

Divrey Hayamim Alef

¹ And Sh'lomo Ben Dovid was strengthened in his kingdom, and HASHEM Elohav was with him, and magnified him exceedingly.

² Then Sh'lomo spoke unto kol Yisroel, to the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and to the shofetim, and to every Nasi in kol Yisroel, the Rashei HaAvot.

³ So Sh'lomo, and Kol HaKahal with him, went to the high place that was at Giv'on, for there was the Ohel Mo'ed HaElohim, which Moshe eved HASHEM had made in the midbar.

⁴ But the Aron HaElohim Dovid had brought up from Kiryat-Ye'arim to the place which Dovid had prepared for it; for he had pitched an Ohel for it at Yerushalayim.

⁵ Moreover the Mizbe'ach Hanechoshet, that Betzalel ben Uri ben Chur had made, he put in front of the Mishkan HASHEM; and Sh'lomo and HaKahal inquired of Him.

⁶ And Sh'lomo went up there to the Mizbe'ach Hanechoshet before HASHEM, which was at the Ohel Mo'ed, and offered a thousand olot upon it.

⁷ In that lailah did Elohim appear unto Sh'lomo, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee.

⁸ And Sh'lomo said unto Elohim, Thou hast showed chesed gadol unto Dovid Avi, and hast made me to reign in his place.

⁹ Now, HASHEM Elohim, let Thy Davar unto Dovid Avi be established, for Thou hast made me

melech over Am Rav like the aphar ha'aretz in multitude.

¹⁰ Give me now chochmah and intelligence, that I may go out and come in before HaAm Hazeh, for who can judge this Thy people, that is so great?

¹¹ And Elohim said to Sh'lomo, Because this was in thine levav, and thou hast not asked osher, riches, or kavod, nor the nefesh of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked yamim rabbim (*many days, long life*), but hast asked chochmah and intelligence for thyself, that thou mayest judge My people, over whom I have made thee melech,

¹² Chochmah and intelligence is granted unto thee; and I will give thee osher, and riches, and kavod, such as none of the melachim have had that be before or after thee.

¹³ Then Sh'lomo came from his journey to the high place that was at Giv'on, from before the Ohel Mo'ed, to Yerushalayim, and reigned over Yisroel.

¹⁴ And Sh'lomo gathered chariots and parashim (*horsemen*); and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand parashim, which he placed in the chariot cities, and with HaMelech at Yerushalayim.

¹⁵ And HaMelech made kesef and zahav at Yerushalayim as plenteous as avanim, and cedar trees he made as abundant as the sycamore fig trees that are in the Shefelah.

¹⁶ And Sh'lomo had susim imported from Mitzrayim and from Keve; the royal buyers purchased them from Keve.

¹⁷ And they imported from Mitzrayim, and then exported a merkavah (*chariot*) for six hundred shekels of kesef, and a sus (*horse*) for a hundred

and fifty; and so they exported susim to all the melachim of the Chittim, and to the melachim of Aram (*Syria*).

¹⁸ And Sh'lomo determined to build a Bais for the Shem of HASHEM, and a Bais (*palace*) for his kingdom.

2

¹ And Sh'lomo conscripted threescore and ten thousand ish to bear burdens, and fourscore thousand ish as stonecutters in the hill country, and three thousand and six hundred to be their foremen to oversee them.

² And Sh'lomo sent to Churam Melech Tzor, saying, As thou didst deal with Dovid Avi, and didst send him cedars to build him a Bais (*palace*) to dwell therein, even so deal with me.

³ Hinei, I build a Bais for the Shem of HASHEM Elohai, to set it apart as kodesh and to dedicate it to Him, and to burn before Him ketoret sammim (*fragrant incense*), and for the ma'arekhet tamid (*regular offering of the rows of bread*), and for the olot boker and erev, on the Shabbatot, and on every Rosh-Chodesh, and on the Mo'adei HASHEM Eloheinu. This is for l'olam (*forever*) to Yisroel.

⁴ And HaBeis which I build is gadol, for gadol is Eloheinu above kol HaElohim (*all the g-ds*).

⁵ But who has the ko'ach to build Him a Bais, seeing the Shomayim and Shomayim of Shomayim cannot contain Him? Who am I then, that I should build Him a Bais, except to burn sacrifices before Him?

⁶ Send me now therefore an ish chacham in zahav, and in kesef, and in nechoshet, and in

barzel, and in purple, and in crimson, and in blue wool, and that has skill in the art of engraving to work with my chachamim in Yehudah and in Yerushalayim whom Dovid Avi did provide.

⁷ Send me also cedar, pine, and algum logs, from the Levanon, for I know that thy avadim have skill to cut timber in the Levanon; and, hinei, my avadim shall be with thy avadim,

⁸ Even to provide me lumber in abundance, for the Bais which I am about to build shall be gadol v'hafeleh (*great and magnificent*).

⁹ And, hinei, I will give to thy avadim, the woodsmen that cut timber, twenty thousand measures of beaten chittim, and twenty thousand measures of se'orim, and twenty thousand baths of yayin, and twenty thousand baths of shemen (*olive oil*).

¹⁰ Then Churam Melech Tzor answered by letter, which he sent to Sh'lomo, Because HASHEM hath loved His people, He hath made thee Melech over them.

¹¹ Churam said moreover, Baruch HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, that made Shomayim v'et HaAretz, Who hath given to Dovid HaMelech a ben chacham (*wise son*), endued with seichel and binah, that might build a Bais for HASHEM, and a Bais (*palace*) for his kingdom.

¹² And now I have sent an ish chacham, endued with binah, namely my master craftsman Churam-Avi,

¹³ ben isha of the Banot Dan, and his av was an ish Tzor, trained to work in zahav, and in kesef, in nechoshet, in barzel, in avanim (*stone*), and in etzim (*wood*), in purple, in blue wool, and in fine

linen, and in crimson; also to engrave every kind of engraving, and to execute every design which shall be put to him, with thy chachamim, and with the chachmei adoni Dovid Avicha.

¹⁴ Now therefore the chittim, and the se'orim, the shemen, and the yayin, which adoni hath spoken of, let him send unto his avadim,

¹⁵ And we will cut etzim out of the Levanon, as much as thou shalt need; and we will float it to thee in rafts by yam to Yafo, and thou shalt carry it up to Yerushalayim.

¹⁶ And Sh'lomo took a census of all the gerim that were in Eretz Yisroel, after the census where-with Dovid Aviv had numbered them; and they were found a hundred and fifty thousand and three thousand and six hundred.

¹⁷ And he set threescore and ten thousand of them to be bearers of burdens, and fourscore thousand to be stonecutters in the hill country, and three thousand and six hundred menatzkhim (*foremen overseers*) to keep HaAm working.*

3

¹ Then Sh'lomo began to build the Bais HASHEM at Yerushalayim in Mt Moriyah, where HASHEM appeared unto Dovid Avihu, in the makom (*place*) which Dovid had prepared in the goren (*threshing floor*) of Ornan the Yevusi.

² And he began to build in the second day of the second month, in the fourth year of his* reign.

* **2:17** T.N. See 1Kgs 6:1. 966 B.C.E. the construction began on the Beis HaMikdash. * **3:2** Sh'lomo's 970-930 B.C.E.

³ Now these are the foundations which Sh'lomo laid for the building of the Bais HaElohim. The length by cubits using the middah harishonah (*old standard*) was threescore cubits, and the width twenty cubits.

⁴ And the Ulam that was in the front of the Bais (*porch or vestibule in front of the Holy Place*), the length of it was according to the width of the Bais, twenty cubits, and the height was twenty, and he overlaid it within with zahav tahor.

⁵ And the Bais HaGadol he paneled with cypress, which he overlaid with zahav tov, and carved thereon timorim (*palm trees*) and sharsherot (*chainwork*).

⁶ And he decorated the Bais with precious stones for tiferet (*beauty*), and the zahav was zahav from Parvayim.

⁷ He overlaid also the Bais, the ceiling beams, the thresholds, and the walls thereof, and the daletot (*doors*) thereof, with zahav; and carved keruvim on the walls.

⁸ And he made the Bais Kodesh HaKadashim, the length whereof was according to the width of the bais, twenty cubits long, and the width thereof twenty cubits, and he overlaid it with zahav tov of six hundred talents.

⁹ And the weight of the masmerot (*nails*) was fifty shekels of zahav. And he overlaid the upper rooms with zahav.

¹⁰ And in the Bais Kodesh HaKadashim he made two keruvim of ma'aseh tza'atzu'im (*sculpture work*), and overlaid them with zahav.

¹¹ And the wings of the keruvim were twenty cubits long; one wing of the one keruv was five

cubits, reaching to the wall of the Bais; and the other wing was likewise five cubits, reaching to the wing of the other keruv.

¹² And one wing of the other keruv was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the Bais; and the other wing was five cubits also, joining to the wing of the other keruv.

¹³ The wings of these keruvim spread themselves forth twenty cubits; and they stood on their feet, and their faces turned inward.

¹⁴ And he made the Parochet of blue wool, and purple, and crimson, and fine linen, and wrought keruvim thereon.

¹⁵ Also he made before the Bais two [freestanding] Ammudim (*pillars*) of thirty and five cubits high,[†] and the capital that was on the top of each of them was five cubits.

¹⁶ And he made sharsherot in the Devir, and put them on the rosh of the Ammudim; and made a hundred pomegranates, and put them on the sharsherot.

¹⁷ And he erected the Ammudim before the Heikhal, one on the right, and the other on the left; and called the shem of that on the right Yachin, and the shem of that on the left Boaz.

4

¹ Moreover he made a Mizbe'ach nechoshet, twenty cubits the length thereof, and twenty cubits the width thereof, and ten cubits the height thereof.

² Also he made a Yam Mutzak (*Molten "Sea"*) of ten cubits from brim to brim. It was round, and

[†] 3:15 53 feet

five cubits the height thereof, and a line of thirty cubits did completely encircle it.

³ And under it was the demut (*likeness*) of bulls, all around, ten per cubit, surrounding the Yam. Two rows of bulls were cast, when it was cast.

⁴ It stood upon shneyim asar bakar (*twelve bulls*), three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east; and the Yam was set above upon them, and all their hindquarters were toward the inside.

⁵ And the thickness of it was a handbreadth, and the brim of it like the work of the brim of a kos, like the flower of a lily; and it received and held the capacity of shloshet alafim baths.

⁶ He made also ten kiyyorim (*lavers, basins for washing*), and put five on the right and five on the left, to wash in them; such things as they offered for the olah (*burnt offering*) they washed in them; but the Yam was for the Kohanim to wash in.

⁷ And he made ten Menorot HaZahav as prescribed, and set them in the Heikhal, five on the right, and five on the left.

⁸ He made also ten Shulchanot, and placed them in the Heikhal, five on the right, and five on the left. And he made a hundred mizrekei zahav (*golden basins*).

⁹ Furthermore he made the Khatzer HaKohanim, and the Azarah HaGedolah (*the Great Temple Courtyard area*), and delatot laAzarah, and overlaid the daletot of them with nechoshet (*bronze*).

¹⁰ And he set the Yam on the right, eastward, opposite the south.

¹¹ And Churam made the sirot, and the shovels, and the mizrakot. And Churam finished the melachah that he was to make for Melech Sh'lomo for the Beis HaElohim,

¹² The two Ammudim, and the bases, and the capitals which were on the top of the two Ammudim, and the two nettings to cover the two bases of the capitals which were on the top of the Ammudim;

¹³ And four hundred pomegranates on the two nettings; two rows of pomegranates on each netting, to cover the two bases of the capitals which were upon the Ammudim.

¹⁴ He made also stands, and kiyyorot made he upon the stands,

¹⁵ One Yam, and twelve bakar under it.

¹⁶ The sirot also, and the shovels, and the mizlagot, and all their instruments, did Churam-Avi make for Melech Sh'lomo for the Bais HASHEM of nechoshet maruk.

¹⁷ In the plain of Yarden did HaMelech cast them, in the avi ha'adamah between Sukkot and Tzeredah.

¹⁸ Thus Sh'lomo made all these vessels in great abundance, for the weight of the nechoshet could not be found out.

¹⁹ And Sh'lomo made all the vessels that were for the Beis HaElohim, the Mizbe'ach HaZahav also, and the Shulchanot whereon the Lechem HaPanim was set;

²⁰ Moreover the Menorot with their nerot (*lamps*), that they should burn as prescribed before the Devir, of zahav sagur;

²¹ And the flowers, * and the nerot (*lamps*), and the tongs, he made of zahav, and that perfect zahav;

²² And the snuffers, and the basins, and the ladles, and the firepans, of zahav sagur; and the Petach (*Doorway*) the Beis, the Daltot HaPenimiyyot (*Inner Doors*) thereof for the Kodesh HaKadashim, and the Daltot HaBeis laHeikhal, were of zahav.

5

¹ Thus all the melachah (*work*) that Sh'lomo made for the Beis HASHEM was completed; and Sh'lomo brought in all the things that Dovid Aviv had dedicated as kodesh; and the kesef, and the zahav, and all the articles, he put among the otzerot of the Bais HaElohim.

² Then Sh'lomo gathered unto Yerushalayim the Ziknei Yisroel, and kol Rashei HaMattot (*all the Heads of the Tribes*), the Nesi'ei HaAvot (*Family Chiefs*) of the Bnei Yisroel, to bring up the Aron Brit HASHEM out of Ir Dovid, which is Tziyon.

³ Kol Ish Yisroel assembled themselves unto the Melech in the Chag (*Feast*),* which was in the seventh month.†

⁴ And all the Ziknei Yisroel came; and the Levi'im took up the Aron.

⁵ And they brought up the Aron, and the Ohel Mo'ed and kol Klei HaKodesh (*all the Holy Articles*) that were in the Ohel, these did the Kohanim and the Levi'im bring up.

⁶ Also HaMelech Sh'lomo, and Kol Adat Yisroel that were assembled unto him before the Aron,

* 4:21 See Ex 25:31

* 5:3 i.e., Sukkot

† 5:3 Tishri

sacrificed tzon and bakar, which could not be told nor numbered for multitude.

⁷ And the Kohanim brought in the Aron Brit HASHEM unto its makom (*place*), to the Devir HaBeis, into the Kodesh HaKadoshim, even under the wings of the Keruvim;

⁸ For the Keruvim spread forth their wings over the place of the Aron, and the Keruvim covered over the Aron and the carrying poles thereof.

⁹ And they drew out the poles of the Aron, that the ends of the poles were seen from the Aron before the Devir; but they were not seen from the outside. And there it is unto this day.

¹⁰ There was nothing in the Aron except the two Luchot which Moshe put therein at Chorev, when HASHEM made a Brit with the Bnei Yisroel, when they came out of Mitzrayim.

¹¹ And it came to pass, when the Kohanim were come out of the Kodesh (for all the Kohanim that were present were set apart as kodesh, and the divisions were not observed);

¹² Also the Levi'im which were the meshorarim (*singers*), all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Yedutun, with their banim and their achim, being arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and lyres and kinnorot (*harps*), stood at the east of the Mizbe'ach, and with them a hundred and twenty Kohanim sounding trumpets:

¹³ It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and meshorarim were as one, making kol echad (*one voice, one sound*) to be heard in praising and thanking HASHEM; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and musical

instruments, and praised HASHEM, saying, Ki tov ki l'olam chasdo (*For He is good; for His mercy endureth forever*), that then the Beis was filled with an anan, even the Beis HASHEM,

¹⁴ So that the Kohanim could not stand to minister by reason of the anan; for the Kavod HASHEM had filled the Beis HaElohim[‡].§

6

¹ Then said Sh'lomo, HASHEM hath said that He would dwell in a dark cloud.

² But I have built Thee a lofty Beis, even a place for Thee to dwell olamim.

³ And HaMelech turned his face, v'yevarech at kol Kehal Yisroel, and all the Kehal Yisroel stood.

⁴ And he said, Baruch HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, Who hath with His hands fulfilled that which He spoke with His mouth to Dovid Avi, saying,

⁵ Since HaYom when I brought forth Ami out of Eretz Mitzrayim I chose no city among all the Shivtei Yisroel to build a Bais in, that Shmi might be there; neither chose I any ish to be a Nagid over Ami Yisroel,

⁶ But I chose Yerushalayim, that Shmi might be there; and chose Dovid to be over Ami Yisroel.

⁷ Now it was in the levav Dovid Avi to build a Bais for the Shem of HASHEM Elohei Yisroel.

⁸ But HASHEM said to Dovid Avi, Because it was in levavcha to build a Bais for Shmi, thou didst well in that it was in levavcha.

⁹ Nevertheless thou shalt not build HaBeis; but bincha (*your Son*) which shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build HaBeis for Shmi.

[‡] 5:14 See Acts chps 1-2 § 5:14 T.N. See 1C 3:16-17 regarding the Messianic fulfillment of 1Chr 6:9

¹⁰ HASHEM therefore hath performed His Devar that He hath spoken; for I am risen up after Dovid Avi, and I sit on the kisse Yisroel, just as HASHEM promised, and I built HaBeis for the Shem of HASHEM Elohei Yisroel.

¹¹ And in it have I put the Aron, wherein is the Brit HASHEM that He cut with the Bnei Yisroel.

¹² And he stood before the Mizbe'ach HASHEM in front kol Kehal Yisroel, and spread forth his hands;

¹³ For Sh'lomo had made a kiyyor nechoshet (*bronze platform*) five cubits long, and five cubits wide, and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the Azarah,* and upon it he stood, and knelt down upon his knees before kol Kehal Yisroel, and spread forth his hands toward Shomayim.

¹⁴ And said, HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, ein kmocha Elohim (*there is no G-d like Thee*) in Shomayim, nor in Ha'aretz; shomer HaBrit, who showest chesed unto Thy avadim, that walk before Thee with all their hearts.

¹⁵ Thou which has been shomer over Thy eved Dovid Avi over that which Thou hast promised him; and spoke with Thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with Thine hand, as it is this day.

¹⁶ Now therefore, HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, be shomer over Dovid Avi to keep that which Thou hast promised him, saying, There shall not fail thee an ish in My sight to sit upon the Kisse Yisroel; if only Banecha are shomer over their way to walk in My torah, as thou hast walked before Me.

* **6:13** see 2Chr 4:9

¹⁷ Now then, HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, let Thy Davar come true, which Thou hast spoken unto Thy eved Dovid.

¹⁸ But will Elohim really dwell with HaAdam on ha'aretz? Hinei, Shomayim and the Shmei HaShomayim cannot contain Thee; how much less this Beis which I built!

¹⁹ Yet give attention to the tefillah of Thy eved, and to his techinnah (*supplication*), O HASHEM Elohai, to pay heed unto the cry and the tefillah which Thy eved prayeth before Thee;

²⁰ That Thine eyes may be open toward this Beis yomam valailah, toward the makom (*place*) whereof Thou hast said that Thou wouldest put Shimcha there; to pay heed unto the tefillah which Thy eved prayeth toward this makom.

²¹ Pay heed therefore unto the tachanunei Avdecha (*supplications of Thy servant*), and of Thy people Yisroel, which they shall daven toward this place; hear Thou from Thy dwelling place, even from Shomayim; and when Thou hearest, salachta (*forgive*).

²² If an ish sin against his neighbor, and he is made to swear under oath and he swears an oath before Thine Mizbe'ach in this Beis,

²³ Then hear Thou from Shomayim, and act, and judge Thy avadim, by requiting the guilty, by recompensing his way upon his own rosh; and by justifying the tzaddik, by giving him according to his tzedakah.

²⁴ And if thy people Yisroel be defeated before the oyev (*enemy*), because they have sinned against Thee; and shall return and confess

Shmecha, and pray and make techinnah before Thee in this Beis,

²⁵ Then hear Thou from Shomayim, and forgive the sin of Thy people Yisroel, and bring them back to HaAdamah which Thou gave to them and to Avoteichem.

²⁶ When Shomayim is shut up, and there is no matar (*rain*), because they have sinned against Thee; yet if they pray toward this place, and confess Shmecha, and turn from their sin, when Thou dost afflict them;

²⁷ Then hear Thou from Shomayim, and forgive the sin of Thy avadim, and of Thy people Yisroel, when Thou hast taught them the Derech HaTovah, wherein they should walk; and send matar upon Thy land, which Thou hast given unto Thy people for a nachalah.

²⁸ If there be ra'av (*hunger, famine*) in the land, if there be dever, if there be blight, or mildew, locust, or grass-hopper; if their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever nega or machalah there be,

²⁹ Then what tefillah or what techinnah soever shall be made of kol ha'adam, or of all Thy people Yisroel, when every one shall know his own nega and his own pain, and shall spread forth his hands in this Beis,

³⁰ Then hear Thou from Shomayim Thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose lev Thou knowest; (for Thou only knowest the hearts of the Bnei HaAdam),

³¹ That they may fear Thee, to walk in Thy ways,

so long as they live in HaAdamah which Thou gavest unto Avoteinu.

³² Also concerning the nokhri, who is not of Thy people Yisroel, but is come from a far country for the sake of Shimcha Hagadol, Thy yad hachazakeh, and Thy zero'a stretched out; if they come and pray toward this Beis,

³³ Then hear Thou from Shomayim, even from Thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the nokhri calleth for to Thee, that kol Amei Ha'aretz may know Shmecha, and fear Thee, as doth Thy people Yisroel, and may know that this Beis which I have built is called by Shimcha.

³⁴ If Thy people go out to milchamah against their enemies by the derech that Thou shalt send them, and they pray unto Thee toward this city which Thou hast chosen, and the Beis which I have built for Shmecha,

³⁵ Then hear Thou from Shomayim their tefillah and their techinnah, and uphold their mishpat.

³⁶ If they sin against Thee, (for there is no adam which sinneth not), and Thou be angry with them, and deliver them over before their enemies, and they carry them away captive unto an Eretz rechokah or kerovah,

³⁷ Yet if they change in their heart in the land where they are carried captive, and repent and supplicate unto Thee in the land of their captivity, saying, Chatanu (*we have sinned*), he'evnu (*we have done wrong*), and rashanu (*we acted wickedly*);

³⁸ If they return to Thee with all their lev and with all their nefesh in the land of their captiv-

ity, where they have carried them captive, and pray toward their land, which Thou gavest unto Avotam, and toward HaIr which Thou hast chosen, and toward the Beis which I have built for Thy Shem,

³⁹ Then hear Thou from Shomayim, even from Thy dwelling place, their tefillah and their techinah, and uphold their mishpat, and forgive Thy people which have sinned against Thee.

⁴⁰ Now, Elohai, may Thine eyes be open, and let Thine ears be attentive unto the tefillah that is davened in this place.

⁴¹ Now therefore arise, HASHEM Elohim, into Thy resting place, Thou, and the Aron of Thy might; let Thy Kohanim, HASHEM Elohim, be clothed with Teshu'ah, and let Thy Chasidim rejoice in goodness.

⁴² HASHEM Elohim, turn not away the face of Thine Moshiach. Remember the Chasdei Dovid Avdecha.

7

¹ Now when Sh'lomo had made an end of davening, the eish came down from Shomayim, and consumed the olah and the zevakhim; and the kavod HASHEM filled HaBeis.

² And the Kohanim could not enter into the Beis HASHEM, because the kavod HASHEM had filled the Beis HASHEM.

³ And when all the Bnei Yisroel saw how the eish came down, and the kavod HASHEM upon HaBeis, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the ritzpah (*floor; pavement*) and worshiped, and gave thanks to HASHEM, saying, Ki

tov ki l'olam chasdo (*For He is good; for His mercy endureth forever*).

⁴ Then HaMelech and kol HaAm offered zevach before HASHEM.

⁵ And HaMelech Sh'lomo offered zevach of 22,000 bakar; and 120,000 tzon; so HaMelech and kol HaAm dedicated the Beis HaElohim.

⁶ And the Kohanim stood at their mishmerot (*watches*); the Levi'im also with kelei shir HASHEM, (*musical instruments of HASHEM*) which Dovid HaMelech had made to give thanks to HASHEM — ki l'olam chasdo (*for His mercy endureth forever*) — whenever Dovid praised by their means; and the Kohanim sounded khatzotzrot (*trumpets*) opposite them, and kol Yisroel stood.

⁷ Moreover Sh'lomo set apart as kodesh the toch hekhatzer (*center of the courtyard*) that was in front of the Beis HASHEM; for there he offered HaOlot and the chelvei hashelamim (*fat of peace offerings*), because the Mizbe'ach hanechoshet which Sh'lomo had made was not able to receive the Olot, and the Mincha, and HaChalavim (*the fats*).

⁸ Also at the same time Sh'lomo kept the Chag* shivat yamim, and kol Yisroel with him, a Kahal Gadol Me'od, from the Levo (*Approach*) Chamat unto the Wadi Mitzrayim.

⁹ And on the Yom HaShemini they held an Atzeret (*solemn assembly*); for they kept the chanukat HaMizbe'ach (*dedication of the altar*),† shivat yamim, and the Chag‡ shivat yamim.

* 7:8 See v. 9 † 7:9 i.e., the Beis Hamikdash ‡ 7:9 Sukkot

¹⁰ And on the three and twentieth day of the seventh month he sent HaAm away into their ohalim joyful and tovei lev for the goodness that HASHEM had showed unto Dovid, and to Sh'lomo, and to Yisroel His Am.

¹¹ Thus Sh'lomo finished the Beis HASHEM, and the Beis HaMelech; and all that came into the lev Sh'lomo to do in the Beis HASHEM, and in his own palace, he prosperously effected.

¹² And HASHEM appeared to Sh'lomo balailah, and said unto him, I have heard thy tefillah, and have chosen this makom for Myself for a Beis Zevach.

¹³ When I shut up Shomayim that there be no matar, or when I command the locusts to devour HaAretz, or when I send dever among Ami (*My People*);

¹⁴ If Ami, which are called by Shmi, shall humble themselves, and daven, and seek my face, and turn from their derakhim hara'im (*wicked ways*), then will I hear from Shomayim, and will forgive their chattat, and will heal their land.

¹⁵ Now Mine eyes shall be open, and Mine ears attentive unto the tefillah that is made in Makom HaZeh.

¹⁶ For now have I chosen and set apart as kodesh HaBeis HaZeh, that Shmi may be there ad olam, and Mine eyes and Mine lev shall be there kol hayamim.

¹⁷ And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before Me, as Dovid Avicha walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe My chukkot and My mishpatim;

¹⁸ Then will I establish the kisse of thy Malchut, just as I have covenanted with Dovid Avicha, saying, Lo yikaret lecha ish moshel b'Yisroel.

¹⁹ But if ye turn away, and forsake My chukkot and My mitzvot, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve elohim acherim, and worship them,

²⁰ Then will I uproot them out of My Adamah which I have given them; and HaBeis HaZeh, which I have set apart as kodesh for Shmi, will I cast out of My sight, and will make it to be a Mashal (*byword*) and an object of ridicule among Kol haAmim.

²¹ And HaBeis HaZeh, which is elyon, shall be an astonishment to every one that passeth by it; so that he shall say, Why hath HASHEM done thus unto HaAretz HaZot, and unto HaBeis Hazeh?

²² And it shall be answered, Because they forsook HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem, Who brought them forth out of Eretz Mitzrayim, and they laid hold on elohim acherim, and worshiped them, and served them; therefore hath He brought all this ra'ah upon them.

8

¹ And it came to pass at the end of esrim shanah, wherein Sh'lomo had built the Beis HASHEM, and his own bais (*palace*),

² That the cities which Churam had restored to Sh'lomo, Sh'lomo rebuilt them, and caused the Bnei Yisroel to dwell there.

³ And Sh'lomo went to Chamat Tzovah, and captured it.

⁴ And he built Tadmor in the midbar, and all the storage towns, which he built in Chamat.

⁵ Also he rebuilt Upper Beit-Choron, and Lower Beit-Choron, fortified cities, with walls, gates, and bars,

⁶ And Ba'alat, and all the storage towns that Sh'lomo had, and all the towns for the chariots, and the towns for the parashim (*horsemen, cavalry*) all the cheshek Sh'lomo (*desire of Solomon*) that he desired to build in Yerushalayim, and in the Levanon, and throughout all the eretz of his Memshalet.

⁷ As for kol haAm that were left of the Chitti, and HaEmori, and the Perizzi, and the Chivi, and the Yevusi, who were not of Yisroel,

⁸ From their banim, who were left after them in HaAretz, whom the Bnei Yisroel consumed not, them did Sh'lomo conscript for forced labor until yom hazeh.

⁹ But of the Bnei Yisroel did Sh'lomo make no avadim for his melachah; for they were anshei milchamah, and commanders of his officers, and commanders of his chariots and parash.

¹⁰ And these were the chief of the officials of Sh'lomo HaMelech, even two hundred and fifty, that exercised authority over HaAm.

¹¹ And Sh'lomo brought up the Bat Pharaoh out of Ir Dovid unto the palace that he had built for her, for he said, Isha li (*wife for me*) shall not dwell in the Bais Dovid Melech Yisroel, because the places whereunto the Aron HASHEM hath come are Kodesh.

¹² Then Sh'lomo offered up Olot unto HASHEM on the Mizbe'ach HASHEM, which he had built before

the Ulam,

¹³ Even according to the requirement of each day on its day, offering according to the mitzvat Moshe, on the Shabbatot, and on Rosh Chodesh, and on the Mo'adot, three times in the year, even in the Chag HaMatzot, and in the Chag HaShavuot, and in the Chag HaSukkot.

¹⁴ And he appointed, according to the mishpat Dovid Aviv, the machlekot (*divisions*) of the Kohanim to their avodah service, and the Levi'im to their mishmerot (*watches*), to praise and minister before the Kohanim, as the requirement of every yom required; the Sho'arim (*Gatekeepers*) also by their machlekot (*divisions*) at every sha'ar; for thus was the mitzvot Dovid Ish HaElohim.

¹⁵ And they deviated not from the mitzvat HaMelech unto the Kohanim and Levi'im concerning any matter, or concerning the otzarot.

¹⁶ Now all the work of Sh'lomo was carried out from the yom musad (*day of the foundation*) of the Beis HASHEM until its completion. So the Beis HASHEM was perfected.

¹⁷ Then went Sh'lomo to Etzyon-Gever, and to Eilat, on the seacoast of Eretz Edom.*

¹⁸ And Churam sent him by the hands of his avadim oniyot, and avadim that were experienced seamen; and they went with the avadim of Sh'lomo to Ophir, and took from there four hundred and fifty talents of zahav, and brought them to Sh'lomo HaMelech.

* **8:17** T.N. See Ep 2:20 in connection with the musad (foundation in 2Chr 8:16) where the OJBC speaks about Shluchim and Nevi'im and Moshiach as the Rosh Pinah

9

¹ And when the Malkat Sheva (*Queen of Sheba*) heard of the fame of Sh'lomo, she came to test Sh'lomo with chidot (*hard questions, riddles*) at Yerushalayim, with a very great caravan, and camels that carried spices, and zahav in abundance, and precious stones; and when she was come to Sh'lomo, she communed with him of all that was in her levav.

² And Sh'lomo gave answer to all her questions; and there was nothing hid from Sh'lomo which he explained not to her.

³ And when the Malkat Sheva had seen the Chochmat Sh'lomo, and HaBais (*the Palace*) that he had built,

⁴ And the ma'akhal (*food*) of his shulchan, and the moshav of his avadim, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel; his cupbearers also, and their apparel; and his aliyah (*ascent*) by which he went up to the Beis HASHEM; there was no more ruach in her.

⁵ And she said to HaMelech, Emes was the davar (*report*) which I heard in mine own country about thine acts, and of thy chochmah;

⁶ Howbeit I believed not their words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it; and, hinei, the one half of the greatness of thy chochmah was not told me, for thou exceedest the report that I heard.

⁷ Ashrei are thy anashim, and ashrei are these thy avadim, which stand continually before thee, and hear thy chochmah.

⁸ Baruch HASHEM Eloheicha Who delighted in thee to set thee on His kisse, to be Melech for

HASHEM Eloheicha, because Eloheicha loved Yisroel, to establish them l'olam, therefore He made thee Melech over them, to maintain Mishpat and Tzedakah.

⁹ And she gave HaMelech a hundred and twenty talents of zahav, and spices in great abundance, and precious stones; neither was there ever any such spice as the Malkat Sheva gave Sh'lomo HaMelech.

¹⁰ And the avadim also of Churam, and the avadim of Sh'lomo, which brought zahav from Ophir, brought atzei alummim (*alum trees*) and precious stones.

¹¹ And HaMelech made of the atzei alummim steps for the Beis HASHEM, and for the Beis HaMelech, and kinnorot and nevalim for the musicians; and there were none such seen before in the Eretz Yehudah.

¹² And Sh'lomo HaMelech gave to Malkat Sheva all her chefetz, whatsoever she asked, beside such that she had brought unto HaMelech. So she turned, and went away to her own land, she and her avadim.

¹³ Now the weight of zahav that came to Sh'lomo in one year was six hundred and threescore and six talents of zahav;

¹⁴ Besides that which traders and merchants brought. And all the melachim of Arabia and governors of the country brought zahav and kesef to Sh'lomo.

¹⁵ And Melech Sh'lomo made 200 shields of hammered zahav; 600 measures of hammered zahav went to one shield.

¹⁶ And 300 moginnim he made of hammered zahav; 300 measures of zahav went to one mogen.

And HaMelech put them in Beis Ya'ar HaLevanon (*House of the Forest of Levanon*).

¹⁷ Moreover HaMelech made a kisse shen gadol (*great ivory throne*) and overlaid it with zahav tahor.

¹⁸ And there were six steps to the kisse, with a kevesh (*ramp*) of zahav, which was attached to the kisse, and arms on each side of the seat, and two aroyot (*lions*) standing by the armrests;

¹⁹ And 12 aroyot stood there on the one side and on the other upon 6 steps. There was nothing like it made for any other mamlechah.

²⁰ And all the kelei mashkeh (*drinking vessels*) of Sh'lomo HaMelech were of zahav, and all the kelei Beis Ya'ar HaLevanon were of pure zahav; none were of kesef; it* was not accounted as anything in the days of Sh'lomo.

²¹ HaMelech had a fleet of oniyyot that went to Tarshish with the avadim of Churam. Once every three years came the oniyyot Tarshish bringing zahav, and kesef, ivory, and monkeys, and peacocks.

²² And Sh'lomo HaMelech surpassed all the Malkhei HaAretz in riches and chochmah.

²³ And all the Malkhei Ha'Aretz sought the presence of Sh'lomo, to hear his chochmah, that HaElohim had put in his lev.

²⁴ And they brought every ish his minchah (*present*), kelei kesef, kelei zahav, and clothing, weapons, and spices, susim, and peradim (*mules*), at a set rate.

* 9:20 silver

²⁵ And Sh'lomo had four thousand stalls for susim and markovot (*chariots*), and twelve thousand parashim whom he kept in the chariot cities, and with HaMelech at Yerushalayim.

²⁶ And he reigned over all the melachim from the River[†] even unto the Eretz Pelishtim, and to the border of Mitzrayim.

²⁷ And HaMelech made kesef in Yerushalayim as common as stones, and cedar trees he made like sycamore trees that are in the Shefelah in abundance.

²⁸ And they imported unto Sh'lomo susim out of Mitzrayim, and from all the lands.

²⁹ Now the rest of the Divrei Sh'lomo, harishonim and ha'acharonim, are they not written in the Divrei Natan HaNavi, and in the Nevu'at Achiyah the Shiloni, and in the chazot Yadai HaChozar against Yarov'am ben Nevat?

³⁰ And Sh'lomo reigned in Yerushalayim over kol Yisroel arba'im shanah.

³¹ And Sh'lomo slept with Avotav, and he was buried in Ir Dovid Aviv. And Rechav'am Bno reigned in his place.

10

¹ And Rechav'am went to Shechem, for to Shechem were kol Yisroel come to make him melech.

² And it came to pass, when Yarov'am ben Nevat, who was in Mitzrayim, where he fled from the presence of Sh'lomo HaMelech heard it, that Yarov'am returned out of Mitzrayim.

[†] 9:26 i.e., the Euphrates

³ And they sent and called him. So Yarov'am and kol Yisroel came and spoke to Rechav'am, saying,

⁴ Avicha made our ol (*yoke*) kasheh (*difficult, harsh*); now therefore ease thou somewhat the grievous avodas Avicha, and his heavy ol (*yoke*)* that he put upon us, and we will serve thee.

⁵ And he said unto them, Shuvu (*come back, return*) unto me after shloshet yamin. And HaAm departed.

⁶ And HaMelech Rechav'am took counsel with the Zekenim that had stood before Sh'lomo Avi while he yet lived, saying, What counsel give ye me to return answer to HaAm HaZeh?

⁷ And they spoke unto him, saying, If thou be kind to HaAm HaZeh, and please them, and speak devarim tovim to them, they will be thy avadim kol hayamim (*all the days*).

⁸ But he forsook the Atzat HaZekenim they gave him, and took counsel with the yeladim that were brought up with him, that stood before him.

⁹ And he said unto them, What advice give ye that we may return answer to HaAm HaZeh, which have spoken to me, saying, Ease somewhat haOl that Avicha did put upon us?

¹⁰ And the yeladim that grew up with him spoke unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou answer HaAm that spoke unto thee, saying, Avicha made our ol (*yoke*) heavy, but make thou it somewhat lighter for us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little finger is thicker than the loins of Avi.

¹¹ For whereas Avi put an ol kaved (*a heavy yoke*) upon you, I will add more to your ol (*yoke*).

* **10:4** i.e., taxes, see verse 18

Avi chastised you with shotim (*whips*), but I will chastise you with akrabim (*scorpions*).

¹² So Yarov'am and kol HaAm came to Rechav'am on the Yom HaShelishi, as HaMelech said, Shuva (*return*) to me on the Yom HaShelishi.

¹³ And HaMelech answered them kashah (*harshly*); and HaMelech Rechav'am forsook the Atzat HaZekenim,

¹⁴ And answered them after the Atzat HaYeladim, saying, Avi made your ol (*yoke*) heavy, but I will add thereto; Avi chastised you with shotim (*whips*), but I will chastise you with akrabim (*scorpions*).

¹⁵ So HaMelech paid heed not unto HaAm, for the nesibah (*turn of events, circumstance*) was of HaElohim, that HASHEM might perform His Devar, which He spoke by the yad Achiyah HaShiloni to Yarov'am ben Nevat.[†]

¹⁶ And when kol Yisroel saw that HaMelech would not pay heed unto them, HaAm answered HaMelech, saying,

What chelek have we in Dovid?
We have none nachalah in Ben Yishai.
Every ish to your ohalim, O Yisroel!
and now, Dovid, see to thine own Bais!

So kol Yisroel went to their ohalim.

¹⁷ But as for the Bnei Yisroel that dwelt in the towns of Yehudah, Rechav'am reigned over them.

¹⁸ Then HaMelech Rechav'am sent Hadoram[‡] who was over the mas (*tax, tribute*); and the Bnei Yisroel stoned him with stones, that he died. But

[†] **10:15** 1Kgs 11:29-39 [‡] **10:18** 1Kgs 12:18 "Adoram"

HaMelech Rechav'am made speed to get up into his merkavah, to escape to Yerushalayim.

¹⁹ And Yisroel rebelled against the Bais Dovid unto Hayom Hazeh.

11

¹ And when Rechav'am was come to Yerushalayim, he gathered of the Bais Yehudah and Binyamin a hundred and fourscore thousand bachur oseh milchamah (*chosen men, which were warriors*), to make war against Yisroel, that he might restore the mamlachah to Rechav'am.

² But the Devar HASHEM came to Shema'yah the Ish HaElohim, saying,

³ Speak unto Rechav'am ben Sh'lomo Melech Yehudah, and to kol Yisroel in Yehudah and Binyamin, saying,

⁴ Thus saith HASHEM, Ye shall not go up, nor make war against your achim. Shuvu (*return*) every ish to his bais, for this thing is done from Me. And they obeyed the divrei HASHEM, and returned back from going against Yarov'am.

⁵ And Rechav'am dwelt in Yerushalayim, and built arim lematzor (*cities for defense*) in Yehudah.

⁶ He built even Beit-Lechem, and Eitam, and Tekoa,

⁷ Beit-Tzur, Sokhoh, Adullam,

⁸ Gat, Mareshah, Ziph,

⁹ And Adorayim, and Lakhish, and Azekah,

¹⁰ And Tzorah, and Ayalon, and Chevron, which are in Yehudah and in Binyamin arei metzurot (*fortified cities*).

¹¹ And he fortified the metzurot (*fortifications*), and put negidim (*rulers*) in them, and otzerot ma'achal (*storage places of food*), and of shemen and yayin.

¹² And in all the cities he put shields and spears, and made them exceeding strong, having Yehudah and Binyamin on his side.

¹³ And the Kohanim and the Levi'im that were in kol Yisroel availed themselves to him from all their territories.

¹⁴ For the Levi'im abandoned their commonlands and their achuzzah (*possession, estate*) and came to Yehudah and Yerushalayim; for Yarov'am and his banim had cast them off from executing the office of Kohen unto HASHEM.

¹⁵ And he ordained him kohanim for the high places, and for the se'irim (*goat idols, demons*) and for the agalim (*calf idols*) which he had made.

¹⁶ And after them from all the Shivtei Yisroel such as set their hearts to seek HASHEM Elohei Yisroel came to Yerushalayim, to sacrifice unto HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem.

¹⁷ So they strengthened the Malchut Yehudah, and made Rechav'am ben Sh'lomo strong, shanim shalosh. For shanim shalosh they walked in the Derech Dovid u'Sh'lomo.

¹⁸ And Rechav'am took him Machalat bat Yerimot Ben Dovid as isha, and Avihayil bat Eliav ben Yishai,

¹⁹ Which bore him banim: Ye'ush, and She-
maryah, and Zaham.

²⁰ And after her he took Ma'achah bat Avshalom, who bore him Aviyah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shlomit.

21 And Rechav'am loved Ma'achah bat Avshalom more than any of his nashim and his pilagshim; (for he took eighteen nashim, and threescore pilagshim, and fathered twenty and eight banim, and threescore banot.)

22 And Rechav'am made Aviyah ben Ma'achah the rosh, to be nagid among his achim, for he intended to make him melech.

23 And he acted wisely, and dispersed kol banim of him throughout all the lands of Yehudah and Binyamin, unto all of the arei hametzurot (*fortified cities*); and he gave them mazon (*provision, food*) in abundance. And he took for them many wives.

12

1 And it came to pass, when Rechav'am had established the malchut, and had strengthened himself, he forsook the Torat HASHEM, and kol Yisroel with him.

2 And it came to pass, that in the shanah hachamishit of Melech Rechav'am Shishak Melech Mitzrayim came up against Yerushalayim, because they were unfaithful to HASHEM,

3 With 1,200 chariots, and 60,000 parashim, and troops without number that came with him out of Mitzrayim, the Luvim, the Sukiyim, and the Cushim.

4 And he captured the arei hametzurot (*fortified cities*) which are of Yehudah, and came as far as Yerushalayim.

5 Then came Shema'yah HaNavi to Rechav'am, and to the Sarim of Yehudah, that were assembled in Yerushalayim because of Shishak, and said

unto them, Thus saith HASHEM, Ye have forsaken me, and therefore have I also abandoned you in the yad Shishak.

⁶ Whereupon the Sarim (*princes*) of Yisroel and HaMelech humbled themselves; and they said, Tzaddik HASHEM.

⁷ And when HASHEM saw that they humbled themselves, the Devar HASHEM came to Shema'yah, saying, They have humbled themselves; therefore I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some peleitah (*deliverance, rescue*); and My chamah (*anger, wrath*) shall not be poured out upon Yerushalayim by the yad Shishak.

⁸ Nevertheless they shall be his avadim; that they may differentiate My avodah, and the avodat mamlechut of the lands.

⁹ So Shishak Melech Mitzrayim came up against Yerushalayim, and carried away the otzerot of the Beis HASHEM, and the otzerot Bais HaMelech. He took all; he carried away also the moginei hazahav (*shields of gold*) which Sh'lomo had made.

¹⁰ Instead of which HaMelech Rechav'am made moginei nechoshet, and committed them to the hands of the commanders of the guard, the Shomrim who kept the Petach Bais Hamelech.

¹¹ And as often as HaMelech entered into the Beis HASHEM, the guard came and got the shields, and afterward brought them again into the guard-room.

¹² And when he humbled himself, the Af HASHEM turned from him, that He would not destroy him altogether; and also in Yehudah things went well.

¹³ So HaMelech Rechav'am strengthened himself in Yerushalayim, and reigned; for Rechav'am was one and forty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Yerushalayim, HaIr that HASHEM had chosen out of all the Shivtei Yisroel, to put Shmo there. And the shem immo was Na'amah HaAmmonit.

¹⁴ And he did rah, because he set not his lev to seek HASHEM.

¹⁵ Now the acts of Rechav'am, harishonim and ha'acharonim, are they not written in the Divrei Shema'yah HaNavi, and of Iddo HaChozer with genealogies? And there were milchamot between Rechav'am and Yarov'am continually.

¹⁶ And Rechav'am slept with Avotav, and was buried in Ir Dovid; and Aviyah bno reigned in his place.

13

¹ Now in the eighteenth year of Melech Yarov'am began Aviyah to reign over Yehudah.

² He reigned 3 shanim in Yerushalayim. And the shem immo was Michayah bat Uriel of Giv'ah. And there was milchamah between Aviyah and Yarov'am.

³ And Aviyah led the milchamah with an army of gibborei milchamah, even 400 elef ish bachur. Yarov'am also drew up for milchamah against him with 800 elef ish bachur, gibbor chayil.

⁴ And Aviyah stood up upon Mt Tzemarayim, which is in the hill country of Ephrayim, and said, Hear me, thou Yarov'am, and kol Yisroel.

⁵ Ought ye not to know that HASHEM Elohei Yisroel gave the Mamlachah over Yisroel to Dovid

l'olam (*forever*), even to him and to his banim by a Brit Melach?*

⁶ Yet Yarov'am ben Nevat eved Sh'lomo ben Dovid is risen up, and hath rebelled against Adonav.

⁷ And there are gathered unto him anashim rekim, the Bnei Beliyaal, and have strengthened themselves against Rechav'am ben Sh'lomo, when Rechav'am was na'ar and rakh levav (*faint-hearted*), and could not withstand them.

⁸ And now ye think to withstand the Mamlechet HASHEM in the yad Bnei Dovid; and ye be a great multitude, and there are with you eglei zahav, which Yarov'am made you for elohim.

⁹ Have ye not cast out the Kohanim of HASHEM, the Bnei Aharon, and the Levi'im, and have made you kohanim after the manner of the peoples of other lands? So whosoever cometh to consecrate himself with a young bull and 7 rams, the same may be a kohen of them that are no elohim.

¹⁰ But as for us, HASHEM is Eloheinu, and we have not forsaken Him, and the Kohanim, me-sharetim unto HASHEM, are the Bnei Aharon, and the Levi'im do their work;

¹¹ And they burn unto HASHEM baboker baboker and baerev baerev olot and ketoret sammim; the array of lechem is also set in order upon the shulchan hatahor; and the menorah hazahav with the nerot thereof is lit erev ba'erev, for we are the Shomrim of the Mishmeret HASHEM Eloheinu; but ye have forsaken Him.

¹² And, hinei, HaElohim Himself is with us as Rosh, and His Kohanim have their chatzotzerot to

* 13:5 See Num 18:19

sound the alarm against you. O Bnei Yisroel, fight ye not against HASHEM Elohei Avoteichem; for ye shall not prosper.

¹³ But Yarov'am caused a ma'arav to come about behind them so that they were before Yehudah, and the ma'arav was behind them.

¹⁴ And when Yehudah turned, hinei, the milchamah was before and behind, and they cried unto HASHEM, and the Kohanim sounded the battle trumpets.

¹⁵ Then the Ish Yehudah gave a shout, and as the Ish Yehudah shouted, it came to pass, that HaElohim routed Yarov'am and kol Yisroel before Aviyah and Yehudah.

¹⁶ And the Bnei Yisroel fled before Yehudah, and Elohim delivered them into their yad.

¹⁷ And Aviyah and his army slaughtered them with a makkah rabbah (*great slaughter*); so there fell down slain of Yisroel five hundred thousand ish bachur.

¹⁸ Thus the Bnei Yisroel were subdued at that time, and the Bnei Yehudah prevailed, because they relied upon HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem.

¹⁹ And Aviyah pursued after Yarov'am, and took cities from him: Beit-El with the towns thereof, and Yeshanah with the villages thereof, and Ephrayim with the villages thereof.

²⁰ Neither did Yarov'am recover ko'ach again in the days of Aviyah; and HASHEM struck him, and he died.

²¹ But Aviyah grew strong, and married fourteen nashim, and fathered twenty and two banim, and sixteen banot.

²² And the rest of the acts of Aviyah, and his deeds, and his words, are written in the Midrash HaNavi Iddo.

²³ So Aviyah slept with Avotav, and they buried him in Ir Dovid, and Asa bno reigned in his place. In his days HaAretz was at peace eser shanim.

14

¹ And Asa did that which was hatov and yashar in the eyes of HASHEM Elohav;

² For he took away the mizbechot hanekhar (*foreign altars*), and the high places, and smashed the matzevot, and cut down the Asherim;

³ And commanded Yehudah to seek HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem, and to observe the Torah and the Mitzvah.

⁴ Also he took away out of all the towns of Yehudah the high places and the chammanim (*sun-pillar idols*); and the mamlachah was at peace under him.

⁵ And he built arei metzurah in Yehudah; for HaAretz was at peace, and he had no milchamah in those years, because HASHEM had given him rest.

⁶ Therefore he said unto Yehudah, Let us build up these cities, and make about them chomah, and migdalim, gates, and bars. HaAretz is yet before us, because we have sought HASHEM Eloheinu, we have sought Him, and He hath given us rest on every side. So they built and prospered.

⁷ And Asa had an army of men that bore shields and spears, out of Yehudah three hundred thousand; and out of Binyamin, that bore mogen and

drew keshet (*bow*), two hundred and fourscore elef; all these were gibborei chayil.

⁸ And there came out against them Zerach HaCushi with a host of elef alafim, and three hundred merkavot; and came as far as Mareshah.

⁹ Then Asa went out against him, and they took up position for the milchamah in the valley of Tzephatah at Mareshah.

¹⁰ And Asa cried unto HASHEM Elohav, and said, HASHEM, there is none besides Thee to help, whether with rav, or with them that have no ko'ach. Help us, HASHEM Eloheinu, for we rely on Thee; in Shimecha we go against this multitude. HASHEM Thou art Eloheinu; let no enosh prevail against Thee.

¹¹ So HASHEM struck down HaCushim before Asa, and before Yehudah, and HaCushim fled.

¹² And Asa and HaAm that were with him pursued them as far as Gerar, and HaCushim fell, until they could not survive, for they were crushed before HASHEM, and before His Machaneh. They carried off very much plunder.

¹³ And they destroyed all the towns around Gerar; for the Pachad HASHEM fell upon them, and they plundered all the towns, for there was exceeding much booty in them.

¹⁴ They attacked also the ohalim of herdsmen, and carried off tzon and gemalim in abundance, and returned to Yerushalayim.

15

¹ And the Ruach Elohim came upon Azaryahu ben Oded;

² And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and kol Yehudah and Binyamin. HASHEM is with you, while ye be with Him; if ye seek Him, He will be found of you; if ye forsake Him, He will forsake you.

³ Now for yamim rabbim Yisroel hath been without the Elohei Emes, and without a Kohen Moreh, and without Torah.

⁴ But when they in their tzoros did turn unto HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, and sought Him, He was found by them.

⁵ And in those times there was no shalom to him that went out, nor to him that came in, but mehumot rabbot (*great turmoil*) was upon all the inhabitants of the lands.

⁶ And nation was destroyed of nation, and city of city, for Elohim did trouble them with every tzuris.

⁷ Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak, for there is sachar (*reward*) for your pe'ulah (*work*).

⁸ And when Asa heard these words, and the nevu'ah of Oded HaNavi, he took courage, and put away the shikkutzim (*abominable idols*) from kol Eretz Yehudah and Binyamin, and from the cities which he had captured from Mt Ephrayim, and renewed the Mizbe'ach HASHEM, that was in front of the Ulam HASHEM.

⁹ And he gathered all Yehudah and Binyamin, and the gerim with them from Ephrayim and Menasheh, and from Shim'on, for they fell to him from Yisroel in abundance, when they saw that HASHEM Elohav was with him.

¹⁰ So they gathered themselves together at

Yerushalayim in the chodesh hashelishi, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

¹¹ And they offered unto HASHEM on that day, of the plunder which they had brought back, 700 bakar and 7,000 tzon.

¹² And they entered into the Brit to seek HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem with all their lev and with all their nefesh;

¹³ That whosoever would not seek HASHEM Elohei Yisroel should be put to death, whether katan or gadol, whether ish or isha.

¹⁴ And they swore unto HASHEM with a kol gadol, and with teruah, and with trumpets, and with shoferot.

¹⁵ And all Yehudah rejoiced at the shevu'ah, for they had sworn with all their lev, and sought Him with their whole ratzon; and He was found by them; and HASHEM gave them rest all around.

¹⁶ And also concerning Ma'achah em Asa HaMelech, he deposed her from being gevirah, because she had made to Asherah a mifletzet, and Asa cut down her mifletzet, and ground it up, and burned it at the Wadi Kidron.

¹⁷ But the high places were not removed from Yisroel; nevertheless the levav Asa was shalem all his days.

¹⁸ And he brought into the Beis HaElohim the things that Aviv had dedicated as kodesh, and that he himself had dedicated as kodesh, kesef, and zahav, and kelim.

¹⁹ And there was no more milchamah unto the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.

16

¹ In the six and thirtieth year Malchut Asa (*of the reign of Asa*) Ba'asha Melech Yisroel went up against Yehudah, and fortified Ramah, to the intent that he might let none go out or come in to the territory of Asa Melech Yehudah.

² Then Asa brought out kesef and zahav out of the otzarot of the Beis HASHEM and of the Bais HaMelech, and sent to Ben-Hadad Melech Aram (*Syria*), the one ruling in Damascus, saying,

³ There is a brit between me and thee, as there was between Avi and Avicha. Hinei, I have sent thee kesef and zahav; come, break thy brit with Ba'asha Melech Yisroel, that he may withdraw from me.

⁴ And Ben-Hadad paid heed unto HaMelech Asa, and sent the officers of his forces against the cities of Yisroel, and they struck down Iyon, and Dan, and Abel-Mayim, and all the storage cities of Naphtali.

⁵ And it came to pass, when Ba'asha heard it, that he left off building of Ramah, and let his work cease.

⁶ Then Asa HaMelech took all Yehudah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Ba'asha was building; and he built therewith Geva and Mitzpah.

⁷ And at that time Chanani HaRo'eh came to Asa Melech Yehudah, and said unto him, Because thou hast relied on Melech Aram, and not relied on HASHEM Eloheicha, therefore is the army of Melech Aram escaped out of thine yad.

⁸ Were not the Cushim and the Luvim a huge army, with very many chariots and parashim?

Yet, because thou didst rely on HASHEM, He delivered them into thine yad.

⁹ For the eyes of HASHEM run to and fro kol HaAretz, to strengthen them whose lev is shalem (*wholehearted*) toward Him. Herein thou hast done foolishly; therefore from henceforth thou shalt have milchamot.

¹⁰ Then Asa was wroth with the ro'eh, put him in a prison house; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of HaAm at the same time.

¹¹ And, hinei, the acts of Asa, harishonim and ha'acharonim, see, they are written in the Sefer HaMelachim Yehudah and Yisroel.

¹² And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his malchut (*reign*) became diseased in his raglayim, until his disease was exceedingly great. Yet even in his disease he sought not HASHEM, but only the rofe'im.

¹³ And Asa slept with his Avotav, and died in the one and fortieth year of his reign.

¹⁴ And they buried him in his own kever (*sepulchre, burial cave*), which he had cut for himself in Ir Dovid, and laid him on a mishkav (*bed*) which was filled with sweet spices and perfumes prepared by the apothecaries art; and they burned for him a very large serefah gedolah (*great fire, pyre*).

17

¹ And Yehoshaphat bno reigned in his place, and strengthened himself against Yisroel.

² And he placed troops in all the fortified cities of Yehudah, and set netzivim (*garrisons*) in Eretz

Yehudah, and in the towns of Ephrayim, which Asa Aviv had captured.

³ And HASHEM was with Yehoshaphat, because he walked in the darkhei Dovid Aviv harishonim, and sought not unto Ba'alim;

⁴ But sought HASHEM Elohei Aviv, and walked in His mitzvot, and not after the ma'asei Yisroel.

⁵ Therefore HASHEM established the Mamlachah in his yad; and all Yehudah brought to Yehoshaphat minchah; and he had osher and kavod in abundance.

⁶ And his lev was elevated in the darkhei HASHEM; moreover he removed the high places and Asherim from Yehudah.

⁷ Also in the third year of his reign he sent to his sarim (*officials*), even to Ben-Chayil, and to Ovadyah, and to Zecharyah, and to Netanel, and to Michayah, to teach in the cities of Yehudah.

⁸ And with them he sent Levi'im, even Shema'yahu, and Netanyahu, and Zevadyahu, and Asahel, and Shemiramot, and Yehonatan, and Adoniyahu, and Toviyahu, and Tov Adoniyah, Levi'im; and with them Elishama and Yehoram, Kohanim.

⁹ And they taught in Yehudah, and had with them the Sefer Torat HASHEM, and went about throughout all the cities of Yehudah, and taught HaAm.

¹⁰ And the Pachad HASHEM fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that were surrounding Yehudah, so that they made no war against Yehoshaphat.

¹¹ Also some of the Pelishtim (*Philistines*) brought Yehoshaphat minchah, and kesef massa

(tribute); and the Arabs brought him tzon, seven thousand seven hundred rams, and seven thousand seven hundred goats.

¹² And Yehoshaphat grew great exceedingly; and he built in Yehudah fortresses and storage cities.

¹³ And he had melachah rabbah in the cities of Yehudah; and the anshei milchamah, gibborei chayil were in Yerushalayim.

¹⁴ And these are the pekuddah (*enrollment numbers*) of them according to the Bais Avoteihem: of Yehudah, the sarei alafim; Adnah HaSar, and with him gibborei chayil three hundred elef.

¹⁵ And next to him was Yehochanan HaSar, and with him two hundred and fourscore elef.

¹⁶ And next to him was Amasyah ben Zichri, who volunteered unto HASHEM, and with him two hundred elef gibbor chayil.

¹⁷ And from Binyamin, Elyada a gibbor chayil, and with him armed men with keshet and mogen two hundred elef.

¹⁸ And next to him was Yehozavad, and with him a hundred and fourscore elef battle-ready.

¹⁹ These waited on HaMelech, beside those whom HaMelech put in the fortified cities throughout all Yehudah.

18

¹ Now Yehoshaphat had osher and kavod in abundance, and allied himself with Ach'av.

² And l'ketz shanim he went down to Ach'av in Shomron. And Ach'av killed tzon and bakar for him in abundance, and for HaAm that he had with

him, and persuaded him to go up with him to Ramot Gil'ad.

³ And Ach'av Melech Yisroel said unto Yehoshaphat Melech Yehudah, Wilt thou go with me to Ramot Gil'ad? And he answered him, I am as thou art, and my people as thy people; and we will be with thee in the milchamah.

⁴ And Yehoshaphat said unto the Melech Yisroel, Inquire, now at the Devar HASHEM today.

⁵ Therefore the Melech Yisroel gathered together of nevi'im four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall we go to war against Ramot Gil'ad, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for HaElohim will deliver it into the yad HaMelech.

⁶ But Yehoshaphat said, Is there not here a navi of HASHEM, that we might inquire of him?

⁷ And the Melech Yisroel said unto Yehoshaphat, There is yet ish echad (*one man*), by whom we may inquire of HASHEM, but I hate him because he never prophesied for tov about me, but always ra'ah; the same is Mikhay'hu ben Yimlach. And Yehoshaphat said, HaMelech should not say that.

⁸ And the Melech Yisroel called for one of his officials, and said, Bring at once Mikhay'hu ben Yimlach.

⁹ And the Melech Yisroel and Yehoshaphat Melech Yehudah sat either of them on his kisse, clothed in their begadim, and they sat in the goren (*threshing floor*) at the petach (*entrance*) Sha'ar Shomron; and all the nevi'im prophesied before them.

¹⁰ And Tzidkiyahu ben Kena'anah had made him karnayim of barzel, and said, Thus saith

HASHEM, With these thou shalt gore Aram (*Syria*) until they be consumed.

¹¹ And all the nevi'im prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramot Gil'ad, and be victorious, for HASHEM shall deliver it into the yad HaMelech.

¹² And the malach that went to call Mikhay'hu spoke to him, saying, Hinei, the divrei hanevi'im declare tov to HaMelech with peh echad (*one mouth*); let thy word therefore, now, be like one of theirs, and speak thou tov.

¹³ And Mikhay'hu said, As HASHEM liveth, only what Elohai saith, that will I speak.

¹⁴ And when he was come to HaMelech, HaMelech said unto him, Michah, shall we go to war against Ramot Gil'ad, or shall I forbear? And he said, Go ye up, and be victorious, and they shall be delivered into your yad.

¹⁵ And HaMelech said to him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou say nothing but the emes to me in the Shem of HASHEM?

¹⁶ Then he said, I saw kol Yisroel scattered upon the mountains, like tzon that have no ro'eh, and HASHEM said, These have no adonim; let them return therefore every ish to his bais in shalom.

¹⁷ And the Melech Yisroel said to Yehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would not prophesy tov unto me, but rah?

¹⁸ Again he said, Therefore hear the Devar HASHEM: I saw HASHEM sitting upon His Kisse, and all Tzva HaShomayim standing on his right and on his left.

¹⁹ And HASHEM said, Who shall entice Ach'av Melech Yisroel, that he may go up and fall at

Ramot Gil'ad? And one spoke saying after this manner, and another saying after that manner.

²⁰ Then there came out a ruach, and stood before HASHEM, and said, I will entice him. And HASHEM said unto him, How?

²¹ And he said, I will go out, and be a ruach sheker (*lying spirit*) in the mouth of all his nevi'im. And HASHEM said, Thou shalt entice him, and thou shalt also succeed; go out, and do even so.

²² Now therefore, hinei, HASHEM hath put a ruach sheker in the mouth of these thy nevi'im, and HASHEM hath decreed ra'ah against thee.

²³ Then Tzidkiyahu ben Kena'anah came near, and struck Mikhay'hu upon the lechi (*cheek*), and said, Which way went the Ruach HASHEM from me to speak unto thee?

²⁴ And Mikhay'hu said, Thou shalt find out on that yom when thou shalt go into cheder b'cheder (*inner chamber*) to hide thyself.

²⁵ Then the Melech Yisroel said, Take ye Mikhay'hu, and carry him back to Amon Sar HaIr, and to Yoash ben HaMelech,

²⁶ And say, Thus saith HaMelech, Put this in the bais hakeleh, and feed him with only a scanty prison diet of lechem and only mayim, until I return b'shalom.

²⁷ And Mikhay'hu said, If thou certainly return in shalom, then hath not HASHEM spoken by me. And he said, Mark words, all ye people.

²⁸ So the Melech Yisroel and Yehoshaphat Melech Yehudah went up to Ramot Gil'ad.

²⁹ And the Melech Yisroel said unto Yehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and I will

go to the milchamah; but put thou on thy robes. So the Melech Yisroel disguised himself; and they went to the milchamah.

³⁰ Now Melech Aram had commanded the commanders of the chariots that were with him, saying, Fight ye not with katon or gadol, only with the Melech Yisroel.

³¹ And it came to pass, when the commanders of the chariots saw Yehoshaphat, that they said, It is the Melech Yisroel. Therefore they surrounded him to fight, but Yehoshaphat cried out, and HASHEM helped him; and Elohim moved them away from him.

³² For it came to pass, that, when the commanders of the chariots perceived that it was not Melech Yisroel, they turned back from pursuing him.

³³ And an ish drew a keshet at random, and struck Melech Yisroel between the devakim (*joints*) of the shiryon (*armor*); therefore he said to his chariot driver, Turn thine yad, that thou mayest take me out of the machaneh, for I am wounded.

³⁴ And the milchamah increased that day. Howbeit the Melech Yisroel propped himself up in his merkavah facing Aram (*the Syrians*) until the erev; and about the time of the shemesh going down he died.*

* **18:34** T.N. This story illustrates the great difficulty in being a preacher that people will listen to: they want to hear what they want to hear, and, being set in their ways, have decided to mold the House of G-d to their stubbornness, rather than change or grow in the L-rd

19

¹ And Yehoshaphat Melech Yehudah returned to his Bais (*Palace*) in shalom in Yerushalayim.

² And Yehu ben Chanani HaChozer (*the Seer*) went out to meet him, and said to HaMelech Yehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the rasha, and love them that hate HASHEM? Therefore ketzef (*wrath*) is upon thee from before HASHEM.

³ Nevertheless there are devarim tovim (*good things*) found in thee, in that thou hast removed HaAsherot from HaAretz, and hast prepared thine lev to seek HaElohim.

⁴ And Yehoshaphat dwelt in Yerushalayim; and he went out again among HaAm from Be'er-Sheva to Mt Ephrayim, and he turned them back unto HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem.

⁵ And he appointed Shofetim in HaAretz throughout all the fortified cities of Yehudah, city by city,

⁶ And said to the Shofetim, Take heed what ye do, for ye judge not for adam, but for HASHEM, Who is with you in the devar mishpat (*verdict*).

⁷ Wherefore now let the Pachad HASHEM be upon you; be shomer and do it, for there is no avlah (*injustice*) with HASHEM Eloheinu, nor massa panim (*respect of persons*), nor mikkach shochad (*taking of bribes*).

⁸ Moreover in Yerushalayim did Yehoshaphat station Levi'im, and Kohanim, and Rashei HaAvot Yisroel, for the Mishpat HASHEM, and for riv (*disputes*), and they returned to Yerushalayim.

⁹ And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the yirat HASHEM, be'emunah and with a levav shalem.

¹⁰ And what riv soever shall come before you of your achim that dwell in your cities, between dahm and dahm, between torah and mitzvah, chukkot and mishpatim, ye shall even warn them that they trespass not against HASHEM, and so ketzef (*wrath*) come upon you, and upon your achim; this do, and ye shall not trespass.

¹¹ And, hinei, Amaryahu Kohen HaRosh is over you in all matters of HASHEM; and Zevadyahu ben Yishmael, the Nagid of the Bais Yehudah, for all the matters of HaMelech; also the Levi'im shall be shoterim (*officers*) before you. Deal courageously, and HASHEM be with hatov.

20

¹ It came to pass after this also, that the Bnei Moav, and the Bnei Ammon, and with them some Ammonim, came against Yehoshaphat to make milchamah.

² Then there came some that told Yehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the Yam (*Dead Sea*), from Aram; and, hinei, they are in Chatzetzon-Tamar, which is Ein-Gedi.

³ And Yehoshaphat feared, and set his face to inquire of HASHEM, and proclaimed a tzom throughout all Yehudah.

⁴ And Yehudah gathered themselves together, to ask help of HASHEM, even from all the towns of Yehudah they came to seek help of HASHEM.

⁵ And Yehoshaphat stood in the Kehal Yehudah and Yerushalayim, in the Beis HASHEM, before the khatzer hachadashah,

⁶ And he said, HASHEM Elohei Avoteinu, art not Thou Elohim in Shomayim? And moshel (*rulest*) not Thou over kol mamlechet haGoyim? And in Thine yad is there not ko'ach and gevurah, so that none is able to withstand thee?

⁷ Art not Thou Eloheinu, Who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before Thy people Yisroel, and gavest it to the Zera Avraham ohav'cha l'olam (*Thy friend forever*)?

⁸ And they dwelt therein, and have built Thee a Mikdash therein for Thy Shem, saying,

⁹ If, when ra'ah cometh upon us, as the cherev, shefot, or dever, or ra'av (*famine*), we stand before HaBeis HaZeh, and in Thy presence, (for Thy Shem is in HaBeis HaZeh,) and cry unto Thee in tzarateinu (*our affliction*), then Thou wilt hear and save.

¹⁰ And now, hinei, the Bnei Ammon and Moav and Mt Se'ir, whom Thou wouldst not let Yisroel invade, when they came out of Eretz Mitzrayim, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not,

¹¹ Hinei, what gomelim (*ones repaying*) they are to us, to come to drive us out of Thy yerushah (*inheritance*), which Thou hast given us.

¹² O Eloheinu, wilt Thou not judge them? For we have no ko'ach against this great multitude that cometh against us; neither know we what to do, but our eyes are upon Thee.

¹³ And all Yehudah stood before HASHEM, with their little ones, their nashim, and their banim.

¹⁴ Then upon Yachaziel ben Zecharyahu ben Benayah ben Ye'iel ben Matanyah, a Levi of the

Bnei Asaph, came the Ruach HASHEM in the midst of the Kahal,

¹⁵ And he said, Pay heed ye, all Yehudah, and ye inhabitants of Yerushalayim, and thou Melech Yehoshaphat. Thus saith HASHEM unto you: Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the milchamah is not yours, but that of Elohim.

¹⁶ Makhar (*tomorrow*) go ye down against them; hinei, they come up by the Ascent of Tzitz; and ye shall find them at the end of the wadi, before the midbar of Yeruel.

¹⁷ Ye shall not need to fight in this; take up your battle positions, stand ye firm, and see the Yeshu'at HASHEM with you, O Yehudah and Yerushalayim. Fear not, nor be dismayed; makhar (*tomorrow*) go out against them, for HASHEM will be with you.

¹⁸ And Yehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground; and all Yehudah and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim fell down before HASHEM, worshipping HASHEM.

¹⁹ And the Levi'im, of the Bnei HaKehatim, and of the Bnei HaKorchim, stood up to praise HASHEM Elohei Yisroel with an exceeding kol gadol.

²⁰ And they rose early in the boker, and went forth into the Midbar Tekoa; and as they went forth, Yehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Yehudah, and ye inhabitants of Yerushalayim. Ha'aminu BaHASHEM Eloheichem (*Believe in HASHEM Eloheichem*), so shall ye be established; have faith in His Nevi'im, so shall ye be victorious.

²¹ And when he had consulted with HaAm, he

appointed meshorarim (*singers*) unto HASHEM, and that should praise the hadrat kodesh, as they went out before the army, and to say, Hodu L'Adonoi ki l'olam chasdo (*Give thanks to HASHEM, for His mercy endureth forever*).

²² And when they began with rinnah and tehillah, HASHEM set me'arevim (*ambushers*) against the Bnei Ammon, Moav, and Mt Se'ir, which were come against Yehudah, and they were struck down.

²³ For the Bnei Ammon and Moav stood up against the inhabitants of Mt Se'ir, utterly to slay and destroy them. And when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Se'ir, every one helped to destroy another.

²⁴ And when Yehudah came toward the mitzpeh (*guard tower*) in the midbar, they looked toward the multitude, and, hinei, they were pegarim (*corpses*) fallen on the ground, and there was no escapee.

²⁵ And when Yehoshaphat and his people came to carry off the plunder of them, they found among them in abundance both property with the pegarim, and articles of value, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away, and they were yamim shelosha in gathering of the plunder, it was so much.

²⁶ And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the Berakhah Valley, for there they blessed HASHEM; therefore the shem of that place was called, the Berakhah Valley unto this day.

²⁷ Then they returned, kol ish Yehudah and Yerushalayim, and Yehoshaphat in the forefront

of them, to go again to Yerushalayim with simcha; for HASHEM had made them to rejoice over their enemies.

²⁸ And they came to Yerushalayim with nevalim and kinnorot and khatzotzerot unto the Beis HASHEM.

²⁹ And the Pachad Elohim was on all the kingdoms of those lands, when they had heard that HASHEM fought against the oyevei Yisroel.

³⁰ So the Malchut Yehoshaphat was at peace, for Elohav gave him rest on every side.

³¹ And Yehoshaphat reigned over Yehudah. He was thirty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and five years in Yerushalayim. And shem immo was Azuvah bat Shilchi.

³² And he walked in the derech Aviv Asa, and departed not from it, doing that which was yashar in the sight of HASHEM.

³³ Howbeit the high places were not removed; for HaAm as yet had not set their hearts unto Elohei Avoteihem.

³⁴ Now the rest of the acts of Yehoshaphat, harishonim and ha'acharonim, hinei, they are written in the Annals of Yehu ben Chanani, who is recorded in the Sefer of the Melachim of Yisroel.

³⁵ And after this did Yehoshaphat Melech Yehudah join himself in alliance with Achazyah Melech Yisroel, who did very wickedly;

³⁶ And he joined himself with him to make oniyot (*ships*) to go to Tarshish, and they made the oniyot in Etzyon-Gever.

³⁷ Then Eli'ezer ben Dodavahu of Mareshah prophesied against Yehoshaphat, saying, Because

thou hast joined thyself in alliance with Achazyahu, HASHEM hath wrecked thy ma'asim. And the oniyot were wrecked, that they were not able to sail to Tarshish.*

21

¹ Now Yehoshaphat slept with his avot, and was buried with his avot in Ir Dovid. And Yehoram bno reigned in his place.

² And he had achim, the Bnei Yehoshaphat, Azaryah, and Yechiel, and Zecharyahu, and Azaryahu, and Micha'el, and Shephatyahu. All these were the Bnei Yehoshaphat Melech Yisroel.

³ And their av have given them mattanot rabbot of kesef, and of zahav, and of precious things, with fortified cities in Yehudah, but the Mamlachah (*Kingdom*) he gave to Yehoram; because he was the bechor.

⁴ Now when Yehoram was risen up to the Mamlachah of his av, he strengthened himself, and slaughtered all his achim with the cherev, and also a number of the sarim (*leading political figures*) of Yisroel.

⁵ Yehoram was thirty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned shemoneh shanim in Yerushalayim.

⁶ And he walked in the derech of the melachim of Yisroel, as did the Bais Ach'av, for he had the Bat Ach'av to wife, and he wrought that which was rah in the eyes of HASHEM.

* **20:37** T.N. Yehoshaphat had a weakness for entangling himself with non-believers and suffering the consequences.

⁷ However, HASHEM was not willing to destroy the Bais Dovid, for the sake of HaBrit that He had cut with Dovid, and since He promised to give a ner (*lamp*) to him and to his banim kol hayamim.

⁸ In the days of Yehoram, Edom rebelled from under the yad Yehudah, and made themselves a melech.

⁹ Then Yehoram went forth with his sarim (*princes*), and all his chariots with him, and he rose up by lailah, and struck down Edom which had surrounded him, and the commanders of the chariots.

¹⁰ So the Edomites rebelled from under the yad Yehudah unto this day. At the same time also did Livnah rebel from under his yad, because he had forsaken HASHEM Elohei Avotav.

¹¹ Moreover he built high places* in the mountains of Yehudah and caused the inhabitants of Yerushalayim to commit fornication, and led Yehudah astray.

¹² And there came a miktav (*letter*) to him from Eliyahu HaNavi, saying, Thus saith HASHEM Elohei Dovid Avicha, Because thou hast not walked in the darkhei Yehoshaphat Avicha, nor in the darkhei Asa Melech Yehudah,

¹³ But hast walked in the derech of the melachim of Yisroel, and hast made Yehudah and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim to go a-whoring, like the whoredoms of the Bais Ach'av, and also hast murdered thy achim of Bais Avicha, which were better than thee;

¹⁴ Hinei, with a maggefah gedolah (*great plague*) will HASHEM strike thy people, and thy banim, and

* **21:11** unlawful altars

thy nashim, and all thy possessions;

¹⁵ And thou shalt have cholayim rabbim with machla (*disease*) of thy bowels, until thy bowels come out by reason of the choli yamim al yamim.

¹⁶ Moreover HASHEM stirred up against Yehoram the ruach HaPelishtim, and of the Arabs, who lived near the Cushim;

¹⁷ And they came up against Yehudah, and invaded, and carried away all the possessions that were found in the Bais HaMelech, and also his banim, and his nashim; so that there was left him not a ben except Yehoachaz (*Achazyahu, Ahaziah*), the youngest of his banim.

¹⁸ And after all this HASHEM struck him in his bowels with a choli for which there was no marpeh.

¹⁹ And it came to pass that in process of time, after the end of two years, his bowels protruded out by reason of his choli; so he died in great pain. And his people kindled no pyre in his honor, as they had done for his avot.

²⁰ Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned in Yerushalayim shemoneh shanim, and departed without chemdah (*desire [for him]*). Howbeit they buried him in the Ir Dovid, but not in the kevarot hamelachim.

22

¹ And the inhabitants of Yerushalayim made Achazyahu (*Ahaziah of Judah*) his* youngest son melech in his place; for the troops that came with the Arabs into the machaneh had slain all

* **22:1** i.e., Yehoram's

the eldest. So Achazyahu (*Ahaziah*) ben Yehoram Melech Yehudah reigned.

² Twenty and two years old was Achazyahu (*Ahaziah*) when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Yerushalayim And shem immo was Atalyah bat Omri.[†]

³ He also walked in the darkhei Bais Ach'av (*Ahab*); for immo (*his mother*) was his counselor to do rah.

⁴ Therefore he did rah in the eyes of HASHEM like the Bais Ach'av (*House of Ahab*); for they were his yo'atzim (*counselors*) after the mot (*death*) of his av to his[‡] ruin.

⁵ He walked also after their etza (*advice, counsel*), and went with Yehoram ben Ach'av Melech Yisroel to war against Chazael Melech Aram (*Syria*) at Ramot Gil'ad; and the Syrians wounded Yoram.

⁶ And he (*Yehoram*) returned to Yizre'el (*Jezreel*) to recover from his wounds which were inflicted upon him at Ramah, when he fought with Chazael Melech Aram. And Achazyahu (*Ahaziah*) ben Yehoram Melech Yehudah went down to see Yehoram ben Ach'av at Yizre'el (*Jezreel*), because he was wounded.

⁷ And the tevusat Achazyahu (*downfall of Ahaziah*) was of Elohim in coming to Yoram, for when he arrived, he went out with Yehoram against Yehu ben Nimshi, whom HASHEM had anointed to cut off the Bais Ach'av (*the House of Ahab*).

[†] 22:2 i.e., granddaughter of Omri the father of Ahab [‡] 22:4 i.e., Achazyahu's, Ahaziah's

⁸ And it came to pass, that, when Yehu was executing mishpat upon the Bais Ach'av, and found the sarei Yehudah, and the bnei achei Achazyahu that were in attendance with Achazyahu, he slaughtered them.

⁹ And he searched for Achazyahu, and they captured him while he was hiding in Shomron (*Samaria*), and brought him to Yehu; and when they had slain him, they buried him. Because, they said, he is a ben Yehoshaphat, who sought HASHEM with all his levav. So the Bais Achazyahu had no koach to retain the mamlachah (*kingdom*).

¹⁰ But when Atalyah em Achazyahu saw that her son was dead, she arose and began destroying kol zera hamamlachah (*all the royal seed*) of the Bais Yehudah.

¹¹ But Yehoshavat Bat HaMelech, took Yoash ben Achazyahu, and stole him away from among the Bnei HaMelech that were being murdered, and put him and his nurse in a cheder hamittot (*bedroom*). So Yehoshavat Bat HaMelech Yehoram, the isha of Yehoyada HaKohen, (for she was the achot of Achazyahu), hid him from Atalyah, so that she slaughtered him not.

¹² And he was with them hid in the Bais Elohim shesh shanim. And Atalyah reigned over HaAretz.

23

¹ And in the seventh year Yehoyada strengthened himself, and took the commanders of hundreds, Azaryah ben Yerocham, and Yishmael ben Yehochanan, and Azaryahu ben Oved, and

Ma'aseiyahu ben Adayahu, and Elishaphat ben Zichri, into brit with him.

² And they went about in Yehudah, and gathered the Levi'im out of all the towns of Yehudah, and the Rashei HaAvot of Yisroel, and they came to Yerushalayim.

³ And Kol HaKahal made a brit with HaMelech in the Beis Elohim. And he* said unto them, Hinei, the Ben HaMelech shall reign, just as HASHEM hath said of the Bnei Dovid.

⁴ This is the thing that ye shall do: A third part of you coming on duty on Shabbos, of the Kohanim and of the Levi'im, shall keep watch at the doors;

⁵ And a third part shall be at the Bais HaMelech; and a third part at the Sha'ar HaYesod; and Kol HaAm shall be in the Khatzerot of the Beis HASHEM.

⁶ But let none enter into the Beis HASHEM, except the Kohanim, and the ministering Levi'im; they shall go in, for they are kodesh; but Kol HaAm shall be shomer over the mishmeret HASHEM(*the instructions of HASHEM*).

⁷ And the Levi'im shall surround HaMelech, every ish with his weapon in his yad; and whosoever else cometh into the Beis, he shall be put to death, but be ye with HaMelech when he cometh in, and when he goeth out.

⁸ So the Levi'im and all Yehudah did according to all things that Yehoyada HaKohen had commanded, and took every ish his men that were to go on duty on Shabbos, with them that were to go off duty on Shabbos; for Yehoyada HaKohen

* 23:3 i.e., Kohen Gadol Yehoyada

dismissed not the machlekot.

⁹ Moreover Yehoyada HaKohen delivered to the commanders of hundreds spears, and large shields, and small shields, that had belonged to Dovid HaMelech, which were in the Beis Elohim.

¹⁰ And he stationed kol haAm for a guard around HaMelech, every ish having his weapon in his yad, from the right side of the Beis to the left side of the Beis, near the Mizbe'ach and Beis.

¹¹ Then they brought out the Ben HaMelech, and put upon him the nezer, and gave him the Edut, and proclaimed him Melech. And Yehoyada and his banim anointed him, and shouted, Yechi HaMelech!

¹² Now when Atalyah heard the noise of HaAm running and cheering HaMelech, she came to HaAm into the Beis HASHEM,

¹³ And she looked, and, hinei, HaMelech stood at his amud at the entrance, and the sarim and the khatzotzerot (*trumpeters*) beside HaMelech; and Kol HaAm HaAretz same'ach (*rejoiced*), and sounded the khatzotzerot, also the meshorarim with instruments of music, and the praise leaders. Then Atalyah tore her robe, shouted, Keshet, Keshet!

¹⁴ Then Yehoyada HaKohen brought out the commanders of hundreds that were set over the army, and said unto them, Bring her out between the sederot (*ranks*); and whosoever followeth her, let him be put to death with the cherev. For the Kohen said, Do not put her to death in the Beis HASHEM.

¹⁵ So they laid hands on her; and when she was come to the entrance of the Sha'ar HaSusim by the

Beis HaMelech, they put her to death there.

¹⁶ And Yehoyada made a brit between him, and between Kol HaAm, and between HaMelech, that they should be Am LaHASHEM.

¹⁷ Then kol HaAm went to the Beis HaBa'al, and tore it down, and broke in pieces its mizbechot and its tzelem, and slaughtered Mattan Kohen HaBaal in front of the mizbechot.

¹⁸ Also Yehoyada assigned the Pekudot of the Beis HASHEM by the yad of the Kohanim the Levi'im, whom Dovid had assigned in the Beis HASHEM, to offer olat HASHEM, as it is written in the Torat Moshe, with simcha and with shir, as it was ordained by Dovid.

¹⁹ And he set the Sho'arim at the Sha'arei Beis HASHEM, that none tamei in any thing should enter in.

²⁰ And he took the commanders of hundreds, and the nobles, and the moshelim of HaAm, and Kol HaAm HaAretz, and brought down HaMelech from the Beis HASHEM; and they came through the Sha'ar HaElyon into the Beis HaMelech, and seated HaMelech upon the Kisse HaMamlachah.

²¹ And kol Am HaAretz rejoiced; and the Ir was quiet after that they had put to death Atalyah with the cherev.

24

¹ Yoash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned arba'im shanah in Yerushalayim. Shem immo also was Tzivyah of Be'er-Sheva.

² And Yoash did that which was yashar in the eyes of HASHEM kol yemei Yehoyada HaKohen.

³ And Yehoyada took for him nashim shtayim; and he fathered banim and banot.

⁴ And it came to pass after this, that Yoash was minded to renovate the Bais HASHEM.

⁵ And he called together the Kohanim and the Levi'im, and said to them, Go out unto the towns of Yehudah, and collect from Kol Yisroel kesef to repair the Bais Eloheichem annually, and see that ye hasten the matter. Howbeit the Levi'im hastened it not.

⁶ And HaMelech called for Yehoyada HaRosh, and said unto him, Why hast thou not required of the Levi'im to bring in from Yehudah and from Yerushalayim the mas'at (*the tax of*) Moshe Eved HASHEM and the Kahal L'Yisroel L'Ohel HaEdut?

⁷ For the sons of that wicked woman Atalyah had broken in the Beis HaElohim; all the Kadshei Beis HASHEM did they bestow upon Ba'alim.

⁸ And at the commandment of HaMelech they made aron echad and set it outside at the Sha'ar Beis HASHEM.

⁹ And they made a proclamation in Yehudah and in Yerushalayim, to bring in to HASHEM the mas'at Moshe Eved HaElohim laid upon Yisroel in the midbar.

¹⁰ And all the sarim and kol HaAm rejoiced, and brought in, and dropped into the aron, until it was full.

¹¹ Now it came to pass, that at what time the aron was brought unto the Pekuddat HaMelech by the yad of the Levi'im, and when they saw that there was much kesef, the Sofer HaMelech and the official, the Pakid Kohen HaRosh came and emptied the aron, and took it, and carried it to

its place again. Thus they did yom b'yom, and collected kesef in abundance.

¹² And HaMelech and Yehoyada gave it to such as did the work of the Avodas Beis HASHEM, and hired masons and carpenters to renovate the Beis HASHEM, and also such as wrought barzel and nechoshet to repair the Beis HASHEM.

¹³ So the workmen wrought, and the work in the yad of them was furthered, and they restored the Beis HaElohim to its original form and reinforced it.

¹⁴ And when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the kesef before HaMelech and Yehoyada, whereof were made vessels for the Beis HASHEM, even keli sharet, and for the olot, and ladles, and vessels of zahav and kesef. And they offered olot in the Beis HASHEM continually all the days of Yehoyada.

¹⁵ But Yehoyada was old, and was full of yamim when he died: 130 years old was he in his mot.

¹⁶ And they buried him in Ir Dovid among the Melachim, because he had done tovah in Yisroel, both toward HaElohim, and His Beis.

¹⁷ Now after the mot Yehoyada came the sarim of Yehudah, and paid homage to HaMelech. Then HaMelech paid heed unto them.

¹⁸ And they forsook the Beis HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem, and served HaAsherim and the atzabim; and ketzef (*wrath*) came upon Yehudah and Yerushalayim because of their trespass.

¹⁹ Yet He sent Nevi'im to them, to bring them back unto HASHEM; and they testified against them; but they would not give ear.

²⁰ And the Ruach Elohim came upon Zecharyah ben Yehoyada HaKohen, which stood before HaAm and he said unto them, Thus saith HaElohim, Why transgress ye the mitzvot HASHEM, that ye cannot prosper? Because ye have forsook HASHEM, He hath also forsaken you.

²¹ And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the order of HaMelech in the khatzer of the Beis HASHEM.

²² Thus Yoash HaMelech remembered not the chesed which Yehoyada Aviv had done to him, but slaughtered bno. And when he died, he said, May HASHEM look upon it, and may He call to account.

²³ And it came to pass at the end of the year, that the army of Aram came up against him, they invaded Yehudah and Yerushalayim, destroyed all the sarim of the people from among HaAm, sent all their plunder unto Melech Darmesek (*Damascus*).

²⁴ For the army of Aram came with a small company of men, and HASHEM delivered a very great army into their yad, because they had forsaken HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem. So they executed shefatim against Yoash.

²⁵ And when they withdrew from him, (for they left him with machaluyim rabbim),* his own avadim conspired against him on account of the dahm of the Bnei Yehoyada HaKohen, and slaughtered him on his bed, and he died; and they buried him in Ir Dovid, but they buried him not in the Kivrot HaMelachim.

* **24:25** many wounds

²⁶ And these are they that conspired against him: Zavad ben Shim'at an Ammonit, and Yehozavad ben Shimrit the Moavit.

²⁷ Now concerning his banim, and the rav hamassa concerning him, and the repairing of the Beis HaElohim, hinei, they are written in the Midrash Sefer HaMelachim. And Amatzyah bno reigned in his place.

25

¹ Amatzyah was 25 old when he began to reign, and he reigned 29 shanah in Yerushalayim. And shem immo was Yeho'addin of Yerushalayim.

² And he did that which was yashar in the eyes of HASHEM, but not with a levav shalem.

³ Now it came to pass, when the mamlachah was established under him, that he slaughtered his avadim that had murdered HaMelech Aviv.

⁴ But he slaughtered not their banim, but did as it is written in the Torah in the Sefer Moshe, where HASHEM commanded, saying, The avot shall not die for the banim, neither shall the banim die for the avot, but every ish shall die for his own chet.

⁵ Moreover Amatzyahu gathered Yehudah together, and set them in order in Bais Avot by officers of thousands and officers of hundreds, throughout all Yehudah and Binyamin; and he mustered them from esrim shanah and above, and found them three hundred elef bachur, battle-ready choice men, that could handle spear and shield.

⁶ He hired also a hundred elef gibbor chayil out of Yisroel for a hundred talents of kesef.

⁷ But there came an Ish HaElohim to him, saying, O HaMelech, let not the Tzeva Yisroel go with thee; for HASHEM is not with Yisroel, not with kol Bnei Ephrayim.

⁸ But if thou wilt go, do it; chazak (*be strong*) for the milchamah; HaElohim shall make thee fall before the enemy, for Elohim hath ko'ach to help, and to cast down.

⁹ And Amatzياهو said to the Ish HaElohim, But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have paid for the army of Yisroel? And the Ish HaElohim answered, HASHEM is able to give thee much more than this.

¹⁰ Then Amatzياهو separated them, the army that had come to him from Ephrayim, to go home again; therefore their anger was greatly kindled against Yehudah, and they returned home in chari af (*great anger*).

¹¹ And Amatzياهو strengthened himself, led forth his army, went to the Gey HaMelach, struck down 10,000 of the Bnei Se'ir.

¹² And another 10,000 left chayyim (*alive*) did the Bnei Yehudah carry away captive, and brought them unto the top of the cliff, and cast them down from the top of the cliff, that they all were dashed to pieces.

¹³ But the soldiers of the army which Amatzياهو sent back, that they should not go with him to milchamah, fell upon the cities of Yehudah, from Shomron even unto Beit-Choron, and struck down three thousand of them, and took much plunder.

¹⁴ Now it came to pass, after that Amatzياهو re-

turned from the slaughter of the people of Edom, that he brought the elohei Bnei Se'ir, and set them up for him to be elohim, and bowed down himself before them, and burned ketoret unto them.

¹⁵ Therefore the Af HASHEM was kindled against Amatzyahu, and he sent unto him a navi, which said unto him, Why hast thou sought after the elohei haAm, which could not deliver their own people out of thine yad?

¹⁶ And it came to pass, as he talked with him, that HaMelech said unto him, Art thou appointed the adviser to HaMelech? Forbear. Why shouldst thou be struck down? Then the navi forbore, and said, I know that Elohim hath determined to destroy thee, because thou hast done this, and hast not paid heed unto my etza (*counsel*).

¹⁷ Then Amatzyahu Melech Yehudah consulted, and sent to Yoash ben Yehoachaz ben Yehu, Melech Yisroel, saying, Come, let us meet face to face.

¹⁸ And Yoash Melech Yisroel sent to Amatzyahu Melech Yehudah, saying, The thistle that was in the Levanon sent to the cedar that was in the Levanon, saying, Give thy bat to beni (*my son*) as isha; then there passed by a chayyat hasadeh (*wild beast*) that was in the Levanon, and trode down the thistle.

¹⁹ Thou sayest, Hinei, thou hast struck down the people of Edom; and thine lev lifteth thee up to be proud. Abide now at home. Why shouldst thou meddle to thine hurt, that thou shouldst fall, even thou, and Yehudah with thee?

²⁰ But Amatzyah would not hear, for it came from HaElohim, that He might deliver them into

the yad of their enemies, because they sought after the elohei Edom.

²¹ So Yoash Melech Yisroel went up and they met face to face, both he and Amatzyahu Melech Yehudah, at Beit-Shemesh, which belongeth to Yehudah.

²² And Yehudah was routed before Yisroel, and they fled every ish to his ohel.

²³ And Yoash Melech Yisroel captured Amatzyahu Melech Yehudah ben Yoash ben Yehoachaz, at Beit-Shemesh, and brought him to Yerushalayim, and broke down the Chomat Yerushalayim from the Sha'ar Ephrayim to the Sha'ar HaPinnah, a section the length of which was four hundred cubits.

²⁴ And he took all the zahav and the kesef, and all the vessels that were found in the Beis HaElohim with Oved-Edom, and the otzerot Bais HaMelech, the hostages also, and returned to Shomron.

²⁵ And Amatzyahu ben Yoash Melech Yehudah lived after the mot Yoash ben Yehoachaz Melech Yisroel fifteen years.

²⁶ Now the rest of the acts of Amatzyahu, harshonim and ha'acharonim, hinei, are they not written in the Sefer of the Melachim of Yehudah and Yisroel?

²⁷ Now after the time that Amatzyah did turn away from following HASHEM they made a kesher against him in Yerushalayim; and he fled to Lakhish, but they sent to Lakhish after him, and slaughtered him there.

²⁸ And they brought him upon susim, and buried him with Avotav in Ir Yehudah.

26

¹ Then kol HaAm Yehudah took Uziyahu, who was sixteen years old, and made him Melech in the place of Aviv Amatzyahu.

² He built up Eilot, and restored it to Yehudah, after that HaMelech* slept with Avotav.

³ Sixteen years old was Uziyahu when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two shanah in Yerushalayim. Shem immo also was Yecholyah of Yerushalayim.

⁴ And he did that which was yashar in the eyes of HASHEM, according to all that Aviv Amatzyahu did.

⁵ And he sought Elohim in the days of Zecharyahu, who had understanding in the visions of HaElohim; and as long as he sought HASHEM, HaElohim made him to have success.

⁶ And he went forth and warred against the Pelishtim (*Philistines*), and broke down the chomat Gat, and the chomat Yavneh, and the chomat Ashdod, and built towns near Ashdod, and among the Pelishtim (*Philistines*).

⁷ And HaElohim helped him against the Pelishtim (*Philistines*), and against the Arabs that dwelt in Gur-Ba'al, and the Me'unim.

⁸ And the Ammonim gave minchah to Uziyahu, and shmo spread abroad even to the approach to Mitzrayim; for he strengthened himself exceedingly.

⁹ Moreover Uziyahu built migdalim (*towers*) in Yerushalayim at the Sha'ar HaPinnah, and at the

* 26:2 Amatzyahu

Sha'ar of the Gey, and at the Miktzo'a, and he fortified them.

¹⁰ Also he built migdalim in the midbar, and dug borot rabbim (*many wells*), for he had much livestock, both in the Shefelah (*Lowlands*), and in the Mishor (*Plains, Level Country*); ikkarim (*field workers, farmers*) also, and koremim (*vineyard workers, vine-keepers*) in the hills, and in the Carmel, for he loved adamah (*the soil*).

¹¹ Moreover Uziyahu had an army of fighting men that went out to tzava (*battle*) in troops, according to the number of their mustering by the yad Ye'iel the Sofer and Ma'aseiyahu the Shoter (*Officer*), under the yad Chananyahu, one of the officials of HaMelech.

¹² The whole mispar (*number*) of the Rashei HaAvot over the mighty warriors were two thousand and six hundred.

¹³ And under their yad was a battle group, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and five hundred, that made milchamah with mighty ko'ach, to help HaMelech against the enemy.

¹⁴ And Uziyahu prepared for them throughout all the army moginim (*shields*), and spears, and helmets, and armor, and bows, and slingstones.

¹⁵ And he made in Yerushalayim machines designed by inventive engineers, for use on the migdalim and upon the corners of the city wall, to shoot khitzim (*arrows*) and avanim gedolot. And shmo spread far abroad, for he was marvellously helped, until when chazak (*he became powerful*).

¹⁶ But when he became powerful, his lev was lifted up to his downfall, for he was unfaith-

ful against HASHEM Elohav, and he entered into the Heikhal HASHEM to burn ketoret upon the Mizbe'ach HaKetoret.

¹⁷ And Azaryahu HaKohen went in after him, and with him shemonim Kohanim of HASHEM, that were men of courage.

¹⁸ And they stood up against Uziyahu HaMelech, and said unto him, It is not for you, Uziyahu, to burn ketoret unto HASHEM, but to the Kohanim the Bnei Aharon, that are hamekudashim (*consecrated and ritually pure*) to burn ketoret. Go out from the Mikdash, for thou hast been treacherous; neither shall it be for thine kavod (*honor*) from HASHEM Elohim.

¹⁹ Then Uziyahu became angry, and had a mikteret (*censer*) in his yad to burn ketoret, and while he was raging with the Kohanim, the tzara'at even broke out on his metzach (*forehead*) before the Kohanim in the Beis HASHEM, near the Mizbe'ach HaKetoret.

²⁰ And Azaryahu the Kohen HaRosh, and all the Kohanim, looked upon him, and, hinei, he was leprous on his metzach, and they thrust him out from there; yea, he himself hastened also to go out, because HASHEM nun-gimmel-ayin-vav.[†]

²¹ And Uziyahu HaMelech was metzorah (*a leper*) unto his yom mot, and dwelt in a leper asylum house, because of his leprosy; for he was nigzar[‡] from the Beis HASHEM; and Yotam bno

[†] **26:20** had smitten him, afflicted him, see Isa 53:8,10 where HASHEM has the “nega” fall on not on this Ben Dovid Uziyahu, but on Moshiach Ben Dovid [‡] **26:21** See Isa 53:8 which uses same word nigzar, “excluded,” of Moshiach who was nigzar from the land of the living, meaning Moshiach died

was over the Bais HaMelech, governing the Am HaAretz.

²² Now the rest of the acts of Uziyah, harishonim and ha'acharonim, did Yeshayahu ben Amotz, HaNavi, record.

²³ So Uziyahu slept with Avotav, and they buried him with Avotav in the sadeh hakevurah which belonged to the Melachim; for they said, He is a metzorah. And Yotam bno reigned in his place. Yotam was twenty and five shanah when he began to reign, and he was king sixteen shanah in Yerushalayim.

27

¹ The shem immo also was Yerusha bat Tzadok.

² And he did that which was yashar (*right*) in the eyes of HASHEM, according to all that his av Uziyah did; howbeit he entered not into the Heikhal HASHEM. And the people did corruptly still.

³ He built the upper sha'ar Beis HASHEM, and on the chomat Ophel he built much.

⁴ Moreover he built towns in the har Yehudah, and in the forests he built fortresses and migdalim.

⁵ He fought also with Melech Bnei Ammon, and prevailed against them. And the Bnei Ammon gave him the same year a hundred talents of kesef, and ten thousand measures of chittim (*wheat*), and ten thousand of se'orim (*barley*). The Bnei Ammon did pay this amount unto him, both the second year, and the third.

⁶ So Yotam became mighty, because he made the darkhei Yotam steadfast before HASHEM Elohav.

⁷ Now the rest of the divrei Yotam, and all his milchamot, and his ways, lo, they are written in the sefer of the melachim of Yisroel and Yehudah.

⁸ He was five and twenty shanah when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen shanah in Yerushalayim.

⁹ And Yotam slept with his avot, and they buried him in Ir Dovid; and Achaz bno reigned in his place.

28

¹ Achaz was 20 when he began to reign, and he reigned 16 years in Yerushalayim; but he did not that which was yashar in the eyes of HASHEM, like Dovid Aviv,

² For he walked in the ways of the melachim of Yisroel, and made also massekhot for Ba'alim.

³ Moreover he burned ketoret in the Gey Ben Hinnom, and burned his banim in the eish, after the to'avot of the Goyim whom HASHEM had driven out before the Bnei Yisroel.

⁴ He also sacrificed and burned ketoret on the high places, and on the hilltops, and under every green tree.

⁵ Therefore HASHEM Elohav delivered him into the yad Melech Aram; and they defeated him, and carried off a great multitude of prisoners, and brought them to Damascus. And he was also delivered into the yad Melech Yisroel, who inflicted on him makkah gedolah.

⁶ For Pekach ben Remalyahu slaughtered in Yehudah 120 elef in yom echad, which were all valiant men; because they had forsaken HASHEM Elohei Avotam.

⁷ And Zichri, a gibbor of Ephrayim, slaughtered Ma'aseiyahu ben HaMelech, and Azrikam the Nagid HaBais, and Elkanah Mishneh HaMelech.

⁸ And the Bnei Yisroel carried away captive of their achim 200 elef nashim, banim, and banot, and took also away much plunder from them, and carried back the plunder to Shomron.

⁹ But a navi of HASHEM was there shmo Oded, and he went out before the faces of the tzava returning to Shomron, and said unto them, Hinei, because HASHEM Elohei Avoteichem was angry with Yehudah, He hath delivered them into your yad, and ye have slain them in a rage that reacheth up unto Shomayim.

¹⁰ And now ye intend to keep under the Bnei Yehudah and Yerushalayim for avadim and she-fachot unto you, but are there not with you, even with you, sins against HASHEM Eloheichem?

¹¹ Now hear me therefore, and send back the prisoners, which ye have taken captive of your achim, for the Charon Af HASHEM is upon you.

¹² Then certain anashim of the Rashei Bnei Ephrayim, Azaryahu ben Yehochanan, Berechyahu ben Meshillemot, Yechizkiyahu ben Shallum, and Amasa ben Chadlai, stood up against them that came from the tzava,

¹³ And said unto them, Ye shall not bring in the prisoners here; for whereas we have offended against HASHEM already, ye intend to add more to chattotenu and to ashmatenu, for our guilt is great, and there is Charon Af against Yisroel.

¹⁴ So the soldiers released the prisoners and the plunder before the sarim and kol HaKahal.

¹⁵ And the men which were designated by she-mot rose up, and took the prisoners, and with the plunder clothed all that were naked among them, and arrayed them, and shod them, and gave them to eat and to drink, and put balm on them, and carried all the weak of them upon donkeys, and brought them to Yericho, the Ir Temarim, to their achim. Then they returned to Shomron.

¹⁶ At that time did HaMelech Achaz send unto the melachim of Assyria to help him.

¹⁷ For again the people of Edom had come and attacked Yehudah, and carried away prisoners.

¹⁸ The Pelishtim also had invaded the towns of the Shefelah, and of the Negev of Yehudah, and had taken Beit-Shemesh, Ayalon, Gederot, and Sokhoh with the villages thereof, and Timnah with the villages thereof, Gimzo also and the villages thereof, and they dwelt there.

¹⁹ For HASHEM brought Yehudah low because of Achaz Melech Yisroel, for he brought disgrace to Yehudah, and acted treacherously against HASHEM.

²⁰ And Tilgat Pilneser Melech Ashur came unto him, and oppressed him, but helped him not.

²¹ For Achaz took away a portion out of the Beis HASHEM, and out of the Bais HaMelech, and of the sarim, and gave it unto Melech Ashur, but he helped him not.

²² And in the time of his distress he did act even more unfaithfully against HASHEM. This is that Melech Achaz.

²³ For he sacrificed unto the elohei Damascus, which defeated him, and he said, Because the elo-him of the melachim of Syria help them, therefore

will I sacrifice to them, that they may help me. But they were the ruin of him, and of kol Yisroel.

²⁴ And Achaz gathered together the vessels of the Beis HaElohim, and cut up the vessels of the Beis HaElohim and shut up the daletot Beis HASHEM, and he set up for him mizbechot in every corner of Yerushalayim.

²⁵ And in every town in Yehudah he made high places to burn ketoret unto elohim acherim, and provoked to anger HASHEM Elohei Avotav.

²⁶ Now the rest of his acts and of all his ways, the rishonim and the acharonim, hinei, they are written in the Sefer of the Melachim of Yehudah and Yisroel.

²⁷ And Achaz slept with Avotav, and they buried him in the city, even in Yerushalayim, but they brought him not into the keverim of the Melachim of Yisroel. And Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) bno reigned in his place.

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¹ Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) began to reign when he was 25 years old, and he reigned 29 years in Yerushalayim. And the shem immo was Aviyah bat Zecharyah.

² And he did that which was yashar in the eyes of HASHEM, according to all that Dovid Aviv had done.

³ He in the first year of his reign, in the chodesh harishon, opened the daletot Beis HASHEM, and repaired them.

⁴ And he brought in the Kohanim and the Levi'im, and gathered them together into the re-chov hamizrach (*eastern plaza*),

⁵ And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levi'im, set yourselves apart as kodesh now and consecrate the Beis HASHEM Elohei Avoteichem, and remove the niddah (*contamination*) from HaKodesh.

⁶ For Avoteinu have been unfaithful, and have done that which is rah in the eyes of HASHEM Eloheinu, have forsaken Him, have turned away their faces from the Mishkan HASHEM, and to it they have turned their backs.

⁷ Also they have shut the daletot of the Ulam, and put out the nerot, and have not burned ketoret nor offered olah in HaKodesh unto Elohei Yisroel.

⁸ Therefore the wrath of HASHEM was upon Yehudah and Yerushalayim, and he hath caused them to be a horror and an object of scorn and hissing, as ye see with your eyes.

⁹ For, hinei, Avoteinu have fallen by the cherev, our banim, our banot, our nashim are in captivity for this.

¹⁰ Now it is in mine lev to make a Brit with HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, that His fierce wrath may turn away from us.

¹¹ My banim, be not now negligent, for HASHEM hath chosen you to stand before Him, to serve Him, and that ye should minister unto Him, and burn ketoret.

¹² Then the Levi'im arose: Machat ben Amasai, and Yoel ben Azaryahu, of the Bnei HaKehati; and of the Bnei Merari, Kish ben Avdi, Azaryahu ben Yehallelel; and, of the Gershoni, Yoach ben

Zimmah, and Eden ben Yoach;

¹³ And of the Bnei Elitzaphan, Shimri, and Ye'iel; and of the Bnei Asaph; Zecharyahu, and Matanyahu;

¹⁴ And of the Bnei Heman, Yechiel, and Shime'i; and of the Bnei Yedutun, Shema'yah, and Uzziel.

¹⁵ And they gathered their achim, and set themselves apart as kodesh, and went in, according to the mitzvah HaMelech, by the words of HASHEM, to make tahor the Beis HASHEM.

¹⁶ And the Kohanim went into the penimah (*inner part*) Beis HASHEM, to make it tahor, and brought out all tumah that they found in the Heikhal HASHEM into the khatzer (*courtyard*) of the Beis HASHEM. And the Levi'im took it, to carry it outside into the Wadi Kidron.

¹⁷ Now they began on the first day of the chodesh harishon to set apart as kodesh, and on the eighth day of the month they came to the Ulam HASHEM; so they set apart as kodesh the Beis HASHEM in eight days; and in the sixteenth day of the first month they finished.

¹⁸ Then they went penimah to Chizkiyahu HaMelech, and said, We have made tahor all the Beis HASHEM, and the Mizbe'ach HaOlah, with all the vessels thereof, and the Shulchan HaMa'arechet (*Table of the Stacks of Showbread*), with all the vessels thereof.

¹⁹ Moreover all the kelim (*vessels*), which HaMelech Achaz in his reign did remove in his unfaithfulness, have we prepared and set apart as kodesh, and, hinei, they are before the Mizbe'ach HASHEM.

²⁰ Then Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) HaMelech

got up, and gathered the sarim of HaIr, and went up to the Beis HASHEM.

²¹ And they brought seven bulls, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven male goats, for a chattat (*sin offering*) for the Mamlachah (*Kingdom*), and for the Mikdash, and for Yehudah. And he commanded the Bnei Aharon HaKohanim to offer them on the Mizbe'ach HASHEM.

²² So they slaughtered the bulls, and the kohanim received the dahm, and sprinkled it on the Mizbe'ach; likewise, when they had slaughtered the rams, they sprinkled the dahm upon the Mizbe'ach; they slaughtered also the lambs, and they sprinkled the dahm upon the Mizbe'ach.

²³ And they brought forth the male goats for the chattat before HaMelech and HaKahal; and they laid their hands upon them,

²⁴ And the Kohanim slaughtered them, and they made a sin offering with their dahm upon the Mizbe'ach, to make kapporah for kol Yisroel; for HaMelech commanded that the olah (*burnt offering*) and the (*chattat*) should be made for kol Yisroel.

²⁵ And he stationed the Levi'im in the Beis HASHEM with cymbals, with nevalim, and with kinnorot, according to the mitzvah Dovid, and of Gad the Chozeh HaMelech and Natan HaNavi; for so was the commandment of HASHEM by His Nevi'im.

²⁶ And the Levi'im stood with the instruments of Dovid, and the Kohanim with the trumpets.

²⁷ And Chizkiyahu commanded to offer the olah (*burnt offering*) upon the Mizbe'ach. And when the olah (*burnt offering*) began, the Shir HASHEM

began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by Dovid Melech Yisroel.

²⁸ And Kol HaKahal worshiped, and the Shir was being sung, and sounded, and all this continued until the olah was completed.

²⁹ And when it had made an end of being offered up, HaMelech and all that were present with him bowed themselves, and worshiped.

³⁰ Moreover Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) HaMelech and the sarim commanded the Levi'im to praise HASHEM with the words of Dovid, and of Asaph the Chozeh (*seer*). And they sang praises with simchah, and they bowed their heads and worshiped.

³¹ Then Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) answered and said, Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto HASHEM, come near and bring zevakhim and todot into the Beis HASHEM. And the Kahal brought in zevakhim and todot; and, as many as were of a willing heart, olot (*burnt offerings*).

³² And the number of the olah, which the Kahal brought, was threescore and ten bulls, a hundred rams, and two hundred lambs; all these were for an olah (*burnt offering*) to HASHEM.

³³ And the kadashim were six hundred bulls and three thousand sheep.

³⁴ But the Kohanim were too few, so that they could not skin all the olot; therefore their achim the Levi'im did help them, until the work was completed, and until the other Kohanim had set them apart as kodesh for the Levi'im were more yashar in lev to set themselves apart as kodesh than the Kohanim.

³⁵ And also the olah were in abundance, with the fat of the shelamim, and the nesakhim for every olah. So the Avodas Beis HASHEM was set in order.

³⁶ And Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) rejoiced, and kol HaAm, that HaElohim had prepared the people, for the matter was done suddenly.

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¹ And Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) sent to kol Yisroel and Yehudah, and wrote iggerot also to Ephrayim and Menasheh, that they should come to the Beis HASHEM at Yerushalayim, to keep the Pesach HASHEM Elohei Yisroel.

² For HaMelech had conferred and agreed with his sarim, and kol HaKahal in Yerushalayim, to keep the Pesach in the second month.

³ For they could not keep it at its time, because the Kohanim had not set themselves apart as kodesh in sufficient numbers, neither had HaAm gathered themselves together to Yerushalayim.

⁴ And the thing pleased HaMelech and kol HaKahal.

⁵ So they established a decree to make proclamation throughout kol Yisroel, from Be'er-Sheva even to Dan, that they should come to keep Pesach unto HASHEM Elohei Yisroel in Yerushalayim, for not many had kept Pesach as prescribed.

⁶ So the runners went with the iggerot from HaMelech and his sarim throughout kol Yisroel and Yehudah, and according to the commandment of HaMelech, saying, Ye Bnei Yisroel, shuvu (*turn, return*) unto HASHEM Elohei Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yisroel, and He will return to

the remnant of you, that are escaped out of the yad of the Kings of Assyria.

⁷ And be not ye like Avoteichem, and like your achim, which were unfaithful against HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem, Who therefore gave them up to a desolation, as ye see.

⁸ Now be ye not stiffnecked, as Avoteichem were, but yield yourselves unto HASHEM, and come to His Mikdash, which He hath set apart as kodesh l'olam; and serve HASHEM Eloheichem, that the fierceness of His wrath may turn away from you.

⁹ For if ye turn again unto HASHEM, your achim and your banim shall find rachamim before them that lead them captive, so that they shall come back into HaAretz HaZot, for HASHEM Eloheichem is channun (*gracious*) and rachum (*compassionate*), and will not turn away His face from you, if ye return unto Him.

¹⁰ So the runners passed from town to town through Eretz Ephrayim and Menasheh even unto Zevulun, but they laughed them to scorn, and mocked them.

¹¹ Nevertheless anashim of Asher and Menasheh and of Zevulun humbled themselves, and went to Yerushalayim.

¹² Also in Yehudah the Yad HaElohim was to give them lev echad to carry out the mitzvah HaMelech and of the sarim, by the word of HASHEM.

¹³ And there assembled at Yerushalayim Am Rav (*Much People*) to keep Chag HaMatzot in the second month, a kahal larov me'od (*a very great congregation*).

¹⁴ And they arose and removed the mizbechot that were in Yerushalayim, and all the incense altars they took away, and threw them into the Wadi Kidron.

¹⁵ Then they slaughtered the Pesach on the fourteenth day of the second month; and the Kohanim and the Levi'im were ashamed, and they set themselves apart as kodesh, and brought olot to the Beis HASHEM.

¹⁶ And they stood in their place after their prescribed manner, according to the Torat Moshe Ish HaElohim; the Kohanim sprinkled the dahm, which they received of the yad of the Levi'im.

¹⁷ For there were rabbim in HaKahal that were not set apart as kodesh; therefore the Levi'im had the charge of the shechitah (*ritual slaughter*) of the Pesachim for every one that was not tahor and therefore could not set them apart as kodesh unto HASHEM.

¹⁸ For most of HaAm, even many of Ephrayim, and Menasheh, Yissakhar, and Zevulun, had not made themselves tahor, yet did they eat the Pesach contrary to what was written. But Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) davened for them, saying, May HASHEM Hatov grant kapporah to

¹⁹ Everyone that prepareth his lev to seek HaElohim, HASHEM Elohei Avotav, though he be not tahor according to the taharat HaKodesh.

²⁰ And HASHEM paid heed to Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu), and healed HaAm.

²¹ And the Bnei Yisroel that were present at Yerushalayim kept the Chag HaMatzot shivat yamim with simchah gedolah; and the Levi'im

and the Kohanim praised HASHEM yom b'yom, singing with loud instruments unto HASHEM.

²² And Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) spoke words of comfort unto all the Levi'im who taught the seichel tov of HASHEM, and they did eat the mo'ed seven days, offering zivkhei shelamim, and making confession to HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem.

²³ And the kol HaKahal conferred and agreed to celebrate still another shivat yamim; and they kept another shivat yamim with simcha.

²⁴ For Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) Melech Yehudah did give to the Kahal a thousand bulls and seven thousand sheep; and the sarim gave to the Kahal a thousand bulls and ten thousand sheep; and a great number of Kohanim set themselves apart as kodesh.

²⁵ And kol Kehal Yehudah, with the Kohanim and the Levi'im, and kol HaKahal that came out of Yisroel, and the gerim that came out of Eretz Yisroel, and that dwelt in Yehudah, rejoiced.

²⁶ So there was simchah gedolah in Yerushalayim; for since the days of Sh'lomo Ben Dovid Melech Yisroel there was not the like in Yerushalayim.

²⁷ Then the Kohanim and the Levi'im arose and blessed HaAm, and their voice was heard, and their tefillah came up to His Ma'on Kodesh, even unto Shomayim.

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¹ Now when all this was completed, kol Yisroel that were present went out to the towns of Yehudah, and smashed the matzevot, and cut down

the Asherim, and threw down the high places and the mizbechot throughout kol Yehudah and Binyamin, in Ephrayim also and Menasheh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the Bnei Yisroel returned, every ish to his achuzzah, into their own towns.

² And Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) appointed the machlekot of the Kohanim and the Levi'im after their divisions, every ish according to his avodas service, the Kohanim and Levi'im for olah and for shelamim, to minister, to give thanks, to praise in the Sh'arei Machanot HASHEM.

³ A gift from HaMelech, from his own possessions, was for the olot, for the boker and erev olot, and the olot for the Shabbatot, and for Rosh Chodesh, and for the Mo'adim, as it is written in the Torat HASHEM.

⁴ Moreover he commanded HaAm that dwelt in Yerushalayim to give the menat HaKohanim v'HaLevi'im (*support of the Kohanim and the Levi'im*), that they might strengthen themselves in the Torat HASHEM.

⁵ And as soon as the devar went out, the Bnei Yisroel brought in abundance the reshit of dagan, tirosh, and yitzhar (*pure olive oil*), and devash, and of all the increase of the sadeh; and the ma'aser (*tithe*) of all things they brought in abundantly.

⁶ And concerning the Bnei Yisroel and Yehudah, that dwelt in the towns of Yehudah, they also brought in the ma'aser of bakar and tzon, and the ma'aser of kadashim which were hamekudashim (*consecrated, set apart as kodesh*) unto HASHEM Eloheihem, and piled them in heaps.

⁷ In the chodesh hashelishi they began to lay

foundations for the heaps, and completed them in the chodesh hashevi'i.

⁸ And when Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) and the sarim came and saw the heaps, they blessed HASHEM, and His Am Yisroel.

⁹ Then Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) questioned the Kohanim and the Levi'im concerning the heaps.

¹⁰ And Azaryahu HaKohen HaRosh of the Bais Tzadok answered him, and said, Since the people began to bring the terumah into the Beis HASHEM, we have had enough to eat, and have plenty to spare, for HASHEM hath blessed His people; and that which is notar (*left over*) is this great amount.

¹¹ Then Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) commanded to prepare leshakhot (*storerooms*) in the Beis HASHEM; and they prepared them,

¹² And brought in the terumah and the ma'aser and the kadashim be'emunah (*faithfully*), over which Konanyah the Levi was Nagid, and Shime'i his brother was mishneh (*second*).

¹³ And Yechiel, and Azazyahu, and Nachat, and Asahel, and Yerimot, and Yozavad, and Eliel, and Yismachyahu, and Machat, and Benayahu, were pekidim (*overseers*) under the yad Konanyah and Shime'i his brother; by the command of Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) HaMelech, and Azaryahu the nagid of the Beis HaElohim.

¹⁴ And Kore ben Yimnah the Levi, the sho'er (*gatekeeper*) at the east, was over the nidvot HaElohim (*freewill offerings of G-d*), to distribute the terumat HASHEM, and the kadshei hakadashim.

¹⁵ And next to him be'emunah were Eden, and Minyamin, and Yeshua, and Shema'yahu, Amaryahu, and Shekanyahu, in the towns of the Kohanim, to give to their achim by machlekot, to the gadol as well as the katan.

¹⁶ This was besides those males who were recorded in the genealogical records, from three years old and upward, even unto every one that entereth into the Beis HASHEM for its daily duty for their avodas service in their mishmerot (*watches, shifts*) according to their machlekot,

¹⁷ Both to the genealogy of the Kohanim by the Bais Avoteihem, and the Levi'im from twenty years old and upward, in their mishmerot by their machlekot (*divisions*);

¹⁸ And to the genealogy of all their little ones, their nashim, and their banim, and their banot, throughout kol Kahal, for be'emunah (*in faithfulness*) they set themselves apart as kodesh in kodesh (*holiness*);

¹⁹ Also of the Bnei Aharon the Kohanim, which were in the pasture lands of their towns, in each town, the men that were designated by name to give manot* to every zachar among the Kohanim, and to all that were reckoned by genealogies among the Levi'im.

²⁰ And thus did Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) throughout kol Yehudah, and wrought that which was tov and yashar and emes before HASHEM Elohav.

²¹ And in every ma'aseh that he began in the Avodas Beis HaElohim, and in the Torah, and in

* **31:19** See 2Chr 31:4

the Mitzvah, to seek Elohav, he did it with all his heart, and prospered.

32

¹ After these things, and haemes thereof, Sancheriv (*Sennacherib*) Melech Assyria came, and invaded Yehudah, and laid siege against the fortified cities, and thought to conquer them for himself.

² And when Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) saw that Sancheriv was come, and that he was purposed to make milchamah against Yerushalayim,

³ He took counsel with his sarim and his gibborim to cover over the waters of the springs* which were outside the Ir; and they did support him.

⁴ So there was gathered Am Rav together, who covered the springs, and the wadi that flowed through the midst of HaAretz, saying, Why should the melachim of Assyria come, and find mayim rabbim?

⁵ Also he strengthened himself, and repaired all the chomah that was broken down, and raised it on the migdalot, and another chomah outside of it, and repaired Millo† in Ir Dovid, and made weapons and shields in abundance.

⁶ And he appointed sarim milchamot over HaAm, and gathered them together before him in the rehov of the Sha'ar HaIr, and spoke encouragingly to them, saying,

* 32:3 Spring of Gihon † 32:5 terraces

⁷ Chizku (*be strong*) and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed because of the melech Assyria, nor because of all the vast army that is with him, for there be more with us than with him.

⁸ With him is zero'a basar, but with us is HASHEM Eloheinu to help us, and to fight milchamoteinu (*our battles*). And HaAm took heart upon the words of Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) Melech Yehudah.

⁹ After this did Sancheriv melech Assyria send his avadim to Yerushalayim, (but he himself laid siege against Lakhish, with all his forces with him,) unto Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) Melech Yehudah, and unto kol Yehudah that were in Yerushalayim, saying,

¹⁰ Thus saith Sancheriv melech Assyria, Whereon do ye base confidence, that ye abide in the siege in Yerushalayim?

¹¹ Doth not Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) mislead you to give over yourselves to die by ra'av and by tzama, saying, HASHEM Eloheinu shall deliver us out of the yad Melech Assyria?

¹² Is not this the same Chizkiyah (Yechizkiyahu) that has removed His high places and His mizbechot, and commanded Yehudah and Yerushalayim, saying, Ye shall worship before Mizbe'ach echad, and burn ketoret upon it?

¹³ Know ye not what I and avotai have done unto all the people of other lands? Were the elohei goyei ha'aratzot able to deliver their land out of mine yad?

¹⁴ Who was there among kol elohei haGoyim that avotai utterly destroyed, that could save his

people out of mine yad, that Eloheichem should be able to save you out of mine yad?

¹⁵ Now therefore let not Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) deceive you, nor mislead you on this manner; neither yet believe him, for no g-d of any goy or mamlachah was able to deliver his people out of mine yad, and out of the yad of avotai. How much less shall Eloheichem deliver you out of mine yad?

¹⁶ And his avadim spoke yet more against HASHEM HaElohim, and against His eved Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu).

¹⁷ He wrote also sefarim to blaspheme HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, and to speak against Him, saying, As the elohei goyei ha'aratzot have not saved their people out of mine yad, so shall not the Elohei Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) save his people out of mine yad.

¹⁸ Then they cried with a kol gadol in the language of the Yehudim unto the Am Yerushalayim that were on the chomah, to frighten them, and to terrorize them, that they might capture the Ir.

¹⁹ And they spoke against the Elohei Yerushalayim, as against the g-ds of the peoples of the land, which were the work of the hands of ha'adam.

²⁰ And for this cause Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) HaMelech, and Yeshayahu ben Amotz, HaNavi, davened and cried out to Shomayim.

²¹ And HASHEM sent a malach, which destroyed all the fighting gibborim, and the nagid and sar in the machaneh of the melech Assyria. So he withdrew in boshet panim (*shamefaced disgrace*)

to his own land. And when he was entered the bais elohav, they that came forth of his own loins[‡] cut him down there with the cherev.

²² Thus HASHEM saved Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim from the yad Sancheriv Melech Ashur, and from the yad of all other, and guided them on every side.

²³ And many brought minchah unto HASHEM to Yerushalayim, and migdanot (*expensive gifts*) to Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) Melech Yehudah, so that he was magnified in the sight of Kol HaGoyim from thenceforth.

²⁴ In those yamim Chizkiyah (Yechizkiyahu) became ill, to the point of mot, and davened unto HASHEM, and He answered him, and He gave him a mofet.[§]

²⁵ But Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) did not render back according to the benefit done unto him; for his lev was lifted up in pride; therefore there was ketzef (*wrath*) upon him, and upon Yehudah and Yerushalayim.

²⁶ Notwithstanding Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) humbled himself for the pride of his lev, both he and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim, so that the ketzef HASHEM came not upon them in the days of Chizkiyah.

²⁷ And Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) had exceeding much osher and kavod, and he made himself otzarot for kesef, and for zahav, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for moginim, and for all manner of valuable things;

[‡] 32:21 i.e., his sons [§] 32:24 See 2Kgs 20:1-11

²⁸ Silos also for the increase of dagan, and tirosh and yitzhar (*pure olive oil*); and stalls for the livestock, and pens for all the sheep.

²⁹ Moreover he built him towns, and possessions of tzon and bakar in abundance, for Elohim had given him wealth very much.

³⁰ This same Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) also covered over the upper source of the Gichon Spring and tunneled it straight down to the west side of Ir Dovid. Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) prospered in all his works.

³¹ Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the sarim of Babylon, who sent unto him to inquire of the mofet that was done in HaAretz, HaElohim left him, to test him, that He might know all that was in his lev.

³² Now the rest of the acts of Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu), and his acts of chesed, hinei, they are written in the Chazon Yeshayahu ben Amotz HaNavi, and in the Sefer Melachim of Yehudah and Yisroel.

³³ And Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) slept with Avotav, and they buried him on the ascent in kivrei Bnei Dovid; and all Yehudah and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim did him kavod at his mot. And Menasheh bno reigned in his place.

33

¹ Menasheh was 12 years old when he began to reign, and he reigned 55 years in Yerushalayim,

² But did that which was rah in the eyes of HASHEM, like unto the to'avot HaGoyim, whom HASHEM had driven out before the Bnei Yisroel.

³ For he rebuilt the high places which Chizkiyahu (Yechizkiyahu) Aviv had demolished, erected mizbechot for Ba'alim, and made Asherot, and worshiped all the tzva HaShomayim, and served them.

⁴ Also he built mizbechot in the Beis HASHEM, whereof HASHEM had said, In Yerushalayim shall Shmi be forever.

⁵ And he built mizbechot for all the tzva HaShomayim in the two khatzerot (*courtyards*) of the Beis HASHEM.

⁶ And he caused his banot to pass through the eish in the Gey Ben Hinnom; also he practiced astrology, fortune-telling, and witchcraft, and necromancy and consulted mediums and spiritists; he wrought rah in the eyes of HASHEM, to provoke Him to anger.

⁷ And he set a pesel hasemel which he had made in the Beis HaElohim, of which Elohim had said to Dovid and to Sh'lomo bno, In this Beis, and in Yerushalayim, which I have chosen before all the Shivtei Yisroel, will I put Shmi forever;

⁸ Neither will I anymore remove the regel Yisroel from HaAretz which I have appointed for Avoteichem; so that they will take heed to do all that I have commanded them, according to kol HaTorah and the Chukkim and the Mishpatim by the yad Moshe.

⁹ So Menasheh made Yehudah and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim to be led astray, and to do rah more than the Goyim, whom HASHEM had destroyed before the Bnei Yisroel.

¹⁰ And HASHEM spoke to Menasheh, and to his people, but they would not pay heed.

¹¹ Therefore HASHEM brought upon them the sarei hatzavah of Melech Ashur (*Assyria*), which captured Menasheh with a hunter's hooks, and bound him with bronze shackles, and hauled him off to Babylon.

¹² And when he was in distress, he besought HASHEM Elohav, and humbled himself greatly before Elohei Avotav,

¹³ And davened unto Him, and He was entreated of him, and heard his techinnah, and brought him back again to Yerushalayim into his malchut. Then Menasheh knew that HASHEM hu HaElohim.

¹⁴ Now after this he rebuilt a chomah chitzonah of Ir Dovid, on the west side of Gichon, in the valley, at the approach of Sha'ar HaDagim, and encompassed the Ophel, and raised it up a very great height, and stationed military commanders in all the fortified cities of Yehudah.

¹⁵ And he removed the elohei hanekhar, and the semel (*image*) from the Beis HASHEM, and all the mizbechot that he had built in the har of the Beis HASHEM, and in Yerushalayim, and cast them outside the Ir.

¹⁶ And he rebuilt the Mizbe'ach HASHEM, and sacrificed thereon zivkhei shelamim and todah, and commanded Yehudah to serve HASHEM Elohei Yisroel.

¹⁷ Nevertheless the people did sacrifice still in the high places, albeit unto HASHEM Eloheihem.

¹⁸ Now the rest of the acts of Menasheh, and his tefillah unto Elohav, and the divrei HaChozim that spoke to him b'Shem HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, hinei, they are written in the annals of the Melachim of Yisroel.

¹⁹ His tefillah also, and how He was entreated of him, and all his chattat, and his unfaithfulness, and the mekomot (*sites, places*) wherein he built high places, and set up Asherim and pesilim, before he was humbled; hinei, they are written among the records of Chozai.

²⁰ So Menasheh slept with Avotav, and they buried him in his own bais; and Amon bno reigned in his place.

²¹ Amon was 22 shanah when he began to reign, and reigned two shanim in Yerushalayim.

²² But he did that which was rah in the eyes of HASHEM, as did Menasheh Aviv, for Amon sacrificed unto all the pesilim (*idols*) which Menasheh Aviv had made, and served them;

²³ And humbled not himself before HASHEM, as Menasheh Aviv had humbled himself; but Amon increased more and more in ashmah.

²⁴ And his avadim made a keshar against him, assassinated him in his own bais.

²⁵ But the am ha'aretz slaughtered all them that had made the keshar against HaMelech Amon; and the am ha'aretz made Yoshiyahu (*Josiah*) bno Melech in his place.

34

¹ Yoshiyahu was 8 years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Yerushalayim 31 shanah.

² And he did that which was yashar in the eyes of HASHEM, and walked in the ways of Dovid Aviv, and veered off neither right nor left.

³ For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet na'ar (*young*), he began to seek after Elohei Dovid Aviv; and in the twelfth year he began to

make tahor Yehudah and Yerushalayim from the high places, and the Asherim, and the pesilim, and the massekhot (*molten images*).

⁴ And they demolished the mizbechot of Ba'alim in his presence; and the incense stands erected above them he smashed; and the Asherim, and the pesilim, and the massekhot he demolished and made dust of them, and scattered upon the keverim (*graves*) of them that had sacrificed unto them.

⁵ And he burned the atzmot of the Kohanim upon their mizbechot, and made tahor Yehudah and Yerushalayim.

⁶ And so did he in the towns of Menasheh, and Ephrayim, and Shim'on, even as far as Naphtali, and in their ruins all around.

⁷ And when he had broken down the mizbechot and the Asherim, and had beaten the pesilim into powder, and cut down all the incense stands throughout all Eretz Yisroel, he returned to Yerushalayim.

⁸ Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had made tahor HaAretz, and HaBeis, he sent Shaphan ben Atzalyahu, and Ma'aseiyahu the Sar HaIr, and Yoach ben Yo'achaz the recorder, to repair the Beis HASHEM Elohav.

⁹ And when they came to Chilkiyahu the Kohen HaGadol, they delivered the kesef that was brought into the Beis Elohim, which the Levi'im, the Shomrei HaSaf (*the Doorkeepers*), had collected from the people of Menasheh and Ephrayim, and from kol She'erit Yisroel, and kol Yehudah and Binyamin, and they returned to Yerushalayim.

¹⁰ And they entrusted it into the yad oseh hamelachah (*hand of the master workmen*) that had hamufkadim (*oversight*) of the Beis HASHEM, and they paid it to the workmen that wrought in the Beis HASHEM, to repair and restore HaBeis;*

¹¹ Even to the charashim (*craftsmen, artisans*) and builders gave they it, to buy quarried stones, and timber for rafters and beams, for the buildings which the Melachim of Yehudah had destroyed.

¹² And the men did the melachah (*work*) be'emunah (*faithfully, with integrity*); and the mufkadim (*overseers*) of them were Yachat and Ovadyahu, the Levi'im, of the Bnei Merari; and Zecharyah and Meshullam, of the Bnei Kehati, to give oversight; and other of the Levi'im, all that were meiven (*expert*) in musical instruments.

¹³ Also they were over the sabalim (*bearers of burdens*) and the overseers of all that wrought the work in every kind of avodah; and of the Levi'im there were soferim (*scribes*), shoterim (*officers*) and sho'arim (*doorkeepers*).

¹⁴ And when they brought out the kesef that was brought into the Beis HASHEM, Chilkiyahu HaKohen found a Sefer Torat HASHEM given through Moshe.

¹⁵ And Chilkiyahu answered and said to Shaphan the Sofer, I have found the Sefer HaTorah in the Beis HASHEM. And Chilkiyahu delivered the Sefer to Shaphan.

¹⁶ And Shaphan carried the Sefer to HaMelech, and brought HaMelech word back again, saying,

* **34:10** HaMikdash

All that was committed into the yad of avadim, they are doing.

¹⁷ And they have emptied out the kesef that was found in the Beis HASHEM, and have entrusted it into the yad hamufkadim and to the yad osei hamelachah.

¹⁸ Then Shaphan the Sofer told HaMelech, saying, Chilkiyahu HaKohen hath given me a Sefer. And Shaphan read it in the presence of HaMelech.

¹⁹ And it came to pass, when HaMelech had heard the divrei HaTorah, that he tore his garments.

²⁰ And HaMelech commanded Chilkiyahu, and Achikam ben Shaphan, and Avdon ben Michah, and Shaphan HaSofer, and Asayah eved HaMelech, saying,

²¹ Go, inquire of HASHEM for me, and for them that are nishar (*left, remaining, the remnant*) in Yisroel and in Yehudah, concerning the divrei hasefer that is found; for gadolah chamat HASHEM is poured out upon us, because Avoteinu have not been shomer over the Devar HASHEM, to do after all that is written in HaSefer Hazei.

²² And Chilkiyahu, and they that HaMelech had sent, went to Chuldah the neviah, the wife of Shallum ben Tokehat ben Chasrah, Shomer HaBegadim (*Keeper of the Wardrobe*), (now she dwelt in Yerushalayim in the Mishneh), and they spoke to her to this effect.

²³ And she answered them, Thus saith HASHEM Elohei Yisroel, Tell ye the ish that sent you to me,

²⁴ Thus saith HASHEM, Hinei, I will bring ra'ah upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the alot (*curses*) that are written in the

Sefer which they have read in the presence of Melech Yehudah,

²⁵ Because they have forsaken Me, and have burned ketoret unto elohim acherim, that they might provoke Me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore My wrath shall be poured out upon this place, and shall not be quenched.

²⁶ And as for Melech Yehudah, who sent you to inquire of HASHEM, so shall ye say unto him, Thus saith HASHEM Elohei Yisroel concerning the words which thou hast heard;

²⁷ Because thine lev was tender, and thou didst humble thyself before Elohim, when thou heardest His words against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and humbledst thyself before Me, and didst tear thy garments, and weep in My Presence, I have even heard thee also, saith HASHEM.

²⁸ Hinei, I will gather thee to Avoteicha, thou shalt be gathered to thy kever in shalom, neither shall thine eyes see all ra'ah I will bring upon this place, and upon the inhabitants of it. So they brought back HaMelech word.

²⁹ Then HaMelech sent and gathered together all the Ziknei Yehudah and Yerushalayim.

³⁰ And HaMelech went up to the Beis HASHEM, and kol Ish Yehudah, and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim, and the Kohanim, and the Levi'im, and kol haAm, gadol and katan; and he read in their ears kol divrei Sefer HaBrit that was found in the Beis HASHEM.

³¹ And HaMelech stood at his place, and cut HaBrit in the presence of HASHEM, to walk after

HASHEM, and to be shomer over His mitzvot, and His testimonies, and His chukkot, with all his lev, and with all his nefesh, to perform the divrei HaBrit which are written in Sefer HaZeh.

³² And he caused all that being found in Yerushalayim and Binyamin to make a pledge to it. And the inhabitants of Yerushalayim did according to the Brit Elohim, Elohei Avoteihem.

³³ And Yoshiyah removed kol hatovot out of all the territories that pertained to the Bnei Yisroel, and made all that were present in Yisroel to do avodas[†] service to HASHEM Eloheihem. And all his days they veered not from following HASHEM, Elohei Avoteihem.

35

¹ Moreover Yoshiyahu kept Pesach unto HASHEM in Yerushalayim, and they slaughtered the Pesach on the fourteenth day of the first month.

² And he set up the Kohanim in their mishmerot, and encouraged them to the Avodas Beis HASHEM,

³ And said unto the Levi'im that taught kol Yisroel, which were hakedoshim unto HASHEM, Put the Aron HaKodesh in the Beis which Sh'lomo Ben Dovid Melech Yisroel did build; it shall not be a massa (*burden, something carried*) upon your ketefayim (*shoulders*); serve now HASHEM Eloheichem and His people Yisroel,

⁴ And prepare yourselves by Bais Avoteichem, after your machlekot, according to the writing of Dovid Melech Yisroel, and according to the mikhtav of Sh'lomo bno.

[†] 34:33 kodesh

⁵ And stand in HaKodesh according to the pelugot Bais HaAvot (*groupings of families*) of your achim the Bnei HaAm, and after the chalukat Bais Av (*family subdivisions*) of the Levi'im.

⁶ So slaughter the Pesach, and set yourselves apart as kodesh, and prepare your achim, that they may do according to the Devar HASHEM by the yad Moshe.

⁷ And Yoshiyahu gave to HaAm, of the tzon, kevasim and goats, all for the Pesachim, for all that were present, to the number of 30,000 plus 3,000 bakar; these were from the property of HaMelech.

⁸ And his sarim gave linedavah (*voluntarily*) unto HaAm, to the Kohanim, to the Levi'im. Chilkiyah, Zecharyahu, Yechiel, negidei Beis HaElohim, gave unto the Kohanim for the Pesachim 2,600 and 300 bakar.

⁹ Konanyah also, and Shema'yahu and Netanel, his achim, and Chashavyahu and Ye'iel and Yozavad, Sarei HaLevi'im, gave unto the Levi'im for Pesachim 5,000 and 500 bakar.

¹⁰ So the Avodah (*Service*) was prepared, and the Kohanim stood in their place, and the Levi'im in their machlekot, according to the mitzvah HaMelech.

¹¹ And they slaughtered the Pesach, and the Kohanim sprinkled the dahm from their hands, and the Levi'im skinned them.

¹² And they removed the olah, that they might give according to the pelugot l'Bais Avot l'Bnei HaAm, to offer unto HASHEM, as it is written in the Sefer Moshe. And so did they with the bakar.

¹³ And they roasted the Pesach with eish according to the mishpat; but the other kadashim they boiled in pots, and in caldrons, and in pans, and distributed them in haste among kol Bnei HaAm.

¹⁴ And afterward they made ready for themselves, and for the Kohanim; because the Kohanim the Bnei Aharon were busied in offering olah and the chalavim (*fats*) until lailah; therefore the Levi'im prepared for themselves, and for the Kohanim, the Bnei Aharon.

¹⁵ And the meshorarim (*singers*), the Bnei Asaph, were in their place, according to the mitzvat Dovid, and Asaph, and Heman, and Yedutun, Chozeh HaMelech; and the sho'arim (*gatekeepers*) were at every sha'ar; neither did they need to depart from their Avodah, for their achim the Levi'im prepared for them.

¹⁶ So all the Avodas HASHEM was prepared that same day, to keep the Pesach, and to offer olot upon the Mizbe'ach HASHEM, according to the mitzvat HaMelech Yoshiyahu.

¹⁷ And the Bnei Yisroel that were present kept the Pesach at that time, and the Chag HaMatzot seven days.

¹⁸ And there was no Pesach like it in Yisroel from the days of Shmuel HaNavi; neither did all the Melachim of Yisroel keep such a Pesach as Yoshiyahu kept, and the Kohanim, and the Levi'im, and kol Yehudah and Yisroel that were present, and the inhabitants of Yerushalayim.

¹⁹ In the eighteenth shanah of the reign of Yoshiyahu was this Pesach kept.

²⁰ After all this, when Yoshiyahu had set in order the Beis,* Nekho Melech Mitzrayim went up to fight at Karkemish on the Euphrates, and Yoshiyahu went up against him.

²¹ But he sent malachim to him, saying, Mah li valach (*What have I to do with thee*), thou Melech Yehudah? I come not against thee this day, but against the Bais wherewith I have war,† for Elohim commanded me to make haste; forbear thee from meddling with Elohim, Who is with me, that He destroy thee not.

²² Nevertheless Yoshiyahu would not turn his face from him, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and paid heed not unto the words of Nekho from the mouth of Elohim, and went to fight in the Valley of Megiddo.

²³ And the archers shot at Melech Yoshiyahu; and HaMelech said to his avadim, Take me away; for I am badly wounded.

²⁴ His avadim therefore took him out of that merkavah, and put him in the mishneh merkavah that he had; and they brought him to Yerushalayim, and he died, and was buried in the kivrot Avotav. And all Yehudah and Yerushalayim mourned for Yoshiyahu.

²⁵ And Yirmeyahu lamented for Yoshiyahu; and all the sharim (*singing men*) and the sharot (*singing women*) commemorate Yoshiyahu in their laments to this day, and made them as chok‡ in Yisroel; and, hinei, they are written in HaKinot (*the Laments*).

* ^{35:20} HaMikdash † ^{35:21} i.e., Babylon ‡ ^{35:25} set custom

²⁶ Now the rest of the acts of Yoshiyahu, and his acts of chesed, according to what is written in the Torat HASHEM,

²⁷ And his deeds, harishonim and ha'acharonim, hinei, they are written in the Sefer of the Melachim of Yisroel and Yehudah.

36

¹ Then the Am Ha'Aretz took Yehoachaz ben Yoshiyahu, and made him melech in the place of Aviv in Yerushalayim.

² Yehoachaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Yerushalayim.

³ And Melech Mitzrayim deposed him at Yerushalayim, and laid on HaAretz a tribute of a hundred talents of kesef and a talent of zahav.

⁴ And Melech Mitzrayim made Elyakim his brother melech over Yehudah and Yerushalayim, and changed shmo to Y'hoyakim. And Nekho took Yehoachaz his brother, and carried him off to Mitzrayim.

⁵ Y'hoyakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Yerushalayim; and he did that which was rah in the eyes of HASHEM Elohav.

⁶ Against him came up Nevukhadnetzar Melech Bavel, and bound him in bronze shackles, to carry him off to Babylon.

⁷ Nevukhadnetzar also carried off the vessels of the Beis HASHEM to Babylon, and put them in his heikhal (*temple*) at Babylon.

⁸ Now the rest of the acts of Y'hoyakim, and his to'avot which he did, and that which was

found in him, hinei, they are written in the Sefer of the Melachim of Yisroel and Yehudah; and Y'hoyakhin bno became king in his place.

⁹ Y'hoyakhin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Yerushalayim; and he did that which was rah in the eyes of HASHEM.

¹⁰ And when the year was expired, HaMelech Nevukhadnetzar sent, and brought him to Babylon, with the kelei chemdat Beis HASHEM, and made Tzidkiyahu his brother Melech over Yehudah and Yerushalayim.

¹¹ Tzidkiyah was one and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned eleven years in Yerushalayim.

¹² And he did that which was rah in the eyes of HASHEM Elohav, and humbled not himself before Yirmeyahu HaNavi speaking from the mouth of HASHEM.

¹³ And he also rebelled against Melech Nevukhadnetzar, who had made him take an oath by Elohim, but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his lev against making teshuva unto HASHEM Elohei Yisroel.

¹⁴ Moreover all the Sarei HaKohanim, and HaAm became more unfaithful, following all the to'avot HaGoyim, and they made the Beis HASHEM tameh which HASHEM had consecrated and set apart as kodesh in Yerushalayim.

¹⁵ And HASHEM Elohei Avoteihem sent to them by His malachim, time and again; because He took pity on His people and on His Ma'on (*Dwelling Place*);

¹⁶ But they mocked the malachim of Elohim, and despised His words, and derided His nevi'im, until the Chamat HASHEM was aroused against His people, until there was no marpeh (*remedy, healing*).

¹⁷ Therefore He brought upon them Melech Kasdim, who slaughtered their bochurim with the cherev in their Beis Mikdash, and had no pity upon bochur or betulah, zaken or the aged man. He gave them all into his yad.

¹⁸ And all the kelei Beis HaElohim, hagedolim and haketanim, and the otzerot of the Beis HASHEM, and the otzerot HaMelech, and of his sarim; all these he brought to Babylon.

¹⁹ And they burned the Beis HaElohim, and broke down the Chomat Yerushalayim, and burned all the palaces thereof with eish, and destroyed all its precious vessels.*

²⁰ And them that had escaped from the cherev carried he off to Babylon where they were avadim to him and his banim until the kingdom of Paras (*Persia*) began to reign;

²¹ To fulfil the Devar HASHEM by the mouth of Yirmeyahu, until HaAretz had made up for its Shabbatot, for as long as she lay desolate she was shomer Shabbos, to fulfil Shivim Shanah (*seventy years*).†

²² Now in the first year of Koresh (*Cyrus*) Melech Paras (*Persia*), that the word of HASHEM spoken by the mouth of Yirmeyahu (*Jeremiah*) might be accomplished, HASHEM stirred up the ruach of

* **36:19** Tisha B'Av † **36:21** See Jer 25:11

Koresh Melech Paras (*Persia*), that he made a proclamation throughout all his Malchut, and put it also in writing, saying,

²³ Thus saith Koresh Melech Paras (*Persia*), Kol Mamlechet HaAretz (*all the kingdoms of the earth*) hath HASHEM Elohei HaShomayim given me; and He hath charged me to build Him a Beis in Yerushalayim, which is in Yehudah. Who is there among you of all His people? HASHEM Elohav be with him and let him go up!‡

‡ **36:23** The glory cloud that appears at the dedication of both the wilderness Mishkan and the Beis HaMikdash of Sh'lomo HaMelech is a prophetic type and foreshadow of the Moshiach and the coming sod hitgashmut — see 2Chr 5:7-14; Ex 40:34-35; Yn 1:1,14

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