbid
that I should give you the inheritance of my
ancestors!”
4 Ahab went home sullen and angry because
of what Naboth the Jezreelite had told him: “I
will not give you the inheritance of my
ancestors.” He lay down on his bed, turned his
face away, and would not eat.
5 His wife Jezebel came to him and asked,
“Why are you so sullen that you will not eat?”
6 He told her, “Because I spoke to Naboth the
Jezreelite and said, ‘Give me your vineyard for
silver, or, if you prefer, I will give you another
vineyard in exchange.’ But he answered, ‘I will
not give you my vineyard.’ ”
7 His wife Jezebel said to him, “Are you now
king over Israel? Get up, eat, and let your heart
be glad. I will give you the vineyard of Naboth
the Jezreelite.”
8 She wrote letters in Ahab’s name, sealed
them with his seal, and sent them to the elders
and nobles of the city where Naboth lived.
9 In the letters she wrote, “Proclaim a fast and
seat Naboth at the head of the people.
10 Seat two worthless men opposite him and
have them testify against him, saying, ‘You have

cursed God and the king.' Then take him out and
stone him to death."
11 The men of his city, the elders and nobles
who lived there, did as Jezebel had instructed
them, as written in the letters she had sent them.
12 They proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth
at the head of the people.
13 The two worthless men came and sat
opposite him. Those worthless men testified
against Naboth before the people, saying,
"Naboth has cursed God and the king." They took
him outside the city, stoned him, and he died.
14 Then they sent word to Jezebel, "Naboth has
been stoned and is dead."
15 When Jezebel heard that Naboth had been
stoned and was dead, she told Ahab, "Get up and
take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the
Jezreelite, which he refused to sell you for silver.
Naboth is no longer alive; he is dead."
16 When Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, he
got up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the
Jezreelite and take possession of it.

17 The word of the LORD came to Elijah the
Tishbite:
18 "Get up, go down to meet Ahab, the king of
Israel in Samaria. He is in Naboth's vineyard,
where he has gone down to take possession of it.
19 Tell him, 'This is what the LORD says: Have
you murdered and also taken possession?' And
tell him, 'This is what the LORD says: In the
place where the dogs licked Naboth's blood, the
dogs will lick your own blood too.' "
20 Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, my

enemy?" He answered, "I have found you,
because you have sold yourself to do evil in the
sight of the LORD.
21 'I am bringing calamity on you. I will sweep
away your descendants and cut off every male
belonging to Ahab in Israel, whether slave or
free.
22 I will make your house like the house of
Jeroboam son of Nebat and like the house of
Baasha son of Ahijah, because you have
provoked me to anger and caused Israel to sin.'
23 The LORD has also spoken concerning
Jezebel: 'Dogs will eat Jezebel beside the wall of
Jezreel.'
24 Dogs will eat anyone belonging to Ahab who
dies in the city, and the birds of the sky will eat
anyone who dies in the countryside."
25 There was no one like Ahab, who sold
himself to do evil in the sight of the LORD, urged
on by his wife Jezebel.
26 He acted most abominably in following
idols, just as the Amorites had done, whom the
LORD drove out before the Israelites.
27 When Ahab heard these words, he tore his
clothes, put sackcloth over his body, and fasted.
He lay in sackcloth and walked slowly.
28 The word of the LORD came to Elijah the
Tishbite:
29 "Have you seen how Ahab has humbled
himself before me? Because he has humbled
himself before me, I will not bring the calamity
in his days. In his son's days I will bring the
calamity on his house."

22

1 For three years there was no war between
Aram and Israel.

2 In the third year, Jehoshaphat king of Judah
went down to the king of Israel.
3 The king of Israel said to his servants, “Do
you know that Ramoth-gilead belongs to us, yet
we do nothing to take it from the hand of the
king of Aram?”
4 He asked Jehoshaphat, “Will you go with me
to battle at Ramoth-gilead?” Jehoshaphat
answered the king of Israel, “I am as you are, my
people as your people, and my horses as your
horses.”
5 Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “Please
inquire for the word of the LORD today.”
6 The king of Israel gathered the prophets,
about four hundred men, and asked them,
“Should I go to war against Ramoth-gilead, or
should I refrain?” They answered, “Go up! The
Lord will give it into the king’s hand.”
7 But Jehoshaphat asked, “Is there not another
prophet of the LORD here through whom we
may inquire?”
8 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “There
is still one man through whom we may inquire
of the LORD, but I hate him, because he never
prophesies good concerning me, only calamity.
He is Micaiah son of Imlah.” Jehoshaphat said,
“The king should not say that.”
9 The king of Israel called a court official and
said, “Bring Micaiah son of Imlah at once.”

10 The king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of
Judah were sitting, each on his throne, dressed
in their robes, on a threshing floor at the
entrance to Samaria's gate. All the prophets
were prophesying before them.
11 Zedekiah son of Chenaanah had made iron
horns for himself. He said, "This is what the
LORD says: 'With these you will gore the
Arameans until you destroy them.' "
12 All the prophets prophesied the same thing:
"Go up to Ramoth-gilead and succeed! The LORD
will give it into the king's hand."
13 The messenger who went to summon
Micaiah said to him, "Look, the prophets are
speaking good things to the king with one voice.
Please let your word be like one of theirs, and
speak good things."
14 Micaiah said, "As the LORD lives, I will
speak what the LORD says to me."
15 When he came to the king, the king asked
him, "Micaiah, should we go to war against
Ramoth-gilead, or should we refrain?" He
answered, "Go up and succeed! The LORD will
give it into the king's hand."
16 The king said to him, "How many times
must I make you swear to tell me nothing but
the truth in the name of the LORD?"
17 He said, "I saw all Israel scattered on the
mountains like sheep without a shepherd. The
LORD said, 'These have no master. Let each
return home in peace.' "
18 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Did I
not tell you that he would prophesy no good

concerning me, only calamity?"
19 Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of
the LORD. I saw the LORD sitting on his throne,
with all the host of heaven standing beside him
on his right and on his left.
20 The LORD asked, 'Who will entice Ahab to
go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' One said one
thing, and another said another.
21 Then the spirit came forward, stood before
the LORD, and said, 'I will entice him.'
22 The LORD asked him, 'How?' He answered,
'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouths
of all his prophets.' The LORD said, 'You will
entice him, and you will succeed. Go and do so.'
23 So now the LORD has put a lying spirit in
the mouths of all these prophets of yours, and
the LORD has declared calamity against you."
24 Zedekiah son of Chenaanah approached,
struck Micaiah on the cheek, and said, "Which
way did the Spirit of the LORD go from me to
speak to you?"
25 Micaiah answered, "You will see on the day
you go into an inner room to hide."
26 The king of Israel said, "Take Micaiah and
bring him back to Amon the governor of the city
and to Joash the king's son.
27 Tell them, 'This is what the king says: Put
this man in prison and feed him scant bread and
scant water until I return in peace.' "
28 Micaiah said, "If you ever return in peace,
the LORD has not spoken through me." He also
said, "Hear, all you peoples!"
29 The king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of

Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead.
30 The king of Israel told Jehoshaphat, “I will
disguise myself and enter the battle, but you
wear your robes.” The king of Israel disguised
himself and entered the battle.
31 The king of Aram had commanded his
thirty-two chariot commanders, “Do not fight
anyone, small or great, except the king of Israel
alone.”
32 When the chariot commanders saw
Jehoshaphat, they said, “Surely this is the king of
Israel!” They turned against him to fight, and
Jehoshaphat cried out.
33 When the chariot commanders saw that he
was not the king of Israel, they stopped pursuing
him.
34 But a man drew his bow at random and
struck the king of Israel between the joints of his
armor. The king told his chariot driver, “Turn
around and take me out of the battle, for I am
wounded.”
35 The battle raged that day, and the king was
propped up in his chariot facing the Arameans.
He died in the evening, and the blood from his
wound flowed into the bottom of the chariot.
36 At sunset a cry went through the army:
“Each man to his city, and each to his own land!”
37 The king died and was brought to Samaria,
and they buried the king in Samaria.
38 They washed the chariot at the pool of
Samaria, and the dogs licked his blood, and the
prostitutes bathed there, according to the word
the LORD had spoken.
39 The rest of Ahab’s acts, all he did, the ivory

palace he built, and all the cities he built—are
they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of
the Kings of Israel?
40 Ahab rested with his ancestors, and his son
Ahaziah reigned in his place.

41 Jehoshaphat son of Asa became king over
Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel.
42 Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old when
he became king, and he reigned twenty-five
years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was
Azubah daughter of Shilhi.
43 He walked in all the way of his father Asa
without turning aside from it, doing what was
right in the sight of the LORD. Yet the high places
were not removed; the people still sacrificed and
burned incense at the high places.
44 Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of
Israel.
45 The rest of Jehoshaphat's acts, the mighty
deeds he performed, and his wars—are they not
written in the Book of the Chronicles of the
Kings of Judah?
46 He removed from the land the remaining
male cult prostitutes who had been left from the
days of his father Asa.
47 There was no king in Edom; a deputy acted
as king.
48 Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish to go to
Ophir for gold, but they did not sail, for the ships
were wrecked at Ezion-geber.
49 Then Ahaziah son of Ahab said to
Jehoshaphat, "Let my servants go with your

servants in the ships." But Jehoshaphat would not agree.

50 Jehoshaphat rested with his ancestors and was buried with them in the city of his ancestor David. His son Jehoram reigned in his place.

51 Ahaziah son of Ahab became king over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. He reigned over Israel two years.

52 He did evil in the sight of the LORD and walked in the way of his father, the way of his mother, and the way of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin.

53 He served Baal and bowed down to him, provoking the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger, just as his father had done.

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