

1ST MACCABEES

¹ And it was done, after that Alexander of Philip, king of Macedonia, which reigned first in Greece, and went out of the land of Kittim, smote Darius, king of Persians and of Medes,

² he ordained many battles, and got strengths of all; and he slew the kings of earth,

³ and passed forth till to the ends of earth, and took spoils of multitude of folks; and the earth was still in the sight of him.

⁴ And he gathered virtue, and host full strong [*or full strong host*], and the heart of him was enhanced and lifted up. And he got the countries of folks, and tyrants, *either strong men*; and they were made to him into tribute.

⁵ And after these things he fell into the bed, and knew that he should die.

⁶ And he called his noble children, *that is, familiar fellows*, that were nourished with him from their youth, and parted to them his kingdom, when he lived yet [*or when yet he lived*].

⁷ And Alexander reigned twelve years, and was dead.

⁸ And his children *or servants* wielded the realm, each in his place,

⁹ and all putted to them diadems after his death, and the sons of them after them, many years; and evils were multiplied in earth.

¹⁰ And there went out of them a root of sin, Antiochus the noble *or Epiphanes*, the son of Antiochus the king, that was at Rome in hostage,

and reigned in the hundred and seven and thirtieth year of the realm of Greeks.

¹¹ In those days wicked sons of Israel went out, and counselled many, and said, Go we, and ordain we [*a*] testament with heathen men, that be about us; for since we parted from them, many evils found us.

¹² And the word was seen good before the eyes of them.

¹³ And some of the people sent, and went to the king; and he gave power to them for to do rightfulness of heathen men.

¹⁴ And they builded a school in Jerusalem, by [*or after*] laws of nations;

¹⁵ and made to them prepuces, and went away from the holy testament, and were joined to nations, and were sold for to do evil.

¹⁶ And the realm had prosperity in the sight of Antiochus, and he began to reign in the land of Egypt, that he should reign on two realms.

¹⁷ And he entered into Egypt with a grievous multitude, in chariots, and elephants, and horsemen, *either knights*, and [*a*] plenteous multitude of ships,

¹⁸ and he ordained battle against Ptolemy, king of Egypt, and Ptolemy dreaded of his face, and flew; and many were wounded, and fell down.

¹⁹ And he took the strong cities in the land of Egypt, and [*he*] took the preys of the land of Egypt.

²⁰ And Antiochus returned, after that he smote Egypt, in the hundred and three and fortieth

year, and went up to Israel. And he went up to Jerusalem with a grievous multitude,

²¹ and entered into the hallowing with pride; and he took the golden altar, and the candlestick of light, and all the vessels thereof,

²² and the board of proposition, and vessels of flowing sacrifices, and cruets, and golden mortars, and veil, and crowns, and golden ornament that was in the face of the temple; and he brake all.

²³ And he took silver and gold, and all desirable vessels, and he took the privy treasures, which he found;

²⁴ and when he had taken up all things, he went into his land. And he made slaughter of men, and spake in great pride.

²⁵ And great wailing was made in Israel, and in each place of them;

²⁶ and princes sorrowed inwardly, and elder men, and maidens, and young men were made sick, and fairness of women was changed.

²⁷ Each husband took wailing, and they that sat in [*the*] husband's bed, mourned.

²⁸ And the land was moved altogether on men dwelling therein, and all the house of Jacob was clothed with confusion.

²⁹ And after two years of days, the king sent a prince of tributes into the cities of Judea, and he came to Jerusalem with great company.

³⁰ And he spake to them peaceable words in guile, and they believed to him. And suddenly he fell in on the city, and smote it with a great wound, and lost much people of Israel.

31 And he took preys of the city, and burnt it with fire, and destroyed houses thereof, and walls thereof in compass.

32 And they led women captive, and children, and wielded beasts.

33 And they builded the city of David with [*a*] great wall and firm, and firm towers; and it was made to them into an high tower, *either strength*.

34 And they putted there a folk of sinners, wicked men, and they were strong in it;

35 and they putted arms, and meats, and gathered preys of Jerusalem; and putted up there, and were made into a great snare.

36 And this thing was made into espysings in evil, *either treasons*, to hallowing, and into an evil devil in Israel evermore.

37 And they shed out innocent blood, by compass of the hallowing, and defouled the hallowing.

38 And dwellers of Jerusalem fled for them, and it was made habitation of strangers, and it was made strange, *either alien*, to his seed, and [*the*] sons thereof forsook it.

39 The hallowing thereof was desolate as wilderness; feast days thereof were turned into mourning, sabbaths thereof into shame, honours thereof into nought.

40 By [*or After*] the glory thereof, the evil fame thereof was multiplied, and highness thereof was turned into mourning.

41 And king Antiochus wrote to all his realm, that all the people should be one.

⁴² And they forsook each man his law; and all folks consented by [*or after*] the word of king Antiochus,

⁴³ and many of Israel consented to him, and sacrificed to idols, and defouled sabbath.

⁴⁴ And king Antiochus sent books by the hands of messengers into Jerusalem, and into all cities of Judea, that they should pursue laws of folks of earth,

⁴⁵ and should forbid burnt sacrifices, and sacrifices, and pleasings for to be done in the temple of God, and that they should forbid the sabbath for to be hallowed, and solemn days,

⁴⁶ and holy things for to be defouled, and the holy people of Israel.

⁴⁷ And he commanded altars for to be builded, and temples, and idols; and swine's flesh for to be sacrificed, and unclean beasts;

⁴⁸ and for to leave their sons uncircumcised, and the souls of them for to be defouled in all unclean-nesses and abominations,

⁴⁹ so that they should forget the law, and should change all the justifyings of God.

⁵⁰ And whoever did not by the word of king Antiochus, should die.

⁵¹ By all these words he wrote to all his realm, and above-set [*or before-set*] princes to the people, which should constrain these things for to be done. And they commanded to cities of Judea for to make sacrifice.

⁵² And many of the people were gathered to them, which forsook the law of the Lord, and did evils on earth.

⁵³ And they drived [*or drove*] out the people of Israel from privy places, and in hid places of fugitives, *either fleeing men*.

⁵⁴ In the fifteenth day of the month Kislev, *that answereth to our November*, in the hundred and five and fortieth year, king Antiochus builded [*the*] abominable idol of desolation, *either discomfort*, on the altar of God; and by all cities of Judea in compass they builded altars.

⁵⁵ And before the gates of the houses and in streets, they burnt incenses, and sacrificed;

⁵⁶ and burnt by fire the books of the law of God, and carved them.

⁵⁷ And with whomever the books of [*the*] testament of the Lord were found, and whoever kept the law of the Lord, by [*or after*] the commandment of the king, they slew him.

⁵⁸ In their virtue, *either power*, they did these things to the people of Israel, that was found in each month in the cities.

⁵⁹ And in the five and twentieth day of the month, they sacrificed on the altar, that was against the altar of God.

⁶⁰ And women, that circumcised their sons, were strangled, by commandment of king Antiochus;

⁶¹ and they hanged children by the necks, by all houses of them, and strangled them that circumcised them.

⁶² And many of the people of Israel determined, *either fully deemed*, with them, that they should not eat unclean things,

⁶³ and choosed more for to die, than for to be defouled with unclean meats. And they would

not break the holy law of God, and they were slain;

⁶⁴ and full great wrath was made on the people.

CHAPTER 2

¹ In those days Mattathias, the son of John, son of Simeon, and he *was* a priest of the sons of Joarib, rose from Jerusalem, and sat in the hill Modin. [*In those days Mattathias rose, the son of John, son of Simeon, he a priest of the sons of Joarib, of Jerusalem, and sat in the hill Modin.*]

² And he had five sons; John, was named Gaddis;

³ and Simon, that was named Thassis;

⁴ and Judas, that was called Maccabeus;

⁵ and Eleazar, that was named Avaran; and Jonathan, that was named Apphus.

⁶ These saw the evils that were done in the people of Judea and Jerusalem.

⁷ And Mattathias said, Woe to me! whereto am I born, for to see the destroying [*or constriction*] of my people, and the defouling of the holy city, and for to sit there, when it is given into the hands of enemies? Holy things be made in the hand of strangers;

⁸ the temple thereof as a man un noble;

⁹ vessels of glory thereof be led away captive. Eld men thereof be slain in streets [*or Old men be slain in streets thereof*], and young men thereof fell down by sword of enemies.

¹⁰ What folk inherited not the kingdom thereof, and wielded not preys thereof?

¹¹ All adorning thereof is borne away; she that was free, is made the handmaiden.

¹² And lo! our holy things, and our fairness, and our clarity, is desolate, and heathen men defouled it.

¹³ What therefore is it to us for to live?

¹⁴ And Mattathias and his sons rent their clothes, and covered them with hair-shirts, and wailed greatly.

¹⁵ And they that were sent of king Antiochus, came thither, for to constrain them that fled together into the city of Modin, for to offer and burn incenses, and for to depart from the law of God.

¹⁶ And many of the people of Israel consented, and came to them; but Mattathias and his sons stood steadfastly.

¹⁷ And they answered, that were sent of Antiochus, and said to Mattathias, Thou art prince, and most clear, and great in this city, and adorned with sons and brethren.

¹⁸ Therefore go thou the former, and do the commandment of the king, as all folks have done, and men of Judea, and they that left in Jerusalem. And thou shalt be, and thy sons, among friends of the king, and made large in silver and gold, and many gifts.

¹⁹ And Mattathias answered, and said with great voice, Though all folks obey to king Antiochus, that they go away each man from the service of the law of his fathers, and consent to his commandments,

²⁰ I, and my sons, and my brethren shall obey to the law of our fathers.

²¹ God be helpful to us; it is not profitable to us for to forsake the law, and rightfulnesses of God.

²² We shall not hear the words of king Antiochus, neither shall make sacrifice/s *to idols*, and break the commandments of our law, that we go by another way.

²³ And as he ceased for to speak these words, some Jew went to, before the eyes of all men, for to sacrifice to idols on the altar, in the city of Modin, by commandment of the king.

²⁴ And Mattathias saw, and sorrowed, and his reins trembled together, and his madness, *that is, great wrath by fervent love*, was kindled by *[or after]* doom of the law; and he leaped in, and slew him on the altar.

²⁵ But and he slew in that time the man whom king Antiochus sent, which compelled for to offer, and he destroyed the altar.

²⁶ And he loved fervently the law, as Phinehas did to Zimri, son of Salu.

²⁷ And Mattathias cried with great voice in the city, and said, Each man that hath fervent love of the law, ordain a testament, *that is, a covenant*, and go he out after me.

²⁸ And he flew, and his sons, into mountains, and left whatever things they had in the city.

²⁹ Then many seeking doom and rightwiseness, went down into desert, that they should sit there,

³⁰ they and the sons of them, and women of them, and beasts of them; for evils were hard on them.

³¹ And it was told to men of the king, and to the host, that were in Jerusalem, *[in]* the city of

David, that some men went away, that destroyed the commandment of the king, into privy places in desert; and many had gone after them.

³² And anon they went to them, and ordained against them battle, in the day of sabbaths;

³³ and said to them, Against-stand ye also now yet? go ye out, and do after the word of king Antiochus, and ye shall live.

³⁴ And they said, We shall not go out, neither [*we*] shall do the word of the king, that we defoul the day of sabbaths.

³⁵ And they stirred battle against them.

³⁶ And they answered not to them, neither threw a stone to them, neither stopped privy places,

³⁷ and said, Die we all in our simpleness, and heaven and earth shall be witnesses on us, that unjustly ye lose us.

³⁸ And they gave to them battle in sabbaths, and they were dead, and [*the*] wives of them, and sons of them, and beasts of them, till to a thousand persons of men.

³⁹ And Mattathias knew, and his friends; and they had mourning on them greatly.

⁴⁰ And a man said to his neighbor, If we all shall do as our brethren did, and shall not fight against heathen men, for our lives, and our justifyinges, the sooner they shall destroy us from the earth.

⁴¹ And they thought in that day, and said, Each man whoever cometh to us in battle, in the day of sabbaths, fight we against him, and die we not all, as our brethren be dead in privy places.

⁴² Then the synagogue of Jews, strong in might of Israel, was gathered to them. Every willful man in the law,

⁴³ and all that fled from evils, were added to them, and they were made to them to steadfastness.

⁴⁴ And they gathered an host, and smited sinners in their wrath, and wicked men in their indignation; and the others fled to nations, for to escape.

⁴⁵ And Mattathias envired, and his friends, and destroyed altars,

⁴⁶ and circumcised children uncircumcised, how many ever they found in the coasts of Israel, in strength.

⁴⁷ And they pursued the sons of pride, and the work had prosperity in their hands.

⁴⁸ And they got the law from the hands of heathen men, and from the hands of kings, and gave not strength to the sinner.

⁴⁹ And [*the*] days of Mattathias of dying nighed, and he said to his sons, Now pride is comforted, and chastising, and time of destruction, and the wrath of indignation.

⁵⁰ Now therefore, sons, be ye pursuers, *either lovers*, of the law, and give ye your lives for the testament of fathers.

⁵¹ And bethink ye on the works of fathers, which they did in their generations, and ye shall receive great glory, and everlasting name.

⁵² Whether in temptation Abraham was not found true, *either faithful*, and it was areckoned to him to rightwiseness? [*Whether Abraham*

in temptation was not found faithful, and it is areckoned to him to right-wiseness?]

⁵³ Joseph, in time of his anguish, kept commandment, and was made lord of Egypt.

⁵⁴ Phinehas, our father, in fervently loving the fervent love of God, took testament of everlasting priesthood.

⁵⁵ Jesus, *either Joshua*, while he [*ful*] filled the word, was made duke in Israel.

⁵⁶ Caleb, while he witnessed in the church, took heritage.

⁵⁷ David, in his mercy, got the seat of kingdom, into worlds.

⁵⁸ Elijah, while he fervently loved the fervent love of the law, was received into heaven.

⁵⁹ Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael, believed, and were delivered from the flame.

⁶⁰ Daniel, in his simpleness, was delivered from the mouth of lions.

⁶¹ And thus bethink ye by generation and generation, for all that hope into him be not made unsteadfast.

⁶² And dread ye not of the words of a man a sinner, for the glory of him is turds and worms;

⁶³ today he is enhanced, and tomorrow he shall not be found, for he is returned into his earth, and his thought shall perish.

⁶⁴ Therefore, ye sons, be comforted, and do ye manly in the law; for when ye shall do those things that be bidden to you in the law of your Lord God [*or the Lord your God*], in it ye shall be glorious.

65 And lo! Simon, your brother; I know, that he is a man of counsel, hear ye him evermore, and he shall be father to you.

66 And Judas Maccabeus, strong in might from his youth, be to you a prince in [*or of*] knighthood, and he shall do battle of the people.

67 And ye shall bring to you all doers of the law, and avenge ye the vengeance of your people.

68 Yield ye yielding to heathen men, and take ye attention to the behests of the law.

69 And he blessed them, and was put to his fathers.

70 And he was dead in the hundred and six and fortieth year, and was buried of his sons into [*the*] sepulchre of his fathers in Modin; and all Israel wailed him with great wailing.

CHAPTER 3

1 And Judas, that was called Maccabeus, the son of Mattathias, rose for him.

2 And all his brethren helped him, and all that joined them to his father, and they fought the battle of Israel with gladness.

3 And he alarged glory to his people, and clothed him with an habergeon as a giant, and girt him with his armours of battle in battles, and defended castles with his sword.

4 He was made like a lion in his works, and as a whelp of a lion roaring in his hunting.

5 And he pursued wicked men, and sought them; and he burnt them in flames, that disturbed or troubled his people.

⁶ And his enemies were put aback for dread of him, and all workers of wickedness were troubled altogether; and health was addressed in his hand.

⁷ And he wrathed many kings, and gladdened Jacob, *that is, the people of Israel*, in his works, and into world his mind is in blessing.

⁸ And he went through the cities of Judea, and lost unpius men of them, and turned away wrath from Israel.

⁹ And he was named till to the utmost of earth, and he gathered men perishing.

¹⁰ And Apollonius gathered folks, and from Samaria much virtue, and great, for to fight against Israel.

¹¹ And Judas knew, and went out against him, and smote, and slew him. And many wounded fell down, and the others fled;

¹² and he took preys of them. And Judas took away the sword of Apollonius, and was fighting there-with in all days.

¹³ And Seron, prince of the host of Syria, heard, that Judas gathered a gathering, and the church of faithful men with him.

¹⁴ And he said, I shall make to me a name, and I shall be glorified in the realm, and I shall overcome Judas, and them that be with him, which despised the king's word.

¹⁵ And he made ready him; and the castles *or hosts* of unpius men, strong helpers, went up with him, for to do vengeance on the sons of Israel.

16 And they nighed unto Bethhoron; and Judas went out against them, with few men.

17 Forsooth as they saw the host coming to them in meeting, they said to Judas, How may we few fight against so great multitude, so strong; and we be made weary by fasting this day?

18 And Judas said, It is light, *either easy*, that many be enclosed altogether in hands of few; and difference is not in sight of God of heaven, for to deliver in many either in few;

19 for not in multitude of host *is* the victory of battle, but of heaven is strength.

20 They come to us in rebel multitude, and pride, for to destroy us, and our wives, and our sons, and for to rob us.

21 Forsooth we shall fight for our lives, and our laws;

22 and the Lord himself shall all-break them before our face; forsooth dread ye not them.

23 Soothly as he ceased for to speak, he hurled into them suddenly; and Seron was all-broken, and his host, in the sight of him.

24 And he pursued him in the going down of Bethhoron, till into the field; and eight hundred men of them fell down, the others forsooth fled into the land of Philistines.

25 And the dread of Judas, and of his brethren, and the inward fearedness, fell on all heathen men in compass of them;

26 and the name of him came to the king, and all folks told of the battles of Judas.

27 Soothly as king Antiochus heard these words, he was wroth in soul; and he sent, and

gathered the host of all his realm, full strong castles *or hosts*.

28 And he opened his treasury, and gave wages to his host, into a year, and commanded them, that they should be ready to all things.

29 And he saw, that money failed of his treasures, and tributes of the country *were* little, for dissention and vengeance that he did in the land, for to do away the lawful things that were of the first days.

30 And he dreaded, that he should not have as once and twice into costs and gifts, which he had given before with large hand; and he was rich [*or abounded*] over kings that were before him.

31 And he was astonied in soul greatly, and thought for to go into Persia, and for to take tributes of countries, and for to gather much silver.

32 And he left Lysias, a noble man of the king's kin, on the king's needs, from the flood Euphrates, till to the flood of Egypt;

33 and that he should nourish Antiochus, his son, till he came again.

34 And he betook to him the half of his host, and elephants, and commanded to him of all these things that he would, and of men inhabiting Judea and Jerusalem;

35 and that he should send to them a host, for to all-break, and to destroy utterly the virtue of Israel, and the remnants [*or relics*] of Jerusalem, and for to do away the mind of them from place;

³⁶ and for to ordain dwellers sons aliens [*or aliens' sons dwellers*] in all the coasts of them, and by lot for to part the land of them.

³⁷ And the king took a part of the residue host, and went out of Antioch, city of his realm, in the hundred and seven and fortieth year; and passed over the flood Euphrates, and went through the higher countries.

³⁸ And Lysias chose Ptolemy, the son of Dorymenes, and Nicanor, and Gorgias, mighty men of the king's friends.

³⁹ And he sent with them forty thousand of men, and seven thousand of horsemen, *either knights*, that they should come into the land of Judea, and destroy it, by [*or after*] the word of the king.

⁴⁰ And they went forth, for to go with all their power; and they came, and landed at Emmaus, in the field land.

⁴¹ And merchants of countries heard the name of them, and took silver and gold full much, and children, and came into castles, for to take the sons of Israel into servants; and the hosts of Syria, and the lands of aliens, were added to them.

⁴² And Judas saw, and his brethren, that evils were multiplied, and the host applied, *or landed*, at the coasts of them; and they knew the words of the king, which he commanded the people for to do, into perishing and ending.

⁴³ And they said, each man to his neighbour, Raise we the casting down of our people, and fight we for our people, and our holy things.

⁴⁴ And coming together of host was gathered, for to be ready into battle, and for to pray, and ask mercy, and merciful doings [*or mercy doings*].

⁴⁵ And Jerusalem was not inhabited, but was as desert; there was not that entered and went out, of children thereof; and the holy things was defouled, and sons of aliens were in the high tower, there was the dwelling of heathen men; and the liking was done away from Jacob, and pipe and harp failed there.

⁴⁶ And they were gathered, and came into Mizpeh against Jerusalem; for place of prayer was in Mizpeh, sooner [*or before*] then in Jerusalem.

⁴⁷ And they fasted in that day, and clothed them with hair-shirts, and putted ashes in their heads, and rent their clothes.

⁴⁸ And they spreaded abroad books of the law, of the which heathen men sought likeness of their simulacra;

⁴⁹ and they brought ornaments of priests, and first fruits, and tithes; and they raised Nazirites, that had [*ful*] filled days.

⁵⁰ And they cried with great voice to heaven, and said, What shall we do to these, and whither shall we lead them?

⁵¹ And thine holy things be trodden, and defouled, and thy priests be made into mourning, and into casting down, *either despising*.

⁵² And lo! nations came together against us, for to destroy us; thou knowest what things they think against us.

53 How shall we be able to with-stand before the face of them, no but thou, God, help us?

54 And they cried in trumps, with great voice.

55 And after these things Judas ordained dukes of the people, tribunes, *that is, [one]leading a thousand*, and centurions, *leading an hundred*, and pentacontrarks, *leading fifty*, and decurions, *leading ten*.

56 And he said to these that builded houses, and wedded wives, and planted vineyards, and to dreadful men, that they should turn again, each man into his house, by [*or after*] the law.

57 And they moved castles, *either hosts of armed men*, and they setted together at the south of Emmaus.

58 And Judas said, Be ye gird, and be ye mighty sons, and be ye ready in the morrowing, and that ye fight against these nations, that came together for to destroy us, and our holy things.

59 For better *it is*, that we die in battle, than for to see evils of our folk, and holy things.

60 Soothly as will shall be in heaven, so be it done.

CHAPTER 4

1 And Gorgias took five thousand of men, and a thousand chosen horse-men; and they moved tents by night,

2 for to apply to *or pitch by* the tents of Jews, and for to smite them suddenly; and sons that were of the high tower, were leaders of them.

³ And Judas heard, and he rose, and mighty men, for to smite the power of hosts of the king, that was in Emmaus;

⁴ for yet the host was scattered from tents.

⁵ And Gorgias came into the tents of Judas by night, and found no man; and they sought them in hills, for he said, These flee from us.

⁶ And when day was made, Judas appeared in the field with three thousands of men only, which had not coverings and swords.

⁷ And they saw the tents of heathen men strong, and men habergeoned, and the multitude of horsemen in compass of them, and these *were* taught to battle.

⁸ And Judas said to his men, that were with him, Dread ye not the multitude of them, and dread ye not inwardly the fierceness of them.

⁹ Bethink ye how our fathers were made safe in the Red Sea, when Pharaoh pursued them with much host.

¹⁰ And now cry we to heaven, and the Lord shall have mercy on us, and shall be mindful of the testament of our fathers, and shall all-break this host before our face today.

¹¹ And all folks shall know, that it is God, that shall again-buy, and deliver Israel.

¹² And aliens raised their eyes, and saw them coming of the contrary part,

¹³ and went out of tents into battle. And they that were with Judas, sang in trumps.

¹⁴ And they went together, and heathen men were all-broken, and fled into the field;

15 forsooth the last fell down by sword. And they pursued them till to Gazara, and till into the fields of Idumea, and Azotus, and Jamnia; and there fell down of them till to three thousands of men.

16 And Judas turned again, and his host pursuing him.

17 And he said to the people, Covet ye not preys, for battle is against us,

18 and Gorgias and his host *be* in the hill nigh us; but stand ye now against our enemies, and overcome them, and after these things ye shall take preys securely [*or ye securely shall take preys*].

19 And yet while Judas spake these things, lo! some part appeared, beholding forth from the hill.

20 And Gorgias saw, that his *helpers* were altogether turned into flight, and tents were burnt; for smoke that was seen, declared that that was done.

21 And when they beheld these things, they dreaded greatly, beholding together both Judas and the host, ready to battle in the field, [*or in the field, ready to battle*].

22 And they fled all in the field of aliens,

23 and Judas turned again to preys of the tents; and they took much gold, and silver, and jacinth, and purple of the sea, and great riches.

24 And they converted, and sung an hymn, *or praising*, and blessed God into heaven; for he is good, for the mercy of him *is* into the world.

25 And great health was made in Israel in that day.

26 Forsooth whoever of aliens escaped, came, and told to Lysias all things that befell.

27 And when he heard these things, he was astonied in soul, and failed; for not what manner things he would, such befell in Israel, and what manner things the king commanded.

28 And in the year pursuing, Lysias gathered of chosen men sixty thousand, and of horsemen five thousand, for to overcome them.

29 And they came into Judea (or Idumea), and setted tents in Bethhoron (or Bethsura); and Judas ran to them with ten thousand of men.

30 And they saw [*a*] strong host, and he prayed, and said, Blessed art thou, Saviour of Israel, that hast all-broken the fierceness of the mighty *Goliath* in the hand of thy servant David, and betookest the castles [*or tents*], or *hosts*, of aliens into the hands of Jonathan, son of Saul, and of his squire.

31 Enclose thou altogether also this host in the hand of thy people Israel, and be they confounded in their host, and horsemen.

32 Give thou to them inward dread, and make the hardiness of their virtue to fail, and be they moved altogether in their breaking altogether.

33 Cast down them by the sword of men loving thee, and all that know thy name, altogether praise thee in hymns.

34 And they joined together battle, and five thousand of men fell down of the host of Lysias.

³⁵ Lysias forsooth saw the flight of his men, and the hardiness of Jews; and that they were ready either for to live, either for to die strongly. And he went to Antioch, and chose knights, that they multiplied should come again into Judea.

³⁶ Forsooth Judas said to his brethren, [*for Judas said, and his brethren*], Lo! our enemies be all-broken; go we up now, for to cleanse holy things, and make new.

³⁷ And all the host was gathered, and they went up into the hill of Zion.

³⁸ And they saw the hallowing deserted, *either forsaken*, and the altar unhallowed, *or defouled by idolatry*, and the gates burnt, and in the porches tender trees grown, as in wild wood, or mountains, and [*the*] little cells destroyed.

³⁹ And they rent their clothes, and wailed with great wailing; and putted ashes on their heads,

⁴⁰ and fell on the face of the earth, and cried in trumps of signs, and cried into heaven.

⁴¹ Then Judas ordained men, for to fight against them that were in the high tower, as long as they cleansed holy things.

⁴² And he chose priests without wem, having will in the law of God;

⁴³ and they cleansed holy things, and took away stones of defouling into an unclean place.

⁴⁴ And he thought on the altar of burnt sacrifices, that was unhallowed, what he should do thereof.

⁴⁵ And a good counsel fell into him, for to destroy it, lest it were to them into shame, for heathen men defouled it.

46 And they destroyed it, and kept [*or putted*] stones in the hill of the house, in covenable place, till that a prophet came, and answered [*or should answer*] of them.

47 And they took whole stones, by [*or after*] the law, and builded a new altar, like that that was before.

48 And they builded holy things, and the things that were within the house withinforth; and they hallowed the house, and the porches.

49 And they made new holy vessels, and brought in a candlestick, and altar of incenses, and a board into the temple.

50 And [*they*] putted incense on the altar, and tended lanterns, that were on the candlestick, and gave light in the temple.

51 And they putted loaves on the board, and hanged veils, and ended all works that they made.

52 And before morrowtide they rose, in the five and twentieth day of the ninth month, this is the month Kislev, *that is, November-December*, of the hundred and eight and fortieth year.

53 And they offered sacrifice by [*or after*] the law, on the new altar of burnt sacrifices, which they made by [*or after*] time.

54 And by the day in which heathen men defouled it, in that it was made new, in songs, and harps, and citherns, *that be instruments of music, either gitterns*, and cymbals.

55 And all the people fell on their faces, and worshipped *God*, and blessed into heaven him that made prosperity to them.

56 And they made hallowing of the altar in eight days, and offered burnt sacrifices with gladness, and helpful things of praising.

57 And they adorned the face of the temple with golden crowns, and small shields; and hallowed gates, and little houses, *either small cells*, and putted to them gates.

58 And full great gladness was made in the people, and the shame of heathen men was turned away.

59 And Judas ordained, and his brethren, and all the church of Israel, that the day of hallowing of the altar be done in his times, from year into year, by eight days, from the five and twentieth day of the month Kislev, with gladness and joy.

60 And they builded in that time the hill of Zion, and by compass high walls, and firm towers, lest any time heathen men would come, and defoul it, as they did before.

61 And he set there an host [*or a company*], for to keep it; and he warded it, for to keep Bethsura, that the people should have strengthening [*or warding*] against the face of Idumea.

CHAPTER 5

1 And it was done, as heathen men heard in compass, that the altar was builded, and the saintuary as before, they were wroth greatly.

2 And they thought for to do away, *either destroy*, the kin of Jacob, that was among them; and they began for to slay of the people, and pursue.

3 And Judas overcame the sons of Esau in Idumea, and them that were in Acrabattene, for they sat about men of Israel; and he smote them with a great wound.

4 And he thought on the malice of the sons of Bean, that were into snare, and into offence to the people of Israel, and espied it, *either set ambushments to it*, in the ways.

5 And these were closed altogether from him in the towers; and he applied to *or pitched by* them, and cursed them, and burnt with fire the towers of them, with all men that were in them.

6 And he passed to the sons of Ammon, and found strong hand, and plenteous people, and Timothy, duke of them.

7 And he smote many battles with them, and they were broken in the sight of him; and he smote them.

8 And he took the city [*of*] Jazer, and [*the*] villages thereof; and he turned again into Judea.

9 And heathen men that were in Gilead, were gathered against Israelites, that were in the coasts of them, to do away them [*or to do them away*]; and they fled into the strengthening of Dathema.

10 And they sent letters to Judas, and his brethren, and said, Heathen men be gathered against us by compass, that they do away us [*or do us away*];

11 and they make ready for to come, and occupy the strengthening, into which we fled; and Timothy is duke of the host of them.

¹² Now therefore come thou, and deliver us from their hands, for a multitude of us fell down;

¹³ and all our brethren that were in places of Tob, everywhere be slain; and they led away captive the wives of them, and children, and took spoils; and killed there almost a thousand men.

¹⁴ And yet epistles were read, and lo! other messengers came from Galilee, with coats rent, and told by these words,

¹⁵ and said, *that* men came together against them from Ptolemais, and Tyre, and Sidon, and all Galilee is [*full*]-filled with aliens, for to destroy us.

¹⁶ Soothly as Judas heard, and the people, these words, a great church came together, for to think what they should do to their brethren, that were in tribulation, and were overcome of them.

¹⁷ And Judas said to Simon, his brother, Choose to thee men, and go, and deliver thy brethren in Galilee; I forsooth and my brother Jonathan, shall go into Gilead.

¹⁸ And he left Joseph, son of Zechariah, and Azariah, dukes of the people, with the residue host in Judea to keeping;

¹⁹ and [*he*] commanded to them, and said, Be ye sovereigns to this people, and do not ye smite battle against heathen men, till we turn again.

²⁰ And men were given to Simon three thousands, for to go into Galilee; to Judas soothly eight thousand, into Gilead.

²¹ And Simon went into Galilee, and joined many battles with heathen men. And heathen men were all-broken from his face,

²² and he pursued them till to the gate of Ptolemais. And there fell down of heathen men almost three thousand of men; and he took the spoils of them.

²³ And he took them that were in Galilee, and in Arbatta, with wives, and children, and all things that were to them; and brought into Judea with great gladness.

²⁴ And Judas Maccabeus, and Jonathan, and his brethren passed *over* Jordan, and went forth the way of three days into desert.

²⁵ And Nabathites or Nabateans came against them, and received them peaceably, and told to them all things that befell to their brethren in Gilead;

²⁶ and that many of them were taken [*or caught*] in Bozrah, and Bosor, and in Alema, and in Casphor, and Maked, and Carnaim; all these *were* strong cities and great.

²⁷ But and in other cities of Gilead they be holden caught. And on the morrow they ordained for to move the host to those cities, and for to take, and do away them in one day.

²⁸ And Judas turned, and his host, the way into desert of Bozrah sudden-ly; and [*he*] occupied the city, and slew each male by the sharpness of sword, and took all the spoils of them, and burnt it with fire.

²⁹ And they rose thence in night, and went unto the strengthening.

³⁰ And it was made in springing of day, when they raised their eyes, and lo! much people, of whom was no number, bearing ladders and

engines, for to take the strengthening, and overcome them.

³¹ And Judas saw, that battle began, and cry of battle ascended into heaven, as [*a*] trump, and great cry of [*a*] city.

³² And he said to his host, Fight ye today for your brethren.

³³ And he came, and three orders after them [*or And he came in three orders after them*], and they cried with trumps, and cried in prayer.

³⁴ And [*the*] hosts of Timothy knew, that it was Maccabeus, and they fled from his face. And they have smitten them with great wound; and there fell down of them in that day almost eight thousand of men.

³⁵ And Judas turned away into Mizpeh; and [*he*] overcame, and took it, and slew each male thereof, and took spoils of it, and burnt it with fire.

³⁶ From thence he went, and took Casphor, and Maked, and Bosor, and other cities of Gilead.

³⁷ Forsooth after these words, Timothy gathered another host, and putted tents against Raphon, over the stream.

³⁸ And Judas sent for to behold the host, and they told again to him, and said, That all heathen men that be in our compass, full much host, came together to him.

³⁹ And they hired Arabians into help to them, and they have set tents over the stream, *and be* ready for to come to thee into battle. And Judas went against them.

⁴⁰ And Timothy said to the princes of his host, When Judas nigheth, and his host, to the stream of water, if he passeth former *or first* to us, we shall not be able to abide him, for he mighty shall be able to be against us.

⁴¹ Soothly if he dreadeth for to pass, and setteth tents beyond the flood, pass we over to them, and we shall be able to be against him.

⁴² Forsooth as Judas nighed to the stream of water, he ordained scribes, *either writers*, of the people, beside the stream, and commanded to them, and said, Leave ye none of men, but come all into battle.

⁴³ And he the former passed over to them, and all the people after him. And all these heathen men were all-broken from the face of them, and they casted away their arms; and they fled to the temple, that was at Carnaim.

⁴⁴ And *Judas* occupied that city, and burnt the temple with fire, and all that were in it; and Carnaim was oppressed, and might not abide [*or sustain*] against the face of Judas.

⁴⁵ And Judas gathered all Israelites that were in Gilead, from the least to the most, and wives of them, and children, and a full great host, that they should come into the land of Judea.

⁴⁶ And they came till to Ephron, and this great city, put in the entry, *was* full strong; and there was not for to bow away from it, in [*the*] right half or left, but the way was through the middle.

⁴⁷ And they that were in the city closed in them [*or closed them in*], and stopped the gates with stones.

⁴⁸ And Judas sent to them with peaceable words, and said, Pass we by your land, for to go into our land, and no man shall annoy you, only on feet we shall go. And they would not open to them.

⁴⁹ And Judas commanded for to preach in tents, *either host*, that each man should apply, *that is, assail the city*, in what place he was.

⁵⁰ And men of virtue applied *or pitched* themselves, and he fought against that city all day and all night, and the city was betaken in his hands.

⁵¹ And they slew each male by the sharpness of sword, and drew up by the roots it [*or drew it up by the roots*], and took the spoils thereof, and passed by all the city on the slain men.

⁵² And they passed over Jordan, in the great field against the face of Bethshan.

⁵³ And Judas was gathering the last men, and admonished the people by all the way, till they came into the land of Judea.

⁵⁴ And they went up into the hill of Zion with gladness and joy, and offered burnt sacrifices, that no man of them fell down, *or was dead*, till they turned again in peace.

⁵⁵ And in the days in which Judas was, and Jonathan, in the land of Gilead, and Simon, his brother, in Galilee, against the face of Ptolemais,

⁵⁶ Joseph, son of Zechariah, heard, and Azariah, prince of virtue, the things done well [*or well done*], and battles that were made.

⁵⁷ And he said, Make we also a name to us, and go we for to fight against heathen men, that be in our compass.

58 And he commanded to these that were in his host, and they went forth to Jamnia.

59 And Gorgias went out of the city, and his men, against them, into fight.

60 And Joseph and Azariah were driven unto the ends of Judea; and there fell down in that day of the people of Israel, men to two thousands [*or men two thousands*].

61 And a great wound was made in the people; for they heard not Judas and his brethren, and guessed them to do strongly.

62 Forsooth they were not of the seed of those men, by which health was made in Israel.

63 And men of Judas were magnified greatly in the sight of all Israel, and of all heathen men, where the name of them was heard.

64 And they came together, crying to them prosperity, *either praisings*.

65 And Judas went out, and his brethren, and overcame the sons of Esau, in the land that is at the south; and he smote Hebron, and [*the*] villages thereof, and destroyed the wardings, or the walls, thereof, and burnt with fire [*the*] towers thereof in compass.

66 And he moved tents, for to go into the land of aliens; and went through Samaria.

67 In that day priests fell down in battle, while they would do strongly, while without counsel they went out into battle.

68 And Judas bowed away into Azotus, in the land of aliens, and destroyed altars of them, and burnt in fire the spoils of their gods, and took

preys of cities; and turned again into the land of Judea.

CHAPTER 6

¹ And king Antiochus walked through the high countries, and heard that a city, Elymais, was in Persia, the noblest and plenteous in silver and gold;

² and a temple in it *was* full rich, and there *were* golden veils, and habergeons, and shields, which Alexander *son* of Philip, king of Macedonia, left, that reigned the first [*or that reigned first*] in Greece.

³ And he came, and sought for to take the city, and rob it; and he might not, for the word was known to them that were in the city.

⁴ And they rised up into battle, and he flew from thence, and went away with great heaviness, and turned again to Babylon.

⁵ And there came *one*, that told to him in Persia, that the hosts that were in the land of Judea were driven *out*,

⁶ and that Lysias went with strong virtue, *either power*, in the first, *or best*, men, and was driven *out* from the face of Jews, and they waxed strong in arms, and strengths, and many preys, which they took of tents, *either hosts*, that they slew;

⁷ and that they destroyed the abomination, which he builded on the altar that was in Jerusalem, and they encompassed with high walls the hallowing, as before, but and Bethsura, his city.

⁸ And it was done, as the king heard these words, he dreaded, and was moved greatly, and fell down into a bed, and fell into a great sickness for heaviness, for it was not done as he thought.

⁹ And he was there many days, for great heaviness was renewed in him, and he deemed himself for to die.

¹⁰ And he called all his friends, and said to them, Sleep passed away from mine eyes, and I failed in heart, and fell down for busyness [*or fell down in heart for busyness*];

¹¹ and I said in mine heart, Into how great tribulation became I [*or came I*], and into what waves of heaviness in which I am now, that was merry, and beloved in my power?

¹² Now forsooth I bethink on the evils that I did to Jerusalem, from whence and I took all golden spoils, and silvern, that were therein; and I sent without cause, that men dwelling in Judea to be done away.

¹³ Therefore I knew that these evils found me therefore, and lo! I perish by great heaviness in an alien land.

¹⁴ And he called Philip, one of his friends, and made him sovereign on all his realm;

¹⁵ and gave to him a diadem, and his stole, and ring, for to lead Antiochus, his son, and nourish him, and that he should reign.

¹⁶ And king Antiochus died there, in the hundred and nine and fortieth year.

¹⁷ And Lysias knew, that the king was dead, and [*he*] ordained Antiochus, the son of him, for to reign, whom he nourished or nursed *when* young; and [*he*] called his name Eupator.

18 And they that were in the high tower, enclosed altogether Israel in compass of holy things, and sought to them evils evermore, to strengthening of heathen men.

19 And Judas thought for to destroy them, and called together all the people, for to besiege them.

20 And they came together, and besieged them, in the hundred and fiftieth year; and they made arblasts or arrow-blasters, *that is, an instrument for to cast shafts, and stones*, and engines.

21 And some of them that were besieged, went out; and some unfaithful [*or unpious*] men of Israel joined themselves to them,

22 and went to the king, and said, How long doest thou not doom, and avengest not our brethren?

23 And we deemed for to serve thy father, and for to walk in his behests, and obey to his commandments.

24 And the sons of our people alienated them from us for this thing; and whichever were found of us, were slain, and our heritages were ravished away.

25 And not only to us they stretched out the hand, but and into all our coasts.

26 And lo! they applied today to *or pitched at* the high tower in Jerusalem, for to occupy it, and they strengthened a strengthening *or strong-hold* in Bethsura.

27 And if thou shalt not before come them more swiftly, they shall do greater things than these, and thou shalt not be able to wield them.

28 And the king was wroth, as he heard this thing, and called together all his friends, and princes of his host, and them that were over horsemen;

29 but also an hired host from other realms, and isles, and coasts came to him.

30 And the number of his host was an hundred thousand of footmen, and twenty thousand of horsemen, and two and thirty elephants taught to battle.

31 And they came by Idumea, and they applied to *or pitched at* Bethsura, and fought many days; and they made engines, and they went out, and burnt them in fire, and fought manly.

32 And Judas went from the high tower, and moved tents to Beth-zechariah, against tents of the king.

33 And the king rose before the light, and stirred the host into fierce-ness, against the way of Beth-zechariah; and the hosts made ready them altogether into battle [*or the hosts made them altogether ready into battle*], and sang in trumps.

34 And to elephants they showed blood of grapes, and morus, *or mulberry trees*, for to whet them into battle.

35 And they parted the beasts by legions; and to each elephant a thousand men stood nigh in habergeons chained, *or mailed*, together, and brazen helmets in their heads, and five hundred horsemen chosen [*or five hundred chosen horsemen*] were ordained to each beast.

³⁶ These were there before the time, wherever the beast was; and whither ever it went, they went, and departed not therefrom.

³⁷ But and firm towers of tree *were* on them, defending by all the beasts, and on them *were* engines, and on each by themselves men of virtue, *or strong men*, two and thirty, which fought from above, and within *was* the master of the beast.

³⁸ And he ordained the residue multitude of horsemen on this half and that half, into two parts, for to move altogether the host with trumps, and for to constrain the men made thick in their legions [*or to constrain the armed men in his legions*].

³⁹ And as the sun shined into the golden shields, and brazen, the hills shined again of them, and shined again, as lamps of fire.

⁴⁰ And a part of the king's host was parted by high hills, and others by low places; and they went warily, and ordinally.

⁴¹ And all men dwelling in the land were moved altogether of the voice of multitude of them, and in-going of company, and hurtling together of arms; for the host was full great and strong.

⁴² And Judas and his host nighed into battle; and there fell down of the king's host six hundred men.

⁴³ And Eleazar, the son of Avaran, saw one of the beasts habergeoned with habergeons of the king, and it was high standing over other beasts; and it was seen to him, that the king was on it.

44 And he gave himself for to deliver his people, for to get to him a name everlasting.

45 And he ran thereto hardily, into the middle of legion, and killed on the right half and on the left [*or slaying on the right half and left*]; and they fell down from him hither and thither.

46 And he went under the feet of the elephant, and under-putted himself thereto, and slew it; and it fell down into earth on him, and he was dead there.

47 And they saw the virtue *or strength* of the king, and the fierce-ness of his host, and turned away themselves from them.

48 Forsooth *the tents or host* of the king went up against them, into Jerusalem; and tents of the king applied to *or pitched at* Judea, and to the hill of Zion;

49 and he made peace with these that were in Bethsura. And they went out of the city, for foods were not to them enclosed altogether there, for the sabbaths of earth were.

50 And the king took Bethsura, and ordained there keeping, for to keep it.

51 And he turned the tents *or host* to the place of hallowing many days; and ordained there arblasts or arrow-blasters, and engines, and darts, *or castings*, of fire, and torments for to cast stones and darts, and scorpions for to shoot arrows, and slings.

52 Forsooth and they made engines against the engines of them, and [*they*] fought many days.

53 Forsooth meats were not in the city, for that it was the seventh year; and they that left of

heathen men in Judea, had wasted the remnants [*or the relics*] of those things that were kept.

⁵⁴ And few men left in holy things, for hunger had taken them; and they were scattered, each man into his place.

⁵⁵ And Lysias heard, that Philip, whom king Antiochus ordained, when he lived yet [*or when yet he lived*], that he should nourish Antiochus, his son, that he should reign,

⁵⁶ turned again from Persia and Media, and the host that went with him. And that he seeketh for to take the causes of the realm,

⁵⁷ *Lysias* hasted for to go, and said to the king, and dukes of the host, We fail each day, and little meat is to us, and the place which we besiege, is strong, and it falleth to us for to ordain of the realm.

⁵⁸ Therefore now give we right hands to these men, and make we peace with them, and with all the folk of them;

⁵⁹ and ordain we to them, that they go in lawful things as before; for why for the lawful things of them which we despised, they be wroth, and have done all these things.

⁶⁰ And the word pleased in the sight of the king, and of princes; and he sent to them for to make peace, and they received it.

⁶¹ And the king swore to them, and princes; and they went out of the strengthening.

⁶² And the king entered into the mount Zion, and he saw the strengthening of the place; and he brake full soon the oath that he swore, and commanded for to destroy the wall in compass.

⁶³ And he departed away hastily, and turned again to Antioch, and found Philip reigning in the city; and he fought against him, and occupied the city by strength.

CHAPTER 7

¹ In the hundred year and one and fifty, Demetrius, son of Seleucus, went out from the city of Rome, and went up with a few men into a city nigh the sea, and reigned there.

² And it was done, as he entered into the house of the realm of his fathers, the host caught Antiochus, and Lysias, for to bring them to him.

³ And the thing was known to him, and he said, Do not ye show to me the faces of them.

⁴ And the host slew them. And Demetrius sat on the seat of his realm;

⁵ and wicked men and unfaithful of Israel came to him, and Alcimus, duke of them, that would be made priest;

⁶ and accused the people with the king, and said, Judas and his brethren lost thy friends, and diversely lost [*or scattered*] us from our land.

⁷ Now therefore send thou a man, to whom thou believest, that he go, and see all the destroying that he hath done to us, and to countries of the king; and he punish all friends of him, and helpers of them.

⁸ And the king chose of his friends Bacchides, that was lord over the great flood in the realm, and true to the king,

⁹ and [*he*] sent him, for to see the destroying that Judas did; and he ordained unfaithful [*or*

unpious] Alcimus into priesthood, and bade him do vengeance on the sons of Israel.

¹⁰ And they rose, and came with great host into the land of Judea; and they sent messengers, and spake to Judas and his brethren, with peace-able words in guile.

¹¹ And they gave not attention to their words; for they saw, that they came with great host.

¹² And the congregation of scribes came together to Alcimus and Bacchides, for to ask those things that be just;

¹³ and the first, Hasideans, that were among the sons of Israel, and they asked of them peace.

¹⁴ For they said, A man, priest of the seed of Aaron, cometh, he shall not deceive us.

¹⁵ And he spake with them peace-able words, and swore to them, and said, We shall not bring into you evils, neither to your friends.

¹⁶ And they believed to him. And he caught of them sixty men, and slew them in one day, by [*or after*] the word that is written,

¹⁷ They shed out the fleshs of thy saints, and blood of them in compass of Jerusalem, and there was not that buried.

¹⁸ And dread and trembling fell into all the people, for they said, There is not truth and doom in them; for they have broken the statute, *or ordinance*, and the oath that they swore.

¹⁹ And Bacchides moved tents from Jerusalem, and applied into *or pitched at* Bethzaith; and sent, and caught many of them that fled from him; and he killed some of the people, and casted into a great pit.

20 And he betook the country to Alcimus, and left with him help, into helping of him. And Bacchides went to the king,

21 and Alcimus did enough, for the princehood of his priesthood.

22 And all came together to him, which disturbed or troubled their people, and wielded the land of Judea; and [*they*] did great vengeance in Israel.

23 And Judas saw all the evils, that Alcimus did, and they that were with him, to the sons of Israel, much more than heathen men.

24 And he went out into all the coasts of Judea in compass, and did vengeance on men forsakers, and they ceased for to go out further into the country.

25 Forsooth Alcimus saw, that Judas had victory, and they that were with him; and he knew that he may not abide them, and he went again to the king, and accused them in many sins.

26 And the king sent Nicanor, one of his nobler princes, that was haunting enmities against Israel, and commanded him for to destroy the people.

27 And Nicanor came into Jerusalem, with great host, and he sent to Judas and his brethren with guile, by peace-able words, saying,

28 Fight be not betwixt me and you; I shall come with few men, for to see your faces with peace.

29 And he came to Judas, and they greeted them together peaceably; and enemies were ready for to ravish Judas.

30 And the word was known to Judas, that with guile he came to him; and he was afearred of him, and he would no more see his face.

31 And Nicanor knew, that his counsel was known, and he went out against Judas into fight, beside Caphar-salama.

32 And there fell down of Nicanor's host almost five thousand men, and they fled into the city of David.

33 And after these words Nicanor went up into the hill of Zion, and there went out of priests of the people, for to greet him in peace, and for to show to him burnt sacrifices, that were offerred for the king.

34 And he scorned and despised them, and defouled, and spake proudly,

35 and swore with wrath, saying, If Judas shall not be taken, and his host, into mine hands, anon when I shall turn again in peace, I shall burn this house. And he went out with great wrath.

36 And priests entered, and stood before the face of the altar and temple, and weeping, they said,

37 Thou, Lord, hast chosen this house, for to call to help [*or to in-call*] thy name in it, that it should be an house of prayer and beseeching to thy people;

38 do thou vengeance in this man, and his host, and fall they by sword; have mind on their blasphemies, and give not to them that they abide.

39 And Nicanor went out from Jerusalem, and applied tents to *or pitched at* Bethhoron; and the host of Syria came to him.

40 And Judas applied in *or pitched at* Adasa, with three thousand men. And Judas prayed, and said,

41 Lord, an angel went out, and smote an hundred thousand fourscore and five thousands of them [*or smote an hundred and fourscore and five thousands of them*], that were sent from king Sennacherib, for they blasphemed thee;

42 so all-break this host in our sight today, and other men know, that he spake evil on thine holy things; and deem thou him by [*or after*] the malice of him.

43 And the hosts joined battle in the thirteenth day of the month Adar, *that is, February-March*; and the tents *or host* of Nicanor were all-broken, and he fell down first in battle.

44 Soothly as his host saw, that Nicanor fell down, they casted away their arms, and fled.

45 And they pursued them the way of one day, from Adasa till men come into Gazara; and they sung in trumps after them with signifyngs.

46 And they went out of all [*the*] castles of Judea in compass, and winnowed them with horns, and again they were converted *or turned back* to them; and all falled [*or fell*] by sword, and there was left of them not one.

47 And they took the spoils of them [*in*] to prey; and they girded [*or cutted*] off the head of Nicanor, and his right hand which he stretched

forth proudly, and they brought, and hanged against Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ And the people was glad greatly, and they did that day in great gladness;

⁴⁹ and ordained this day for to be done in all years, in the thirteenth day of the month Adar.

⁵⁰ And the land of Judea was still a few days.

CHAPTER 8

¹ And Judas heard the name *or fame* of Romans, that they be mighty in strengths, and accord to all things that be asked of them; and whoever went to them, they ordained with them friendships;

² and that they be mighty in strengths. And they heard battles of them, and good virtues, that they did in Galatia, for they wielded them, and led *them* under tribute;

³ and how many things they did in the country of Spain, and that they brought into power metals of silver and gold that be there;

⁴ and they wielded each place with their counsel, and patience, *or wisdom*, places that were full far from them; and they all-brake kings that came on them from the utmost places of earth, and they smited them with great wound; forsooth others give to them tribute by all years.

⁵ And they all-brake in battle Philip, and Perseus, kings [*or king*] of Kittim, and others that bare arms against them, and wielded them.

⁶ And *they wielded* Antiochus, the great king of Asia, that gave battle to them, and had an hundred and twenty elephants, and multitude of

horsemen, and chariots, and full great host all-broken of them;

⁷ and that they took him quick, and ordained to him, that he should give great tribute, and they that reigned after him; and that he should give pledges and ordinance,

⁸ in the country of India; and *they putted out* men of Media, and of Lydia, from the best countries of them, and they gave those *countries* taken of them to king Eumenes;

⁹ and that they that were with Greeks, would go, and take away them;

¹⁰ and the word was known to these *Romans*, and they sent to them one duke, and they fought against them; and many of them fell, and they led their wives captives, and sons, and robbed them; and wielded the land of them, and destroyed the walls of them, and brought them into servage, till into this day.

¹¹ And they destroyed other realms and isles, that sometime against-stood them, and brought [*them*] into power.

¹² Forsooth with their friends, and that had rest in them, they kept friendship, and they wielded realms that were next, and that were far; for whoever heard the name of them, dreaded them.

¹³ For they reigned, to whom they would be in help for to reign; forsooth which [*or whom*] they would, they disturbed from realm; and they were greatly enhanced.

¹⁴ In all these *Romans*, no man bare diadem, neither was clothed in purple, for to be magnified therein.

15 And [*for*] they made to them a court, and each day they counselled three hundred and twenty, doing counsel evermore of multitude, that they do what things be worthy.

16 And they betake to one man their mastery, *either chief governance*, by each year, for to be lord of all their land; and all obey to one, and envy is not, neither wrath among them.

17 And Judas chose Eupolemus, the son of John, son of Accos, and Jason, the son of Eleazar, and sent them to Rome, for to ordain with them friendship and fellowship;

18 and that they should take away from them the yoke of Greeks, for they saw that they oppressed the realm of Israel into servage.

19 And they went to Rome, a full great way, and they entered into the court, and said,

20 Judas Maccabeus, and his brethren, and the people of Jews, sent us to you, for to ordain with you fellowship and peace, and for to write together us your fellows and friends.

21 And the word pleased in the sight of them.

22 And this is the again-writing, which they again-wrote in brazen tables, and sent into Jerusalem, that it were there a memorial, *either a thing of mind*, of peace and fellowship.

23 Be it well to Romans, and to the folk of Jews, in the sea and land, without end; and sword and enemy be far from them.

24 That if battle befall to Romans before [*or former*], either to all fellows of them in all the lordship of them,

25 the folk of Jews shall bear help, as time asketh [*or as time shall ask*], with full heart;

26 and the *Romans* shall not give, neither privily minister to the *Jews* fighting [*or nor they shall give, neither privily minister to the fighting*], wheat, arms, money, ships, as it pleased to Romans; and they shall keep the commandments of them, and take nothing of them.

27 Forsooth in like manner, and if battle falleth before to the folk of Jews, Romans shall help of [*good*] heart, as time suffereth them [*or as time shall suffer them*];

28 and to *Romans* helping wheat shall not be given, neither arms, money, neither ships, as it pleased to Romans; and they shall keep the commandments of them without guile.

29 By [*or After*] these words the Romans ordained to the people of Jews,

30 That if after these words, these either they will put anything to, either do away, they shall do of their common assent; and whatever things they shall put to, either do away, they shall be steadfast.

31 But also of evils which king Demetrius hath done against them, we have written to him, and we said Why hast thou grieved thy yoke on our friends and fellows, the Jews?

32 Therefore if again they shall come to us against thee, we shall do doom to them, and shall fight with thee by land and sea.

CHAPTER 9

¹ In the meantime, where Demetrius heard that Nicanor fell, and his host, in battle, he putted to again for to send Bacchides and Alcimus into Judea, and the right half of the battle array [*or the right horn*] with them.

² And they went the way that leadeth into Gilgal, and they setted tents in Mesaloth, that is in Arbela; and they occupied it, and slew many persons of men.

³ In the first month of the hundred and two and fifty year, they applied the host to *or pitched tents at* Jerusalem.

⁴ And twenty thousand of men, and two thousand of horsemen, have risen, and went into Berea.

⁵ And Judas setted tents in Eleasa, and three thousand men chosen [*or three thousand chosen men*] with him.

⁶ And they saw the multitude of the host, that they be many, and they dreaded greatly; and many withdrew them from tents, and there left not of them no but eight hundred men.

⁷ And Judas saw that his host fled away, and battle constrained him, and he was broken altogether in heart, for he had not time to gather them, and he was discomfited [*or dissolved*].

⁸ And he said to these that were residue, Rise we, and go we to our adversaries, if we shall be able to fight against them.

⁹ And they turned away him [*or turned them away*], and said, We shall not be able to, but deliver we [*now*] our own lives, and turn again

we to our brethren, and then we shall fight against them; forsooth we be few.

¹⁰ And Judas said, Far be it for to do this thing, that we flee from them; and if our time hath nighed, die we in virtue for our brethren, and give we not crime to our glory.

¹¹ And the host of *Bacchides* moved from tents, and they stood against them. And horsemen were parted into two parts, and slingers and archers went before the host, and the first men of battle, all the mighty.

¹² Forsooth *Bacchides* was in the right horn, *or battle array*. And the legion of two parts came nigh, and cried with trumps.

¹³ Forsooth and these that were on [*or of*] the part of Judas, cried also, and the earth was moved altogether of the voice of hosts, and battle was joined from the morrowtide till to eventide [*or from morrow unto even*].

¹⁴ And Judas saw, that the part of *Bacchides'* host was firmer in the right half, and all steadfast in heart came together with him.

¹⁵ And the right part was all-broken of them; and he pursued them unto the hill of Azotus.

¹⁶ And they that were in the left horn, *or battle array*, saw, that the right horn, *or battle array*, was all-broken, and they pursued at the back after Judas, and them that were with him.

¹⁷ And the battle was made grievous, and there fell many wounded of these and of them.

¹⁸ And Judas fell, and the others fled.

19 And Jonathan and Simon took their brother Judas, and buried him in the sepulchre of his fathers, in the city of Modin.

20 And all Israel bewept him with great wailing, and mourned many days, and said,

21 How fell the mighty, that made Israel safe.

22 And other words of battles of Judas, and of virtues that he did, and of his greatneses, be not written; for those [*or they*] were full many.

23 And it was done, after the death of Judas, all wicked men in all the coasts of Israel rose out, and all that wrought wickedness came forth.

24 In those days full great hunger was made, and all the country of them betook themselves to Bacchides with them.

25 And Bacchides chose unpious men, and ordained them lords of the country.

26 And they asked out, and sought the friends of Judas, and brought them to Bacchides; and he avenged on [*or into*] them, and scorned.

27 And great tribulation was made in Israel, what manner was not from the day in which a prophet was not seen in Israel.

28 And all the friends of Judas were gathered, and said to Jonathan,

29 Since thy brother Judas is dead, there is no man like him, that shall go out against enemies, Bacchides and them that be enemies of our folk.

30 Therefore now we choose thee today for to be prince and duke to us for him, for to fight our battles.

31 And Jonathan received in that time the princehood, and rose in the place of Judas, his brother.

32 And Bacchides knew, and sought for to slay him.

33 And Jonathan knew, and Simon, his brother, and all that were with him, and [*they*] fled into desert of Tekoa, and sat together at the water of the lake Asphar.

34 And Bacchides knew, and in the day of sabbath he came, and all his host, over Jordan.

35 And *Jonathan* sent his brother *John*, leader [*or duke*] of *that* people, and prayed Nabathites or Nabateans, his friends, that he should betake to them his apparel, that was plenteous.

36 And sons of Jambri went out of Medaba, and caught John, and all things that he had, and went away, having those things [*or having them*].

37 After these words it was told again to Jonathan, and Simon, his brother, that the sons of Jambri make great weddings, and wed a wife of Nadabath, the daughter of one of the great princes of Canaan, with great pride and apparel.

38 And they bethought on the blood of John, their brother, and went up, and hid themselves under covering of the hill.

39 And they raised their eyes, and saw, and lo! noise, and great apparel; and a spouse, *or husband*, came forth, and his friends, and his brethren, against them, with tympan, and musics, and many arms.

40 And they rose to them from ambushments, and slew them, and many wounded fell down,

and the residues fled into the hill, and they took all the spoils of them;

⁴¹ and weddings were converted into mourning, and voice of their musics into wailing.

⁴² And they avenged the vengeance of their brother's blood, and [*they*] turned again to the brink of Jordan.

⁴³ And Bacchides heard, and came in the day of sabbaths till to the utmost part of Jordan, in great strength.

⁴⁴ And Jonathan said to his, Rise we, and fight against our enemies; for it is not today as yesterday, and the third day ago.

⁴⁵ For lo! battle is even against; soothly the water of Jordan is on this half and on that half, and rivers, and marshes, and forests [*or wild woods*], and there is no place of turning away.

⁴⁶ Now therefore cry ye into heaven, that ye be delivered from hand of your enemies.

⁴⁷ And battle was joined. And Jonathan stretched out his hand, for to smite Bacchides, and he turned away from him behind.

⁴⁸ And Jonathan skipped down [*or leaped out*], and they that were with him, into Jordan, and swam over Jordan to them.

⁴⁹ And there fell of Bacchides part in that day a thousand men,

⁵⁰ and they, *that is, Bacchides and his men*, turned again into Jerusalem; and builded strong cities in Judea, the strength that was in Jericho, and in Emmaus, and in Bethhoron, and Bethel, and Timnath-pharathon, and Tephon, with high walls, and gates, and locks.

⁵¹ And he setted keeping in them, that they should haunt enmities in Israel;

⁵² and he strengthened the city Bethsura, and Gazara, and the high tower, and putted in them helps, and apparel of meats.

⁵³ And he took the sons of princes of the country in hostage, *or pledges*, and putted them in the high tower in Jerusalem, in keeping.

⁵⁴ And in the hundred year and three and fifty [*or fiftieth*], in the second month, Alcimus commanded the walls of the holy inner house for to be destroyed, and the works of prophets for to be destroyed,

⁵⁵ and he began for to destroy. In that time Alcimus was smitten, and the works of him were hindered. And his mouth was closed, and he was dissolved, *either made feeble*, by palsy, neither he might speak more a word, and command of his house.

⁵⁶ And Alcimus was dead in that time, with great torment.

⁵⁷ And Bacchides saw, that Alcimus was dead, and he turned again to the king, and the land was still two years.

⁵⁸ And all wicked men thought, saying, Lo! Jonathan, and they that be with him, dwell in silence, and trust; now therefore bring we Bacchides, and he shall take them all in one night.

⁵⁹ And they went forth, and gave counsel to him.

⁶⁰ And he rose, for to come with much host. And he sent epistles privily to his fellows, that

were in Judea, that they should catch Jonathan, and them that were with him; but they might not, for their counsel was known to them.

⁶¹ And *Jonathan* caught of men of the country, that were princes of knighthood, fifty men, and slew them.

⁶² And Jonathan and Simon went, and they that were with him, into Bethbasi, that is in desert, and builded *again* the destroyed things thereof, and made it strong.

⁶³ And Bacchides knew, and gathered all his multitude, and announced to them that were of Judea.

⁶⁴ And he came, and setted tents above Bethbasi, and fought against it many days, and made engines.

⁶⁵ And Jonathan left Simon, his brother, in the city, and went out into the country, and came with number;

⁶⁶ and smote Odomera, and his brethren, and sons of Phasiron, in the tabernacles of them,

⁶⁷ and [*he*] began for to smite, and wax in virtues. Simon soothly, and they that were with him, went out of the city, and burnt engines.

⁶⁸ And they fought against Bacchides, and he was all-broken of them; and they tormented him greatly, for his counsel and his assailing was void.

⁶⁹ And he was wroth against wicked men, that gave counsel to him for to come into their country, and slew many of them; forsooth he thought with others for to go into his country.

⁷⁰ And Jonathan knew, and sent legates to him, for to make peace with him, and to yield to him prisoners.

⁷¹ And willfully he took, and did by [*or after*] his words, and swore that he should not do to him any evil in all the days of his life.

⁷² And he yielded to him the captivity, *that is, prisoners*, which he took by prey before of the land of Judea. And he turned, and went into his land, and putted no more for to come into his coasts.

⁷³ And sword ceased from Israel. And Jonathan dwelled in Michmash, and there Jonathan began for to deem the people, and he destroyed the unfaithful [*or unpious*] men of Israel.

CHAPTER 10

¹ And in the hundred and sixtieth year Alexander, the son of Antiochus, went up, that is named noble *or Epiphanes*, [*or Alexander, son of Antiochus, that is named noble, went up*], and occupied Ptolemais; and they received him, and he reigned there.

² And king Demetrius heard, and gathered an host full copious, and went out against him into battle.

³ And Demetrius sent [*an*] epistle to Jonathan with peaceable words, for to magnify him.

⁴ For he said, Before take we for to make peace with him, before that he make with Alexander against us;

⁵ for he shall have mind of all evils, that we have done against him, and against his brothers, and against his folk.

⁶ And he gave to him [*or he gave him*] power to gather host, and for to make arms, and him for to be his fellow. And he commanded hostages, *either pledges*, that were in the high tower, for to be given to him.

⁷ And Jonathan came into Jerusalem, and read epistles, in hearing of all the people, and of them that were in the high tower.

⁸ And they dreaded with great dread, for they heard, that the king gave him power to gather an host.

⁹ And hostages were betaken to Jonathan, and he yielded them to their fathers and mothers.

¹⁰ And Jonathan dwelt in Jerusalem, and began for to build and renew the city.

¹¹ And he said to men doing works, that they should make up the walls, and the hill of Zion in compass, with square stones to strengthening; and they did so.

¹² And aliens fled, that were in the strengths, which Bacchides had builded;

¹³ and each man left his place, and went into his land.

¹⁴ Only in Bethsura dwelt some of them, that forsook the law and the behests of God; for why this was to them to refuge.

¹⁵ And Alexander the king heard promises, that Demetrius promised to Jonathan, and they told to him the battles and virtues which he did, and his brethren, and the travails which they travailed.

16 And he said, Whether we shall find any such man? And now make we him our friend and fellow.

17 And he wrote epistle, and sent, by [*or after*] these words, saying,

18 King Alexander to Jonathan, brother, health.

19 We have heard of thee, that thou art a mighty man in strengths, and art able that thou be our friend.

20 And now we ordain thee today highest priest of thy folk, and that thou be called friend of the king. And he sent to him purple, and a golden crown, that thou feel with us what things be ours, and keep friendships to us.

21 And Jonathan clothed him with an holy stole [*or the holy stole*], in the seventh month, in the hundred and sixtieth year, in the solemn day of Scenopegia. And he gathered an host, and made copious or plenteous arms.

22 And Demetrius heard these words, and was made full sorrowful, and said,

23 What have we done this thing, that Alexander before-occupied us, for to catch friendship of Jews, to his strengthening?

24 And I shall write to him praying words, and dignities, and gifts, that he be with me in help.

25 And he wrote to him by these words, King Demetrius to the folk of Jews, health.

26 For ye kept to us covenant, and dwelt in our friendship, and went not to our enemies, we heard, and joyed.

27 And now last ye yet for to keep to us faith; and we shall requite to you good things, for these things that ye did to us,

28 and we shall forgive to you many [*givings of*] rents, and we shall give gifts to you.

29 And now I absolve you, and all Jews, of tributes, and I forgive *to you* the prices of salt, and forgive crowns *or crown taxes*,

30 and the third part of seed; and I leave to you from this day and afterward, the half part of fruit of the trees, that is of my portion, that it be not taken of the land of Judea, and of three cities that be added thereto, of Samaria and Galilee, from this day and into all time.

31 And Jerusalem be holy, and free, with his coasts; and tithes and tributes be of it.

32 Also I forgive the power of the high tower, that is in Jerusalem; and I give it to the high [*or highest*] priest, that he ordain therein men, which-ever [*or whomever*] he shall choose, that shall keep it.

33 And each person of Jews, that is captive of the land of Judea, in all my realm, I deliver free willfully, *or without money*, that all be absolved of their tributes, yea, of their beasts.

34 And all solemn days, and sabbaths, and new moons, and all days ordained, and three days before the solemn day, and three days after the solemn day, all these be days of immunity, *or franchise*, and of remission, to all Jews that be in my realm.

³⁵ And no man shall have power for to do anything, and move needs, *or causes*, against any of them in any cause.

³⁶ And that there be written of Jews in the king's host, to thirty thousands of men; and plenties shall be given to them, as it behooveth to all hosts of the king.

³⁷ And of them shall be ordained, that be in the great strengths of the king; of them shall be ordained over needs of the realm, that be done of faith, and princes be of them; and walk they in their laws, as the king commanded in the land of Judea.

³⁸ And three cities, that be added to Judea of the country of Samaria, be areckoned, *or deemed*, with Judea; that they be under one, and obey not to other power, no but to the highest priest;

³⁹ Ptolemais, and the coasts thereof, which I have given a gift to holy men that be in Jerusalem, to needful costs of saints.

⁴⁰ And I shall give in each year fifteen thousand of shekels of silver, of the king's reasons, that pertain to me;

⁴¹ and all that is residue, which they that were over needs yielded not in former years, from this time they shall give into the works of the house.

⁴² And over this, five thousand shekels of silver, which they took of reason of holy things by each year; and these things shall pertain to priests, that use [*or be set in*] ministry.

⁴³ And whoever shall flee to the temple that is in Jerusalem, and in all coasts thereof, and be guilty to the king, in any cause, be dismissed, *or*

released; and have they free all things, that be to them in my realm.

⁴⁴ And to build, *or restore*, works of holy things, costs, *or expenses*, shall be given of the king's reason, *or rent*,

⁴⁵ and for to build out the walls of Jerusalem; and for to make strong in compass, expenses shall be given of the king's reason, *or rent*, for to make out walls in Judea.

⁴⁶ As Jonathan and the people heard these words, they believed not to them, neither received *them*; for they had mind of the great malice that he had done in Israel, and had troubled them greatly.

⁴⁷ And it pleased altogether to them in Alexander, for he was to them prince of words of peace, and to him they bare help in all days.

⁴⁸ And king Alexander gathered a great host, and moved tents against Demetrius.

⁴⁹ And the kings joined battle, and the host of Demetrius fled; and Alexander pursued him, and lay on them;

⁵⁰ and the battle was full strong, till the sun went down, and Demetrius fell in that day.

⁵¹ And Alexander sent to Ptolemy, king of Egypt, legates by these words, and said,

⁵² For I came again into my realm, and sat in the seat of my fathers; and I have wielded princehood, and I have all-broken Demetrius, and have wielded our country;

⁵³ and I have joined fight with him, and he and his hosts be all-fouled [*or is broken altogether*] of us, and we sat in the seat of his realm.

⁵⁴ And now ordain we together friendship, and give thy daughter a wife to me, and I shall be thy daughter's husband; and I shall give to thee gifts, and to her dignity.

⁵⁵ And king Ptolemy answered, saying, Blessed be the day in which thou turnedest again to the land of thy fathers, and hast sat in the seat of the realm of them.

⁵⁶ And now I shall do to thee which things thou hast written; but come thou against me to, *or meet me at*, Ptolemais, that we see us together, and I promise to thee, as thou saidest.

⁵⁷ And Ptolemy went out of Egypt, he and Cleopatra, his daughter; and he came to Ptolemais, in the hundred and two and sixtieth year.

⁵⁸ And Alexander, the king [*or king Alexander*], came to him; and he gave to him Cleopatra, his daughter, and made his weddings at Ptolemais, as kings in great glory.

⁵⁹ And king Alexander wrote to Jonathan, that he should come against *or meet* him.

⁶⁰ And he went with glory to Ptolemais, and met there *the* two kings, and gave to them much silver, and gold, and gifts; and found grace in the sight of them.

⁶¹ And men of Israel, full of venom, came together against him, wicked men, asking against him, and the king took no attention to them;

⁶² and commanded Jonathan for to be made naked of his clothes, and him for to be clothed in purple; and they did so.

⁶³ And the king setted [*or set*] him for to sit with him, and said to his princes, Go ye out with him

into the middle of the city, and preach ye, that no man ask against him of any need, *or cause*, neither any man be heavy to him of any reason.

64 And it was done, as they that asked, [*or appealed him*], saw his glory that was preached, and him covered with purple, all fled.

65 And the king magnified him, and wrote him among the first friends, and putted him duke, and partner, *or fellow*, of princehood.

66 And Jonathan turned again into Jerusalem, with peace and gladness.

67 In the hundred year and five and sixtieth, Demetrius, the son of Demetrius, came from Crete into the land of his fathers.

68 And king Alexander heard, and was made full sorrowful, and turned again to Antioch.

69 And Demetrius ordained Apollonius duke, that was sovereign of Coele-syria; and he gathered his great host, and came to Jamnia; and sent to Jonathan, the highest priest, and said,

70 Thou alone against-standest us; I am made into scorn and shame therefore, for thou hauntest power in hills against us.

71 Now therefore if thou trustest in thy virtues, come down to us into the field; and there assemble [*or comparison*] we together, for with me is virtue of battles.

72 Ask thou, and learn who I am, and others that be in help to me, and which say, that your foot may not stand against our face, for thy fathers were converted into flight twice into their land.

⁷³ And now how shalt thou be able to sustain multitude of horsemen, and so great host in the field, where is no stone, nor rock, neither place of fleeing?

⁷⁴ Soothly as Jonathan heard these words of Apollonius, he was moved in heart; and he chose ten thousand men, and went out from Jerusalem, and Simon, his brother, came to him into help.

⁷⁵ And they pitched tents in Joppa, and it, *that is, the people of Joppa*, shutted out him [*or shut him out*] from the city, for Joppa was the keeping of Apollonius;

⁷⁶ and he fought against it, *that is, Jonathan fought against Joppa*. And they were aghast, that were within the city, and opened to him; and Jonathan wielded Joppa.

⁷⁷ And Apollonius heard, and moved three thousand of horsemen, and much host; and went to Azotus, as making way. And anon he went out into the field, for that he had [*a*] multitude of horsemen, and he trusted in them;

⁷⁸ and Jonathan pursued him into Azotus, and they joined battle.

⁷⁹ And Apollonius left in tents a thousand horsemen behind them privily.

⁸⁰ And Jonathan knew that ambush-ments were behind him, and they environed his tents, and casted darts into the people, from the morrow till to eventide [*or unto even*].

⁸¹ Forsooth the people stood, as Jonathan commanded, and the horses of them travailed out.

82 And Simon led out his host, and joined against the legion; forsooth [*the*] horsemen were made weary, and were all-broken of him, and fled.

83 And they that were scattered in the field, fled into Azotus; and entered into the house of Dagon [*or into Bethdagon*], their idol, that there they should deliver themselves.

84 And Jonathan burnt Azotus, and cities that were in compass thereof, and took spoils of them; and he burnt in fire the temple of Dagon, and them that fled into it.

85 And there were that fell by sword with them that were burnt, almost eight thousand men.

86 And from thence Jonathan moved tents, and applied them to *or pitched at* Ascalon; and they went out of the city against him in great glory.

87 And Jonathan turned again to Jerusalem with his men, having many spoils.

88 And it was done, as king Alexander heard these words, he putted to yet for to glorify Jonathan.

89 And he sent to him a golden lace, *either ouch*, as custom is to be given to cousins of kings; and he gave to him Ekron, and all coasts thereof in possession.

CHAPTER 11

1 And the king of Egypt gathered an host, as gravel that is about the brink of the sea, and many ships; and sought for to wield the realm of Alexander in guile, and add it to his realm.

² And he went out into Syria with peaceable words, and they opened to him cities, and came to him; for why king Alexander commanded for to go out against him, for he was father of the king's wife.

³ Soothly when Ptolemy entered into a city, he putted keepings of knights in each city.

⁴ And as he nighed to Azotus, they showed to him the temple of Dagon burnt in fire, and Azotus, and other things thereof were destroyed, and bodies cast forth, and the burials of them that were slain in battle, which they made beside the way.

⁵ And they told to the king that Jonathan did these things, for to make envy to him; and the king was still.

⁶ And Jonathan came to the king with glory into Joppa, and they greeted them together; and they slept there.

⁷ And Jonathan went with the king till to the flood that is called Eleutherus, and turned again into Jerusalem.

⁸ Soothly king Ptolemy wielded the lordship of cities till to Seleucia, by the sea coast, and thought against Alexander evil counsels;

⁹ and sent legates to Demetrius, and said, Come thou, make we betwixt us covenant, and I shall give to thee my daughter, whom Alexander hath, and thou shalt reign in the realm of thy father.

¹⁰ For it rueth me, that I gave to him my daughter; for he sought for to slay me.

¹¹ And he despised him therefore, for he coveted the realm of him.

12 And he took away his daughter, and gave her to Demetrius, and alienated him from Alexander; and his enmities were made known.

13 And Ptolemy entered into Antioch, and putted two diadems to his head, of Egypt and of Asia.

14 Forsooth Alexander, the king, was in Cilicia in those days, for they rebelled, that were in those places.

15 And Alexander heard, and came to him into battle; and Ptolemy, the king, brought forth the host, and came to him in strong hand, and drove him away.

16 And Alexander flew into Arabia, for to be defended there; soothly king Ptolemy was enhanced.

17 And Zabdiel of Arabia took away Alexander's head, and sent to Ptolemy.

18 And king Ptolemy was dead in the third day; and they that were in strengths perished, of them that were within the castles.

19 And Demetrius reigned in the hundred year and seven and sixtieth.

20 In those days Jonathan gathered them that were in Judea, for to overcome the high tower, that is in Jerusalem; and they made against it many engines.

21 And some wicked men, that hated their folk, went to the king Demetrius [*or to king Demetrius*], and told to him, that Jonathan besieged the high tower.

22 And as he heard, he was wroth, and anon he came to Ptolemais, and wrote to Jonathan, that

he should not besiege the high tower, but should come to him in haste, to speak together.

²³ Soothly as Jonathan heard, he commanded for to besiege; and he chose of the elder men of Israel, and priests, and gave him to peril.

²⁴ And he took gold, and silver, and clothes, and many other presents; and went to the king, to Ptolemais, and found grace in the sight of him.

²⁵ And some wicked men of his folk asked against him;

²⁶ and the king did to him, as they that were before him, did to him; and he enhanced him in sight of all his friends,

²⁷ and ordained to him princehood of priest-hood, and whatever other precious things he had before; and made him prince of his friends.

²⁸ And Jonathan asked of the king, that he should make Judea free, and three princehoods of three places, and Samaria, and nigh coasts thereof; and he promised to him three hundred talents.

²⁹ And the king consented, and wrote to Jonathan epistles of all these things, containing this manner.

³⁰ King Demetrius to Jonathan, brother, health, and to the folk of Jews.

³¹ The ensample of [*the*] epistle, which we have written to Lasthenes, our father, of you, we sent to you, that ye should know.

³² King Demetrius to Lasthenes, father, health.

³³ To the people of Jews, our friends, and keeping which things be just with us, we deemed

for to do well, for [*the*] benignity of them that they have with us.

³⁴ Therefore we ordained to them, all the coasts of Judea, and three cities of offerings [*or three cities*], Lydda, and Ramathem, and Apherema, that be added to Judea, and Samaria, and all the nigh coast of them, for to be sequestered, *or parted*, to all men doing sacrifice in Jerusalem, for these things that the king took before of them by all years, and for fruits of the earth, and of apples.

³⁵ And of other things that pertained to us, of tithes, and tributes, from this time we forgive to them; and the plain places of salt-making, and the crowns *or crown taxes* that were borne to us, all things we grant to them;

³⁶ and nothing of these shall be void, from this *time* and into all time.

³⁷ Now therefore busy ye for to make ensample of these things, and be it given to Jonathan, and be put in the holy mount, and in the solemn [*or the holy*] place.

³⁸ And king Demetrius saw, that the land was still in his sight, and that nothing against-stood him, and let go all his host, each man into his place, except the strange host, *or the host of strangers or foreigners*, that he drew from isles of heathen men; and all the hosts of his fathers *were* enemies to him.

³⁹ Forsooth one Tryphon was of the parts of Alexander before, and he saw that all the host grutched against Demetrius; and he went to

Imalcue *the* Arabian, that nourished Antiochus, the son of Alexander.

⁴⁰ And he made great instance *or insistence* to him, that he should betake him to him, for to reign instead of his father; and [*he*] told out to him, how great things Demetrius had done, and the enmities of his hosts against him; and he dwelt there many days.

⁴¹ And Jonathan sent to king Demetrius, that he should cast out them [*or should cast them out*], that were in the high tower in Jerusalem, and which were in helps, *or strengths*, for they impugned Israel.

⁴² And Demetrius sent to Jonathan, and said, Not only this I shall do to thee, and thy folk, but I shall make thee noble by glory, and thy folk, when it shall be covenable.

⁴³ Now therefore rightly thou shalt do, if thou shalt send men into help to me, for all mine host went away.

⁴⁴ And Jonathan sent to him three thousand of strong men, to Antioch; and they came to the king, and the king delighted in the coming of them.

⁴⁵ And there came together that were of the city sixscore thousand of men [*or an hundred and twenty thousand of men*], and would slay the king.

⁴⁶ And the king fled into the hall. And they that were of the city occupied the ways of the city, and begun for to fight.

⁴⁷ And the king called Jews into help, and all came together to him, and all were scattered

by the city; and slew in that day an hundred thousand of men,

⁴⁸ and [*they*] burnt the city, and took many spoils in that day, and delivered the king.

⁴⁹ And they saw, that were of the city, that Jews had taken the city as they would; and they were made unsteadfast in their soul, and cried to the king with prayers, and said,

⁵⁰ Give to us right hands, and cease the Jews for to fight against us and the city.

⁵¹ And they casted away their arms, and made peace. And Jews were glorified in the sight of the king, and in the sight of all men that were in his realm, and were named in the realm. And they went again into Jerusalem, having many spoils.

⁵² And king Demetrius sat in the seat of his realm, and the land was still in his sight.

⁵³ And he lied all things, whatever he said, and alienated him from Jonathan, and yielded not to him by [*or after*] benefices, which he had given to him; and *Demetrius* travailed him greatly.

⁵⁴ After these things Tryphon turned again, and Antiochus, a young child, with him; and reigned, and putted on him a diadem.

⁵⁵ And all hosts were gathered to him, which king Demetrius scattered; and they fought against him, and he flew, and turned backs.

⁵⁶ And Tryphon took beasts, *that is, elephants of the host of Demetrius*, and wielded Antioch.

⁵⁷ And Antiochus the young wrote to Jonathan, and said, I ordain to thee priesthood, and I ordain thee on four cities, that thou be of the king's friends.

⁵⁸ And he sent to him golden vessels, into ministry, and gave to him power to drink in gold, and for to be in purple, and for to have a golden lace, *either ouch*.

⁵⁹ And he ordained Simon, his brother, duke from the ends of Tyre, till to the ends of Egypt.

⁶⁰ And Jonathan went out, and walked over the flood by the cities; and all the host of Syria was gathered to him into help. And he came to Ascalon, and they of the city came against him worshipfully.

⁶¹ And from thence he went to Gaza, and they that were at Gaza enclosed them altogether, and he besieged it. And he burnt what things were in compass of the city, and spoiled it by prey.

⁶² And men of Gaza prayed Jonathan, and he gave to them right hand, *either peace*. And he took the sons of them in pledges, *either in hostage*, and he sent them into Jerusalem, and walked through the country till to Damascus.

⁶³ And Jonathan heard, that the princes of Demetrius trespassed in Kedesh, that is in Galilee, with much host, willing to remove him from need of the realm;

⁶⁴ and he came against them. Forsooth he left Simon, his brother, within the province.

⁶⁵ And Simon applied to *or pitched at* Bethsura, and fought against it many days, and enclosed altogether them [*or enclosed them altogether*].

⁶⁶ And they asked of him for to take right hands, and he gave to them. And he casted out them [*or casted them out*] from thence, and took the city, and putted therein strength.

67 And Jonathan and his host applied to the water of Gennesaret, *or pitched by the Sea of Galilee*, and before the light they walked in the light [*or the field*] of Asor

68 And lo! the hosts of aliens came against them in the field, and setted to him espies, in the hills. Soothly he came against of the contrary part.

69 Soothly the espies or ambushments rose up of their places, and joined battle. And all that were of Jonathan's part fled,

70 and no man of them was left, no but Mattathias, son of Absalom, and Judas, son of Chalphi, princes of knighthood and host.

71 And Jonathan rent his clothings, and putted earth in his head, and prayed.

72 And Jonathan turned again to them into battle, and altogether turned them into flight, and fought.

73 And they of his part that fled saw, and they turned again to him, and pursued with him till to Kedesh, to their tents, and fully [*they*] came till thither.

74 And there felled down in that day of aliens three thousand of them, and Jonathan turned again into Jerusalem.

CHAPTER 12

1 And Jonathan saw that the time helped him; and he chose men, and sent them to Rome, for to ordain and renew friendship with them.

2 And to Spartans, and to other places, he sent epistles by [*or after*] the same form.

³ And they went to Rome, and entered into the court, and said, Jonathan, highest priest, and the folk of Jews, sent us, for to renew friendship and fellowship, by [*or after*] the former.

⁴ And they gave to them epistles to them by places, that they should lead forth them [*or they should lead them forth*] into the land of Judea with peace.

⁵ And this is the ensample of epistles, which Jonathan wrote to Spartans.

⁶ Jonathan, highest priest, and the elder men of the folk, and priests, and other people of Jews, to Spartans, brethren, health.

⁷ Now before epistles were sent to Onias, highest priest, from Darius, that reigned with you; for ye be our brethren, as the rescript, [*or writing*], containeth, that is under-put.

⁸ And Onias received the man, that was sent, with honour, and took epistles, in which was signified of fellowship and friendship.

⁹ When we had no need of these, and had in comfort [*or having in solace*] holy books that be in our hands, we had rather for to send to you,

¹⁰ for to renew brotherhood and friendship, lest peradventure we be made aliens from you; for why many times passed, since ye sent to us.

¹¹ We therefore in all time without ceasing, in solemn days, and others, in which it behooveth, be mindful of you in sacrifices that we offer, and in observances, as leaveful is, and beseemeth, for to have had mind of brethren.

¹² Therefore we be glad of your glory.

13 Forsooth many tribulations and many battles environed us; and kings, that be in our compass, fought against us.

14 Therefore we would not be grievous to you, neither to other fellows, and our friends, in these battles.

15 For we had help of heaven, and be delivered, and our enemies be made low.

16 Therefore we have chosen Numenius, *the son* of Antiochus, and Antipater, son of Jason, and sent to Romans, for to renew with them both friendship and former fellowship.

17 Therefore we commanded to them, that they come also to you, and greet you, and yield to you our epistles of renewing of our brotherhood.

18 And now ye shall do well, answering to us to [*or of*] these things.

19 And this is the rescript, *or again-writing*, of epistles, that Oniares *or Areus*, the king of Spartans, sent to *Onias*.

20 Oniares to Jonathan *or Areus to Onias*, great priest, health.

21 It is found in writing of Spartans, and of Jews, that they be brethren, and that they be of the kin of Abraham.

22 And now since we know these things, ye do well, writing to us of your peace.

23 But and we have again-written to you [*or we again-write to you*]. Our beasts and our possessions be yours, and yours ours. Therefore we commanded, for to tell these things to you.

24 And Jonathan heard, that the princes of Demetrius went out with much host, over that before, for to fight against him.

25 And he went out from Jerusalem, and ran against them in the country of Hamath; for he gave no space to them, for to enter into his country.

26 And he sent spies into the tents of them, and they turned again, and told, that they ordained for to come over thither in night.

27 And when the sun had gone down, Jonathan bade his *men* wake, and be ready in arms to battle all night. And he setted keepers by compass of tents;

28 and adversaries heard, that Jonathan was ready with his *men* in battle, and they dreaded, and inwardly were aghast in their hearts, and tended fires in their tents, *as if they dwelled still in their tents, but they fled privily.*

29 Forsooth Jonathan, and they that were with him, knew not till to the morrow; for they saw lights burning.

30 And Jonathan pursued them, and caught not them [*or caught them not*]; for they passed the flood Eleutherus.

31 And Jonathan turned to Arabians, that were called Zabadeans; and smote them, and took spoils of them;

32 and joined *in gathering together his host*, and came to Damascus, and walked by all that country.

³³ Forsooth Simon went out, and came till to Ascalon, and to the next strengths; and he bowed down into Joppa, and occupied it.

³⁴ For he heard, that they would give help to parties of Demetrius; and he putted there keepers, for to keep it.

³⁵ And Jonathan turned again, and called together the elder men of the people, and thought with them for to build strengths in Judea,

³⁶ and for to build walls in Jerusalem, and for to raise a great height, betwixt the middle of the high tower and the city, for to separate it from the city, that it were alone, and neither they buy, neither sell.

³⁷ And they came together, for to build the city. And the wall fell down altogether, that was on the stream, from the rising of the sun; and he repaired it, that is called Chaphenatha.

³⁸ And Simon builded Adida in Shephelah, and strengthened it, and putted on gates and locks.

³⁹ And when Tryphon thought for to reign at Asia, and take a diadem, and stretch out hand into Antiochus king [*or king Antiochus*],

⁴⁰ he dreaded, lest peradventure Jonathan should not suffer him, but fight against him; and he sought for to catch him, and slay. And he rose up, and went into Bethshan.

⁴¹ And Jonathan went out against *him*, with forty thousand of chosen men into battle, and came to Bethshan.

⁴² And Tryphon saw, that Jonathan came with much host, for to stretch out hands into him.

43 And he dreaded, and received him with honour, and commended him to all his friends; and gave to him gifts, and commanded to his hosts, for to obey to him as to himself.

44 And he said to Jonathan, Whereto hast thou travailed all the people, when battle is not to us?

45 And now send again them [*or send them again*] into their houses. But choose thou to thee a few men, that be with thee, and come thou with me to Ptolemais, and I shall give it to thee, and other strengths, and hosts, and all sovereigns of offices [*or all provosts, or sovereigns, of need*]; and I shall turn, and I shall go away. For why therefore I came.

46 And he believed to him, and did as he said, and left the host; and they went away into the land of Judea.

47 Forsooth he withheld with him three thousand of men, of which he sent again into Galilee two thousand; soothly a thousand came with him.

48 Forsooth as Jonathan entered into Ptolemais, men of Ptolemais shutted [*or shut*] the gates, and caught him; and slew by sword all that entered with him.

49 And Tryphon sent host, and horsemen into Galilee, and into the great field, for to lose all the fellows of Jonathan.

50 And when they knew that Jonathan was taken, and perished, and all that were with him, they admonished themselves, and went out ready into battle.

51 And they saw that pursued, that thing was to them for the life, and turned again.

52 Forsooth they came all with peace into the land of Judea. And they bewailed Jonathan greatly, and all that were with him, and Israel mourned with great mourning.

53 And all heathen men that were in the compass of them, sought for to all-break them; for they said, They have no prince and helper [*or helping*]; now therefore overcome we them, and take away from men the mind of them.

CHAPTER 13

1 And as Simon heard, that Tryphon gathered a great host, for to come into the land of Judea, and for to destroy it,

2 and saw that the people was in trembling and dread, he went up to Jerusalem, and gathered the people;

3 and admonished, and said, Ye know, how great things I, and my brethren, and the house of my father, have done, for laws, and for holy things, battles, and what manner anguishes we saw.

4 For love, [*or grace, or cause*], of these things all my brethren perished for Israel, and I alone am left.

5 And now befall it not to me, for to spare my life [*or my soul*], in all the time of tribulation; for I am no better than my brethren.

6 Therefore I shall avenge my folk, and holy things, and our children, and wives; for all

heathen men be gathered, for to destroy us, because of enmity.

⁷ And the spirit of the people was kindled together, as it heard these words.

⁸ And they answered with great voice, saying, Thou art our duke instead of Judas, and Jonathan, thy brothers;

⁹ fight thou our battles, and all things whatever thou shalt say to us, we shall do.

¹⁰ And he gathered all men fighters, and hasted for to end all the walls of Jerusalem, and [*he*] strengthened it in compass.

¹¹ And he sent Jonathan, the son of Absalom, and with him a new host, into Joppa. And when he had put [*or cast*] out these men that were in it, he dwelt there.

¹² And Tryphon moved from Ptole-mais, with much host, for to come into the land of Judea, and Jonathan with him in keeping.

¹³ Forsooth Simon applied in *or pitched at* Adida, against the face of the field.

¹⁴ And as Tryphon knew, that Simon rose, in the stead [*or instead*] of his brother Jonathan, and that he was to joining battle with him, he sent to him legates, and said,

¹⁵ For silver, that thy brother Jonathan owed, in accounts of the king, we withheld him.

¹⁶ And now send thou an hundred talents of silver, and his two sons *as pledges or hostages*, that he not dismissed flee from us, and we shall again-send him.

¹⁷ And Simon knew, that with guile he spake with him. Nevertheless he commanded the silver

for to be given, and children, lest he should take great enmity of the people of Israel,

¹⁸ saying, For he sent not to him silver and children, therefore he *Jonathan* perished.

¹⁹ And he sent the children, and an hundred talents. And he lied, and dismissed not Jonathan.

²⁰ And after these things, Tryphon came within the country, for to destroy it. And they compassed by the way that leadeth to Adora; and Simon and his host walked into each place, whither ever they went.

²¹ Soothly they that were in the high tower, sent legates or messengers to Tryphon, for to hasten to come by desert, and send to them foods.

²² And Tryphon made ready all the multitude of horsemen, for to come in that night. Soothly there was full much snow, and he came not *there*, but *instead went* into Gilead.

²³ And when he nighed to Bascama, he slew Jonathan, and his sons, there.

²⁴ And Tryphon turned, and went into his land.

²⁵ And Simon sent, and took the bones of Jonathan, his brother, and buried those [*or him*] in Modin, the city of his fathers.

²⁶ And all Israel bewailed him with great wailing, and they bemoaned him many days.

²⁷ And Simon builded on the sepulchre of his father and his brethren an high building in the sight, with stones polished, *or fair dighted*, behind and before.

²⁸ And he ordained seven small buildings, *broad beneath and sharp above*, one against one, to father, and mother, and four brethren.

29 And to these he putted about great pillars, and on the pillars armours, to everlasting mind; and beside armours ships engraved [*or engraved ships*], which should be seen of men sailing in the sea.

30 This is the sepulchre that *Simon* made in Modin, till into this day.

31 Forsooth when Tryphon made way with Antiochus, the young king, in guile he slew him,

32 and reigned in his stead; and [*he*] putted on him the diadem of Asia, and made great vengeance in the land.

33 And Simon builded strengths of Judea, and warded them with high towers, and great walls, and gates, and locks; and putted foods in strengthenings.

34 And Simon chose men, and sent to King Demetrius, that he should make remission to the country, for all [*the*] deeds of Tryphon were done by ravishing.

35 And king Demetrius answered to him to these words, and wrote such an epistle.

36 King Demetrius to Simon, highest priest, and friend of kings, and to the elder men, and folk of Jews, health.

37 We received the golden crown, and baheu, *that is, an ornament of the neck, made with gold rings*, which ye sent, and be ready for to make with you great peace, and for to write to provosts of the king, for to release to you what things we forgave;

38 for whatever things we ordain to you, be stable. The strengths that ye builded, be to you;

³⁹ and we forgive ignorances and sins, till into this day, and the crown *tax* that ye owe; and if any other thing was tributary, *either bound to tribute*, in Jerusalem, now be it not tributary.

⁴⁰ And if any of you be able for to be written together among our men, be they written together, and peace *be* betwixt us.

⁴¹ In the hundred year and seventieth, the yoke of heathen men was taken away from Israel.

⁴² And the people began to write in tables, and common [*or open*] doings, in the first year under Simon, highest priest, great duke, and prince of Jews.

⁴³ In those days Simon applied to *or pitched at* Gazara, and environed it with tents, *either men of arms*, and made engines, and applied to *or set them by* the city, and smote one tower [*or a tower*], and took it.

⁴⁴ And they that brake out, were within the engine in the city, and great stirring was made in the city.

⁴⁵ And they went up, that were in the city, with their wives, and sons, on the walls, with their coats cut, and cried with great voice, asking of Simon that right hands be given to them,

⁴⁶ and said, Yield thou not to us by [*or after*] our malices, but by [*or after*] thy mercies, and we shall serve to thee.

⁴⁷ And Simon was bowed, *either folded*, and fought not against them; nevertheless he casted them out of the city, and cleansed fully the houses in which were simulacra, and then he entered into it with hymns, and blessed the Lord.

⁴⁸ And when all uncleanness was cast out thereof, he setted therein men, that should do the law; and he strengthened it, and made an habitation to him.

⁴⁹ Forsooth they that were in the high tower of Jerusalem, were forbidden for to go out and go in, into the country, and buy, and sell; and they hungered greatly, and many of them perished for hunger.

⁵⁰ And they cried to Simon, for to take right hands, and he gave to them; and he casted out them from thence, and cleansed the high tower from defoulings.

⁵¹ And they entered into it in the three and twentieth day of the second month, in the hundred and one and seventy year, with praising, and branches of palms, and instruments of music, *either gitterns*, and cymbals, and harps, [*or psalteries*], and hymns, and songs, for the great enemy of Israel was all-broken.

⁵² And he ordained, that in all years these days should be done with gladness. And he strengthened the hill of the temple, that was beside the high tower, and dwelt there, he, and they that were with him.

⁵³ And Simon saw John, his son, that he was a man of battle, and he putted him duke of all virtues, *that is, warriors, or hosts*, and he dwelt in Gazara.

CHAPTER 14

¹ In the hundred and two and seventy [*or seventieth*] year, king Demetrius gathered his

host, and went to Media, for to draw together helps to him, for to overcome Tryphon.

² And as Arsaces, king of Persia and Media, heard that Demetrius entered into his high coasts, he sent one of his princes, for to take him quick, and that he should bring him to himself.

³ And he went, and smote the host of Demetrius, and took him, and led him to Arsaces, and he putted him into keeping.

⁴ And the land of Judea was still, *either peaceable*, in all the days of Simon, and he sought good things of his folk; and his power and his glory pleased them in all days.

⁵ And with all his glory he took Joppa into haven, and made entry into isles of the sea;

⁶ and enlarged the coasts of his people, and wielded the country.

⁷ And he gathered much captivity, and was lord in Gazara, and Bethsura, and the high tower; and he did away uncleannesses of it, and there was not that against-stood him.

⁸ And each man tilled his own land in peace, and the land of Judea gave his fruits, and trees of [*the*] fields their fruit.

⁹ Elder men sat all in streets [*or All elder men sat in streets*], and treated of goods of the land; and young men clothed them in glory, and stoles of battle, *that is armours, in the time of peace*.

¹⁰ And to the cities he gave foods, and ordained those [*or them*], that those [*or they*] were vessels of strengthening, till that the name of his glory was named till to the last of earth.

11 He made peace on the land, and Israel was glad [*or gladdened*] with great gladness;

12 and each man sat under his vine, and under his fig tree, neither there was that feared them.

13 The fighting man against them failed on earth; kings were all-broken in those days.

14 And he confirmed all meek men of his people, and he sought out the law, and did away all evil and wickedness;

15 and he glorified holy things, and multiplied vessels of holy things.

16 And it was heard at Rome, that Jonathan was dead, and till into Spartans, and they were full sorrowful.

17 Forsooth as they heard, that Simon, his brother, was made highest priest in his stead, and he wielded the country, and cities in it,

18 they wrote to him in brazen tables, for to renew friendship, and fellow-ship, that they made with Judas and Jonathan, his brethren;

19 and they were read in the sight of the church in Jerusalem.

20 And this *is* the ensample of epistles, that Spartans sent. The prince and the cities, *that is, governors of the cities*, of Spartans to Simon, great priest, and to the elder men, and priests, and to other people of Jews, brethren, health.

21 Legates that were sent to our people, told to us of your glory, and honour, and gladness, and we joyed in the entry of them.

22 And we have written what things were said of them in councils [*or in council*] of people, thus. Numenius, *the son* of Antiochus, and Antipater,

the son of Jason, legates of Jews, came to us, and renewed with us the former friendship.

²³ And it pleased to the people, for to receive the men gloriously, and to put ensample of their words in departed books of the people, that it be to mind to the people of Spartans; forsooth we have written ensample of these things to Simon, the great priest.

²⁴ Forsooth after these things, Simon sent Numenius to Rome, having a great golden shield, in weight of a thousand bezants, for to ordain fellowship with them.

²⁵ Soothly when the people of Rome heard these words, they said, What doing of thankings shall we yield to Simon, and his sons?

²⁶ For he restored his brethren, and overcame the enemies of Israel from them. And they ordained to him [*or them*] liberty,

²⁷ and wrote in brazen tables, and *Jews* putted in titles, in the mount of Zion. And this is ensample of writing. In the eighteenth day of the month Elul, *that is, August*, in the hundred and two and seventy [*or seventieth*] year, the third year under Simon, great priest,

²⁸ in Saramel, in the great coming together of priests, of the people, and princes, and folk, and the elder men [*or seniors*] of the country, these things were made known;

²⁹ for many times battles were done [*or be made*] in your country. Forsooth Simon, the son of Mattathias, of the sons of Jarib, and his brethren, gave themselves to peril, and againststood adversaries of their folk, that their holy

things and law should stand; and by great glory they glorified their folk.

³⁰ And Jonathan gathered his folk, and was made to them a great priest, and is put to his people.

³¹ And the enemies of them would defoul holy things, and destroy the country of them, and stretch forth hands into holy things of them.

³² Then Simon against-stood, and fought for his people, and gave many riches [*or much money*], and armed men of virtue of his folk, and gave to them wages;

³³ and strengthened the cities of Judea, and Bethsura, that was in the ends of Judea, where before were arms of enemies, and he putted there help, [*or strength*], men of Jews.

³⁴ And he strengthened Joppa, that was at the sea, and Gazara, that was in the coasts of Azotus, in which enemies dwelt before; and he setted [*or set*] there Jews, and whatever things were able to amending of them, he putted [*or put*] in them.

³⁵ And the people saw the doing of Simon, and glory that he thought for to do to his folk, and they made him their duke, and prince of priests, for that he had done all these things, and rightwiseness, and faith that he kept to his folk; and he sought out in all manner for to raise his people.

³⁶ And in his days it had prosperity in his hands, that heathen men were taken away from the country of them, which were in the city of David in Jerusalem, in the high tower, from which they came out, and defouled all things that

were in the compass of holy things, and gave great wound to chastity.

³⁷ And he setted therein men Jews, to defending of the country, and city, and raised the walls in Jerusalem.

³⁸ And king Demetrius ordained to him the highest priesthood;

³⁹ by this he made him his friend, and glorified him in great glory.

⁴⁰ For he heard, that Jews were called of Romans friends, and fellows, and brethren, and that they received [*the*] legates of Simon gloriously;

⁴¹ and that Jews, and priests of them, consented, him for to be their duke, and highest priest [*into*] without end, till there rise a faithful prophet;

⁴² and that he be duke on them, and care, *or busyness*, were to him for holy things; and that he should ordain governors [*or provosts*] on the works of them, and on the country, and on arms, and on strengths; and care be to him of holy things;

⁴³ and that he be heard of men, and all writings in the country be written together under the name of him, and that he be covered with purple and gold;

⁴⁴ and that it be not leaveful to any of the people, and to priests, for to make anything of these void, and against-say to these things that be said of him, either for to call together covent in the country without him; and for to be clothed in purple, and for to use a golden lace or ouch.

⁴⁵ Soothly he that shall do without this, either shall make void any of these, shall be guilty.

⁴⁶ And it pleased altogether to all the people, for to ordain Simon, and do by [*or after*] these words.

⁴⁷ And Simon received, and it pleased him, that he should use [*or was set in*] high or highest priesthood, and be duke and prince of the folk of Jews, and priests, and be the sovereign of all men.

⁴⁸ And they ordained for to put this writing in brazen tables, and put them in the wall about the compassing [*or in the walking place*] of holy things, in solemn place;

⁴⁹ forsooth for to put ensample of these in the treasury, that Simon have and his sons.

CHAPTER 15

¹ And king Antiochus, the son of Demetrius, sent epistles from isles of the sea to Simon, the priest, and prince of the folk of Jews, and to all the folk;

² and those were containing this manner. King Antiochus to Simon, great priest, and to the folk of Jews, health.

³ For some men bearing pestilence wielded the realm of our fathers, forsooth I will challenge the realm, and restore it, as it was before; I made a chosen multitude of host, and I made ships of war.

⁴ Forsooth I will go forth by countries, that I do vengeance on them that destroyed our country, and that made many cities desolate in my realm.

⁵ Now therefore I ordain, *either confirm*, to thee all offerings, that kings before me forgave to thee, and what-ever other gifts they forgave to thee;

⁶ and I suffer thee for to make print, or smiting, of thine own money, in thy region, *or country*.

⁷ Soothly *I suffer* Jerusalem for to be holy and free, and all arms, that be made, and strengths, that thou hast made out, and that thou holdest, dwell to thee;

⁸ and all debt of the king, and those that be to coming of king's things, from this time and into all-time [*or from this into all-time*] be forgiven to thee.

⁹ Soothly when we shall wield our realm, we shall glorify thee, and thy folk, and temple, with great glory, so that your glory be showed in all earth.

¹⁰ In the hundred year and four and seventieth year Antiochus went out into the land of his fathers, and all hosts came together to him, so that few were left with Tryphon.

¹¹ And king Antiochus pursued him, and *Tryphon* came into Dora, and fled [*or fleeing*] by the sea coast;

¹² for he knew, that evils were gathered on him, and the host forsook him.

¹³ And Antiochus applied on *or pitched at* Dora, with sixscore thousand [*or with an hundred and twenty thousand*] of fighting men, and eight thousand of horsemen;

¹⁴ and he compassed the city, and ships came from the sea; and they travailed the city by land

and sea, and suffered no man for to enter, either go out.

¹⁵ Forsooth Numenius came, and they that were with him, from Rome, and had epistles written to kings and countries, in which these things were contained.

¹⁶ Lucius, consul, *or chief governor*, of Romans, to king Ptolemy, health.

¹⁷ Legates, *either messengers*, of Jews came to us, our friends, renewing the former friendship and fellowship, sent of Simon, prince of priests, and [*of the*] people of Jews.

¹⁸ Soothly they brought also a golden shield of a thousand bezants.

¹⁹ Therefore it pleased to us for to write to kings and countries, that they do not evils to them, neither impugn them, and their cities, and their countries, and that they bear not help to men fighting against them.

²⁰ Forsooth it is seen to us, for to receive of them the shield.

²¹ Therefore if any men of pestilence shall flee from the country of them to you, betake ye them to Simon, prince of priests, that he do vengeance on them by [*or after*] his law.

²² These same things be written to king Demetrius, and Attalus, and Ariarathes, and Arsaces,

²³ and into all countries, and Sampsames, and Spartans, and Delos, and Myndos, and Sicyon, and Caria, and Samos, and Pamphylia, and Lycia, and Halicarnassus, and Rhodes, and Aradus or

Phaselis, and Cos, and Side, and Aradus, and Gortyna, and Cnidus, and Cyprus, and Cyrene.

24 Forsooth they have written ensample of these to Simon, prince of priests, and to the people of Jews.

25 Forsooth Antiochus, the king, applied *or pitched* tents in Dora the second time, moving to it evermore hands, and making engines; and he enclosed altogether Tryphon, lest he went out.

26 And Simon sent to him two thousand of chosen men, into help, and silver, and gold, and plenteous vessels;

27 and he would not take those. But he brake all things that he covenanted with him before, and alienated himself from him.

28 And he sent to him Athenobius, one of his friends, for to treat with him, and said, Ye hold Joppa, and Gazara, and the high tower that is in Jerusalem, cities of my realm;

29 ye have wasted the coasts of them, and have done great destroying [*or vengeance*] in the land, and without the coasts of Judea ye be lords [*or ye lordship*] by many places in my realm.

30 Now therefore give ye the cities, which ye occupied, and tributes of places, of which ye be lords [*or which ye lordship*], out of [*the*] ends of Judea.

31 Either else give ye for them five hundred talents of silver, and of destroying that ye have destroyed, and of tributes of cities, another five hundred talents; either else we shall come, and overcome you.

³² And Athenobius, friend of the king, came into Jerusalem, and saw the glory of Simon, and clearness, in gold, and silver, and plenteous apparel, and was astonied; and [*he*] told to him the words of the king.

³³ And Simon answered, and said to him, Neither we took alien land, neither withheld other men's things, but heritage of our fathers, that was wielded sometime unjustly of our enemies.

³⁴ Soothly we have time, and challenge the heritage of our fathers.

³⁵ For why of Joppa and Gazara that thou askest, they did great vengeance in our people, and [*in our*] country; of these we give an hundred talents. And Athenobius answered not a word.

³⁶ Soothly he turned again with wrath to the king, and told again to him these words, and the glory of Simon, and all things that he saw. And the king was wroth with great wrath.

³⁷ Forsooth Tryphon flew by ship into Orthosia.

³⁸ And the king ordained Cendebeus, duke of the sea coast, and gave to him host of footmen and horsemen;

³⁹ and commanded him for to move tents against the face of Judah; and commanded him for to build Kedron, and stop the gates of the city, and overcome the people; forsooth the king pursued Tryphon.

⁴⁰ And Cendebeus came to Jamnia, and began for to stir the people to wrath, and for to defoul Judea, and make the people captive, and slay,

⁴¹ and build Kedron. And he setted there horsemen and host, that they should go out, and

should walk *the* byways of Judea, as the king ordained to him.

CHAPTER 16

¹ And John went up from Gazara, and told to Simon, his father, what things Cendebeus did in the people of them.

² And Simon called his twain elder sons, Judah and John, and said to them, I, and my brethren, and the house of my father, have overcome the enemies of Israel, from youth till into this day; and it had prosperity in our hands, for to deliver Israel sometimes.

³ Forsooth now I have elded [*or olded*], but be ye in my stead, and of my brother, and go ye out, and fight for our folk; forsooth help of heaven be with you.

⁴ And he chose of the country twenty thousand of fighting men, and horsemen; and they went out to Cendebeus, and slept in Modin.

⁵ And they rose early, and went into the field, and lo! a copious host *came* into the meeting of them, of footmen and horsemen; and a running flood was betwixt the midst of them.

⁶ And he and his people moved the battle array [*or the tents*] against the face of them, and he saw the people trembling to pass over the stream of water; and he passed over the first; and men saw him, and passed *over* after him.

⁷ And he parted the people, and horsemen in the middle of footmen; forsooth the multitude of horsemen of adversaries was full plenteous.

⁸ And they cried on high with holy trumps; and Cendebeus was turned into flight, and his host, and many of them fell wounded; soothly the residues fled into [*the*] strength.

⁹ Then Judas, the brother of John, was wounded; forsooth John pursued them, till *Cendebeus* came to Kedron, which he builded.

¹⁰ And they fled till to towers, that were in the fields of Azotus, and he burnt them with fire; and there fell of them two thousand of men, and he turned again into Judea in peace.

¹¹ And Ptolemy, the son of Abubus, was ordained duke in the field of Jericho, and [*he*] had much silver and gold;

¹² for he wedded the daughter of the highest priest.

¹³ And the heart of him was raised, and he would wield the country; and he thought guile against Simon and his sons, for to do away them.

¹⁴ Forsooth Simon walked by cities that were in the country of Judea, and bare [*the*] busyness of them, and came down into Jericho, he, and Mattathias, his son, and Judas, in the hundred year and seven and seventieth, in the eleventh month; this is the month of Shebat, *that is, January-February*.

¹⁵ And *Ptolemy* the son of Abubus received them into a little strength, that is called Docus, with guile, which he builded; and made to them a great feast, and hid men there.

¹⁶ And when Simon was full of drink, and his sons, Ptolemy rose with his *men*, and took their

arms, and entered into the feast, and slew him, and his two sons, and some children of him.

¹⁷ And he did a great deceit in Israel, and yielded evils for goods.

¹⁸ And Ptolemy wrote these things, and sent to the king, for to send to him an host into help, and he should betake to him the country and cities of them, and tributes.

¹⁹ And he sent others into Gazara, for to do away John; and to the tribunes he sent epistles, that they should come to him, and he should give to them silver, and gold, and gifts.

²⁰ And he sent other men [*for he sent others*], for to occupy Jerusalem, and the mount of the temple.

²¹ And some man ran before, and told to John in Gazara, that his father perished, and his brethren, and that he, *Ptolemy*, sent that thou also be slain.

²² Forsooth as he heard, he wondered [*for dreaded*] greatly; and he caught the men that came to lose him, and he slew them; for he knew, that they sought for to lose him.

²³ And other things of John's words, and of his battles, and good virtues, in which he did strongly, and of building of walls, which he fully made, and of things done of him,

²⁴ lo! these be written in the book of days of his priesthood, since he was made prince of priests after his father.

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Wycliffe's Bible with Modern Spelling, was made in response to requests from readers who wanted my Wycliffe's Old and New Testaments and Apocrypha in one volume. Printing limitations dictated the number of pages available to me and the letter size. In my previous books, Wycliffe's Bible, Wycliffe's Old Testament, Vols. 1 amp 2, Wycliffe's New Testament, and Wycliffe's Apocrypha, I have tens of thousands of rewritten verses, presented in parentheses "()", to provide help in comprehending the 14th century Middle English vocabulary and grammar. In this present volume, with space at a premium, those "helps" had to be eliminated, to make room for the text of the Apocrypha.

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