

The Second Book of Samuel Otherwise Called The Second Book of the Kings

¹ After the death of Saul, when Dauid was returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites and had beene two dayes in Ziklag, ² Behold, a man came the third day out of the host from Saul with his clothes rent, and earth vpon his head: and when hee came to Dauid, he fell to the earth, and did obeisance. ³ Then Dauid saide vnto him, Whence comest thou? And he said vnto him, Out of the host of Israel I am escaped. ⁴ And Dauid saide vnto him, What is done? I pray thee, tell me. Then he said, that the people is fled from the battel, and many of the people are ouerthrowen, and dead, and also Saul and Ionathan his sonne are dead. ⁵ And Dauid saide vnto the yong man that tolde it him, Howe knowest thou that Saul and Ionathan his sonne be dead? ⁶ Then the yong man that tolde him, answered, As I came to mount Gilboa, behold, Saul leaned vpon his speare, and loe, the charets and horsemen followed hard after him. ⁷ And when he looked backe, he saw me, and called me. And I answered, Here am I. ⁸ And he said vnto me, Who art thou? And I answered him, I am an Amalekite. ⁹ Then saide hee vnto me, I pray thee come vpon mee, and slay me: for anguish is come vpon me, because my life is yet whole in me. ¹⁰ So I came vpon him, and slewe

him, and because I was sure that hee could not liue, after that hee had fallen, I tooke the crowne that was vpon his head, and the bracelet that was on his arme, and brought them hither vnto my lord. ¹¹ Then Dauid tooke hold on his clothes, and rent them, and likewise al the men that were with him. ¹² And they mourned and wept, and fasted vntil euen, for Saul and for Ionathan his sonne, and for the people of the Lord, and for the house of Israel, because they were slaine with the sword. ¹³ Afterward Dauid saide vnto the yong man that tolde it him, Whence art thou? And hee answered, I am the sonne of a stranger an Amalekite. ¹⁴ And Dauid said vnto him, How wast thou not afrayd, to put forth thine hand to destroy the Anoynted of the Lord? ¹⁵ Then Dauid called one of his yong men, and said, Goe neere, and fall vpon him. And hee smote him that he dyed. ¹⁶ Then said Dauid vnto him, Thy blood be vpon thine owne head: for thine owne mouth hath testified against thee, saying, I haue slaine the Lords Anoynted. ¹⁷ Then Dauid mourned with this lamentation ouer Saul, and ouer Ionathan his sonne, ¹⁸ (Also he bade them teach the children of Iudah to shoote, as it is written in the booke of Iasher) ¹⁹ O noble Israel, hee is slane vpon thy hie places: how are the mightie ouerthrown! ²⁰ Tell it not in Gath, nor publish it in the streetes of Ashkelon, lest the daughters of the Philistims reioyce, lest the daughters of the vncircumcised triumph. ²¹ Ye mountaines of Gilboa, vpon you be neither dewe nor raine, nor be there fieldes

of offerings: for there the shielde of the mightie is cast downe, the shielde of Saul, as though he had not bene anointed with oyle. ²² The bow of Ionathan neuer turned backe, neither did the sword of Saul returne emptie from the blood of the slaine, and from the fatte of the mightie. ²³ Saul and Ionathan were louely and pleasant in their liues, and in their deaths they were not deuided: they were swifter then eagles, they were stronger then lions. ²⁴ Yee daughters of Israel, weepe for Saul, which clothed you in skarlet, with pleasures, and hanged ornaments of gold vpon your apparel. ²⁵ Howe were the mightie slaine in the mids of the battel! O Ionathan, thou wast slaine in thine hie places. ²⁶ Wo is me for thee, my brother Ionathan: very kinde hast thou bene vnto me: thy loue to me was wonderfull, passing the loue of women: howe are the mightie ouerthrowen, and the weapons of warre destroyed!

2

¹ After this, Daudid asked counsel of the Lord, saying, Shall I go vp into any of the cities of Iudah? And the Lord sayd vnto him, Goe vp. And Daudid sayd Whither shall I goe? Hee then answered, Vnto Hebron. ² So Daudid went vp thither, and his two wiues also, Ahinoam the Izreelite, and Abigail Nabals wife the Carmelite. ³ And Daudid brought vp the men that were with him, euery man with his houshold, and they dwelt in the cities of Hebron. ⁴ Then the men of Iudah came, and there they anoynted Daudid

King ouer the house of Iudah. And they tolde Dauid, saying, that the men of Iabesh Gilead buried Saul. ⁵ And Dauid sent messengers vnto the men of Iabesh Gilead, and said vnto them, Blessed are ye of the Lord, that yee haue shewed such kindenes vnto your lord Saul, that you haue buried him. ⁶ Therefore now the Lord shewe mercie and trueth vnto you: and I will recompence you this benefite, because ye haue done this thing. ⁷ Therefore nowe let your handes be strong, and be you valiant: albeit your master Saul bee dead, yet neuerthesse the house of Iudah hath anoynted me King ouer them. ⁸ But Abner the sonne of Ner that was captaine of Sauls hoste, tooke Ish-bosheth the sonne of Saul, and brought him to Mahanaim, ⁹ And made him King ouer Gilead, and ouer the Ashurites, and ouer Izreel, and ouer Ephraim, and ouer Benjamin, and ouer al Israel. ¹⁰ Ish-bosheth Sauls sonne was fourtie yeere olde when he began to reigne ouer Israel, and reigned two yeere: but the house of Iudah followed Dauid. ¹¹ (And the time which Dauid reigned in Hebron ouer the house of Iudah, was seuen yeere and sixe moneths) ¹² And Abner the sonne of Ner, and the seruantes of Ish-bosheth the sonne of Saul went out of Mahanaim to Gibeon. ¹³ And Ioab the sonne of Zeruah, and the seruants of Dauid went out and met one another by the poole of Gibeon: and they sate downe, the one on the one side of the poole, and the other on the otherside of the poole. ¹⁴ Then Abner saide to Ioab, Let the yong men nowe arise, and play before vs. And

Ioab said, Let them arise. ¹⁵ Then there arose and went ouer twelue of Benjamin by number, which pertained to Ish-bosheth the sonne of Saul, and twelue of the seruants of Dauid. ¹⁶ And euery one caught his fellowe by the head, and thrust his sword in his fellowes side, so they fell downe together: wherefore ye place was called Helkath-hazzurim, which is in Gibeon. ¹⁷ And the battel was exceeding sore that same day: for Abner and the men of Israel fell before the seruants of Dauid. ¹⁸ And there were three sonnes of Zeruah there, Ioab, and Abishai, and Asahel. And Asahel was as light on foote as a wilde roe. ¹⁹ And Asahel followed after Abner, and in going he turned neither to the right hand nor to the left from Abner. ²⁰ Then Abner looked behind him, and said, Art thou Asahel? And he answered, Yea. ²¹ Then Abner said, Turne thee either to the right hande, or to the left, and take one of the yong men, and take thee his weapons: and Asahel would not depart from him. ²² And Abner saide to Asahel, Depart from me: wherefore shoulde I smite thee to the grounde? howe then shoulde I be able to holde vp my face to Ioab thy brother? ²³ And when he would not depart, Abner with the hinder ende of the speare smote him vnder the fift ryb, that the speare came out behind him: and he fell downe there, and dyed in his place. And as many as came to the place where Asahel fell downe and dyed, stode still. ²⁴ Ioab also and Abishai pursued after Abner: and the sunne went downe, when they were come to the hill Ammah, that lieth before

Giah, by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon. ²⁵ And the children of Benjamin gathered them selves together after Abner, and were on an heape and stode on the top of an hill. ²⁶ Then Abner called to Ioab, and said, Shall the sworde deuoure for euer? knowest thou not, that it will be bitterness in the latter ende? howe long then shall it be, or thou bid the people returne from following their brethren? ²⁷ And Ioab sayde, As God liueth, if thou haddest not spoken, surely euen in the morning the people had departed euery one backe from his brother. ²⁸ So Ioab blew a trumpet, and all the people stode still, and pursued after Israel no more, neither fought they any more. ²⁹ And Abner and his men walked all that night through the plaine, and went ouer Iorden, and past through all Bithron till they came to Mahanaim. ³⁰ Ioab also returned backe from Abner: and when he had gathered all the people together, there lacked of Dauids seruants nineteene men and Asahel. ³¹ But the seruants of Dauid had smitten of Benjamin, and of Abners men, so that three hundreth and threescore men dyed. ³² And they tooke vp Asahel, and buried him in the sepulchre of his father, which was in Bethlehem: and Ioab and his men went all night, and when they came to Hebron, the day arose.

3

¹ There was then long warre betweene the house of Saul and the house of Dauid: but Dauid waxed stronger, and the house of Saul waxed weaker. ² And vnto Dauid were children borne in Hebron: and his eldest sonne was

Amnon of Ahinoam the Izreelite, ³ And his seconde, was Chileab of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite: and the third, Absalom the sonne of Maacah the daughter of Talmai the King of Geshur, ⁴ And the fourth, Adoniah the sonne of Haggith, and the fifth, Shephatiah the sonne of Abital, ⁵ And the sixt, Ithream by Eglah Dauids wife: these were borne to Dauid in Hebron. ⁶ Nowe while there was warre betweene the house of Saul and the house of Dauid, Abner made all his power for the house of Saul. ⁷ And Saul had a concubine named Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. And Ish-bosheth sayde to Abner, Wherefore hast thou gone in to my fathers concubine? ⁸ Then was Abner very wroth for the words of Ish-bosheth, and said, Am I a dogges head, which against Iudah do shew mercie this day vnto the house of Saul thy father, to his brethren, and to his neighbours, and haue not deliuered thee into the hande of Dauid, that thou chargest me this day with a fault concerning this woman? ⁹ So doe God to Abner, and more also, except, as the Lord hath sworne to Dauid, euen so I doe to him, ¹⁰ To remoue the kingdome from the house of Saul, that the throne of Dauid may be stablished ouer Israel, and ouer Iudah, euen from Dan to Beer-sheba. ¹¹ And he durst no more answeere to Abner: for he feared him. ¹² Then Abner sent messengers to Dauid on his behalfe, saying, Whose is the lande? who should also say, Make couenant with me, and beholde, mine hande shalbe with thee, to bring all Israel vnto thee. ¹³ Who saide, Well, I will make a couenant with

thee: but one thing I require of thee, that is, that thou see not my face except thou bring Michal Sauls daughter when thou comdest to see me. ¹⁴ Then Daudid sent messengers to Ish-bosheth Sauls sonne, saying, Deliuer me my wife Michal, which I marryed for an hundreth foreskinnes of the Philistims. ¹⁵ And Ish-bosheth sent, and tooke her from her husband Phaltiel the sonne of Laish. ¹⁶ And her husband went with her, and came weeping behinde her, vnto Bahurim: then saide Abner vnto him, Go, and returne. So he returned. ¹⁷ And Abner had communication with the Elders of Israel, saying, Ye sought for Daudid in times past, that he might be your King. ¹⁸ Nowe then doe it: for the Lord hath spoken of Daudid, saying, By the hand of my seruant Daudid I will saue my people Israel out of the handes of the Philistims, and out of the handes of all their enemies. ¹⁹ Also Abner spake to Benjamin, and afterward Abner went to speake with Daudid in Hebron, concerning all that Israel was content with, and the whole house of Benjamin. ²⁰ So Abner came to Daudid to Hebron, hauing twentie men with him, and Daudid made a feast vnto Abner, and to the men that were with him. ²¹ Then Abner sayde vnto Daudid, I will rise vp, and goe gather all Israel vnto my lorde the King, that they may make a couenant with thee, and that thou mayest reigne ouer all that thine heart desireth. Then Daudid let Abner depart, who went in peace. ²² And beholde, the seruants of Daudid and Ioab came from the campe, and brought a great pray with them (but Abner was not with

Dauid in Hebron: for he had sent him away, and he departed in peace) ²³ When Ioab, and all the hoste that was with him were come, men tolde Ioab, saying, Abner the sonne of Ner came to the King, and he hath sent him away, and he is gone in peace. ²⁴ Then Ioab came to the King, and saide, What hast thou done? beholde, Abner came vnto thee, why hast thou sent him away, and he is departed? ²⁵ Thou knowest Abner the sonne of Ner: for he came to deceiue thee, and to knowe thy outgoing and ingoing, and to knowe all that thou doest. ²⁶ And when Ioab was gone out from Dauid, he sent messengers after Abner, which brought him againe from the well of Siriah vnknowing to Dauid. ²⁷ And when Abner was come againe to Hebron, Ioab tooke him aside in the gate to speake with him peaceably, and smote him vnder the fift ryb, that he dyed, for the blood of Asahel his brother. ²⁸ And when afterwarde it came to Dauids eare, he saide, I and my kingdome are giltlesse before the Lord for euer, concerning the blood of Abner the sonne of Ner. ²⁹ Let the blood fall on the head of Ioab, and on all his fathers house, that the house of Ioab be neuer without some that haue running issues, or leper, or that leaneth on a staffe, or that doeth fall on the sworde, or that lacketh bread. ³⁰ (So Ioab and Abishai his brother slewe Abner, because he had slaine their brother Asahel at Gibeon in battel) ³¹ And Dauid said to Ioab, and to al the people that were with him, Rent your clothes, and put on sackcloth, and mourne before Abner: and King Dauid him selfe followed

the beare. ³² And when they had buryed Abner in Hebron, the King lift vp his voyce, and wept beside the sepulchre of Abner, and all the people wept. ³³ And the King lamented ouer Abner, and sayde, Dyed Abner as a foole dyeth? ³⁴ Thine handes were not bounde, nor thy feete tyed in fetters of brasse: but as a man falleth before wicked men, so diddest thou fall. And all the people wept againe for him. ³⁵ Afterwarde all the people came to cause Dauid eate meate while it was yet day, but Dauid sware, saying, So doe God to me and more also, if I taste bread, or ought els till the sunne be downe. ³⁶ And all the people knewe it, and it pleased them: as whatsoever the King did, pleased all the people. ³⁷ For all the people and all Israel vnderstoode that day, howe that it was not the Kings deede that Abner the sonne of Ner was slaine. ³⁸ And the King said vnto his seruants, Know ye not, that there is a prince and a great man falle this day in Israel? ³⁹ And I am this day weake and newly anoynted King: and these men the sonnes of Zeruah be too harde for me: the Lord rewarde the doer of euill according to his wickednesse.

4

¹ And when Sauls sonne heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, then his handes were feeble, and all Israel was afraide, ² And Sauls sonne had two men that were captaines of bandes: the one called Baanah, and the other called Rechab, the sonnes of Rimmon a Beerothite of the children of Beniamin. (for Beeroth was reckened to Beniamin, ³ Because the Beerothites

fled to Gittaim, and sojourned there, vnto this day). ⁴ And Jonathan Sauls sonne had a sonne that was lame on his feete: he was fife yere olde when the tydings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Israel: then his nurse tooke him, and fledde away. And as she made haste to flee, the childe fell, and beganne to halte, and his name was Mephibosheth. ⁵ And the sonnes of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah went and came in the heat of the day to the house of Ish-bosheth (who slept on a bed at noone) ⁶ And beholde, Rechab and Baanah his brother came into the middes of the house as they would haue wheate, and they smote him vnder the fift ryb, and fled. ⁷ For when they came into the house, he slept on his bed in his bed chamber, and they smote him, and slewe him, and beheaded him, and tooke his head, and gate them away through the plaine all the night. ⁸ And they brought the head of Ish-bosheth vnto Daud to Hebron, and saide to the King, Beholde the head of Ish-bosheth Sauls sonne thine enemy, who sought after thy life: and the Lord hath auenged my lorde the King this day of Saul, and of his seede. ⁹ Then Daud answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sonnes of Rimmon the Beerothite, and saide vnto them, As the Lord liueth, who hath deliuered my soule out of al aduersity, ¹⁰ When one tolde me, and sayde that Saul was dead, (thinking to haue brought good tydings) I tooke him and slewe him in Ziklag, who thought that I woulde haue giuen him a rewarde for his tidings: ¹¹ How much more, when wicked men haue slaine a righteous

person in his owne house, and vpon his bed? shall I not now therefore require his blood at your hand, and take you from the earth? ¹² Then Daudid commanded his yong men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feete, and hanged them vp ouer the poole in Hebron: but they tooke the head of Ishbosheth, and buried it in the sepulchre of Abner in Hebron.

5

¹ Then came all the tribes of Israel to Daudid vnto Hebron, and said thus, Beholde, we are thy bones and thy flesh. ² And in time past when Saul was our King, thou leddest Israel in and out: and the Lord hath sayde to thee, Thou shalt feede my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captaine ouer Israel. ³ So all the Elders of Israel came to the King to Hebron: and King Daudid made a couenant with them in Hebron before the Lord: and they anoynted Daudid King ouer Israel. ⁴ Daudid was thirtie yeere olde when he began to reigne: and hee reigned fortie yeere. ⁵ In Hebron hee reigned ouer Iudah seuen yeere, and sixe moneths: and in Ierusalem hee reigned thirtie and three yeeres ouer all Israel and Iudah. ⁶ The King also and his men went to Ierusalem vnto the Iebusites, the inhabitants of the land: who spake vnto Daudid, saying, Except thou take away the blinde and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking that Daudid coulde not come thither. ⁷ But Daudid tooke the fort of Zion: this is the citie of Daudid. ⁸ Nowe Daudid had sayd the same day, Whosoeuer smiteth the Iebusites,

and getteth vp to the gutters and smiteth the lame and blinde, which Dauids soule hateth, I will preferre him: therefore they saide, The blinde and the lame shall not come into that house. ⁹ So Dauid dwelt in that forte, and called it the citie of Dauid, and Dauid built rounde about it, from Millo, and inward. ¹⁰ And Dauid prospered and grewe: for the Lord God of hostes was with him. ¹¹ Hiram also king of Tyrus sent messengers to Dauid, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons for walles: and they built Dauid an house. ¹² Then Dauid knewe that the Lord had stablished him King ouer Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdome for his people Israels sake. ¹³ And Dauid tooke him more concubines and wiues out of Ierusalem, after hee was come from Hebron, and more sonnes and daughters were borne to Dauid. ¹⁴ And these bee the names of the sonnes that were borne vnto him in Ierusalem: Shammua, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Salomon, ¹⁵ And Ibhar, and Elishua, and Nepheg, and Iaphia, ¹⁶ And Elishama, and Eliada, and Eliphalet. ¹⁷ But when the Philistims hearde that they had anoynted Dauid King ouer Israel, all the Philistims came vp to seeke Dauid: and when Dauid heard, he went downe to a fort. ¹⁸ But the Philistims came, and spred themselues in the valley of Rephaim. ¹⁹ Then Dauid asked counsel of the Lord, saying, Shall I goe vp to the Philistims? wilt thou deliuer them into mine handes? And the Lord answered Dauid, Goe vp: for I will doubtlesse deliuer the Philistims into thine handes. ²⁰ Then Dauid came to Baalperazim, and smote them there, and sayde, The

Lord hath deuided mine enemies asunder before mee, as waters be deuided asunder: therefore he called the name of that place, Baal-perazim. ²¹ And there they left their images, and Dauid and his men burnt them. ²² Againe the Philistims came vp, and spred themselues in the valley of Rephaim. ²³ And when Dauid asked counsell of the Lord, hee answered, Thou shalt not goe vp, but turne about behinde them, and come vpon them ouer against the mulberie trees. ²⁴ And when thou hearest the noyse of one going in the toppes of the mulberie trees, then remoue: for then shall the Lord goe out before thee, to smite the hoste of the Philistims. ²⁵ Then Dauid did so as the Lord had commanded him, and smote the Philistims from Geba, vntil thou come to Gazer.

6

¹ Againe Dauid gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, euen thirtie thousand, ² And Dauid arose and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Iudah to bring vp from thence the Arke of God, whose name is called by the Name of the Lord, of hostes, that dwelleth vpon it betweene the Cherubims. ³ And they put the Arke of God vpon a newe cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah. And Vzzah and Ahio the sonnes of Abinadab did driue the newe carte. ⁴ And when they brought the Arke of God out of the house of Abinadab, that was at Gibeah, Ahio went before the Arke, ⁵ And Dauid and al the house of Israel played before the Lord on all instruments made of firre, and on harpes, and on Psalteries, and on

timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals. ⁶ And when they came to Nachons threshing floore, Vzzah put his hande to the Arke of God, and helde it: for the oxen did shake it. ⁷ And the Lord was verie wroth with Vzzah, and God smote him in the same place for his fault, and there he dyed by the Arke of God. ⁸ And Dauid was displeased, because the Lord had smitten Vzzah: and he called the name of the place Perez Vzzah vntill this day. ⁹ Therefore Dauid that day feared the Lord, and sayd, How shall the Arke of the Lord come to mee? ¹⁰ So Dauid would not bring the Arke of the Lord vnto him into the citie of Dauid, but Dauid caried it into ye house of Obed-edom a Gittite. ¹¹ And the Arke of the Lord continued in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite, three moneths, and the Lord blessed Obed-edom, and all his houshold. ¹² And one told King Dauid, saying, The Lord hath blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that hee hath, because of the Arke of God: therefore Dauid went and brought the Arke of God from the house of Obed-edom, into the citie of Dauid with gladnesse. ¹³ And when they that bare the Arke of the Lord had gone sixe paces, he offred an oxe, and a fatte beast. ¹⁴ And Dauid danced before the Lord with al his might, and was girded with a linnen Ephod. ¹⁵ So Dauid and all the house of Israel, brought the Arke of the Lord with shouting, and sound of trumpet. ¹⁶ And as the Arke of the Lord came into the citie of Dauid, Michal Sauls daughter looked through a windowe, and sawe King Dauid leape, and dance before the Lord, and shee despised him in

her heart. ¹⁷ And when they had brought in the Arke of the Lord, they set it in his place, in the mids of the tabernacle that Dauid had pitched for it: then Dauid offred burnt offrings, and peace offrings before the Lord. ¹⁸ And assoone as Dauid had made an ende of offring burnt offrings and peace offrings, hee blessed the people in the Name of the Lord of hostes, ¹⁹ And gaue among all the people, euen among the whole multitude of Israel, aswel to the women as men, to euerie one a cake of bread, and a piece of flesh, and a bottell of wine: so all the people departed euerie one to his house. ²⁰ The Dauid returned to blesse his house, and Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meete Dauid, and sayde, O howe glorious was the King of Israel this day, which was vncoverd to day in the eyes of the maidens of his seruantes, as a foole vncovereth himselfe. ²¹ Then Dauid sayd vnto Michal, It was before the Lord, which chose me rather then thy father, and all his house, and commanded me to bee ruler ouer the people of the Lord, euen ouer Israel: and therefore will I play before the Lord, ²² And will yet be more vile then thus, and will be low in mine owne sight, and of the verie same maidseruants, which thou hast spoken of, shall I be had in honour. ²³ Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no childe vnto the day of her death.

7

¹ Afterwarde when the King sate in his house and the Lord had giuen him rest rounde about

from all his enemies, ² The King saide vnto Nathan the Prophet, Beholde, nowe I dwel in an house of cedar trees, and the Arke of God remayneth within the curtaines. ³ Then Nathan sayde vnto the King, Go, and doe all that is in thine heart: for the Lord is with thee. ⁴ And the same night the worde of the Lord came vnto Nathan, saying, ⁵ Goe and tell my seruant Dauid, Thus saieth the Lord, Shalt thou buylde me an house for my dwelling? ⁶ For I haue dwelt in no house since the time that I brought the children of Israel out of Egypt vnto this day, but haue walked in a tent and tabernacle. ⁷ In al the places wherein I haue walked with all the children of Israel, spake I one worde with any of the tribes of Israel when I commanded the iudges to feede my people Israel? or sayde I, Why build ye not me an house of cedar trees? ⁸ Nowe therefore so say vnto my seruant Dauid, Thus saieth the Lord of hostes, I tooke thee from the sheepcote following the sheepe, that thou mightest bee ruler ouer my people, ouer Israel. ⁹ And I was with thee wheresoeuer thou hast walked, and haue destroyed all thine enemies out of thy sight, and haue made thee a great name, like vnto the name of the great men that are in the earth. ¹⁰ (Also I will appoynt a place for my people Israel, and will plant it, that they may dwell in a place of their owne, and moue no more, neither shall wicked people trouble them any more as before time, ¹¹ And since the time that I set Iudges ouer my people of Israel) and I will giue thee rest from al thine enemies: also

the Lord telleth thee, that he will make thee an house. ¹² And when thy daies bee fulfilled, thou shalt sleepe with thy fathers, and I wil set vp thy seede after thee, which shall proceede out of thy body, and will stablish his kingdome. ¹³ He shall buyld an house for my Name, and I will stablish ye throne of his kingdome for euer. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and hee shall bee my sonne: and if he sinne, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the plagues of the children of men. ¹⁵ But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I tooke it from Saul whome I haue put away before thee. ¹⁶ And thine house shall be stablished and thy kingdome for euer before thee, euen thy throne shalbe stablished for euer. ¹⁷ According to all these wordes, and according to all this vision, Nathan spake thus vnto Dauid. ¹⁸ Then King Dauid went in, and sate before the Lord, and sayde, Who am I, O Lord God, and what is mine house, that thou hast brought me hitherto? ¹⁹ And this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord God, therefore thou hast spoken also of thy seruants house for a great while: but doth this appertaine to man, O Lord God? ²⁰ And what can Dauid say more vnto thee? for thou, Lord God, knowest thy seruant. ²¹ For thy words sake, and according to thine owne heart hast thou done all these great things, to make them knowen vnto thy seruant. ²² Wherefore thou art great, O Lord God: for there is none like thee, neither is there any God besides thee, according to all that wee haue heard with our eares. ²³ And what one people in the earth is like thy people,

like Israel? whose God went and redeemed them to himselfe, that they might be his people, and that hee might make him a name, and do for you great things, and terrible for thy land, O Lord, euen for thy people, whome thou redeemedst to thee out of Egypt, from the nations, and their gods? ²⁴ For thou hast ordeyned to thy selfe thy people Israel to be thy people for euer: and thou Lord art become their God. ²⁵ Nowe therefore, O Lord God, confirme for euer the word that thou hast spoken concerning thy seruant and his house, and doe as thou hast sayde. ²⁶ And let thy Name bee magnified for euer by them that shall say, The Lord of hostes is the God ouer Israel: and let the house of thy seruant Dauid be stablished before thee. ²⁷ For thou, O Lord of hostes, God of Israel, hast reueiled vnto thy seruant, saying, I will build thee an house: therefore hath thy seruant bene bold to pray this prayer vnto thee. ²⁸ Therefore now, O Lord God, (for thou art God, and thy words be true, and thou hast tolde this goodnes vnto thy seruant) ²⁹ Therefore nowe let it please thee to blesse the house of thy seruant, that it may continue for euer before thee: for thou, O Lord God, hast spoken it: and let the house of thy seruant be blessed for euer, with thy blessing.

8

¹ After this now, Dauid smote the Philistims, and subdued them, and Dauid tooke the bridle of bondage out of the hand of the Philistims.

² And hee smote Moab, and measured them

with a corde, and cast them downe to the ground: he measured them with two cordes to put them to death, and with one full corde to keepe them aliue: so became the Moabites Dauids seruants, and brought giftes. ³ Dauid smote also Hadadezer the sonne of Rehob King of Zobah, as he went to recouer his border at the riuier Euphrates. ⁴ And Dauid tooke of them a thousand and seuen hundreth horsemen, and twenty thousande footemen, and Dauid destroyed all the charets, but he reserued an hundreth charets of them. ⁵ Then came the Aramites of Dammesek to succour Hadadezer king of Zobah, but Dauid slewe of the Aramites two and twenty thousande men. ⁶ And Dauid put a garison in Aram of Damesek: and the Aramites became seruants to Dauid, and brought gifts. And the Lord saued Dauid wheresoeuer he went. ⁷ And Dauid tooke the shieldes of gold that beloged to the seruants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Ierusalem. ⁸ And out of Betah, and Berothai (cities of Hadadezer) king Dauid brought exceeding much brasse. ⁹ Then Toi king of Hamath heard howe Dauid had smitten all the hoste of Hadadezer, ¹⁰ Therefore Toi sent Ioram his sonne vnto King Dauid, to salute him, and to reioyce with him because he had fought against Hadadezer, and beaten him (for Hadadezer had warre with Toi) who brought with him vessels of siluer, and vessels of golde, and vessels of brasse. ¹¹ And King Dauid did dedicate them vnto the Lord with the siluer and golde that he had dedicate of all the nations, which he had

subdued: ¹² Of Aram, and of Moab, and of the children of Ammon, and of the Philistims, and of Amalek, and of the spoyle of Hadadezer ye sonne of Rehob King of Zobah. ¹³ So Dauid gate a name after that hee returned, and had slayne of the Aramites in the valley of salt eightene thousand men. ¹⁴ And he put a garison in Edom: throughout all Edom put he souldiers, and all they of Edom became Dauids seruants: and the Lord kept Dauid whithersoever he went. ¹⁵ Thus Dauid reigned ouer all Israel, and executed iudgement and iustice vnto all his people. ¹⁶ And Ioab the sonne of Zeruiah was ouer the hoste, and Ioshaphat the sonne of Ahilud was recorder. ¹⁷ And Zadok the sonne of Ahitub, and Ahimelech the sonne of Abiathar were the Priestes, and Seraiah the Scribe. ¹⁸ And Benaiah the sonne of Iehoiada and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, and Dauids sonnes were chiefe rulers.

9

¹ And Dauid sayde, Is there yet any man left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him mercie for Ionathans sake? ² And there was of the housholde of Saul a seruant whose name was Ziba, and when they had called him vnto Dauid, the King sayd vnto him, Art thou Ziba? And he sayd, I thy seruant am he. ³ Then the King sayd, Remayneth there yet none of the house of Saul, on whome I may shewe the mercie of God? Ziba then answered the King, Ionathan hath yet a sonne lame of his feete. ⁴ Then the King said vnto him, Where is he? And Ziba said vnto the King, Behold, he is in the house of Machir

ye sonne of Ammiel of Lo-debar. ⁵ Then King Daid sent, and tooke him out of the house of Machir the sonne of Ammiel of Lo-debar. ⁶ Nowe when Mephibosheth the sonne of Ionathan, the sonne of Saul was come vnto Daid, he fel on his face, and did reuerence. And Daid sayde, Mephibosheth? And he answered, Beholde thy seruant. ⁷ Then Daid sayd vnto him, Feare not: for I wil surely shewe thee kindnes for Ionathan thy fathers sake, and will restore thee all the fieldes of Saul thy father, and thou shalt eate bread at my table continually. ⁸ And he bowed himselfe and sayd, What is thy seruant, that thou shouldest looke vpon such a dead dog as I am? ⁹ Then the king called Ziba Sauls seruant, and said vnto him, I haue giue vnto thy masters sonne all that pertained to Saul and to all his house. ¹⁰ Thou therefore and thy sonnes and thy seruantes shall till the lande for him, and bring in that thy masters sonne may haue foode to eate. And Mephibosheth thy masters sonne shall eate bread alway at my table (nowe Ziba had fifteene sonnes, and twentie seruants) ¹¹ Then sayd Ziba vnto the King, According to all that my lord the King hath commaded his seruant, so shall thy seruat do, that Mephibosheth may eate at my table, as one of the Kings sonnes. ¹² Mephibosheth also had a yong sonne named Micha, and all that dwelled in the house of Ziba, were seruants vnto Mephibosheth. ¹³ And Mephibosheth dwelt in Ierusalem: for he did eate continually at the Kings table, and was lame on both his feete.

10

¹ After this, the King of the children of Ammon dyed, and Hanun his sonne reigned in his steade. ² Then sayde Dauid, I will shewe kindnesse vnto Hanun the sonne of Nahash, as his father shewed kindnesse vnto me. And Dauid sent his seruantes to comfort him for his father. So Dauids seruants came into the lande of the children of Ammon. ³ And the princes of the children of Ammon sayde vnto Hanun their lorde, Thinkest thou that Dauid doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters to thee? hath not Dauid rather sent his seruants vnto thee, to search the citie, and to spie it out, and to ouerthrow it? ⁴ Wherefore Hanun tooke Dauids seruants, and shaued off the halfe of their beard, and cut off their garments in the middle, euen to their buttockes, and sent them away. ⁵ When it was told vnto Dauid, he sent to meete them (for the men were exceedingly ashamed) and the King sayde, Tary at Iericho, vntill your beards be growen, then returne. ⁶ And when the children of Ammon sawe that they stanke in the sight of Dauid, the children of Ammon sent and hired the Aramites of the house of Rehob, and the Aramites of Zoba, twentie thousande footemen, and of King Maacah a thousand men, and of Ish-tob twelue thousande men. ⁷ And when Dauid heard of it, he sent Ioab, and all the hoste of the strong men. ⁸ And the children of Ammon came out, and put their armie in araye at the entring in of the gate: and the Aramites of Zoba, and of Rehob, and of Ish-tob, and of Maacah were by themselues in the fiede. ⁹ When Ioab

saw that the front of the battel was against him before and behinde, he chose of all the choise of Israel, and put them in aray against the Aramites. ¹⁰ And the rest of the people hee deliuered into the hande of Abishai his brother, that hee might put them in aray against the children of Ammon. ¹¹ And he sayde, If the Aramites be stronger then I, thou shalt helpe me, and if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, I will come and succour thee. ¹² Be strong and let vs be valiant for our people, and for the cities of our God, and let the Lord do that which is good in his eyes. ¹³ Then Ioab, and the people that was with him, ioyned in battel with the Aramites, who fled before him. ¹⁴ And when the children of Ammon sawe that the Aramites fled, they fled also before Abishai, and entred into the citie. so Ioab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Ierusalem. ¹⁵ And when the Aramites sawe that they were smitten before Israel, they gathered them together. ¹⁶ And Hadarezer sent, and brought out the Aramites that were beyond the Riuer: and they came to Helam, and Shobach the captaine of the hoste of Hadarezer went before them. ¹⁷ When it was shewed Dauid, then he gathered all Israel together, and passed ouer Iorden and came to Helam: and the Aramites set themselues in aray against Dauid, and fought with him: ¹⁸ And the Aramites fled before Israel: and Dauid destroyed seuen hundreth charets of the Aramites, and fourtie thousande horsemen, and smote Shobach the captaine of his hoste, who dyed there. ¹⁹ And when all the Kings, that

were seruants to Hadarezer; saw that they fell before Israel, they made peace with Israel, and serued them. and the Aramites feared to helpe the children of Ammon any more.

11

¹ And when the yeere was expired in the time when Kinges goe forth to battell, Dauid sent Ioab, and his seruantes with him, and all Israel, who destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah: but Dauid remayned in Ierusalem. ² And when it was euening tide, Dauid arose out of his bed, and walked vpon the roofe of the Kings palace: and from the roofe he sawe a woman washing her selfe: and the woman was very beautifull to looke vpon. ³ And Dauid sent and inquired what woman it was: and one sayde, Is not this Bath-sheba the daughter of Eliam, wife to Vriah the Hittite? ⁴ Then Dauid sent messengers, and tooke her away: and she came vnto him and he lay with her: (now she was purified from her vncleannes) and she returned vnto her house. ⁵ And the woman conceiued: therefore shee sent and tolde Dauid, and sayd, I am with childe. ⁶ Then Dauid sent to Ioab, saying, Send me Vriah the Hittite. And Ioab sent Vriah to Dauid. ⁷ And when Vriah came vnto him, Dauid demanded him how Ioab did, and howe the people fared, and how the warre prospered. ⁸ Afterward Dauid said to Vriah, Go downe to thine house, and wash thy feete. So Vriah departed out of the Kings palace, and the king sent a present after him. ⁹ But Vriah

slept at the doore of the Kings palace with all the seruants of his lord, and went not downe to his house. ¹⁰ Then they tolde Dauid, saying, Vriah went not downe to his house: and Dauid saide vnto Vriah, Comest thou not from thy iourney? why didst thou not go downe to thine house? ¹¹ Then Vriah answered Dauid, The Arke and Israel, and Iudah dwell in tents: and my lord Ioab and the seruants of my lord abide in the open fields: shall I then go into mine house to eat and drinke, and lie with my wife? by thy life, and by the life of thy soule, I will not do this thing. ¹² Then Dauid sayd vnto Vriah, Tary yet this day, and to morow I will send thee away. So Vriah abode in Ierusalem that day, and the morowe. ¹³ Then Dauid called him, and hee did eat and drinke before him, and he made him drunke: and at euen he went out to lie on his couch with the seruants of his Lord, but went not downe to his house. ¹⁴ And on the morowe Dauid wrote a letter to Ioab, and sent it by the hand of Vriah. ¹⁵ And he wrote thus in the letter, Put ye Vriah in the forefront of the strength of the battell, and recule ye backe from him, that he may be smitten, and die. ¹⁶ So when Ioab besieged the citie, he assigned Vriah vnto a place, where he knewe that strong men were. ¹⁷ And the men of the citie came out, and fought with Ioab: and there fell of the people of the seruants of Dauid, and Vriah the Hittite also dyed. ¹⁸ Then Ioab sent and tolde Dauid all the things concerning the warre, ¹⁹ And he charged the messenger, saying, When thou hast made an

ende of telling all the matters of the warre vnto the King, ²⁰ And if the kings anger arise, so that he say vnto thee, Wherefore approached ye vnto the citie to fight? knewe ye not that they would hurle from the wall? ²¹ Who smote Abimelech sonne of Ierubesheth? did not a woman cast a piece of a milstone vpon him from the wall, and he died in Thebez? why went you nie the wall? Then say thou, Thy seruant Vriah the Hittite is also dead. ²² So the messenger went, and came and shewed Dauid all that Ioab had sent him for. ²³ And the messenger said vnto Dauid, Certainly the men preuailed against vs, and came out vnto vs into the field, but we pursued them vnto the entring of the gate. ²⁴ But the shooters shot from ye wall against thy seruants, and some of the Kings seruants be dead: and thy seruant Vriah the Hittite is also dead. ²⁵ Then Dauid said vnto the messenger, Thus shalt thou say vnto Ioab, Let not this thing trouble thee: for the sworde deuoureth one as well as another: make thy battell more strong against the citie and destroy it, and encourage thou him. ²⁶ And when the wife of Vriah heard that her husband Vriah was dead, she mourned for her husband. ²⁷ So when the mourning was past, Dauid sent and tooke her into his house, and shee became his wife, and bare him a sonne: but ye thing that Dauid had done, displeased the Lord.

12

¹ Then the Lord sent Nathan vnto Dauid, who came to him, and sayd vnto him, There were two men in one citie, the one riche, and the

other poore. ² The rich man had exceeding many sheepe and oxen: ³ But the poore had none at all, saue one litle sheepe which he had bought, and nourished vp: and it grew vp with him, and with his children also, and did eate of his owne morsels, and dranke of his owne cup, and slept in his bosome, and was vnto him as his daughter. ⁴ Now there came a stranger vnto the rich man, who refused to take of his owne sheepe, and of his owne oxen to dresse for the stranger that was come vnto him, but tooke the poore mans sheepe, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. ⁵ Then Dauid was exceeding wroth with the man, and sayde to Nathan, As the Lord liueth, the man that hath done this thing, shall surely dye, ⁶ And he shall restore the lambe foure folde, because he did this thing, and had no pitie thereof. ⁷ Then Nathan sayd to Dauid, Thou art the man. Thus sayth the Lord God of Israel, I anoynted thee King ouer Israel, and deliuered thee out of the hand of Saul, ⁸ And gaue thee thy lordes house, and thy lords wiues into thy bosome, and gaue thee the house of Israel, and of Iudah, and would moreouer (if that had bene too litle) haue giuen thee such and such things. ⁹ Wherefore hast thou despised the commandement of the Lord, to doe euill in his sight? thou hast killed Vriah the Hittite with ye sworde, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slaine him with the sworde of the children of Ammon. ¹⁰ Now therefore the sworde shall neuer depart from thine house, because thou hast despised me, and taken the wife of Vriah the Hittite to be thy wife.

11 Thus sayth the Lord, Behold, I will rayse vp euil against thee out of thine owne house, and will take thy wiues before thine eyes, and giue them vnto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wiues in the sight of this sunne. 12 For thou diddest it secretly: but I will doe this thing before all Israel, and before the sunne. 13 Then Dauid sayde vnto Nathan, I haue sinned against the Lord. And Nathan sayde vnto Dauid, The Lord also hath put away thy sinne, thou shalt not die. 14 Howbeit because by this deede thou hast caused the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the childe that is borne vnto thee shall surely die. 15 So Nathan departed vnto his house: and the Lord stroke the childe that Vriahs wife bare vnto Dauid, and it was sicke. 16 Dauid therefore besought God for the childe, and fasted and went in, and lay all night vpon the earth. 17 Then the Elders of his house arose to come vnto him, and to cause him to rise from the groud: but he would not, neither did he eate meate with them. 18 So on the seuenth day the child dyed: and the seruants of Dauid feared to tell him that the childe was dead: for they sayde, Beholde, while the childe was aliuie, we spake vnto him, and he woulde not hearken vnto our voyce: how then shall we say vnto him, The childe is dead, to vexe him more? 19 But when Dauid sawe that his seruantes whispered, Dauid perceiued that the childe was dead: therefore Dauid sayde vnto his seruants, Is the childe dead? And they sayd, He is dead. 20 Then Dauid arose from the earth, and washed and anoynted himselfe, and

changed his apparell, and came into the house of the Lord, and worshipped, and afterward came to his owne house, and bade that they should set bread before him, and he did eate. ²¹ Then saide his seruants vnto him, What thing is this, that thou hast done? thou diddest fast and weepe for the childe while it was aliue, but when the childe was dead, thou diddest rise vp, and eate meate. ²² And he sayde, While the childe was yet aliue, I fasted, and wept: for I sayde, Who can tell whether God will haue mercy on me, that the childe may liue? ²³ But now being dead, wherefore shoulde I now fast? Can I bring him againe any more? I shall goe to him, but he shall not returne to me. ²⁴ And Dauid comforted Bath-sheba his wife, and went in vnto her, and lay with her, and she bare a sonne, and he called his name Salomon: also the Lord loued him. ²⁵ For the Lord had sent by Nathan the Prophet: therefore he called his name Iedidiah, because the Lord loued him. ²⁶ Then Ioab fought against Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and tooke the citie of the kingdome. ²⁷ Therefore Ioab sent messengers to Dauid, saying, I haue fought against Rabbah, and haue taken the citie of waters. ²⁸ Now therefore gather the rest of the people together, and besiege the city, that thou mayest take it, lest the victorie be attributed to me. ²⁹ So Dauid gathered al the people together, and went against Rabbah, and besieged it, and tooke it. ³⁰ And he tooke their Kings crowne from his head, (which weighed a talent of golde, with precious stones) and it was set on Dauids

head: and he brought away the spoyle of the citie in exceeding great abundance. ³¹ And he carryed away the people that was therein, and put them vnder sawes, and vnder yron harowes, and vnder axes of yron, and cast them into the tyle kylne: euen thus did he with all the cities of the children of Ammon. Then Dauid and all the people returned vnto Ierusalem.

13

¹ Now after this so it was, that Absalom the sonne of Dauid hauing a fayre sister, whose name was Tamar, Amnon the sonne of Dauid loued her. ² And Amnon was so sore vexed, that he fell sicke for his sister Tamar: for she was a virgin, and it seemed hard to Amnon to doe any thing to her. ³ But Amnon had a friend called Ionadab, the sonne of Shimeah Dauids brother: and Ionadab was a very subtile man. ⁴ Who sayde vnto him, Why art thou the Kings sonne so leane from day to day? wilt thou not tell me? Then Amnon answered him, I loue Tamar my brother Absaloms sister. ⁵ And Ionadab sayd vnto him, Lie downe on thy bed, and make thy selfe sicke: and when thy father shall come to see thee, say vnto him, I pray thee, let my sister Tamar come, and giue me meate, and let her dresse meate in my sight, that I may see it, and eate it of her hand. ⁶ So Amnon lay downe, and made himselfe sicke: and when the King came to see him, Amnon sayde vnto the King, I pray thee, let Tamar my sister come, and make me a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may receiue meate

at her hand. ⁷ Then Daud sent home to Tamar, saying, Goe now to thy brother Amnons house, and dresse him meate. ⁸ So Tamar went to her brother Amnons house, and he lay downe: and she tooke floure, and knead it, and made cakes in his sight, and did bake the cakes. ⁹ And she tooke a pan, and powred them out before him, but he would not eat. Then Amnon saide, Cause ye euery man to goe out from me: so euery man went out from him. ¹⁰ Then Amnon said vnto Tamar, Bring the meate into the chamber, that I may eate of thine hand. And Tamar tooke the cakes which shee had made, and brought them into the chamber to Amnon her brother. ¹¹ And when she had set them before him to eate, he tooke her, and sayd vnto her, Come, lye with me, my sister. ¹² But shee answered him, Nay, my brother, doe not force me: for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: commit not this follie. ¹³ And I, whither shall I cause my shame to goe? and thou shalt be as one of the fooles in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, speake to the King, for he will not denie me vnto thee. ¹⁴ Howbeit he would not hearken vnto her voyce, but being stronger then she, forced her, and lay with her. ¹⁵ Then Amnon hated her exceedingly, so that the hatred wherewith he hated her, was greater then the loue, wherewith hee had loued her: and Amnon sayde vnto her, Vp, get thee hence. ¹⁶ And she answered him, There is no cause: this euill (to put mee away) is greater then the other that thou diddest vnto me: but he would not heare her, ¹⁷ But called his seruant that serued him, and sayd, Put this woman now out from

me, and locke the doore after her. ¹⁸ (And she had a garment of diuers coulours vpon her: for with such garments were the Kings daughters that were virgins, apparelled) Then his seruant brought her out, and locked the doore after her. ¹⁹ And Tamar put ashes on her head and rent the garment of diuers colours which was on her, and layde her hand on her head, and went her way crying. ²⁰ And Absalom her brother sayd vnto her, Hath Amnon thy brother bene with thee? Now yet be still, my sister: he is thy brother: let not this thing grieue thine heart. So Tamar remayned desolate in her brother Absaloms house. ²¹ But when King Dauid heard all these things, he was very wroth. ²² And Absalom sayde vnto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad: for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar. ²³ And after the time of two yeeres, Absalom had sheepshepers in Baalhazor, which is beside Ephraim, and Absalom called all the Kings sonnes. ²⁴ And Absalom came to the King and sayd, Beholde now, thy seruant hath sheepshepers: I pray thee, that the King with his seruants would goe with thy seruant. ²⁵ But the King answered Absalom, Nay my sonne, I pray thee, let vs not goe all, lest we be chargeable vnto thee. Yet Absalom lay sore vpon him: howbeit he would not go, but thanked him. ²⁶ Then sayd Absalom, But, I pray thee, shall not my brother Amnon goe with vs? And the king answered him, Why should he go with thee? ²⁷ But Absalom was instant vpon him, and he sent Amnon with him, and all the Kings

children. ²⁸ Now had Absalom commanded his seruants, saying, Marke now when Amnons heart is merry with wine, and when I say vnto you, Smite Amnon, kill him, feare not, for haue not I commanded you? be bold therefore, and play the men. ²⁹ And the seruantes of Absalom did vnto Amnon, as Absalom had commanded: and al the Kings sonnes arose, and euery man gate him vp vpon his mule, and fled. ³⁰ And while they were in the way, tydings came to Dauid, saying, Absalom hath slaine al the Kings sonnes, and there is not one of them left. ³¹ Then the King arose, and tare his garments, and lay on the ground, and all his seruants stode by with their clothes rent. ³² And Ionadab the sonne of Shimeah Dauids brother answered and sayde, Let not my lord suppose that they haue slayne all the yong men the Kings sonnes: for Amnon onely is dead, because Absalom had reported so, since hee forced his sister Tamar. ³³ Nowe therefore let not my lord the King take the thing so grievously, to thinke that all ye Kings sonnes are dead: for Amnon only is dead. ³⁴ Then Absalom fled: and the yong man that kept the watch, lift vp his eyes, and looked, and behold, there came much people by the way of the hill side behinde him. ³⁵ And Ionadab said vnto the King, Behold, ye Kings sonnes come: as thy seruant sayd, so it is. ³⁶ And assoone as hee had left speaking, behold, the Kings sonnes came, and lift vp their voyces, and wept: and the King also and all his seruants wept exceedingly sore. ³⁷ But Absalom fled away, and went to Talmi the sonne of Ammihur King of

Geshur: and Dauid mourned for his sonne euery day. ³⁸ So Absalom fled, and went to Geshur, and was there three yeeres. ³⁹ And King Dauid desired to go forth vnto Absalom, because he was pacified concerning Amnon, seeing he was dead.

14

¹ Then Ioab the sonne of Zeruah perceyued, that the Kings heart was toward Absalom, ² And Ioab sent to Tekoah, and brought thence a subtile woman, and sayd vnto her, I pray thee, fayne thy selfe to mourne, and nowe put on mourning apparel, and anoynt not thy selfe with oyle: but be as a woman that had now long time mourned for the dead. ³ And come to the King, and speake on this maner vnto him, (for Ioab taught her what she should say). ⁴ Then the woman of Tekoah spake vnto the king, and fel downe on her face to the ground, and did obeysance, and sayd, Helpe, O King. ⁵ Then the King sayd vnto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, I am in deede a widow, and mine husband is dead: ⁶ And thine handmayd had two sonnes, and they two stroue together in the field: (and there was none to part them) so the one smote the other, and slew him. ⁷ And beholde, the whole familie is risen against thine handmayde, and they sayde, Deliuer him that smote his brother, that we may kill him for the soule of his brother whome hee slewe, that we may destroy the heire also: so they shall quenche my sparkle which is left, and shall not leaue to mine husband neither name nor posteritie vpon the earth. ⁸ And the King said

vnto the woman, Go to thine house, and I wil giue a charge for thee. ⁹ Then the woman of Tekoah said vnto the King, My lord, O King, this trespass be on me, and on my fathers house, and the King and his throne be giltlesse. ¹⁰ And the King sayde, Bring him to me that speaketh against thee, and he shall touche thee no more. ¹¹ Then said she, I pray thee, let the King remember the Lord thy God, that thou wouldest not suffer many reuengers of blood to destroy, lest they slay my sonne. And he answered, As the Lord liueth, there shall not one heare of thy sonne fall to the earth. ¹² Then the woman said, I pray thee, let thine handmayde speake a worde to my lord the King. And he sayd, Say on. ¹³ Then the woman sayde, Wherefore then hast thou thought such a thing against the people of God? or why doeth the King, as one which is faultie, speake this thing, that he will not bring againe his banished? ¹⁴ For we must needes dye, and we are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered vp againe: neither doeth God spare any person, yet doeth he appoynt meanes, not to cast out from him, him that is expelled. ¹⁵ Nowe therefore that I am come to speake of this thing vnto my lord the King, the cause is that the people haue made me afraid: therefore thine handmayde sayd, Nowe will I speake vnto the King: it may be that the King will perfourme the request of his handmayde. ¹⁶ For the King wil heare, to deliuer his handmayde out of the hande of the man that woulde destroy mee, and also my sonne from the inheritance of God. ¹⁷ Therefore thine

handmaid sayd, The word of my lord the King shall now be comfortable: for my lorde the King is euen as an Angel of God in hearing of good and bad: therefore the Lord thy God be with thee. ¹⁸ Then the King answered, and said vnto the woman, Hide not from me, I pray thee, the thing that I shall aske thee. And the woman sayde, Let my lord the King now speake. ¹⁹ And the King said, Is not the hand of Ioab with thee in all this? Then the woman answered, and sayd, As thy soule liueth, my lord the King, I will not turne to the right hande nor to the left, from ought that my lorde the King hath spoken: for euen thy seruant Ioab bade mee, and he put all these wordes in the mouth of thine handmayde. ²⁰ For to the intent that I should chage the forme of speach, thy seruant Ioab hath done this thing: but my lord is wise according to the wisdome of an Angel of God to vnderstande all things that are in the earth. ²¹ And the King sayde vnto Ioab, Beholde nowe, I haue done this thing: go then, and bring the yong man Absalom againe. ²² And Ioab fell to the grounde on his face, and bowed himselfe, and thanked the King. Then Ioab sayde, This day thy seruant knoweth, that I haue found grace in thy sight, my lord the King, in that the King hath fulfilled the request of his seruant. ²³ And Ioab arose, and went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Ierusalem. ²⁴ And the King sayde, Let him turne to his owne house, and not see my face. So Absalom turned to his owne house, and saw not the Kings face.

²⁵ Nowe in all Israel there was none to be so much praysed for beautie as Absalom: from the sole of his foote euen to the toppe of his head there was no blemish in him. ²⁶ And when he polled his head, (for at euey yeeres ende he polled it: because it was too heauie for him, therefore he polled it) he weyghed the heare of his head at two hundreth shekels by the Kings weight. ²⁷ And Absalom had three sonnes, and one daughter named Tamar, which was a fayre woman to looke vpon. ²⁸ So Absalom dwelt the space of two yeres in Ierusalem, and saw not the Kings face. ²⁹ Therefore Absalom sent for Ioab to sende him to the King, but he would not come to him: and when he sent againe, he would not come. ³⁰ Therefore he sayde vnto his seruants, Beholde, Ioab hath a felde by my place, and hath barley therein: go, and set it on fire: and Absaloms seruants set the field on fire. ³¹ Then Ioab arose, and came to Absalom vnto his house, and sayd vnto him, Wherefore haue thy seruants burnt my field with fire? ³² And Absalom answered Ioab, Beholde, I sent for thee, saying, Come thou hither, and I wil send thee to the King for to say, Wherefore am I come from Geshur? It had bene better for me to haue bene there still: nowe therefore let mee see the Kings face: and if there be any trespasse in me, let him kill me. ³³ Then Ioab came to the King, and told him: and he called for Absalom, who came to the King, and bowed himselfe to the grounde on his face before the King, and the King kissed Absalom.

15

¹ After this, Absalom prepared him charets and horses, and fiftie men to runne before him. ² And Absalom rose vp early, and stode hard by the entring in of the gate: and euery man that had any matter, and came to the King for iudgement, him did Absalom call vnto him, and sayde, Of what citie art thou? And he answered, Thy seruant is of one of the tribes of Israel. ³ Then Absalom said vnto him, See, thy matters are good and righteous, but there is no man deputed of the King to heare thee. ⁴ Absalom sayd moreouer, Oh that I were made Iudge in the lande, that euery man which hath any matter of controuersie, might come to me, that I might do him iustice. ⁵ And when any man came neere to him, and did him obeisance, he put forth his hand, and tooke him, and kissed him. ⁶ And on this maner did Absalom to al Israel, that came to the King for iudgement: so Absalom stale the hearts of the men of Israel. ⁷ And after fourtie yeeres, Absalom sayd vnto the King, I pray thee, let me go to Hebron, and render my vowe which I haue vowed vnto the Lord. ⁸ For thy seruant vowed a vowe when I remayned at Geshur, in Aram, saying, If the Lord shall bring me againe in deede to Ierusalem, I will serue the Lord. ⁹ And the King sayd vnto him, Go in peace. So he arose, and went to Hebron. ¹⁰ Then Absalom sent spyes throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, When yee heare the sound of the trumpet, Ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron. ¹¹ And with Absalom went two hundreth men out of

Ierusalem, that were called: and they went in their simplicitie, knowing nothing. ¹² Also Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite Dauids counseller, from his citie Giloh, while he offred sacrifices: and the treason was great: for the people encreased still with Absalom. ¹³ Then came a messenger to Dauid, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are turned after Absalom. ¹⁴ Then Dauid sayd vnto all his seruants that were with him at Ierusalem, Vp, and let vs flee: for we shall not escape from Absalom: make speede to depart, lest he come suddenly and take vs, and bring euill vpon vs, and smite the citie with the edge of the sworde. ¹⁵ And the Kings seruants sayd vnto him, Behold, thy seruants are ready to do according to all that my lord the King shall appoynt. ¹⁶ So the King departed and all his houshold after him, and the King left ten concubines to keepe the house. ¹⁷ And the King went forth and all the people after him, and taried in a place farre off. ¹⁸ And all his seruants went about him, and all the Cherethites and all the Pelethites and all the Gittites, euen sixe hudreth men which were come after him from Gath, went before the King. ¹⁹ Then sayde the King to Ittai the Gittite, Wherefore comdest thou also with vs? Returne aud abide with the King, for thou art a stranger: depart thou therefore to thy place. ²⁰ Thou camest yesterday, and should I cause thee to wander to day and go with vs? I will goe whither I can: therefore returne thou and cary againe thy brethren: mercy and trueth be with thee. ²¹ And Ittai answered the

King, and sayde, As the Lord liueth, and as my lord the King liueth, in what place my lord the King shalbe, whether in death or life, euen there surely will thy seruant bee. ²² Then Dauid sayd to Ittai, Come, and go forward. And Ittai the Gittite went, and all his men, and all the children that were with him. ²³ And all the countrey wept with a loude voyce, and all the people went forward, but the King passed ouer the brooke Kidron: and all the people went ouer toward the way of ye wildernes. ²⁴ And lo, Zadok also was there, and all the Leuites with him, bearing the Arke of the couenant of God: and they set downe the Arke of God, and Abiathar went vp vntill the people were all come out of the citie. ²⁵ Then the King said vnto Zadok, Carie the Arke of God againe into the citie: if I shall finde fauour in the eyes of the Lord, he will bring me againe, and shewe me both it, and the Tabernacle thereof. ²⁶ But if he thus say, I haue no delite in thee, behold, here am I, let him doe to me as seemeth good in his eyes. ²⁷ The King sayde againe vnto Zadok the Priest, Art not thou a Seer? returne into the citie in peace, and your two sonnes with you: to wit, Ahimaaz thy sonne, and Ionathan the sonne of Abiathar. ²⁸ Behold, I wil tarie in the fieldes of the wilderness, vntill there come some worde from you to be tolde me. ²⁹ Zadok therefore and Abiathar caried the Arke of God againe to Ierusalem, and they taried there. ³⁰ And Dauid went vp the mount of oliues and wept as he went vp, and had his head couered, and went barefooted: and al the

people that was with him, had euery man his head couered, and as they went vp, they wept. ³¹ Then one tolde Dauid, saying, Ahithophel is one of them that haue conspired with Absalom: and Dauid sayde, O Lord, I pray thee, turne the counsell of Ahithophel into foolishnesse. ³² Then Dauid came to the toppe of the mount where he worshipped God: and beholde, Hushai the Archite came against him with his coate torne, and hauing earth vpon his head. ³³ Vnto whom Dauid sayd, If thou goe with me, thou shalt be a burthen vnto me. ³⁴ But if thou returne to the citie, and say vnto Absalom, I will be thy seruant, O King, (as I haue bene in time past thy fathers seruant, so will I now be thy seruant) then thou mayest bring me the counsell of Ahithophel to nought. ³⁵ And hast thou not there with thee Zadok and Abiathar the Priests? therefore what so euer thou shalt heare out of the Kings house, thou shalt shew to Zadok and Abiathar the Priests. ³⁶ Beholde, there are with them their two sonnes: Ahimaaz Zadoks sonne, and Jonathan Abiathars sonne: by them also shall ye send me euery thing that ye can heare. ³⁷ So Hushai Dauids friend went into the citie: and Absalom came into Ierusalem.

16

¹ When Dauid was a little past the top of the hill, behold, Ziba the seruant of Mephibosheth mette him with a couple of asses sadled, and vpon them two hundreth cakes of bread, and an hundreth bunches of raisins, and an hundreth of dryed figges, and a bottel of wine. ² And

the King said vnto Ziba, What meanest thou by these? And Ziba said, They be asses for the kings housholde to ride on, and bread and dried figges for the yong men to eate, and wine, that the faint may drinke in the wilderness. ³ And the king sayde, But where is thy masters sonne? Then Ziba answered the King, Beholde, he remayneth in Ierusalem: for he sayde, This day shall the house of Israel restore me the kingdome of my father. ⁴ Then said the King to Ziba, Behold, thine are all that pertained vnto Mephibosheth. And Ziba saide, I beseech thee, let me finde grace in thy sight, my lord, O King. ⁵ And when king Dauid came to Bahurim, behold, thence came out a man of the familie of the house of Saul, named Shimei the sonne of Gera: and he came out, and cursed. ⁶ And he cast stones at Dauid, and at all the seruants of King Dauid: and all the people, and all the men of warre were on his right hande, and on his left. ⁷ And thus sayde Shimei when hee cursed, Come forth, come foorth thou murthurer, and wicked man. ⁸ The Lord hath brought vpon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned: and the Lord hath deliuered thy kingdome into the hand of Absalom thy sonne: and beholde, thou art taken in thy wickednesse, because thou art a murthurer. ⁹ Then saide Abishai the sonne of Zeruah vnto the King, Why doeth this dead dog curse my lord the King? let me goe, I pray thee, and take away his head. ¹⁰ But the King saide, What haue I to doe with you, ye sonnes of Zeruah? for he curseth, eue because the Lord

hath bidden him curse Daud: who dare then say, Wherefore hast thou done so? ¹¹ And Daud sayd to Abishai, and to all his seruants, Beholde, my sonne which came out of mine owne bowels, seeketh my life: then howe much more now may this sonne of Iemini? Suffer him to curse: for the Lord hath bidden him. ¹² It may be that the Lord will looke on mine affliction, and doe me good for his cursing this day. ¹³ And as Daud and his men went by the way, Shimei went by the side of the mountaine ouer against him, and cursed as he went, and threw stones against him, and cast dust. ¹⁴ Then came the King and all the people that were with him wearie, and refreshed them selues there. ¹⁵ And Absalom, and all the people, the men of Israel, came to Ierusalem, and Ahithophel with him. ¹⁶ And when Hushai the Archite Dauds friend was come vnto Absalom, Hushai said vnto Absalom, God saue the King, God saue the King. ¹⁷ Then Absalom sayd to Hushai, Is this thy kindenes to thy friend? Why wentest thou not with thy friend? ¹⁸ Hushai then answered vnto Absalom, Nay, but whome the Lord, and this people, and all the men of Israel chuse, his will I be, and with him will I dwell. ¹⁹ And moreouer vnto whome shall I doe seruice? not to his sonne? as I serued before thy father, so will I before thee. ²⁰ Then spake Absalom to Ahithophel, Giue counsell what we shall doe. ²¹ And Ahithophel said vnto Absalom, Goe in to thy fathers concubines, which he hath left to keepe the house: and when all Israel shall heare, that thou art abhorred of thy father, the

hands of all that are with thee, shall be strong.
²² So they spread Absalom a tent vpon the top of the house, and Absalom went in to his fathers concubines in the sight of all Israel. ²³ And the counsell of Ahithophel which he counseled in those dayes, was like as one had asked counsell at the oracle of God: so was all the counsel of Ahithophel both with Dauid and with Absalom.

17

¹ Moreouer Ahithophel said to Absalom, Let me chuse out now twelue thousand men, and I will vp and follow after Dauid this night, ² And I will come vpon him: for he is wearie, and weake handed: so I will feare him, and all the people that are with him, shall flee, and I will smite the King onely, ³ And I will bring againe all the people vnto thee, and when all shall returne, (the man whome thou seekest being slaine) all the people shalbe in peace. ⁴ And the saying pleased Absalom well, and all the Elders of Israel. ⁵ Then said Absalom, Call now Hushai the Archite also, and let vs heare likewise what he sayth. ⁶ So when Hushai came to Absalom, Absalom spake vnto him, saying, Ahithophel hath spoken thus: shall we doe after his saying, or no? tell thou. ⁷ Hushai then answered vnto Absalom, The counsel that Ahithophel hath giuen, is not good at this time. ⁸ For, said Hushai, thou knowest thy father, and his men, that they be strong men, and are chafed in minde as a beare robbed of her whelps in the field: also thy father is a valiant warriar, and will not lodge with the

people. ⁹ Behold, he is hid now in some caue, or in some place: and though some of them be ouerthrowen at the first, yet the people shall heare, and say, The people that follow Absalom, be ouerthrowen. ¹⁰ Then he also that is valiant whose heart is as the heart of a lion, shall shrink and faint: for all Israel knoweth, that thy father is valiant, and they which be with him, stout men. ¹¹ Therefore my counsell is, that all Israel be gathered vnto thee, from Dan euen to Beersheba as the sand of the sea in number, and that thou goe to battell in thine owne person. ¹² So shall we come vpon him in some place, where we shall finde him, and we will vpon him as the dewe falleth on the ground: and of all the men that are with him, wee will not leaue him one. ¹³ Moreouer if he be gotten into a citie, then shall all the men of Israel bring ropes to that citie, and we will draw it into the riuer, vntill there be not one small stone founde there. ¹⁴ Then Absalom and all the men of Israel sayde, The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better, then the counsell of Ahithophel: for the Lord had determined to destroy the good counsell of Ahithophel, that the Lord might bring euill vpon Absalom. ¹⁵ Then said Hushai vnto Zadok and to Abiathar the Priests, Of this and that maner did Ahithophel and the Elders of Israel counsell Absalom: and thus and thus haue I counseled. ¹⁶ Now therefore sende quickly, and shewe Dauid, saying, Tarie not this night in the fieldes of the wildernesse, but rather get thee ouer, lest the King be deuoured and all the

people that are with him. ¹⁷ Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz abode by En-rogel: (for they might not be seene to come into the citie) and a maid went, and tolde them, and they went and shewed King Dauid. ¹⁸ Neuerthelesse a yong man sawe them, and tolde it to Absalom. therefore they both departed quickly, and came to a mans house in Bahurim, who had a well in his court, into the which they went downe. ¹⁹ And the wife tooke and spred a couering ouer the welles mouth, and spred ground corne thereon, that the thing should not be knowen. ²⁰ And when Absaloms seruants came to the wife into the house, they said, Where is Ahimaaz and Jonathan? And the woman answered them, They be gone ouer the brooke of water. And when they had sought them, and could not finde them, they returned to Ierusalem. ²¹ And assoone as they were departed, the other came out of the well, and went and tolde King Dauid, and sayde vnto him, Vp, and get you quickly ouer the water: for such counsell hath Ahithophel giuen against you. ²² Then Dauid arose, and all the people that were with him, and they went ouer Iorden vntil the dawning of the day, so that there lacked not one of them, that was not come ouer Iorden. ²³ Nowe when Ahithophel sawe that his counsell was not followed, he saddled his asse, and arose, and he went home vnto his citie, and put his houshold in order, and hanged him selfe, and dyed, and was buried in his fathers graue. ²⁴ Then Dauid came to Mahanaim. And Absalom passed ouer Iorden, he, and all the men of Israel with him.

²⁵ And Absalom made Amasa captaine of the hoste in the stead of Ioab: which Amasa was a mans sonne named Ithra an Israelite, that went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruah Ioabs mother. ²⁶ So Israel and Absalom pitched in the land of Gilead. ²⁷ And when Dauid was come to Mahanaim, Shobi the sonne of Nahash out of Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and Machir the sonne of Ammiel out of Lo-debar, and Barzelai the Gileadite out of Rogel ²⁸ Brought beds, and basens, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and floure, and parched corne, and beanes, and lentiles, and parched corne. ²⁹ And they brought hony, and butter, and sheepe, and cheese of kine for Dauid and for the people that were with him, to eate: for they said, The people is hungry, and wearie, and thirstie in the wilderness.

18

¹ Then Dauid numbred the people that were with him, and set ouer them captaines of thousands and captaines of hundreths. ² And Dauid sent foorth the third part of the people vnder the hand of Ioab, and the thirde part vnder the hand of Abishai Ioabs brother the sonne of Zeruah: and the other third part vnder the hand of Ittai the Gittite. and the King said vnto the people, I will go with you my selfe also. ³ But the people answered, Thou shalt not goe foorth: for if we flee away, they will not regarde vs, neither will they passe for vs, though halfe of vs were slaine: but thou art now worth ten thousande of vs: therefore nowe it is better that

thou succour vs out of the citie. ⁴ Then the King said vnto them, What seemeth you best, that I will doe. So the King stood by the gate side, and all the people came out by hundreths and by thousands. ⁵ And the King commanded Ioab and Abishai, and Ittai, saying, Entreate the yong man Absalom gently for my sake. and all the people heard whe the King gaue al the captaines charge concerning Absalom. ⁶ So the people went out into the field to meete Israel, and the battell was in the wood of Ephraim: ⁷ Where the people of Israel were slaine before the seruants of Daud: so there was a great slaughter that day, euen of twentie thousande. ⁸ For the battel was skattered ouer all the countrey: and the wood deuoured much more people that day, then did the sworde. ⁹ Nowe Absalom met the seruants of Daud, and Absalom rode vpon a mule, and the mule came vnder a great thicke oke: and his head caught holde of the oke, and he was taken vp betweene the heauen and the earth: and the mule that was vnder him went away. ¹⁰ And one that sawe it, tolde Ioab, saying, Beholde, I sawe Absalom hanged in an oke. ¹¹ Then Ioab saide vnto the man that tolde him, And hast thou in deede seene? why then diddest thou not there smite him to the grounde, and I woulde haue giuen thee ten shekels of siluer, and a girdle? ¹² Then the man saide vnto Ioab, Though I should receiue a thousande shekels of siluer in mine hande, yet woulde I not lay mine hande vpon the Kings sonne: for in our hearing the King charged thee, and Abishai, and Ittai, saying, Beware, least

any touche the yong man Absalom. ¹³ If I had done it, it had bene the danger of my life: for nothing can be hid from the King: yea, thou thy selfe wouldest haue bin against me. ¹⁴ Then saide Ioab, I will not thus tary with thee. And he tooke three dartes in his hande, and thrust them through Absalom, while he was yet aliue in the middes of the oke. ¹⁵ And tenne seruants that bare Ioabs armour, compassed about and smote Absalom, and slewe him. ¹⁶ Then Ioab blewe the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing after Israel: for Ioab helde backe the people. ¹⁷ And they tooke Absalom, and cast him into a great pit in the wood, and layed a mightie great heape of stones vpon him: and all Israel fled euery one to his tent. ¹⁸ Nowe Absalom in his life time had taken and reared him vp a pillar, which is in the kings dale: for he saide, I haue no sonne to keepe my name in remembrance. and he called the pillar after his owne name, and it is called vnto this day, Absaloms place. ¹⁹ Then said Ahimaaz the sonne of Zadok, I pray thee, let me runne, and beare the King tidings that the Lord hath deliuered him out of the hande of his enemies. ²⁰ And Ioab said vnto him, Thou shalt not be the messenger to day, but thou shalt beare tidings another time, but to day thou shalt beare none: for the Kings sonne is dead. ²¹ Then said Ioab to Cushy, Goe, tel the king, what thou hast seene. And Cushy bowed himselfe vnto Ioab, and ran. ²² Then saide Ahimaaz the sonne of Zadok againe to Ioab, What, I pray thee, if I also runne after Cushy? And Ioab said, Wherefore now wilt

thou runne, my sonne, seeing that thou hast no tidings to bring? ²³ Yet what if I runne? Then he saide vnto him, Runne. So Ahimaaz ranne by the way of the plaine, and ouerwent Cushi. ²⁴ Now Dauid sate betweene the two gates. And the watchman went to the top of the gate vpon the wall, and lift vp his eyes, and sawe, and beholde, a man came running alone. ²⁵ And the watchman cryed, and tolde ye king. And the King said, If he be alone, he bringeth tidings. And he came apace, and drew neere. ²⁶ And the watchman saw another man running, and the watchman called vnto the porter, and said, Behold, another man runneth alone. And the King said, He also bringeth tidings. ²⁷ And the watchman said, Me thinketh the running of the formost is like the running of Ahimaaz the sonne of Zadok. Then the King said, He is a good man, and commeth with good tidings. ²⁸ And Ahimaaz called, and sayde vnto the King, Peace be with thee: and he fell downe to the earth vpon his face before the King, and saide, Blessed be the Lord thy God, who hath shut vp the men that lift vp their handes against my lorde the King. ²⁹ And the King saide, Is the yong man Absalom safe? And Ahimaaz answered, When Ioab sent the Kings seruant, and me thy seruant, I sawe a great tumult, but I knewe not what. ³⁰ And the King said vnto him, Turne aside, and stand here. so he turned aside and stode still. ³¹ And beholde, Cushi came, and Cushi saide, Tidings, my lorde the King: for the Lord hath deliuered thee this day out of the hande of all that rose against thee.

³² Then the King saide vnto Cush, Is the yong man Absalom safe? And Cush answered, The enemies of my lorde the King, and all that rise against thee to doe thee hurt, be as that yong man is. ³³ And the King was moued, and went vp to the chamber ouer the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my sonne Absalom, my sonne, my sonne Absalom: woulde God I had dyed for thee, O Absalom, my sonne, my sonne.

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¹ And it was tolde Ioab, Behold, the King weepeth and mourneth for Absalom. ² Therefore the victorie of that day was turned into mourning to all the people: for the people heard say that day, The King soroweth for his sonne. ³ And the people went that day into the citie secretly, as people confounded hide them selues when they flee in battell. ⁴ So the King hid his face, and the King cryed with a loude voyce, My sonne Absalom, Absalom my sonne, my sonne. ⁵ Then Ioab came into the house to the King, and said, Thou hast shamed this day the faces of all thy seruants, which this day haue saued thy life and the liues of thy sones, and of thy daughters, and the liues of thy wiues, and the liues of thy concubines, ⁶ In that thou louest thine enemies, and hatest thy friendes: for thou hast declared this day, that thou regardest neither thy princes nor seruants: therefore this day I perceiue, that if Absalom had liued, and we all had dyed this day, that then it would haue pleased thee well. ⁷ Nowe therefore vp, come out, and speake

comfortably vnto thy seruants: for I swear by the Lord, except thou come out, there will not tarie one man with thee this night: and that will be worse vnto thee, then all the euill that fell on thee from thy youth hitherto. ⁸ Then the King arose, and sate in the gate: and they tolde vnto all the people, saying, Beholde, the King doeth sit in the gate: and all the people came before the King: for Israel had fled euery man to his tent. ⁹ Then all the people were at strife thorowout all the tribes of Israel, saying, The King saued vs out of the hand of our enemies, and he deliuered vs out of the hande of the Philistims, and nowe he is fled out of the lande for Absalom. ¹⁰ And Absalom, whome we anoynted ouer vs, is dead in battel: therefore why are ye so slow to bring the King againe? ¹¹ But King Dauid sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the Priestes, saying, Speake vnto the Elders of Iudah, and say, Why are ye behind to bring the King againe to his house, (for the saying of al Israel is come vnto the king, euen to his house) ¹² Ye are my brethren: my bones and my flesh are ye: wherefore then are ye the last that bring the King againe? ¹³ Also say ye to Amasa, Art thou not my bone and my flesh? God do so to me and more also, if thou be not captaine of the hoste to me for euer in the rounge of Ioab. ¹⁴ So he bowed the heartes of all the men of Iudah, as of one man: therefore they sent to the King, saying, Returne thou with all thy seruants. ¹⁵ So the King returned, and came to Iorden. And Iudah came to Gilgal, for to goe to meete the King, and to conduct him ouer Iorde.

16 And Shimei the sonne of Gera, ye sonne of Iemini, which was of Bahurim, hasted and came down with the men of Iudah to meete king Dauid, 17 And a thousande men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the seruant of the house of Saul, and his fifteene sonnes and twentie seruants with him: and they went ouer Iorden before ye king. 18 And there went ouer a boate to carie ouer the Kings houshold, and to do him pleasure. Then Shimei the sonne of Gera fell before the King, when he was come ouer Iorden, 19 And saide vnto the King, Let not my lorde impute wickednesse vnto me, nor remember ye thing that thy seruant did wickedly when my lorde the King departed out of Ierusalem, that the King should take it to his heart. 20 For thy seruant doeth knowe, that I haue done amisse: therefore beholde, I am the first this day of al the house of Ioseph, that am come to goe downe to meete my lord the King. 21 But Abishai the sonne of Zeruah answered, and said, Shal not Shimei die for this, because he cursed the Lordes anoynted? 22 And Dauid saide, What haue I to do with you, ye sonnes of Zeruah, that this day ye should be aduersaries vnto me? shall there any man die this day in Israel? for doe not I know that I am this day King ouer Israel? 23 Therefore the King saide vnto Shimei, Thou shalt not die, and the king sware vnto him. 24 And Mephibosheth the sonne of Saul came downe to meete the king, and had neither washed his feete, nor dressed his beard, nor washed his clothes from the time the king departed, vntill he returned in peace.

25 And when he was come to Ierusalem, and met the king, the king said vnto him, Wherefore wentest not thou with me, Mephibosheth? 26 And he answered, My lorde the king, my seruant deceiued me: for thy seruant said, I would haue mine asse saddled to ride thereon, for to goe with the king, because thy seruant is lame. 27 And he hath accused thy seruant vnto my lorde the king: but my lorde the king is as an Angel of God: doe therefore thy pleasure. 28 For all my fathers house were but dead men before my lord the king, yet diddest thou set thy seruant among them that did eate at thine owne table: what right therefore haue I yet to crye any more vnto the king? 29 And the king said vnto him, Why speakest thou any more of thy matters? I haue said, Thou, and Ziba deuide the landes. 30 And Mephibosheth saide vnto the king, Yea, let him take all, seeing my lorde the king is come home in peace. 31 Then Barzillai the Gileadite came downe from Rogelim, and went ouer Iorden with the king, to conduct him ouer Iorden. 32 Nowe Barzillai was a very aged man, euen fourescore yeere olde, and he had prouided the king of sustenance, while he lay at Mahanaim: for he was a man of very great substance. 33 And the king said vnto Barzillai, Come ouer with me, and I will feede thee with me in Ierusalem. 34 And Barzillai said vnto the king, Howe long haue I to liue, that I should goe vp with the king to Ierusalem? 35 I am this day fourescore yeere olde: and can I discern betweene good or euill? Hath thy seruant any taste in that I eat or in

that I drinke? Can I heare any more the voyce of singing men and women? wherefore then should thy seruant be anymore a burthen vnto my lord the king? ³⁶ Thy seruant will goe a litle way ouer Iorden with the King, and why wil the king recompence it me with such a rewarde? ³⁷ I pray thee, let thy seruant turne backe againe, that I may die in mine owne citie, and be buried in the graue of my father and of my mother: but beholde thy seruant Chimham, let him goe with my lorde the king, and doe to him what shall please thee. ³⁸ And the king answered, Chimham shall go with me, and I will do to him that thou shalt be content with: and whatsoever thou shalt require of me, that will I do for thee. ³⁹ So all the people went ouer Iorden: and the King passed ouer: and the King kissed Barzillai, and blessed him, and hee returned vnto his owne place. ⁴⁰ Then the King went to Gilgal, and Chimham went with him, and all the people of Iudah conducted the King, and also halfe ye people of Israel. ⁴¹ And behold, all the men of Israel came to the King, and sayd vnto the King, Why haue our brethren the men of Iudah stollen thee away, and haue brought the King and his houshold, and all Davids men with him ouer Iorden? ⁴² And all the men of Iudah answered the men of Israel, Because the King is neere of kin to vs: and wherefore now be ye angry for this matter? haue we eaten of the Kings cost, or haue wee taken any bribes? ⁴³ And the men of Israel answered the men of Iudah, and saide, Wee haue ten partes in the King, and haue also

more right to Dauid then ye: Why then did ye despise vs, that our aduise should not bee first had in restoring our King? And the wordes of the men of Iudah were fiercer then the wordes of the men of Israel.

20

¹ Then there was come thither a wicked man (named Sheba the sonne of Bichri, a man of Iemini) and hee blew the trumpet, and saide, Wee haue no part in Dauid, neither haue we inheritance in the sonne of Ishai: euery man to his tents, O Israel. ² So euery man of Israel went from Dauid and followed Sheba the sonne of Bichri: but the men of Iudah claue fast vnto their King, from Iorden euen to Ierusalem. ³ When Dauid then came to his house to Ierusalem, the King tooke the ten women his concubines, that hee had left behinde him to keepe the house, and put them in warde, and fed them, but lay no more with them: but they were enclosed vnto the day of their death, liuing in widowhode. ⁴ Then sayde the King to Amasa, Assemble me the men of Iudah within three dayes, and be thou here present. ⁵ So Amasa went to assemble Iudah, but hee taried longer then the time which he had appoynted him. ⁶ Then Dauid sayd to Abishai, Now shall Sheba the sonne of Bichri doe vs more harme then did Absalom: take thou therefore thy lords seruants and follow after him, lest he get him walled cities, and escape vs. ⁷ And there went out after him Ioabs men, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, and all the mightie men: and they departed out of

Ierusalem, to follow after Sheba the sonne of Bichri. ⁸ When they were at the great stone, which is in Gibeon, Amasa went before them, and Ioabs garment, that hee had put on, was girded vnto him, and vpon it was a sword girded, which hanged on his loynes in the sheath, and as hee went, it vsed to fall out. ⁹ And Ioab sayde to Amasa, Art thou in health, my brother? and Ioab tooke Amasa by the beard with the right hand to kisse him. ¹⁰ But Amasa tooke no heede to the sworde that was in Ioabs hande: for therewith he smote him in the fift rib, and shed out his bowels to the ground, and smote him not the second time: so he dyed. then Ioab and Abishai his brother followed after Sheba the sonne of Bichri. ¹¹ And one of Ioabs men stode by him, and saide, He that fauoureth Ioab, and hee that is of Dauids part, let him go after Ioab. ¹² And Amasa wallowed in blood in the mids of the way: and when the man sawe that all the people stood still, he remooued Amasa out of the way into the fiede, and cast a cloth vpon him, because he saw that euery one that came by him, stode still. ¹³ When hee was removed out of the way, euerie man went after Ioab, to follow after Sheba the sonne of Bichri. ¹⁴ And he went through all the tribes of Israel vnto Abel, and Bethmaachah and all places of Berim: and they gathered together, and went also after him. ¹⁵ So they came, and besieged him in Abel, neere to Bethmaachah: and they cast vp a mount against the citie, and the people thereof stood on the ramper, and al the people that was with Ioab, destroyed and cast

downe the wall. ¹⁶ Then cried a wise woman out of the citie, Heare, heare, I pray you, say vnto Ioab, Come thou hither, that I may speake with thee. ¹⁷ And when hee came neere vnto her, the woman said, Art thou Ioab? And he answered, Yea. And she said to him, Heare the wordes of thine handmaid. And he answered, I do heare. ¹⁸ Then shee spake thus, They spake in the olde time, saying, They shoulde aske of Abel. and so haue they continued. ¹⁹ I am one of them, that are peaceable and faithful in Israel: and thou goest about to destroy a citie, and a mother in Israel: why wilt thou deuoure the inheritance of the Lord? ²⁰ And Ioab answered, and said, God forbid, God forbid it me, that I should deuoure, or destroy it. ²¹ The matter is not so, but a man of mout Ephraim (Sheba ye sonne of Bichri by name) hath lift vp his had against ye King, euen against Dauid: deliuer vs him onely, and I will depart from the citie. And the woman saide vnto Ioab, Beholde, his head shalbe throwen to thee ouer the wall. ²² Then the woman went vnto all the people with her wisdom, and they cut off the head of Sheba the sonne of Bichri, and cast it to Ioab: the he blewe the trumpet, and they retired from the citie, euery man to his tent: and Ioab returned to Ierusalem vnto the King. ²³ Then Ioab was ouer all the hoste of Israel, and Benaiah the sonne of Iehoiada ouer the Cherethites and ouer the Pelethies, ²⁴ And Adoram ouer the tribute, and Ioshaphat the sonne of Ahilud the recorder, ²⁵ And Sheaia was Scribe, and Zadok and Abiathar the Priests, ²⁶ And also Ira the Iairite was chiefe

about Dauid.

21

¹ Then there was a famine in the dayes of Dauid, three yeeres together: and Dauid asked counsell of the Lord, and the Lord answered, It is for Saul, and for his bloodie house, because hee slewe the Gibeonites. ² Then ye King called the Gibeonites and said vnto them. (Now the Gibeonites were not of the children of Israel, but a remnant of the Amorites, vnto whom ye children of Israel had sworne: but Saul sought to slay them for his zeale toward the children of Israel and Iudah) ³ And Dauid said vnto the Gibeonites, What shall I doe for you, and wherewith shall I make the atonement, that ye may blesse the inheritance of the Lord? ⁴ The Gibeonites then answered him, Wee will haue no siluer nor golde of Saul nor of his house, neither for vs shalt thou kill any man in Israel. And he said, What ye shall say, that will I doe for you. ⁵ Then they answered the King, The man that consumed vs and that imagined euill against vs, so that we are destroyed from remaining in any coast of Israel, ⁶ Let seuen men of his sonnes be deliuered vnto vs, and we will hang them vp vnto the Lord in Gibeah of Saul, the Lordes chosen. And the King said, I will giue them. ⁷ But the King had compassion on Mephibosheth the sonne of Ionathan the sonne of Saul, because of the Lordes othe, that was betweene them, euen betweene Dauid and Ionathan the sonne of Saul. ⁸ But the King tooke the two sonnes of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whome shee

bare vnto Saul, euen Armoni and Mephibosheth and the fve sonnes of Michal, the daughter of Saul, whome shee bare to Adriel the sonne of Barzillai the Meholathite. ⁹ And hee deliuered them vnto the handes of the Gibeonites, which hanged them in the mountaine before the Lord: so they died all seuen together; and they were slaine in the time of haruest: in the first dayes, and in the beginning of barly haruest. ¹⁰ Then Rizpah the daughter of Aiah tooke sackecloth and hanged it vp for her vpon the rocke, from the beginning of haruest, vntill water dropped vpon them from the heauen, and suffered neither the birdes of the aire to light on the by day, nor beasts of the fiede by night. ¹¹ And it was told Daud, what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah ye concubine of Saul had done. ¹² And Daud went and tooke the bones of Saul and the bones of Ionathan his sonne from the citizens of Iabesh Gilead, which had stollen them from the streete of Beth-shan, where the Philistims had hanged them, when the Philistims had slaine Saul in Gilboa. ¹³ So hee brought thence the bones of Saul and the bones of Ionathan his sonne, and they gathered the bones of them that were hanged. ¹⁴ And the bones of Saul and of Ionathan his sonne buried they in the coutrey of Benjamin in Zelah, in the graue of Kish his father: and when they had perfourmed all that the King had commanded, God was then appeased with the land. ¹⁵ Againe the Philistims had warre with Israel: and Daud went downe, and his seruants with him, and they fought against the

Philistims, and Daudid fainted. ¹⁶ Then Ishi-benob which was of the sonnes of Haraphah (the head of whose speare wayed three hundreth shekels of brasse) euen he being girded with a newe sword, thought to haue slaine Daudid. ¹⁷ But Abishai the sonne of Zeruah succoured him, and smote the Philistim, and killed him. Then Daudids men sware vnto him, saying, Thou shalt goe no more out with vs to battell, lest thou quench the light of Israel. ¹⁸ And after this also there was a battell with the Philistims at Gob, then Sibbechai the Hushathite slewe Saph, which was one of ye sonnes of Haraphah. ¹⁹ And there was yet another battel in Gob with the Philistims, where Elhanah the sonne of Iaare-oregim, a Bethlehemite slewe Goliath the Gittite: the staffe of whose speare was like a weauers beame. ²⁰ Afterward there was also a battel in Gath, where was a man of a great stature, and had on euerie hand sixe fingers, and on euerie foote sixe toes, foure and twentie in number: who was also the sonne of Haraphah. ²¹ And when hee reuled Israel, Ionathan the sonne of Shima the brother of Daudid slewe him. ²² These foure were borne to Haraphah in Gath, and died by the hande of Daudid and by the hands of his seruants.

22

¹ And Daudid spake the woordes of this song vnto the Lord, what time the Lord had deliuered him out of the handes of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul. ² And he sayd, The Lord is my rocke and my fortresse, and he that deliuereth

mee. ³ God is my strength, in him will I trust: my shielde, and the horne of my saluation, my hie tower and my refuge: my Sauour, thou hast saued me from violence. ⁴ I will call on the Lord, who is worthy to be prayed: so shall I be safe from mine enemies. ⁵ For the pangs of death haue compassed me: the floods of vngodlinesse haue made mee afrayd. ⁶ The sorowes of the graue compassed mee about: the snares of death ouertooke mee. ⁷ But in my tribulation did I call vpon the Lord, and crie to my God, and he did heare my voyce out of his temple, and my crie did enter into his eares. ⁸ Then the earth trembled and quaked: the foundations of the heauens mooued and shooke, because he was angrie. ⁹ Smoke went out at his nostrels, and consuming fire out of his mouth: coles were kindled thereat. ¹⁰ He bowed the heauens also, and came downe, and darkenes was vnder his feete. ¹¹ And he rode vpon Cherub and did flie, and hee was seene vpon the winges of the winde. ¹² And hee made darkenesse a Tabernacle round about him, euen the gatherings of waters, and the cloudes of the ayre. ¹³ At the brightnesse of his presence the coles of fire were kindled. ¹⁴ The Lord thundred from heauen, and the most hie gaue his voyce. ¹⁵ He shot arrowes also, and scattered them: to wit, lightning, and destroyed them. ¹⁶ The chanel also of the sea appeared, euen the foundations of the worlde were discouered by the rebuking of the Lord, and at the blast of the breath of his nostrels. ¹⁷ He sent from aboue, and tooke me: hee drewe me

out of many waters. ¹⁸ He deliuered me from my strong enemie, and from them that hated me: for they were too strong for me. ¹⁹ They preuented me in the day of my calamitie, but the Lord was my stay, ²⁰ And brought me foorth into a large place: he deliuered me, because he faouored me. ²¹ The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousnesse: according to the purenesse of mine handes he recompensed me. ²² For I kept the wayes of the Lord, and did not wickedly against my God. ²³ For all his lawes were before me, and his statutes: I did not depart therefrom. ²⁴ I was vpright also towarde him, and haue kept me from my wickednesse. ²⁵ Therefore the Lord did reward me according to my righteousnesse, according to my purenesse before his eyes. ²⁶ With the godly thou wilt shewe thy selfe godly: with the vpright man thou wilt shew thy selfe vpright. ²⁷ With the pure thou wilt shewe thy selfe pure, and with the frowarde thou wilt shew thy selfe frowarde. ²⁸ Thus thou wilt saue the poore people: but thine eyes are vpon the hautie to humble them. ²⁹ Surely thou art my light, O Lord: and the Lord will lighten my darkenes. ³⁰ For by thee haue I broken through an hoste, and by my God haue I leaped ouer a wall. ³¹ The way of God is vncorrupt: the word of the Lord is tryed in the fire: he is a shield to all that trust in him. ³² For who is God besides the Lord? and who is mightie, saue our God? ³³ God is my strength in battel, and maketh my way vpright. ³⁴ He maketh my feete like hindes feete, and hath set me vpon mine

hie places. ³⁵ He teacheth mine handes to fight, so that a bowe of brasse is broken with mine armes. ³⁶ Thou hast also giuen me the shield of thy saluation, and thy louing kindnesse hath caused me to increase. ³⁷ Thou hast enlarged my steppes vnder me, and mine heeles haue not slid. ³⁸ I haue pursued mine enemies and destroyed them, and haue not turned againe vntill I had consumed them. ³⁹ Yea, I haue consumed them and thrust them through, and they shall not arise, but shall fall vnder my feete. ⁴⁰ For thou hast girded me with power to battell, and them that arose against me, hast thou subdued vnder me. ⁴¹ And thou hast giuen me the neckes of mine enemies, that I might destroy them that hate me. ⁴² They looked about, but there was none to saue them, euen vnto the Lord, but he answered them not. ⁴³ Then did I beate them as small as the dust of the earth: I did treade them flat as the clay of the streete, and did spread them abroad. ⁴⁴ Thou hast also deliuered me from the contentions of my people: thou hast preserued me to be the head ouer nations: the people which I knewe not, doe serue me. ⁴⁵ Strangers shalbe in subiection to me: assoone as they heare, they shall obey me. ⁴⁶ Strangers shall shrink away, and feare in their priuie chambers. ⁴⁷ Let the Lord liue, and blessed be my strength: and God, euen the force of my saluation be exalted. ⁴⁸ It is God that giueth me power to reuenge me, and subdue the people vnder me, ⁴⁹ And rescueth me from mine enemies: (thou also hast lift me vp from them that rose against me, thou hast

deliuered me from the cruell man. ⁵⁰ Therefore I will praise thee, O Lord amog the nations, and will sing vnto thy Name) ⁵¹ He is the tower of saluation for his King, and sheweth mercie to his anointed, euen to Dauid, and to his seede for euer.

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¹ These also be the last wordes of Dauid, Dauid the sonne of Ishai saith, euen the man who was set vp on hie, the Anointed of the God of Iacob, and the sweete singer of Israel saith, ² The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his worde was in my tongue. ³ The God of Israel spake to me, ye strength of Israel saide, Thou shalt beare rule ouer men, being iust, and ruling in the feare of God. ⁴ Euen as the morning light when the sunne riseth, the morning, I say, without cloudes, so shall mine house be, and not as the grasse of the earth is by the bright raine. ⁵ For so shall not mine house be with God: for he hath made with me an euerlasting couenant, perfite in all pointes, and sure: therefore all mine health and whole desire is, that he will not make it growe so. ⁶ But the wicked shalbe euery one as thornes thrust away, because they can not be taken with handes. ⁷ But the man that shall touch them, must be defended with yron, or with the shaft of a speare: and they shall be burnt with fire in the same place. ⁸ These be the names of the mightie men whome Dauid had. He that sate in the seate of wisdom, being chiefe of the princes, was Adino of Ezni, he slewe eight hundreth at one time. ⁹ And after

him was Eleazar the sonne of Dodo, the sonne of Ahohi, one of the three worthies with Dauid, when they defied the Philistims gathered there to battel, when the men of Israel were gone vp. ¹⁰ He arose and smote the Philistims vntill his hande was wearie, and his hande claue vnto the sworde: and the Lord gaue great victorie the same day, and the people returned after him onely to spoyle. ¹¹ After him was Shammah the sonne of Age the Hararite: for the Philistims assembled at a towne, where was a piece of a fiede full of lentils, and the people fled from the Philistims. ¹² But he stode in the middes of the fiede, and defended it, and slewe the Philistims: so the Lord gaue great victorie. ¹³ Afterward three of the thirtie captaines went downe, and came to Dauid in the haruest time vnto the caue of Adullam, and the hoste of the Philistims pitched in the valley of Rephaim. ¹⁴ And Dauid was then in an holde, and the garison of ye Philistims was then in Beth-lehem. ¹⁵ And Dauid longed, and said, Oh, that one would giue me to drinke of the water of the well of Beth-lehem, which is by the gate. ¹⁶ The the three mightie brake into the host of the Philistims, and drew water out of the well of Beth-lehem that was by the gate, and tooke and brought it to Dauid, who woulde not drinke thereof, but powred it for an offering vnto ye Lord, ¹⁷ And said, O Lord, be it farre from me, that I should doe this. Is not this the blood of the men that went in ieopardie of their liues? therefore he woulde not drinke it. These things did these three mightie men. ¹⁸ And Abishai the brother of Ioab, the sonne of Zeruah,

was chiefe among the three, and he lifted vp his speare against three hundreth, and slewe them, and he had the name among the three. ¹⁹ For he was most excellent of the three, and was their captaine, but he attained not vnto the first three. ²⁰ And Benaiah the sonne of Iehoiada the sonne of a valiant man, which had done many actes, and was of Kabzeel, slewe two strong men of Moab: he went downe also, and slewe a lyon in the middes of a pit in the time of snowe. ²¹ And he slewe an Egyptian a man of great stature, and the Egyptian had a speare in his hande: but he went downe to him with a staffe, and plucked the speare out of the Egyptians hand, and slewe him with his owne speare. ²² These things did Benaiah the sonne of Iehoiada, and had the name among the three worthies. ²³ He was honourable among thirtie, but he attained not to the first three: and Dauid made him of his counsell. ²⁴ Asahel the brother of Ioab was one of the thirtie: Elhanan the sonne of Dodo of Beth-lehem: ²⁵ Shammah the Harodite: Elika ye Harodite: ²⁶ Helez the Paltite: Ira the sonne of Ikkesh the Tekoite: ²⁷ Abiezer the Anethothite: Mebunnai the Husathite: ²⁸ Zalmon an Ahohite: Maharai the Netophathite: ²⁹ Heleb the sonne of Baanah a Netophathite: Ittai the sonne of Ribai of Gibeah of the children of Benjamin: ³⁰ Benaiah the Pirathonite: Hiddai of the riuier of Gaash: ³¹ Abi-albon the Arbathite: Azmaueth the Barhumite: ³² Elihaba the Shaalbonite: of the sonnes of Iashen, Ionathan: ³³ Shammah the Hararite: Ahiam the sonne of Sharar the Hamrite: ³⁴ Eliphelet the sonne of Ahasbai the sonne of Maachathi: Eliam the sonne of

Ahithophel the Gilonite: ³⁵ Hezrai the Carmelite: Paarai the Arbite: ³⁶ Igal the sonne of Nathan of Zobah: Bani the Gadite: ³⁷ Zelek the Ammonite: Naharai the Becrothite, the armour bearer of Ioab the sonne of Zeruiah: ³⁸ Ira the Ithrite: Gareb the Ithrite: ³⁹ Uriiah the Hittite, thirtie and seuen in all.

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¹ And the wrath of the Lord was againe kindled against Israel, and he moued Dauid against them, in that he saide, Goe, number Israel and Iudah. ² For the King said to Ioab the captaine of the hoste, which was with him, Goe speedily now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan euen to Beer-sheba, and number ye the people, that I may knowe the number of the people. ³ And Ioab saide vnto the King, The Lord thy God increase the people an hundreth folde more then they be, and that the eyes of my lorde the King may see it: but why doeth my lord the King desire this thing? ⁴ Notwithstanding the Kings worde preuailed against Ioab and against the captaines of the hoste: therefore Ioab and the captaines of the hoste went out from the presence of the King to number the people of Israel. ⁵ And they passed ouer Iorden, and pitched in Aroer at the right side of the citie that is in the middes of the valley of Gad and toward Iazer. ⁶ Then they came to Gilead, and to Tahtim-hodshi, so they came to Dan Iaan, and so about to Zidon, ⁷ And came to the fortresse of Tyrus and to all the cities of the Hiuites and of the Canaanites, and went

towarde the South of Iudah, euen to Beer-sheba. ⁸ So when they had gone about all the lande, they returned to Ierusalem at the ende of nine moneths and twentie dayes. ⁹ And Ioab deliuered the nomber and summe of the people vnto the King: and there were in Israel eight hundreth thousande strong men that drewe swordes, and the men of Iudah were fife hundreth thousand men. ¹⁰ Then Dauids heart smote him, after that he had numbred the people: and Dauid said vnto the Lord, I haue sinned exceedingly in that I haue done: therefore nowe, Lord, I beseech thee, take away the trespasse of thy seruant: for I haue done very foolishly. ¹¹ And when Dauid was vp in the morning, the worde of the Lord came vnto the Prophet Gad Dauids Seer, saying, ¹² Go, and say vnto Dauid, Thus saith ye Lord, I offer thee three thinges, chuse thee which of them I shall doe vnto thee. ¹³ So Gad came to Dauid, and shewed him, and said vnto him, Wilt thou that seuen yeeres famine come vpon thee in thy lande, or wilt thou flee three moneths before thine enemies, they following thee, or that there bee three dayes pestilence in thy land? nowe aduise thee, and see, what answere I shall giue to him that sent me. ¹⁴ And Dauid said vnto Gad, I am in a wonderfull strait: let vs fall nowe into the hand of the Lord, (for his mercies are great) and let mee not fall into the hand of man. ¹⁵ So the Lord sent a pestilece in Israel, from the morning euen to the time appointed: and there dyed of the people from Dan euen to Beer-sheba seuentie thousand men. ¹⁶ And when the Angel stretched out his hande vpon Ierusalem

to destroy it, the Lord repented of the euil, and said to the Angel that destroyed the people, It is sufficient, holde nowe thine hand. And the Angel of the Lord was by the threshing place of Araunah the Iebusite. ¹⁷ And Daudid spake vnto the Lord (when he sawe the Angel that smote the people) and saide, Behold, I haue sinned, yea, I haue done wickedly: but these sheepe, what haue they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, be against mee and against my fathers house. ¹⁸ So Gad came the same day to Daudid, and said vnto him, Go vp, reare an altar vnto the Lord in the threshing floore of Araunah the Iebusite. ¹⁹ And Daudid (according to the saying of Gad) went vp, as the Lord had commanded. ²⁰ And Araunah looked, and sawe the King and his seruants comming towarde him, and Araunah went out, and bowed himselfe before the King on his face to the ground, ²¹ And Araunah said, Wherefore is my lord the King come to his seruant? Then Daudid answered, To bye the threshing floore of thee for to builde an altar vnto the Lord, that the plague may cease from the people. ²² Then Araunah saide vnto Daudid, Let my lord the King take and offer what seemeth him good in his eyes: beholde the oxen for the burnt offering, and charets, and the instruments of the oxen for wood. ²³ (All these things did Araunah as a King giue vnto the King: and Araunah saide vnto the King, The Lord thy God be fauourable vnto thee) ²⁴ Then the King saide vnto Araunah, Not so, but I will bye it of thee at a price, and will not offer burnt offering vnto ye Lord my God of that which

doeth cost me nothing. So Daid bought the threshing floore, and the oxen for fiftie shekels of siluer. ²⁵ And Daid built there an altar vnto the Lord, and offred burnt offrings and peace offrings, and the Lord was appeased toward ye lande, and the plague ceased from Israel.

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