

2ND CHRONICLES

¹ Therefore Solomon, the son of David, was comforted in his realm, and the Lord was with him, and magnified him on high.

² And Solomon commanded to all Israel, to tribunes, and centurions, and to dukes, and to doomsmen of all Israel, and to the princes of meines;

³ and Solomon went with all the multitude into the high place of Gibeon, where the tabernacle of [*the*] bond of peace of the Lord was, which tabernacle Moses, the servant of the Lord, made in wilderness.

⁴ Forsooth David had brought the ark of God from Kiriathjearim into the place which he had made ready to it, and where he had set a tabernacle to it, that is, in Jerusalem.

⁵ And the brazen altar, which Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, was there before the tabernacle of the Lord; which also Solomon and all the church sought.

⁶ And Solomon went up to the brazen altar, before the tabernacle of the bond of peace of the Lord, and offered in it a thousand sacrifices.

⁷ Lo! forsooth in that night God appeared to him, and said, Ask that that thou wilt, that I give to thee.

⁸ And Solomon said to God, Thou hast done great mercy with David, my father, and hast ordained me king for him.

9 Now therefore, Lord God, thy word be fulfilled, which thou promisedest to David, my father; for thou hast made me king upon thy great people, which is so unnumberable as the dust of [*the*] earth.

10 Give thou to me wisdom and understanding, that I go in and go out before thy people; for who may deem worthily this thy people, which is so great?

11 And God said to Solomon, For that this thing pleased more thine heart, and thou askedest not riches, and chattel, and glory, neither the lives of them that hate thee, but neither full many days of *thy* life; but thou hast asked *for* wisdom and knowing, that thou mayest deem my people, upon which I have ordained thee king,

12 wisdom and knowing be given to thee; and over this, I shall give to thee riches, and chattel, and glory, so that none among kings, neither before thee, nor after thee, be like thee.

13 Then Solomon came from the high place of Gibeon into Jerusalem, before the tabernacle of the bond of peace, and he reigned upon Israel.

14 And Solomon gathered together to him chariots and knights, and a thousand and four hundred chariots were made to him, and twelve thousand knights; and he made them to be in the cities of carts, and with the king in Jerusalem.

15 And the king gave in Jerusalem gold and silver as stones *in plenty*, and *he gave cedar trees* as sycamores, that come forth in field places in great multitude.

¹⁶ And horses were brought to him from Egypt, and from Coa, by the merchants of the king, which went, and bought by price,

¹⁷ a chariot of horses for six hundred pieces of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty. In like manner buying was made of all the realms of cities, and of the kings of Syria.

CHAPTER 2

¹ Forsooth Solomon deemed, *or purposed*, to build an house to the name of the Lord, and a palace to himself.

² And he numbered seventy thousand of men bearing *burdens* in shoulders, and fourscore thousand that should cut, *or hew*, stones in hills; and the sovereigns of them *were* three thousand and six hundred.

³ And Solomon sent to Hiram*, the king of Tyre, and said, As thou didest with my father David, and sentest him trees of cedar, that he should build to him an house, in which also he dwelled; so do thou with me,

⁴ that I build an house to the name of the Lord my God, and that I hallow it, to burn incense before him, and to make odour of sweet smelling spiceries, and to [*the*] everlasting setting forth of loaves, and to [*the*] burnt sacrifices in the morrowtide and eventide, and in [*the*] sabbaths, and new moons, *that is, feasts in the beginnings of months*, and in solemnities of the Lord our God into without end, which *observ-ances and hallowings* be commanded to Israel.

* **CHAPTER 2:3** Also known as Hiram.

⁵ For the house which I covet to build is great; forsooth the Lord our God is great over all gods.

⁶ Who therefore may have might to build a worthy house to him? For if heaven and heavens of heavens may not take, *or hold*, him, how great am I, that I may build an house to him, but to this thing only, that incense be burnt *there* before him?

⁷ Therefore send thou to me a learned man, that can work in gold, and in silver, in brass, and iron, in purple, and in red silk, and in jacinth; and that can engrave engraving with these craftsmen, which I have with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, the which men David, my father, before made ready.

⁸ But also send thou to me cedar trees, and pine trees, and thyine trees of the Lebanon; for I know, that thy servants can cut trees of the Lebanon; and my servants shall be with thy servants,

⁹ that full many trees be made ready to me; for the house which I covet to build is full great and noble.

¹⁰ Furthermore to thy servants, work-men that shall cut trees, I shall give into meats twenty thousand cors of wheat, and so many cors of barley, and twenty thousand measures of oil, that be called baths.

¹¹ And Hiram, king of Tyre, said by letters which he sent to Solomon, For the Lord [*hath*] loved his people, there-fore he hath made thee to reign upon it.

12 And *Hiram* added to, saying, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, that made heaven and earth, which hath given to king David a wise son, and learned, and witting, and prudent, that he should build an house to the Lord, and a palace to himself.

13 Therefore I have sent to thee a prudent man and most knowing, *Hiram*†, my father,

14 the son of a woman of the lineage of Dan, whose father was a man of Tyre; the which *Hiram* can work in gold, and silver, in brass, and in iron, and in marble, and in trees, also in purple, and jacinth, and bis, and in red silk; and the which *Hiram* can engrave in all engraving, and can find prudently, whatever thing is needful in work with thy craftsmen, and with the craftsmen of my lord David, thy father.

15 Therefore, my lord, send thou to thy servants the wheat, and barley, and oil, and wine, which thou hast promised.

16 And we shall cut *down* trees of the Lebanon, how many ever thou hast need of; and we shall bring those trees in ships by the sea into Joppa; and it shall be thine *doing* to lead those [*or them*] over into Jerusalem.

17 Then Solomon numbered all men converted from heatheness, that were in the land of Israel, after the numbering that David, his father, had numbered; and an hundred thousand and three and fifty thousand and six hundred were found *of them*.

† **CHAPTER 2:13** Also known as Hiram(!).

18 And he made of them seventy thousand, that should bear burdens on their shoulders, and fourscore thousand, that should cut, *or hew*, stones in hills; and *he made* three thousand and six hundred sovereigns of [*the*] works of the people.

CHAPTER 3

1 And Solomon began to build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, in the hill of Moriah, that was showed to David, his father, in the place that David had made ready in the corn-floor of Ornan *the* Jebusite.

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

3 And these were the foundations, which Solomon setted [*or laid*], that he should build the house of God; sixty cubits of length in the first measure, and twenty cubits of breadth.

4 And he builded a porch before the front, that was stretched forth along beside *or at* the measure of the breadth of the house, of twenty cubits, and the highness was of an hundred and twenty cubits; and he overgilded it within with cleanest gold.

5 Also he covered the greater house with boards of box *wood*, and he fastened plates of gold of the best colour all about; and he engraved therein palm trees, and as small chains embracing themselves together.

⁶ And he arrayed the pavement of the temple with most precious marble, in much fairness. And the gold was most proved,

⁷ of whose plates he covered the house, and the beams thereof, and the posts, and the walls, and the doors; and he graved cherubims, *that is, angels*, in the walls.

⁸ Also he made an house to the holy of holy things, in length by the breadth of the house, of twenty cubits, and the breadth also of twenty cubits; and he covered it with golden plates, as with six hundred talents *in value*.

⁹ And also he made golden nails, so that each nail weighed fifty shekels; and he covered the solars with gold.

¹⁰ Also he made in the house of the holy of holy things, two cherubims [*or cherubim*] by the work of an image maker, and covered them with gold.

¹¹ The wings of cherubims [*or cher-ubim*] were holden forth by twenty cubits, so that one wing had five cubits, and it touched the wall of the house; and the tother wing had five cubits, and it touched the wing of the other cherub.

¹² In like manner the one wing of the other cherub had five cubits, and it touched the wall, and the other wing thereof *that was* of five cubits, touched the wing of the other cherub.

¹³ Therefore the wings of ever either cherub were spread abroad, and they were holden forth by twenty cubits; and those cherubims stood upon [*the*] feet raised up, and their faces were turned to the outermore house.

¹⁴ Also he made a veil of jacinth, and purple, of red silk, and bis; and weaved cherubims [*or cherubim*] therein.

¹⁵ Also before the gates of the temple *he made* two pillars, which had five and thirty cubits of height; and the heads of those *pillars were* of five cubits *in height*.

¹⁶ Also *he made* as it were little chains in God's answering place, and he putted them on the heads of the pillars; also *he made* an hundred pomegranates, which he setted [*or put*] betwixt the little chains.

¹⁷ And he setted [*or put*] those pillars in the porch of the temple, one at the right side, and the other at the left side; he called that *pillar* that was at the right side Jachin, and that that was at the left side he called Boaz.

CHAPTER 4

¹ Also he made a brazen altar of twenty cubits of length, and of twenty cubits of breadth, and of ten cubits of height;

² *he made* also a molten sea, *that is, a great washing vessel for priests*, of ten cubits from brink to brink, round by compass; it had five cubits of height; and a cord of thirty cubits encompassed the compass thereof.

³ And the likeness of oxen was under it, and by ten cubits some engravings withoutforth encompassed the brink of the sea, as with twain [*or two*] orders; and the oxen were molten.

⁴ And that sea was set upon twelve oxen, of which oxen three beheld to the north, and other three to the west, and three others *beheld* to the

south, and [*the*] three that were residue *beheld* the east, and *these* had the sea set above *them*; but the hinder parts of the oxen were within under the sea.

⁵ And the thickness of the sea had the measure of the palm of an hand, and the brink thereof was as the brink of a cup, either *as* of a lily crooked again, and the sea held three thousand metretes of measure.

⁶ Also he made ten hollow vessels, and setted [*or put*] five at the right side, and five at the left side, that they should wash in those [*or them*] all things, which they should offer into burnt sacrifice; soothly the priests were washed in the sea.

⁷ Soothly he made ten golden candle-sticks by the likeness which he had commanded to be made, and he setted those [*or put them*] in the temple, five at the right side, and five at the left side.

⁸ And *he made* also ten tables, and he setted those [*or put them*] in the temple, five at the right side, and five at the left side. Also *he made* an hundred golden vials, *or basins*.

⁹ Also he made a large place of priests, and a great house, and [*the*] doors in the great house, which he covered with brass.

¹⁰ And he setted [*or put*] the sea in the right side of *the porch* against the east at the south.

¹¹ Also Hiram made cauldrons, and fleshhooks, and vials, *or basins*, and he fulfilled all the work of the king in the house of God,

12 that is, *he made* two pillars, and their pommels *or capitals*, and heads, and as some nets, that covered the heads above the pommels;

13 also *he made* forty pomegranates, and two works like nets, so that the two orders of pomegranates were joined to each work like nets, which covered the pommels, and the heads of the pillars.

14 He made also foundations, and hollow vessels, which he set upon the foundations *or bases*;

15 *he made* one sea, and twelve oxen under the sea,

16 and cauldrons, and fleshhooks, and vials, *or basins*. Hiram, the father of Solomon, *that is, called so for reason of age, either of excellence of craft*, made to him all the vessels in the house of the Lord of cleanest brass.

17 The king melted out those *vessels* in the country of Jordan, in [*the*] clay land between Succoth and Zeredathah.

18 Forsooth the multitude of vessels was unnumberable, so that the weight of brass was not known.

19 And Solomon made all the vessels of God's house, the golden altar, and boards or meat tables, and the loaves of setting forth upon those [*or them*];

20 and candlesticks of purest gold, with their lanterns, that those [*or they*] should shine before God's answering place, by the custom;

21 and *he made* some works like flowers, and lanterns, and golden tongs; all these things were made of cleanest gold;

²² also *he made* pans for coals to burn incense, and censers, and vials, *or basins*, and mortars, of purest gold. And he engraved the doors of the inner temple, that is, in the holy of holy things, and the golden doors of the temple withoutforth;

CHAPTER 5

¹ and so all the work was [*ful*] filled that Solomon made in the house of the Lord. Therefore Solomon brought in all things, that is, silver, and gold, which David, his father had avowed [*or vowed*]; and he putted [*or put*] all the vessels in the treasuries of the house of the Lord.

² After which things he gathered together all the greater men in birth of Israel, and all the princes of lineages *of tribes*, and the heads of *meines*, of the sons of Israel, into Jerusalem, that they should bring the ark of [*the*] bond of peace of the Lord from the city of David, which is Zion.

³ Therefore all [*the*] men of Israel came to the king, in the solemn day of the seventh month.

⁴ And when all the elder men of Israel came, the deacons [*or Levites*] bare the ark,

⁵ and they brought it, and all the array of the tabernacle, *into the temple*. And the priests with the deacons [*or Levites*] bare the vessels of the saintuary, that were in the tabernacle.

⁶ And king Solomon, and all the companies of Israel, and all that were gathered together, offered before the ark wethers and oxen without number; for the multitude of slain sacrifices was so great that it might not be numbered.

⁷ And [*the*] priests brought the ark of [*the*] bond of peace of the Lord into the place thereof,

that is, to God's answering place of the temple, into the holy of holy things, under the wings of cherubims [*or cherubim*];

⁸ so that cherubims [*or cherubim*] spreaded forth their wings over the place, in which the ark was put, and covered that ark with his bearing bars.

⁹ Soothly the heads, *or pommels, of the bars*, with which the ark was borne, were open, *or uncovered*, before God's answering place, for those heads were a little longer *than the stretching out of cherubs' wings*; but if a man had been a little without-forth, he might not see those bearing bars. Therefore the ark was there till into the present day;

¹⁰ and there was none other thing in the ark, but [*the*] two tables, which Moses had put therein in Horeb, when the Lord gave the law to the sons of Israel going out of Egypt.

¹¹ And *after this* the priests went out of the saintuary, for all the priests, that might be found there, were hallowed, and the whiles, *or certain times*, and the order of services among priests, was not parted yet in that time;

¹² *and* both deacons [*or Levites*] and singers, that is, both they that were under Asaph, and they that were under Heman, and they that were under Jeduthun, their sons and brethren, clothed with white linen clothes, sounded with cymbals and psalteries and harps, and stood at the west coast, *or corner*, of the altar, and with them *were* sixscore priests trumping.

13 Therefore when they all sang together, both with trumps, and voice, and cymbals, and organs, and of diverse kinds of musics, and they raised [*up*] their voice on high, the sound was heard [*a*] far, so that when they had begun to praise the Lord, and to say, Acknowledge ye to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy is into the world, *either without end*; the house of God was filled with a cloud,

14 and the priests might not stand to serve for the darkness; for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord.

CHAPTER 6

1 Then Solomon said, The Lord promised, that he would dwell in [*the*] darkness;

2 and I have built an house to his name, that he should dwell therein without end.

3 And Solomon turned his face, and blessed all the multitude of Israel; for all the company stood attentive;

4 and he said, Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel, for he hath fulfilled in work that thing, that he spake to David, my father, and said,

5 From the day in which I led my people out of the land of Egypt, I chose not a city of all the lineages of Israel, that an house should be builded therein to my name, neither I chose any other man, that he should be duke upon my people Israel;

6 but I chose Jerusalem, that my name be therein, and I chose David, to ordain him upon my people Israel.

⁷ And when it was of the will of David, my father, to build an house to the name of the Lord God of Israel,

⁸ the Lord said to him, For this was thy will, to build an house to my name, soothly thou didest well, having such a will,

⁹ but *yet* thou shalt not build an house to me; nevertheless the son, that shall go out of thy loins, he shall build an house to my name.

¹⁰ Therefore the Lord hath fulfilled his word, that he spake; and I rose up for David, my father, and I sat on the throne of Israel, as the Lord spake, and I have builded an house to the name of the Lord God of Israel;

¹¹ and I have put therein the ark, in which is the covenant of the Lord, which he covenanted with the sons of Israel.

¹² Therefore Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord even against all the multitude of Israel, and stretched forth his hands.

¹³ For Solomon had made a brazen foundation, and had set [*or put*] it in the midst of the great house, and it had five cubits of length, and five *cubits* of breadth, and three cubits of height, and he stood there upon [*it*]; and from that time he kneeled against all the multitude of Israel, and he raised up his hands into heaven,

¹⁴ and said, Lord God of Israel, none is like thee; *thou art* God in heaven, and in earth, which keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants, that go before thee in all their heart;

¹⁵ thou hast given to David thy servant, my father, whatever thing thou hast spoken, *or promised*, to him; and thou hast fulfilled in work

those things, which thou promisedest by mouth, as also this present time proveth.

¹⁶ Now therefore, Lord God of Israel, fulfill thou to thy servant, my father David, whatever things thou hast spoken, saying, A man of thee shall not fail before me, that shall sit upon the throne of Israel; so nevertheless if thy sons keep my ways, and go in my law, as and thou hast gone before me.

¹⁷ And now, Lord God of Israel, thy word be made steadfast, which thou spakest to thy servant David.

¹⁸ Therefore whether it is believable, that the Lord dwell with men on earth? If heaven and the heavens *may not* take, either may not hold thee, *Lord*, how much more this house, which I have builded?

¹⁹ But hereto only it is made, that thou, my Lord God, behold there the prayer of thy servant, and the beseeching of him, and that thou hear the prayers, which thy servant poureth [*out*] before thee;

²⁰ that thou open thine eyes upon this house by days and nights, upon the place in which thou promisedest, that thy name should be in-called, and that thou wouldest hear the prayer, which thy servant prayeth therein.

²¹ Hear thou the prayers of thy servant, and of thy people Israel; who-ever prayeth in this place, hear thou from thy dwelling place, that is, from heaven, and do thou mercy *to him*.

²² If any man sinneth against his neighbour, and cometh ready to swear against him, and

bindeth himself with cursing before the altar in this house,

²³ thou shalt hear from heaven, and shalt do the doom of thy servants; so that thou yield to the wicked man his way into his own head, and that thou avenge the just [*or rightwise*] man, and yield to him after his rightwiseness.

²⁴ If thy people Israel is overcome of enemies, for they shall do sin against thee, and if they converted do penance, and beseech thy name, and pray in this place,

²⁵ thou shalt hear from heaven, and do thou mercy to the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again into the land, which thou hast given to them, and to their fathers.

²⁶ If when heaven is closed, rain come not down for the sin of thy people, and they beseech thee in this place, and acknowledge to thy name, and be turned from their sins, when thou hast tormented them,

²⁷ hear thou, Lord, from heaven, and forgive thou the sins to thy servants, and to thy people Israel, and teach thou them a good way, by which they shall enter, and give thou rain to the land, which thou hast given to thy people to have in possession.

²⁸ If that hunger riseth in the land, and pestilence, and rust, and wind destroying corns, *or crops*, and if that a locust, and *a bruchus cometh*; and if enemies besiege the gates of the city, after that the countries be destroyed; and if *in* any manner vengeance and sickness oppresseth *thy people*;

²⁹ if any of thy people Israel beseech-eth, and knoweth his vengeance, *that is, his sin wherefore he hath deserved vengeance*, and sickness, and if he spreadeth abroad his hands in this house,

³⁰ thou shalt hear from heaven, that is, from thine high dwelling place, and do thou mercy, and yield thou to each man after his ways, which thou knowest, that he hath in his heart; for thou alone knowest the hearts of the sons of men;

³¹ that they dread thee, and go in thy ways in all days, in which they live on the face of [*the*] earth, which thou hast given to our fathers.

³² Also thou shalt hear from heaven, thy most steadfast dwelling place, a stranger, which is not of thy people Israel, if he cometh from a far land for thy great name, and for thy strong hand, and thine arm stretched forth, and prayeth in this place;

³³ and thou shalt do all things, for which that pilgrim inwardly calleth thee, that all the people of earth know thy name, and dread thee, as thy people Israel *doeth*; and that they know, that thy name is called on this house, which I have builded to thy name.

³⁴ If thy people goeth out to battle against his adversaries, by the way in which thou sendest them, they shall worship thee against the way in which this city is *set*, which thou hast chosen, and the house which I [*have*] builded to thy name,

³⁵ that thou hear from heaven their prayers and their beseeching, and do thou vengeance *to their adversaries*.

36 And if they sin against thee, for no man is *alive* that sinneth not, and if thou art wroth with them, and betakest them to their enemies; and enemies lead them prisoners into a far land, either certainly which land is nigh;

37 and if they be converted in their heart in the land, to which they be led prisoners, and they do penance, and beseech thee in the land of their captivity, and say, We have sinned, we have done wickedly, we did unjustly;

38 and if they turn again to thee in all their heart, and in all their soul, in the land of their captivity, to which they be led, *and if* they shall worship thee against the way of their land, which thou hast given to the fathers of them, and *against the way* of the city which thou hast chosen, and of the house which I [*have*] builded to thy name;

39 that thou hear from heaven, that is, from thy steadfast dwelling place, the prayers of them, and that thou make doom, and forgive to thy people, though they be sinful;

40 for thou art my God; I beseech thee, be thine eyes opened, and thine ears be attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.

41 Now therefore, Lord God, rise up into thy rest, thou and the ark of thy strength; Lord God, thy priests be clothed with health, and thy holy men be glad in good things.

42 Lord God, turn thou not away the face of thy christ *or thine anointed*; have thou mind on the mercies of David thy servant.

CHAPTER 7

¹ And when Solomon shedding out his prayers had full ended *them*, fire came down from heaven, and it devoured the burnt sacrifices, and the slain sacrifices; and the majesty, *or shining*, of the Lord full-filled the house.

² And the priests might not enter into the temple of the Lord; for the mighty shining of the Lord had full-filled the temple of the Lord.

³ But also all the sons of Israel saw fire coming down, and the glory of the Lord upon the house, and they felled down low to the earth, upon the pavement arrayed, *or paved*, with stone, and they worshipped, and praised the Lord, For he is good, for his mercy is into the world.

⁴ And the king and all the people offered slain sacrifices before the Lord.

⁵ Therefore king Solomon killed sacrifices of oxen two and twenty thousand, of wethers sixscore thousand; and the king and all the people hallowed the house of God.

⁶ And the priests stood in their offices, and [*the*] deacons [*or Levites*] in organs of songs of the Lord, which king David made to praise the Lord, For his mercy is into the world; and they sang the hymns of David by their hands *in organs and other instruments*; and the priests sang with trumps before them, and all the people of Israel stood.

⁷ Therefore Solomon hallowed the middle of the large place before the temple of the Lord; for he had offered there burnt sacrifices, and the inner fatnesses of peaceable sacrifices, for

the brazen altar which he had made might not sustain, *or hold*, the burnt sacrifices, and slain sacrifices, and inner fatnesses of peaceable sacrifices.

⁸ Therefore Solomon made a solemnity in that time in seven days, and all Israel with him, a full great church, *or congregation*, from the entering of Hamath unto the strand [*or stream*] of Egypt.

⁹ And in the eighth day he made a gathering of money, *that is, for necessities of the temple*, for he had hallowed the altar in seven days, and had made [*the*] solemnity in seven *more* days.

¹⁰ Therefore in the three and twentieth day of the seventh month, he let the peoples go to their tabernacles, joying and gladding upon the goodness that God had done to David, and to Solomon, and to his people Israel.

¹¹ And Solomon performed *or finish-ed* the house of the Lord, and the house of the king, and all things which he had disposed in his heart for to do in the house of the Lord, and in his own house; and he had prosperity.

¹² Forsooth the Lord appeared to him in the night, and said, I have heard thy prayer, and I have chosen this place to me into an house of sacrifice.

¹³ If I close heaven, and rain cometh not down, and if I send, and command to the locust, that he devour the land, and if I send pestilence into my people;

¹⁴ forsooth if my people is converted, on which my name is called, and if it beseecheth me, and seeketh my face, and doeth penance of his full

evil ways, then I shall hear from heaven, and I shall be merciful to the sins of them, and I shall heal the land of them.

¹⁵ And mine eyes shall be opened, and mine ears shall be raised up to the prayer of him, that prayeth in this place;

¹⁶ for I have chosen, and hallowed this place, that my name be there without end, and that mine eyes and mine heart dwell there in all days.

¹⁷ Also if thou goest before me, as David thy father went, and doest by all those things which I commanded to thee, and keepest my rightfulnesses and my dooms,

¹⁸ I shall raise up the throne of thy realm, as I promised to David thy father, and said, A man of thy gener-ation shall not be taken away, that shall be prince in Israel.

¹⁹ But if ye turn away, and forsake my rightfulnesses and my commandments, which I have set forth to you, and ye go, and serve alien gods, and worship them,

²⁰ I shall draw you away from my land, which I gave to you, and I shall cast away from my face this house which I have builded to my name, and I shall give it into a parable, and into ensample to all peoples.

²¹ And this house shall be into a proverb to all men passing forth; and they shall say, wondering *in them-selves*, Why did the Lord so to this land, and to this house?

²² And they shall answer, For they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, that led them out of the land of Egypt, and they took alien gods, and

worship-ped [*them*], and praised them; therefore all these evils came upon them.

CHAPTER 8

¹ Forsooth when twenty years were [*ful*] filled, after that Solomon had builded the house of the Lord, and his own house,

² he builded the cities, which Hiram* had given to Solomon; and he made the sons of Israel to dwell there.

³ Also he went into Hamath of Zobah, and got it.

⁴ And he builded Palmyra in desert, and he builded other full strong cities in Hamath.

⁵ And he builded the higher Beth-horon and the lower Bethhoron, walled cities, having gates, and locks, and bars;

⁶ also *he builded* Baalath, and all the strong cities that were of Solomon; and all the cities of carts, and the cities of knights, king Solomon builded, and disposed all things, whichever he would, in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all the land of his power.

⁷ And Solomon made subject into tributaries till into this day all the people that was left of Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites, that were not of the generations of Israel,

⁸ and of the sons of them, and of the after-comers of them, which the sons of Israel had not slain.

* **CHAPTER 8:2** Also known as Hiram.

⁹ For of the sons of Israel Solomon set not, that they should serve the works of the king; for they were men warriors, and the first, *or chief*, dukes, and princes of his chariots, and of his knights;

¹⁰ and all the princes of the host of king Solomon were two hundred and fifty, that taught, *or ruled*, the people.

¹¹ And Solomon translated *or brought over* the daughter of Pharaoh from the city of David into an house, that he had builded to her; for the king said, My wife shall not dwell in the house of David, king of Israel, for it is hallowed, for the ark of the Lord entered into that house.

¹² Then Solomon offered burnt sacrifices to the Lord on the altar of the Lord, which he had builded before the porch,

¹³ that by all days offering should be offered in it, by the commandment of Moses, in sabbaths, and in calends, and in feast days, thrice by the year, that is, in the solemnity of therf loaves, and in the solemnity of weeks, and in the solemnity of tabernacles.

¹⁴ And he ordained by the ordinance of David, his father, the offices of priests in their services, and the deacons [*or Levites*] in their order, that they should praise and minister before [*the*] priests by the custom of each day; and *he ordained[the]* porters in their partings by gate and gate. For David, the man of God, had commanded so;

¹⁵ and both priests and deacons [*or Levites*] passed not from the command-ments of the king of all things which he had commanded.

¹⁶ And Solomon had all [*the*] costs, or *dispenses*, or *expenses*, made ready in the keepings of [*the*] treasuries, from that day in which he founded the house of the Lord, till into the day in which he performed it.

¹⁷ Then Solomon went into Ezion-geber, and into Elath, at the brink of the Red Sea, which is in the land of Edom.

¹⁸ Therefore Hiram sent to him, by the hands of his servants, ships, and shipmen knowing of the sea, and they went with the servants of Solomon into Ophir, and they took from thence four hundred and fifty talents of gold, and they brought it to king Solomon.

CHAPTER 9

¹ And the queen of Sheba, when she had heard of the fame of Solomon, came into Jerusalem for to assay him in dark figures*, or *likenesses*, with great riches, and camels, that bare sweet smelling spices, and full much of gold, and precious gems, *either pearls*. And when she was come to Solomon, she spake to him whatever things were in her heart.

² And Solomon expounded to her *on* all things which she had put forth *to him*, and nothing was, that he made not open, or *known*, to her.

³ And after that she saw these things, that is, the wisdom of Solomon, and the house that he had builded,

* **CHAPTER 9:1** *Figurative speech is to speak one thing, and to understand another.*

4 also and the meats of his board, and the dwelling places of his servants, and the offices of his ministers, and the clothes of them, and the butlers, and their clothes, and the sacrifices which he offered in the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her for wondering, *for these things passed her understanding.*

5 And she said to the king, The word is true, which I heard in my land, of thy virtue, and [*of thy*] wisdom;

6 I believed not to [*the*] tellers, till I myself had come, and mine eyes had seen, and I had proved that scarcely the half of thy wisdom was told to me; thou hast overcome, *or surpassed*, the fame by thy virtues.

7 Blessed be thy men, and blessed be thy servants, these that stand before thee in all time, and hear thy wisdom.

8 Blessed be the Lord God, that would ordain thee on his throne king of the people of the Lord thy God; truly for God loveth Israel, and will save him without end, therefore he hath set thee king upon him, that thou do dooms and righteousness [*or rightwiseness*].

9 And she gave to the king sixscore talents of gold, and full many sweet smelling spices, and most precious gems; there were not such sweet smelling spices, as these which the queen of Sheba gave to king Solomon.

10 But also the servants of Hiram†, with the servants of Solomon, brought gold from Ophir, and trees of thyine, and most precious gems;

† **CHAPTER 9:10** Also known as Hiram.

¹¹ of which, that is, of the thyine trees, the king made degrees in the house of the Lord, and in the house of the king, and also *he made* harps, and psalteries to singers; such trees were never seen in the land of Judah.

¹² And [*king*] Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all things which she would *or desired*, and which she asked *for*, many more than she had brought to him. And she turned again, and went into her land with her servants.

¹³ And the weight of gold, that was brought to Solomon by each year, was six hundred and six and sixty talents of gold,

¹⁴ besides that sum which the legates of diverse folks, and merchants were wont to bring, and all the kings of Arabia, and the princes of lands, which brought together gold and silver to Solomon.

¹⁵ Therefore king Solomon made two hundred golden spears of the sum of six hundred florins, *either pieces of gold*, that were spende in each spear;

¹⁶ and he made three hundred golden shields of three hundred florins of gold, with which each shield was covered; and the king putted those [*or put them*] in the armoury place, that was set in the woods.

¹⁷ Also the king made a great seat, *or throne*, of ivory, and he covered it with most clean gold;

¹⁸ and *he made* six degrees by which men went up to the seat, and a golden stool, and twain [*or two*] arms, one against the tother, and two lions standing beside the arms;

19 but also *he made* twelve little lions standing upon [*the*] six degrees on ever either side of the throne. Such a throne was not in all realms, *that is, in none of all the realms of the world.*

20 And all the vessels of the feast of the king were of gold, and the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon *were made* of most pure gold; for silver in those days was areckoned for nought.

21 For also the ships of the king went into Tarshish with the servants of Hiram once in three years, and they brought from thence gold, and silver, and ivory, and apes, and peacocks.

22 And king Solomon was magnified over all [*the*] kings of the earth for *his* riches and glory.

23 And all the kings of lands desired to see the face of Solomon, for to hear the wisdom that God had given in his heart;

24 and they brought to him gifts, vessels of silver and of gold, clothes, and armours [*or arms*], and sweet smelling spices, horses and mules, by each year.

25 And Solomon had forty thousand of horses in stables, and twelve thousand of chariots and of knights; and he ordained them in the cities of chariots, and where the king was in Jerusalem.

26 Forsooth he used power on all the kings, from the flood of Euphrates unto the land of Philistines, and unto the terms of Egypt.

27 And he gave so great plenty of silver in Jerusalem, as of stones, and so great multitude of cedar trees, as of sycamores that grow in field places.

²⁸ And horses were brought to Solomon from Egypt, and from all countries.

²⁹ Soothly the residue of the former works and the last of Solomon, be written in the words of Nathan, the prophet, and in the words of Ahijah of Shiloh, and in the vision, *either prophecy*, of Iddo, the prophet, against Jeroboam, the son of Nebat.

³⁰ Soothly Solomon reigned in Jerusalem on all Israel forty years,

³¹ and he slept with his fathers; and they buried him in the city of David, and Rehoboam, his son, reigned for him.

CHAPTER 10

¹ Forsooth Rehoboam went forth into Shechem; for all Israel came together thither to make him king.

² And when Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, that was in Egypt, for he fled thither *from* before Solomon, had heard this, he turned again anon.

³ And they called him, and he came with all Israel, and they spake to Rehoboam, and said,

⁴ Thy father oppressed us with a full hard yoke; command thou lighter things *on us* than thy father, the which set upon us a grievous servage; and release thou a little of *our* burden, that we serve thee.

⁵ And he said, After three days turn ye again to me. And when the people was gone [*away*],

⁶ he took counsel with [*the*] eld [*or old*] men, that stood before his father Solomon, while he

lived yet, and said, What counsel give ye, that I answer to the people?

7 And they said to him, If thou pleasest this people, and makest them soft, *or quietest them*, by meek words, they shall serve thee in all time.

8 And he forsook the counsel of the eld [*or old*] men, and began to treat *this in thought* with young men, that were nourished with him, and were in his company.

9 And he said to them, What seemeth to you? either what thing owe I answer to this people, that said to me, Release thou the yoke, that thy father hath put upon us?

10 And they answered, as young men, and nourished with him in delights, and said, Thus thou shalt speak to the people that said to thee, Thy father made grievous our yoke, release thou *it*; and thus thou shalt answer to them, My least finger is greater than the loins of my father;

11 my father put upon you a grievous yoke, and I shall lay to *you* a greater burden; my father beat you with scourges, but I shall beat you with scorpions, *that is, hard-knotted ropes*.

12 And Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam in the third day, as he had commanded to them.

13 And the king answered hard things, after that he had forsaken the counsel of the elder men,

14 and he spake by the will of the young men, My father putted [*or put*] on you a grievous yoke, which I shall make grievouser; my father beat

you with scourges, soothly I shall beat you with scorpions.

15 And Rehoboam assented not to the prayers of the people; for it was the will of God, that his word should be [*ful*] filled, which he had spoken by the hand of Ahijah of Shiloh to Jero-boam, the son of Nebat.

16 And when the king had said *these* harder things, all the people spake thus to him, No part be to us in David, neither heritage in the son of Jesse; Israel, turn thou again into thy tabernacles; and thou, David, feed thine own house. And Israel went into his tabernacles.

17 And Rehoboam reigned upon the sons of Israel, that dwelled in the cities of Judah.

18 And king Rehoboam sent Hador-am, that was sovereign over the tributes; and the sons of Israel stoned him, and he was dead. And king Rehoboam hasted him to go up into his chariot, and fled into Jerusalem.

19 And Israel went away from the house of David unto this day.

CHAPTER 11

1 Forsooth Rehoboam came into Jerusalem, and he called together all the house of Judah and of Benjamin, unto ninescore thousand of chosen men and warriors, for to fight against Israel, and for to turn again his realm to him.

2 And the word of the Lord was made to Shemaiah, the man of God, and said,

³ Speak thou to Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel, which is in Judah and Benjamin;

⁴ The Lord saith these things, Ye shall not go up, neither ye shall fight against your brethren; each man turn again to his house, for this thing is done by my will. And when they had heard the word of the Lord, they turned again, and went not against king Jeroboam.

⁵ And Rehoboam dwelled in Jeru-salem, and he builded walled cities in Judah;

⁶ and he builded Bethlehem, and Etam, and Tekoa,

⁷ and Bethzur; and Shoco, and Adullam;

⁸ also and Gath, and Mareshah, and Ziph;

⁹ but also Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah;

¹⁰ and Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which were in Judah and Benjamin, full strong cities.

¹¹ And when he had enclosed those [*or them*] with walls, he set [*or put*] princes in them, and barns of meats, that is, of oil, and of wine.

¹² But also in each city he made places of armours of shields, and spears, and he made those [*or them*] strong with most diligence; and he reigned on Judah and Benjamin.

¹³ And the priests and the deacons [*or Levites*], that were in all Israel, came to Rehoboam from all their cities,

¹⁴ and they forsook their suburbs and their possessions, and they passed into Judah and to Jerusalem; for Jeroboam and his after-comers had cast them away, that they should not be set in the priesthood of the Lord;

15 the which *Jeroboam* made to him-[*self*] priests of high places, and of fiends, and of calves, which he had made.

16 But also of all the lineages of Israel, whichever gave their heart to seek the Lord God of Israel, they came to Jerusalem for to offer their sacrifices before the Lord God of their fathers.

17 And they strengthened the realm of Judah, and strengthened Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, by three years; for they went in the ways of David, and of Solomon, only by three years.

18 Forsooth Rehoboam wedded a wife, Mahalath, the daughter of Jerimoth, the son of David, and of Abihail, the daughter of Eliab, the son of Jesse;

19 and she childed to him sons, Jeush, and Shamariah, and Zaham.

20 Also after this *wife* he took Maachah, the daughter of Absalom, and she childed to him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith.

21 And Rehoboam loved Maachah, the daughter of Absalom, above all his wives and his secondary wives. And he had wedded eighteen wives, and he had sixty secondary wives; and he begat eight and twenty sons, and sixty daughters.

22 And he ordained Abijah, the son of Maachah, the head, duke over all his brethren; for he thought to make Abijah king,

23 for *he was* wiser and mightier over all his sons; and in all the coasts of Judah and of Benjamin, and in all the walled cities, *he set his sons*; and he gave to them full many meats, and

he had many wives or he took to them many wives.

CHAPTER 12

¹ And when the realm of Reho-boam was made strong and comforted, he forsook the law of the Lord, and all Israel with him.

² And in the fifth year of the realm of Rehoboam, Shishak, king of Egypt, went up into Jerusalem, for they, *that is, the men of Jerusalem, [had]* sinned against the Lord;

³ and *he ascended* with a thousand and two hundred chariots, and with sixty thousand horsemen, and no number was of the common people, that came with him from Egypt, that is, Libyans, and Troglodytes, and Ethiopians.

⁴ And he took *[the]* full strong cities in Judah, and he came to Jerusalem.

⁵ And Shemaiah, the prophet, entered to Rehoboam, and to the princes of Judah, which, fleeing from Shishak, were gathered together in Jerusalem. And he said to them, The Lord saith these things, Ye have forsaken me, and I have forsaken you in the hand of Shishak.

⁶ And the princes of Israel and the king were astonished, and said, The Lord is just *[or rightwise]*.

⁷ And when the Lord had seen that they were meeked, the word of the Lord was made to Shemaiah, and said, For they be meeked, I shall not destroy them, and I shall give to them a little help, and my strong vengeance shall not drop upon Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak.

⁸ Nevertheless they shall serve him, that they know the diversity of my service, and of the service of the realm of lands.

⁹ Therefore Shishak, the king of Egypt, went away from Jerusalem, after that he had taken away the treasures [*or treasuries*] of the house of the Lord, and of the king's house; and he took all things with him, and the gold shields which Solomon had made,

¹⁰ for which *golden shields* king Rehoboam made brazen shields, and he betook those [*or them*] to the princes of [*the*] shield-makers, that kept the porch of the palace.

¹¹ And when the king entered into the house of the Lord, the shield-makers came, and took those *shields*, and they brought them again to his armoury place.

¹² Nevertheless for they were meeked, the ire of the Lord was turned away from them, and they were not done away utterly; for good works were found also in Judah.

¹³ Therefore king Rehoboam was comforted in Jerusalem, and reigned. And he was of one and forty years, when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the Lord chose of all the lineages of Israel, that he should confirm his name there. And the name of his mother was Naamah *an Ammonitess*.

¹⁴ And he did evil, and he made not ready his heart to seek God.

¹⁵ And the first and the last works of Rehoboam be written, and diligently declared, in the books of Shemaiah the prophet, and of Iddo the

prophet. And Rehoboam and Jeroboam fought in all days against themselves.

¹⁶ And Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David; and Abijah, his son, reigned for him.

CHAPTER 13

¹ In the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam Abijah reigned upon Judah;

² he reigned three years in Jeru-salem; and the name of his mother *was* Michaiiah, the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah. And battle was betwixt Abijah and Jeroboam.

³ And when Abijah had begun battle, and had *with him* most chival-rous men, and four hundred thousand of chosen men, Jeroboam arrayed on the contrary the battle array with eight hundred thousand of men, and they were chosen men, and most strong men to battle.

⁴ And Abijah stood upon the hill Zemaraim, that was in Ephraim, and he said, Hear thou, Jeroboam, and all Israel;

⁵ whether ye know not, that the Lord God of Israel gave to David the realm on Israel without end, to him and to his sons into the covenant of salt, *that is, steadfast and stable?*

⁶ And now Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon, the son of David, hath risen up, and hath rebelled against his lord.

⁷ And most vain men, the sons of Belial, were gathered together to him, and they had might against Rehobo-am, the son of Solomon. Certainly Rehoboam was boistous, *either fond or*

untaught, and of fearedful heart, and might not against-stand them.

⁸ Now therefore ye say, that ye be able to against-stand the realm of the Lord, that he holdeth in possession by the sons of David; and ye have a great multitude of people, and ye have golden calves, which Jeroboam made into gods to you.

⁹ And ye have cast away the priests of the Lord, the sons of Aaron, and the deacons [*or Levites*], and ye have made priests to you, as all the peoples of *other* lands *have priests*; whoever cometh and halloweth his hand in a bull, in oxes [*or oxen*], and in seven wethers, anon he is made priest of them that be not gods.

¹⁰ But our Lord is God, whom we forsake not; and [*the*] priests of the sons of Aaron minister to the Lord, and deacons [*or Levites*] be in their order;

¹¹ and they offer burnt sacrifices to the Lord by each day in the morrow-tide and eventide, and *also* incense made by commandments of the law; and loaves be set forth in a most clean board; and at us is the golden candlestick, and the lantern thereof, that it be tended ever at eventide; and we keep the behests of our God, whom ye have forsaken.

¹² Therefore God is duke in our host, and his priests, that trump and sound against you; do not ye, sons of Israel, fight against the Lord God of your fathers, for it speedeth not to you.

¹³ While Abijah spake these things, Jeroboam made ready treasons behind; and when Jer-

oboam stood even against his enemies, he encompassed *them* with his host, Judah unwitting.

14 And Judah beheld, and he saw battle nigh even against *before* them, and behind *their* back; and he cried to the Lord, and [*the*] priests began to trump.

15 And all the men of Judah cried out, and, lo! while they cried on high, God made afear'd Jeroboam and all Israel, that stood even [*or over*] against Judah and Abijah.

16 And the men of Israel fled from Judah, and God betook them into the hands of the men of Judah.

17 Therefore Abijah and his people smote them with a great wound, and there felled down of them five hundred thousand of strong men wounded.

18 And the sons of Israel were made low in that time, and the sons of Judah were comforted full greatly, for they had hoped in the Lord God of their fathers.

19 And Abijah pursued Jeroboam fleeing, and took his cities, *that is*, Bethel and his villages, and Jeshanah with his villages, and Ephron and his villages;

20 and Jeroboam might no more against-stand *Judah* in the days of Abijah, whom the Lord smote, and he was dead.

21 Therefore Abijah, when his empire was comforted, took fourteen wives, and he begat two and twenty sons, and sixteen daughters.

²² The residue of [*the*] words of Abijah, and of his ways and his works, be written full diligently in the book of Iddo, the prophet.

CHAPTER 14

¹ And Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David; and Asa, his son, reigned for him. In whose days the land rested in peace ten years.

² And Asa did that, that was good and pleasant in the sight of his God,

³ and he destroyed the altars of strange worshipping, *that is, of idolatry*, and the high places, and brake alto-gether the images, and cutted down [*the*] maumet woods;

⁴ and he commanded Judah to seek the Lord God of their fathers, and to do the law and all [*the*] commandments.

⁵ And he took away from all the cities of Judah altars and temples of idols, and he reigned in peace.

⁶ And he builded strong cities in Judah; for he was in rest, and no battles rose in his times, for the Lord gave him peace.

⁷ And Asa said to Judah, Build we [*up*] these cities, and encompass we *them* with walls, and strengthen we *them* with towers, and gates, and locks, as long as all things be restful from battle; for we have sought the Lord God of our fathers, and he hath given to us rest by compass. Therefore they builded, and there was no hindering in the building.

⁸ And Asa had in his host three hundred thousand of men of Judah bearing shields and spears; and of Benjamin, he had two hundred thousand and fourscore thousand of shield-bearers and of archers; all these *were* full strong men.

⁹ Forsooth Zerah of Ethiopia went out against them with his host of ten hundred thousand, and with three hundred chariots, and came unto Mareshah.

¹⁰ Certainly Asa went out against *them*, and *they* arrayed battle array in the valley of Zephathah, which is beside Mareshah.

¹¹ And Asa inwardly called the Lord God, and said, Lord, no diversity is with thee, whether thou help in few, either in many; our Lord God, help thou us, for we have trust in thee, and in thy name, and we came against this multitude; Lord, thou art our God, a man have not the mastery against thee.

¹² Therefore the Lord made afeared Ethiopians before Asa and Judah, and Ethiopians fled;

¹³ and Asa and his people, that was with him, pursued them unto Gerar. And Ethiopians felled down to death, for they were all-broken by the Lord slaying, and by his host fighting. Then they took many spoils,

¹⁴ and they smote all the cities about Gerar; for great dread had assailed all men. And they spoiled or rifled the cities, and bare away much prey;

¹⁵ and also they destroyed the folds of sheep, and they took multitude without number of

sheep and of camels, and they turned again into Jerusalem.

CHAPTER 15

¹ Forsooth Azariah, the son of Oded, when the spirit of the Lord was come into him,

² he went out into the meeting of Asa; and said to him, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin, hear ye me; the Lord *is* with you, for ye were with him; if ye seek him, ye shall find *him*; soothly if ye forsake him, he shall forsake you.

³ Forsooth many days shall pass in Israel without very God, and without priest, and without teacher, and without law.

⁴ And when they turn again in their anguish, and cry to the Lord God of Israel, and seek him, they shall find him.

⁵ In that time [*there*] shall not be peace to go out and to go in, but dreads on all sides on all the dwellers of the land.

⁶ For folk shall fight against folk, and a city against a city, for the Lord shall disturb [*or trouble*] them in all anguish;

⁷ but be ye comforted, and your hands be not slacked; for meed shall be to your work.

⁸ And when Asa had heard this thing, that is, the words and [*the*] prophecy of Azariah, the son of Oded, the prophet, he was comforted, and he did away all the idols from all the land of Judah and of Benjamin, and from the cities which he had taken of the hill of Ephraim. And he hallowed the altar of the Lord, that was before the porch of the house of the Lord.

⁹ And he gathered together all Judah and Benjamin, and with them the comelings of Ephraim, and of Manasseh, and of Simeon; for many of Israel, seeing that his Lord God was with him, fled over to him.

¹⁰ And when they had come into Jerusalem, in the third month, in the fifteen year of the realm of Asa,

¹¹ they offered to the Lord in that day, both of the spoils and of the prey, which they had brought, seven hundred oxen, and seven thousand wethers.

¹² And Asa entered by custom to make strong the bond of peace, that they should seek the Lord God of their fathers in all their heart, and in all their soul.

¹³ And *the king* said, If any man seeketh not the Lord God of Israel, die he, from the least unto the most, from man unto woman.

¹⁴ And all that were in Judah swore with cursing to the Lord, *that is, oblig-ing themselves to cursing and pain of death, if they did against the oath*, with [a] great voice, in hearty song, and in sound of trump, and in sound of clarions;

¹⁵ for they swore in all their heart, and in all their will they sought him, and found him; and the Lord gave to them rest by compass.

¹⁶ But also he put down Maachah, the grandmother of Asa the king, *that is, his own grandmother*, from the strait empire, for she had made in a wood a simulacrum, *or a likeness*, of a man's rod; and he all-brake that simulacrum,

and pounded *it* into gobbets, and burnt it in the strand [*or stream*] of Kidron.

¹⁷ But yet [*the*] high places were left in Israel; nevertheless the heart of Asa was rightful in all his days.

¹⁸ And he brought into the house of the Lord those things that his father [*had*] avowed, silver and gold, and diverse appurtenance of vessels;

¹⁹ and battle was not unto the five and thirtieth year of the realm of Asa.

CHAPTER 16

¹ Forsooth in the six and thirtieth year of his realm, Baasha, king of Israel, went up into Judah, and en-compassed Ramah with a wall, that no man of the realm of Asa might go out, either enter in securely.

² And Asa brought forth gold and silver from the treasures [*or treasuries*] of the house of the Lord, and from the king's treasures [*or treasuries*]; and sent to Benhadad, king of Syria, that dwelled in Damascus, and said,

³ Bond of peace is betwixt me and thee, and my father and thy father had accord together; wherefore I have sent to thee silver and gold, that when thou hast broken the bond of peace, which thou hast with Baasha, king of Israel, thou make him to go away from me.

⁴ And when this was found *accept-able*, Benhadad sent the princes of his hosts to the cities of Israel, which smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abelmaim, and all the walled cities of Naphtali.

⁵ And when Baasha had heard this, he ceased to build Ramah, and left [*off*] his work.

⁶ And king Asa took all Judah, and they took from Ramah the stones, and [*the*] wood, which Baasha had made ready to building; and he builded of those Geba, and Mizpah.

⁷ In that time Hanani, the prophet, came to Asa, king of Judah, and said to him, For-thy that thou haddest trust in the king of Syria, and not in the Lord thy God, therefore the host of the king of Syria escaped from thine hand.

⁸ Whether Ethiopians and Libyans were not many more in chariots, and knights, and in full great multitude; which, when thou haddest believed to the Lord, he betook them into thine hands?

⁹ For the eyes of the Lord behold all the earth, and give strength to them, that with perfect heart believe into him. Therefore thou hast done follily, and for this *trust in men*, yea, in *this* present time battles shall rise against thee.

¹⁰ And Asa was wroth against the prophet, and commanded him to be sent into the stocks. Forsooth the Lord had indignation greatly upon this thing, and he killed full many of the people in that time.

¹¹ Soothly the first and [*the*] last works of Asa be written in the book of [*the*] kings of Judah and of Israel.

¹² And Asa was sick full greatly in the aching of *his* feet, in the nine and thirtieth year of his realm; and neither in his sickness he sought the Lord, but he trusted more in the craft of leeches.

¹³ And Asa slept with his fathers, and was dead in the one and fortieth year of his realm.

¹⁴ And they buried him in his sep-ulchre, which he had made to himself in the city of David; and they put him on his bed full of sweet smelling spices and ointments of whores, that where made altogether by the craft of ointment makers, and they burnt *these* upon him with full great cost.

CHAPTER 17

¹ Forsooth Jehoshaphat, his son, reigned for him; and he had the mastery against Israel.

² And he set numbers of knights in all the cities of Judah, that were encompassed with walls, and he disposed strongholds in the land of Judah, and in the cities of Ephraim, which Asa, his father, had taken.

³ And the Lord was with Jehosh-aphat, which went in the first ways of David, his father; he hoped not in Baalim,

⁴ but *he hoped* in the Lord God of David, his father, and he went in the commandments of God, and not after the sins of Israel.

⁵ And the Lord confirmed the realm in his hand; and all Judah gave gifts to Jehoshaphat, and riches without num-ber, and much glory was made to him.

⁶ And when his heart had taken hardiness for the ways of the Lord, he took away also high places and [*maumet*] woods from Judah.

⁷ And in the third year of his realm, he sent of his princes, Ben-hail, and Obadiah, and

Zechariah, and Nethane-el, and Michaiah, that they should teach in the cities of Judah;

⁸ and with them *he sent nine deacons [or Levites], that is, Shemaiah, and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Toba-donijah, deacons [or Levites];* and with them Elishama and Jehoram, priests;

⁹ and they taught the people in Judah, and had the book of the law of the Lord; and they compassed all the cities of Judah, and taught all the people.

¹⁰ Therefore the dread of the Lord was made upon all the realms of lands, that were about Judah; and those durst not fight [*or they were not hardy to fight*] against Jehoshaphat.

¹¹ But also [*the*] Philistines brought gifts to Jehoshaphat, and toll, *or tribute*, of silver; and men of Arabia brought *to him* sheep, seven thousand and seven hundred wethers, and so many bucks of goats.

¹² Then Jehoshaphat increased, and was magnified till to on high; and he builded in Judah houses at the like-ness of towers, and full strong cities;

¹³ and he made ready many works in the cities of Judah. Also men warriors and strong men were in Jerusalem;

¹⁴ of which this is the number, by the houses and meines of all *men* in Judah. Duke Adnah *was* prince of the host, and with him were three hundred thousand full strong men.

¹⁵ And after him was Jehohanan prince, and with him *were* two hundred thousand and fourscore thousand *men*.

¹⁶ After this also Amasiah, the son of Zichri, *was* hallowed to the Lord, and with him *were* two hundred thousand of strong men.

¹⁷ *And of Benjamin*; Eliada, a mighty *man* to battles, pursued [*or followed*] this *Amasiah*, and with him *were* two hundred thousand of men holding bow and shield.

¹⁸ After this *was* also Jehozabad, and with him *were* an hundred thousand and fourscore thousand of ready knights.

¹⁹ All these were at the hand of the king, besides others, which he had put in walled cities in all Judah.

CHAPTER 18

¹ Forsooth Jehoshaphat was full rich, and noble, and by affinity he was joined to Ahab.

² And after *certain* years *Jehosh-aphat* came down to *Ahab* into Samaria; at whose coming Ahab killed full many wethers and oxen, and to the people that came with him; and *Ahab* counselled *Jehosh-aphat* to go up *with him* into Ramoth of Gilead.

³ And Ahab, king of Israel, said to Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, Come thou with me into Ramoth of Gilead. To whom he answered, As and I am, so and thou art; and as thy people, so and my people; and we shall be with thee in battle.

⁴ And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I beseech *thee*, counsel thou in *this* present time the word of the Lord.

⁵ Therefore the king of Israel gathered together four hundred men of prophets, and said to them, Owe we to go into Ramoth of Gilead for to fight, either take rest? And *the prophets* said, Go ye up, and God shall betake *it* into the hand of the king.

⁶ And Jehoshaphat said, Whether no *other* prophet of the Lord is here, that we may also ask of him?

⁷ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, One man is, of whom we may ask the will of the Lord, but I hate him, for he prophesieth not good, but evil to me, in all time; soothly it is Micaiah, the son of Imla. And Jehoshaphat said to him, King, speak thou not in this manner.

⁸ Then the king of Israel called one of his geldings, *or his honest and chaste servants*, and said to him, Call thou anon Micaiah, the son of Imla.

⁹ And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, sat ever either in his seat, and they were clothed in king's array; and they sat in the corn-floor, beside the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them.

¹⁰ And Zedekiah, the son of Chena-anah, made to him iron horns, and said, The Lord saith these things, With these, thou shalt winnow *the men of Syria*, till thou all-brake *them*.

¹¹ And all the prophets prophesied in like manner, and said, Go thou up into Ramoth of Gilead, and thou shalt have prosperity; and the Lord shall betake them into the hands of the king.

¹² And the messenger, that went to call Micaiah, said to him, Lo! the words of all the

prophets tell with one mouth good things to the king; therefore, I pray thee, that thy word dissent not from them, and that thou speak prosperities *to him*.

¹³ To whom Micaiah answered, The Lord liveth, for whatever things my Lord *God* speaketh to me, I shall say those things.

¹⁴ Therefore he came to the king. To whom the king said, Micaiah, owe we go into Ramoth of Gilead to fight, either take rest, *and not to go thither?* To whom Micaiah answered, Go ye up *thither*, for all prosperities shall come *to you*, and [*the*] enemies shall be taken into your hands.

¹⁵ And the king said *to him*, Again and again I charge thee, that thou speak not to me no but that that is sooth in the name of the Lord.

¹⁶ And he said, I saw all Israel scattered abroad in the hills, as sheep without a shepherd. And the Lord said, These men have not lords; each man *therefore* turn again into his house in peace.

¹⁷ The king of Israel said to Jehosh-aphat, Whether I said not to thee, that he prophesied not any good to me, but those things that be evil?

¹⁸ And then *Micaiah* said, Hear ye the word of the Lord. I saw the Lord sitting in his throne, and all the host of heaven standing nigh [*to*] him at the right side and *at the* left.

¹⁹ And the Lord said, Who shall deceive Ahab, king of Israel, that he go up, and fall down in Ramoth of Gilead? And when one said in this manner, and another said in another manner,

²⁰ a spirit came forth, and stood before the Lord, and said, I shall deceive him. To whom

the Lord said, And wherein shalt thou deceive *him*?

²¹ And he answered, I shall go out, and I shall be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And the Lord said, Thou shalt deceive *him*, and thou shalt have the mastery; go thou out, and do so.

²² Now therefore, lo! the Lord hath given a spirit of leasing in the mouth of all thy prophets, and the Lord hath spoken evil things of thee, *that is, he hath said of the evil things to come to thee.*

²³ And Zedekiah, the son of Chena-anah, nighed, and he smote Micaiah upon the cheek, and said, By what way hath the Spirit of the Lord passed from me to speak with thee?

²⁴ And Micaiah said, Thou thyself shalt see in that day, when thou shalt enter from closet into closet, that thou be hid.

²⁵ And the king of Israel commanded, saying, Take ye Micaiah, and lead ye him to Amon, *[the]* prince of the city, and to Joash, the son of Amalek *or of Ahab*;

²⁶ and ye shall say *to them*, The king saith these things, Send ye this man into prison, and give ye to him a little of bread, and a little of water, till I turn again in peace.

²⁷ And Micaiah said, If thou turnest again in peace, the Lord spake not to me. And he said, All peoples hear ye.

²⁸ Then the king of Israel, and Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, went up into Ramoth of Gilead.

²⁹ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, I shall change *my* cloth-ing, and so I shall go to

fight; but be thou clothed in thy *king's* clothes. Therefore when the king of Israel had changed clothing, he came to battle.

³⁰ And the king of Syria command-ed to the dukes of the multitude of his knights, and said, Fight ye not against the least, nor against the most; but against the king alone of Israel.

³¹ Therefore when the princes of the multitude of knights had seen Jehosh-aphat, they said, This is the king of Israel; and they encompassed him, and fought *against him*. And Jehosh-aphat cried to the Lord; and the Lord helped him, and turned them away from him.

³² And when the dukes of the multitude of knights had heard, *or understood*, that it was not the king of Israel, they left him or let him go.

³³ And it befelled, that one man of the people shot an arrow into uncer-tainty, and he smote the king of Israel betwixt the neck and the shoulders. And he said to his charioteer, Turn thine hand, and lead me out of the battle array; for I am wounded.

³⁴ And the battle was ended in that day. Certainly the king of Israel stood in his chariot against men of Syria till to eventide, and he died, when the sun went down.

CHAPTER 19

¹ Forsooth Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, turned again peaceably into his house into Jerusalem.

² Whom the prophet Jehu, the son of Hanani met, and said to him, Thou givest help to a wicked man, and thou art joined by friendship

to them that hate the Lord; and therefore soothly thou deservedest the wrath of the Lord;

³ but good works be found in thee, for thou hast done away [*the*] maumet woods from the land of Judah, and thou hast made ready thine heart, for to seek the Lord God of thy fathers.

⁴ Therefore Jehoshaphat dwelled in Jerusalem; and again he went out to the people from Beersheba to the hill of Ephraim, and he called them again to the Lord God of their fathers.

⁵ And he ordained judges of the land in all the strengthened cities of Judah, by each place.

⁶ And he commanded to the judges, and said *to them*, See ye, *that is*, *be ye ware*, what ye do; for ye use not the doom of man, but *the doom* of the Lord; and whatever thing ye deem *unjustly*, it shall turn against you;

⁷ the dread of the Lord be with you, and do ye all things with diligence, *that is*, *with discretion*; forsooth with the Lord your God is no wickedness, neither taking, *or accepting*, of persons, neither covetousness of gifts.

⁸ And also in Jerusalem Jehoshaphat ordained deacons [*or Levites*], and priests, and the princes of the meines of Israel, that they should deem the doom and the cause of the Lord, to the dwellers of Jerusalem.

⁹ And he commanded to them, and said, Thus ye shall do in the dread of the Lord, faithfully, and in perfect heart.

¹⁰ Each cause that cometh to you of your brethren, that dwell in their cities, betwixt kindred and kindred, wher-ever is question of

the law, of the commandment, *or* of ceremonies, *either sacrifices, or* of justifying, show ye to them, that they do not sin against the Lord, and that wrath *of the Lord* come not upon you, and upon your brethren. Therefore ye doing thus shall not do sin.

¹¹ And Amariah, your priest and bishop, shall be sovereign in these things, that pertain to God. And Zeba-diah, the son of Ishmael, that is duke in the house of Judah, shall be *sovereign* upon the works that pertain to the office of the king, and ye have master deacons [*or Levites*] before you; be ye comforted, and do ye diligently, *that is, studiously, or busily*, and the Lord shall be with you in goods.

CHAPTER 20

¹ After these things the sons of Moab, and the sons of Ammon, and with them Idumeans, were gathered together, *and they came* to Jehoshaphat, for to fight against him.

² And messengers came, and showed *this* to Jehoshaphat, saying, A great multitude of those places that be beyond the sea, and of Syria, is come against thee; and lo! they stand *together* in Hazazontamar, which is Engedi.

³ Forsooth Jehoshaphat was afeared by dread, and gave himself all for to pray the Lord, and preached fasting to all Judah.

⁴ And Judah was gathered together for to pray the Lord, and also all men came from their cities for to beseech him.

⁵ And when Jehoshaphat had stood in the midst of the company of Judah and of Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new large place *of the temple*,

⁶ he said, Lord God of our fathers, thou art God in heaven, and thou art Lord of all realms of folks; strength and power be in thine hand, and none may against-stand thee.

⁷ Whether not thou, our God, hast slain all the dwellers of this land before thy people Israel, and hast given it to the seed of Abraham, thy friend, with-out end?

⁸ And they dwelled therein, and builded therein a saintuary to thy name, and said,

⁹ If evils come [*up*] on us, the sword of doom, pestilence, or hunger, we shall stand before this house without end in thy sight, in which house thy name is called, and we shall cry to thee in our tribulations; and thou shalt hear us, and shalt make us safe.

¹⁰ Now therefore lo! the sons of Ammon, and of Moab, and the hill of Seir, by whom thou grantedest not to the sons of Israel for to pass *through their lands*, when they went out of Egypt, but they bowed away from them, and killed not them,

¹¹ *but* they do on the contrary, and endeavour to cast us out of the possession, which thou, our God, hast given to us;

¹² therefore whether thou, *Lord*, shalt not deem them? Truly in us is not so great strength, that we may against-stand this multitude, that falleth in upon us; but since we know not what

we owe to do, we, the residue, have *this* only, that we dress our eyes to thee.

¹³ And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little children, and their wives, and with their free children.

¹⁴ And Jahaziel, the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, was a deacon [*or Levite*], and of the sons of Asaph, upon whom the Spirit of the Lord was made in the midst of the company,

¹⁵ and he said, All Judah, and ye that dwell in Jerusalem, and thou, king Jehoshaphat, perceive ye, *or taketh heed*, The Lord saith these things to you, Do not ye dread, neither be ye afeared of this multitude, for it is not your battle, but God's battle.

¹⁶ Tomorrow ye shall go up against them; for they shall go up by the side of the hill, called Ziz by name, and ye shall find them in the height of the strand [*or stream*], that is against the wilderness of Jeruel.

¹⁷ For it shall not be ye, that shall fight; but only stand ye trustily, and ye shall see the help of the Lord upon you. O! Judah and Jerusalem, do not ye dread, neither be ye afeared; tomorrow ye shall go out against them, and the Lord shall be with you.

¹⁸ Therefore Jehoshaphat, and Judah, and all the dwellers of Jerusalem, fell lowly upon the earth before the Lord, and worshipped him.

¹⁹ And the deacons [*or Levites*] of the sons of Kohath, and of the sons of Korah, praised the Lord God of Israel with [*a*] great voice on high.

²⁰ And when *upon the morrow* they had risen early, they went out by the desert of Tekoa; and when they had gone forth, Jehoshaphat stood in the midst of them, and said, Judah, and all the dwellers of Jerusalem, hear ye me; believe ye in the Lord your God, and ye shall be secure; believe ye to his prophets, and all prosperities shall come *to you*.

²¹ And he gave counsel to the people, and he ordained the singers of the Lord, that they should praise him in their companies, and that they should go before the host, and say with according voice, Acknowledge ye to the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy is without end.

²² And when they began to sing praisings, the Lord turned the ambush-ments of them against themselves, that is, of the sons of Ammon, and of Moab, and of the hill of Seir, which went out to fight against Judah; and they were slain.

²³ For why the sons of Ammon and of Moab rose together against the dwellers of the hill of Seir, to slay, and to do away them; and when they had done this thing in work, they were *then* also turned against them-selves, and they fell down together by wounds, each *slaying* other.

²⁴ Certainly when Judah was come to the den, that beholdeth, *or is over against*, the wilderness, he saw afar all the large country full of dead bodies, and that none was left, that might escape death.

²⁵ Therefore Jehoshaphat came, and all the people with him, to draw away the spoils of *[the]* dead men, and they found among the

dead bodies diverse appurtenance of household, and clothes, and full precious vessels; and they ravished, *or took those things away*, in diverse manners, so that they might not bear all things, neither they might take away the spoils by three days, for the greatness of *[the]* prey.

²⁶ Soothly in the fourth day they were gathered together in the valley of Blessing; for-thy that they blessed the Lord there, they called that place the valley of Blessing, unto this present day.

²⁷ And each man of Judah turned again, and the dwellers of Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat *went* before them, into Jerusalem with great gladness; for the Lord God had given to them joy of their enemies.

²⁸ And they entered into Jerusalem with psalteries, and harps, and trumps, into the house of the Lord.

²⁹ Forsooth the dread of the Lord felled *[or fell]* on all the realms of lands, when they had heard, that the Lord had fought against the enemies of Israel.

³⁰ And the realm of Jehoshaphat rested *from war*; and the Lord gave peace to him all about.

³¹ And Jehoshaphat reigned upon Judah; and he was of five and thirty years, when he began to reign; and he reigned five and twenty years in Jerusalem; and the name of his mother *was* Azubah, the daughter of Shilhi.

³² And he went in the way of Asa his father, and bowed not from it, and he did whatever things were pleasant before the Lord.

³³ Nevertheless he did not away the high places; *and* yet the people had not dressed their heart to the Lord God of their fathers.

³⁴ Forsooth the residue of the former and the last deeds of Jehoshaphat be written in the book of Jehu, the son of Hanani, which he ordained in the book of [*the*] kings of Israel.

³⁵ After these things Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, made friendships with Ahaziah, king of Israel, whose works were full evil or most evil;

³⁶ and he was partner *to him*, and they made ships, which should go into Tarshish; and they made one ship *to go* into Eziongaber.

³⁷ And Eliezer, the son of Dodavah, of Mare-shah, prophesied to Jehoshaphat, and said, For thou hast had bond of peace with Ahaziah, the Lord hath destroyed thy works; and the ships be broken, and [*they*] might not go into Tarshish.

CHAPTER 21

¹ And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with them in the city of David; and Jehoram*, his son, reigned for him.

² And he had brethren, the sons of Jehoshaphat, Azariah, Jehiel, and Zech-ariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah; all these *were* the sons of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah.

³ And their father gave to them many gifts of gold and of silver, and *he gave them* pensions, *or rents*, with full strong cities in Judah; but he gave the realm to Jehoram, for he was his first begotten son.

* **CHAPTER 21:1** Also known as Joram.

⁴ And Jehoram rose up on the realm of his father; and when he had con-firmed himself *in the realm*, he slew all his brethren by sword, and *also* some of the princes of Judah.

⁵ Jehoram was of two and thirty years, when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

⁶ And he went in the ways of the kings of Israel, as the house of Ahab had done, for the daughter of Ahab was his wife; and he did evil in the sight of the Lord.

⁷ But the Lord would not destroy the house of David, for the covenant which he had made with David, and for he had promised to give to him a lantern, and to his sons, in all time.

⁸ In those days Edom rebelled, so that it was not subject to Judah, and it ordained a king to itself.

⁹ And when Jehoram had passed forth with his princes, and all the multitude of knights, that was with him, he rose up by night, and smote Edom, that encompassed him, and all the dukes of his multitude of knights.

¹⁰ Nevertheless Edom rebelled, that it was not under the lordship of Judah unto this day. In that time also Libnah went away, that it was not under the hand of him; for he had forsaken the Lord God of his fathers.

¹¹ Furthermore he made high places in the cities of Judah, and made the dwellers of Jerusalem to do fornication, *that is, idolatry*, and Judah to break the law.

12 And letters were brought to him from Elijah, the prophet, in which it was written, The Lord God of David, thy father, saith these things, For that thou hast not gone in the ways of Jehoshaphat, thy father, and in the ways of Asa, king of Judah,

13 but thou hast gone by the way of the kings of Israel, and thou hast made Judah and the dwellers of Jerusalem to do fornication, and thou hast pur-sued [*or following*] the fornication of the house of Ahab; furthermore and thou hast slain thy brethren in the house of thy father, *that is, princes of the house of thy father, which were better than thou;*

14 lo! the Lord shall smite thee with a great vengeance, and thy people, and thy sons, and thy wives, and all thy chattel [*or substance*];

15 and thou shalt be sick with the worst sorrow of thy womb, till that thine entrails go out little and little by each day.

16 Therefore the Lord raised up against Jehoram the spirit of Philistines, and of Arabians, that march with Ethiopians;

17 and these went up into the land of Judah, and they wasted it, and they took away all the substance, that was found in the house of the king, furthermore and his sons, and his wives *they took away*; and no son was left to him, but Jehoahaz, that was his least *or youngest son* in birth.

18 And over all these things the Lord smote him with incurable sorrow of the womb.

¹⁹ And when day came after day, and the spaces of time were turned about, the course of two years was fulfilled; and so he was wasted by long rot, so that he casted out also his own entrails, and so he wanted sorrow and life together, and he was dead in the worst sickness. And the people did not to him [*the*] service of dead men by the custom of burning, as it had done to his greaters, *either ancestors*.

²⁰ He was of two and thirty years when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem, and he went not rightfully; and they buried him in the city of David, nevertheless not in the sepulchres of kings.

CHAPTER 22

¹ Forsooth the dwellers of Jerusalem ordained Ahaziah, the youngest son of Jehoram*, *to be* king for him; for the thieves of Arabia, that felled into the castles [*or tents*] of Judah, had slain all his greater *or elder brethren*, which were *begotten* before him. And Ahaziah, the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, reigned.

² Ahaziah was of two and forty *or twenty* years *old*, when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem; the name of his mother was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri.

³ But he entered by the way of the house of Ahab; for his mother compelled him to do evil.

⁴ Therefore he did evil in the sight of the Lord, as the house of Ahab; for they were counsellors

* **CHAPTER 22:1** Also known as Joram.

to him into his perishing, after the death of his father;

⁵ and he went in the counsel of them. And he went with Joram[†], the son of Ahab, king of Israel, into battle against Hazael, king of Syria, into Ramoth of Gilead. And men of Syria wounded Joram;

⁶ which turned again for to be healed in Jezreel; for he had taken many wounds in the foresaid battle. Therefore Ahaziah[‡], king of Judah, the son of Jehoram, went down to visit Joram, the son of Ahab, *that was* sick in Jezreel;

⁷ for it was God's will against Ahaziah, that he came to Joram. And when he was come, he went out with him against Jehu, the son of Nimshi, whom God anointed, that he should do away the house of Ahab.

⁸ Therefore when Jehu destroyed the house of Ahab, he found the princes of Judah, and the sons of the brethren of Ahaziah, that ministered to him; and he killed them.

⁹ And he sought that Ahaziah, and caught him hid in Samaria, and after that he was brought to Jehu, Jehu killed him; and they buried him, for he was the son of Jehoshaphat, that had sought God in all his heart. And none hope was more, that any of the generation of Ahaziah should reign.

¹⁰ And Athaliah, the mother of Ahaz-iah, saw that her son was dead, and she rose up, and

[†] **CHAPTER 22:5** Also known as Jehoram(!). [‡] **CHAPTER 22:6** Here the *KJV* erroneously has Azariah.

killed all the king's generation of the house of Jehoram.

¹¹ Forsooth Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash, the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from the midst of the sons of the king, when they were slain; and she hid him with his nurse in a closet of beds [*or bed place*]. For Jehoshabeath, that hid him, was the daughter of king Jehoram, and wife of Jehoiada, the bishop, and the sister of Ahaziah; and therefore Athaliah killed not her.

¹² Therefore he was hid with them in the house of God six years, in which Athaliah reigned on the land.

CHAPTER 23

¹ Forsooth in the seventh year Jehoi-ada was comforted, and took [*the*] centurions, that is, Azariah, the son of Jeroham, and Ishmael, the son of Jehohanan, and Azariah, the son of Obed, and Maaseiah, the son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat, the son of Zichri; and he made with them a counsel and a bond of peace.

² The which compassed Judah, and gathered together deacons [*or Levites*] of all the cities of Judah, and the princes of the families of Israel, and they came into Jerusalem.

³ And all the multitude made covenant in the house of the Lord with the king. And Jehoiada said to them, Lo! *Joash* the son of the king shall reign, as the Lord spake on the sons of David.

⁴ Therefore this is the word, that ye shall do. The third part of you that be come to the sabbath,

of priests, and of deacons [*or Levites*], and of porters, shall be in the gates;

⁵ and a third part shall be at the house of the king; and the *other* third part shall be at the gate, *which is called* of the fundament. And all the other common people be in the large places of the house of the Lord;

⁶ and none other man enter into the house of the Lord, no but [*the*] priests, and they that minister of the deacons [*or Levites*]; only enter they, that be hallowed, and all the other common people keep *they* the keep-ings of the Lord.

⁷ Forsooth the deacons [*or Levites*] encompass the king, and each man have his armours [*or arms*]; and if any other man entereth into the temple, be he slain; and be they with the king entering and going out.

⁸ Therefore the deacons [*or Levites*] and all Judah did by all things which Jehoiada, the bishop, had commanded; and all took the men, that were with them, and came by the order of [*the*] sabbath with them, that had [*ful*] filled now the sabbath, and should go out. For Jehoiada, the bishop, suffered not the companies to go away, that were wont to come one after the tother by each week.

⁹ And Jehoiada, the priest, gave to the centurions spears, and shields, and bucklers, of king David, which he had hallowed in the house of the Lord.

¹⁰ And he ordained all the people, of them that held swords, at the right side of the temple unto

the left side of the temple, before the altar and the temple, by compass of the king.

¹¹ And they led out *Joash* the son of the king, and they set a diadem upon his head; and they gave to him in his hand the law to be holden, and they made him king. And Jehoiada, the bishop, and his sons, anointed him; and they prayed heartily, and said, The king live!

¹² And when Athaliah had heard this thing, that is, the voice of men running and praising the king, she entered in to the people, into the temple of the Lord.

¹³ And when she had seen the king, standing on the degrees in the entering *of the temple*, and the princes and the companies of knights about him, and all the people of the land joying, and sounding with trumps, and singing together with organs of diverse kind, and the voice of men praising, she rent her clothes, and said, Treasons! treasons!

¹⁴ And Jehoiada, the bishop, went out to the centurions, and to the princes of the host, and said to them, Lead ye her without the precincts, *either enclosings*, of the temple, and be she slain withoutforth by sword; and the priest commanded, that she should not be slain in the house of the Lord.

¹⁵ And they setted [*or put*] hands on her noll; and when she had entered into the gate of the horses, of the king's house, they killed her there.

¹⁶ Forsooth Jehoiada covenanted a bond of peace betwixt himself and all the people and the king, that it should be the people of the Lord.

17 Therefore all the people entered into the house of Baal, and they destroyed it, and they brake the altars and the simulacra thereof; but they killed before the altars Mattan, the priest of Baal.

18 And Jehoiada ordained sovereigns in the house of the Lord, that under the hands of priests, and of deacons [*or Levites*], which David parted in the house of the Lord, they should offer burnt sacrifices to the Lord, as it is written in the book of Moses, in joy and in songs, by the ordinance of David.

19 Also he ordained porters in the gates of the house of the Lord, that an unclean man in anything should not enter into it.

20 And he took the centurions, and the strongest men, and princes of the people, and all the common people of the land. And they made the king to go down from the house of the Lord, and to enter by the midst of the higher gate into the house of the king; and they set him in the king's throne.

21 And all the people of the land was glad, and the city rested; forsooth Athaliah was slain by sword.

CHAPTER 24

1 Joash was of seven years, when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem; the name of his mother was Zibiah of Beersheba.

2 And he did that, that was good before the Lord, in all the days of Jehoiada, the priest.

3 And Joash took two wives, of which he begat sons and daughters.

⁴ And after which things it pleased Joash to repair the house of the Lord.

⁵ And he gathered together [*the*] priests and deacons [*or Levites*], and said to them, Go ye out to the cities of Judah, and gather ye of all Israel money, to the repairing of the temple of your Lord God, by each year; and do ye this *thing* hastily. Certainly the deacons did *this thing* negligently.

⁶ And the king called Jehoiada, the prince of *priests*, and said to him, Why was it not *a* charge to thee, to constrain the deacons [*or Levites*] to bring in money of Judah and of Jerusalem, which money was ordained of Moses, the servant of the Lord, that all the multitude of Israel should bring it into the tabernacle of witnessing?

⁷ For the wicked *woman* Athaliah, and her sons, destroyed the house of God; and of all the things, that were hallowed to the temple of the Lord, they adorned the temple of Baalim.

⁸ Therefore the king commanded, and they made an ark, and setted [*or put*] it beside the gate of *the House* of the Lord withoutforth.

⁹ And it was preached in Judah and Jerusalem, that each man should bring to the Lord the price, that Moses, the servant of God, ordained upon all Israel, in desert.

¹⁰ And all the princes and all the people were glad, and they entered, and brought, and sent *freely their gifts* into the ark of the Lord, so that it was filled *with treasure*.

¹¹ And when it was time, that they should bear the ark before the king's *officials* by the hands of

deacons [*or Levites*], for they saw much money, the clerk of the king entered, and he whom the first, *or chief*, priest had ordained, and they poured out the money, that was in the ark; and they bare again the ark to his place,. And so they did by all days, and money without number was gathered together;

¹² which the king and Jehoiada gave to them that were sovereigns of the works of the house of the Lord. And they hired thereof cutters of stones, and craftsmen of all works, that they should repair the house of the Lord; also *they hired* smiths of iron, and of brass, that that thing should be underset, that began to fall.

¹³ They that wrought did craftily, and the crazing of the walls was stopped by the hands of them; and they raised the house of the Lord into the former state, and made it to stand steadfastly.

¹⁴ And when they had fulfilled all the works, they brought before the king and Jehoiada the tother part of the money, of which money vessels were made into the service of the temple, and to burnt sacrifices,; also vials, *or basins*, and other vessels of gold and of silver *were made thereof*. And burnt sacrifices were offered in the house of the Lord continually, in all the days of Jehoiada.

¹⁵ And Jehoiada full of days waxed eld, and he was dead, when he was of an hundred years and thirty;

¹⁶ and they buried him in the city of David with kings; for he had done good with Israel, *for God*, and with his house.

17 But after that Jehoiada died, the princes of Judah entered, and worship-ped the king, which was flattered with their services, and assented to them.

18 And they forsook the temple of the Lord God of their fathers, and served idols in woods, and graven images; and the ire of the Lord was made against Judah and Jerusalem for this sin.

19 And he sent to them prophets, that they should turn again to the Lord; the which prophets' witnessing, they would not hear.

20 Then the Spirit of the Lord clothed, *or environed*, Zechariah, the priest, the son of Jehoiada; and he stood in the sight of the people, and said to them, The Lord saith these things, Why break ye the commandment of the Lord, which thing shall not profit to you, and ye have forsaken the Lord, that he should forsake you?

21 Which were gathered together against him, and casted stones *at him*, by commandment of the king, in the large place of the house of the Lord.

22 And king Joash had not mind on the mercy, *or goodness*, which Jehoi-ada, the father of Zechariah, had done with him; but he killed the son of Jehoiada. And when Zechariah died, he said, The Lord see *this thing*, and again-seek it.

23 And when a year was turned about, *either ended*, the host of Syria went up against Joash, and it came into Judah and into Jerusalem, and it killed all the princes of the people; and they sent all the prey to the king of Damascus.

²⁴ And certainly, when a full little number of men of Syria was come *into Judah*, the Lord betook in their hands a multitude *of Jews* without number, for they had forsaken the Lord God of their fathers. Also they used shameful dooms against Joash;

²⁵ and they went away *from him*, and they left him in great sorrows. And his servants rose up against him, into vengeance of the blood of the son of Jehoiada, priest; and killed him in his bed, and he was dead. And they buried him in the city of David, but not in the sepulchres of kings.

²⁶ And Zabad, the son of Shimeath of Ammon, and Jehozabad, the son of Shimrith of Moab, setted treasons to him.

²⁷ Soothly his sons, and the sum of money that was gathered under him, and the repairing of the house of God, be written diligently in the book of Kings. And Amaziah, his son, reigned for him;

CHAPTER 25

¹ Amaziah was of five and twenty years, when he began to reign, and he reigned nine and twenty years in Jerusalem; the name of his mother *was* Jehoaddan, of Jerusalem.

² And he did good in the sight of the Lord, nevertheless not in perfect heart.

³ And when he saw the empire strengthened to himself, he strangled the servants that killed the king, his father;

⁴ but he killed not the sons of them; as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, where the Lord commanded, saying, [*The*] Fathers shall

not be slain for the sons, neither the sons for their fathers; but each man shall die in, *or for*, his own sin.

⁵ Therefore Amaziah gathered together Judah, and ordained them by meins, and tribunes, and centurions, in all Judah and Benjamin; and he numbered *them* from twenty years and above, and he found thirty thousand of *able* young men, that went out to battle, and held spear and shield.

⁶ Also for meed, he hired of Israel an hundred thousand of strong men, for an hundred talents of silver, that they should fight against the sons of Edom.

⁷ Forsooth a man of God came to him, and said, A! king, the host of Israel go not out with thee, for the Lord is not with Israel, and with all the sons of Ephraim;

⁸ for if thou guessest that battles stand in the might of an host, the Lord shall make thee to be overcome of thine enemies, forsooth it is of God for to help, and to turn *men* into flight.

⁹ And Amaziah said to the man of God, What then shall be done of the hundred talents, which I gave to the knights of Israel? And the man of God answered to him, The Lord hath, whereof he may yield to thee much more things than these.

¹⁰ Therefore Amaziah separated the host that came to him from Ephraim, that it should turn again into his place; and they were wroth greatly against Judah, and they turned again into their country.

¹¹ And Amaziah led out trustily his people, and went into the valley of makings of salt, and he killed of the sons of Seir ten thousand.

¹² And the sons of Judah took other ten thousand of men, and brought to the high scarp of a stone; and they cast them down from the highest *part* into a pit; which all brake.

¹³ And that host that Amaziah had sent again, that it should not go with him to battle, was spread abroad in the cities of Judah from Samaria unto Bethhoron; and after *the host of Israel* had slain three thousand *of Judah*, it took away a great prey.

¹⁴ And Amaziah, after the slaying of Idumeans, and after that he had brought *thence with him* the gods of the sons of Seir, *he* ordained them to *be* into gods to himself, and he worshipped them, and burnt incense to them.

¹⁵ Wherefore the Lord was wroth against Amaziah, and he sent to him a prophet, that said to him, Why worshippest thou gods which have not delivered their people from thine hand?

¹⁶ *And* when the prophet spake these things, Amaziah answered to him, Whether thou art a counsellor of the king? cease thou, lest peradventure I slay thee. And the prophet went away *from him*, and said, I know, that the Lord hath thought to slay thee; for thou hast done this evil, and furthermore thou assentedest not to my counsel.

¹⁷ Therefore Amaziah, the king of Judah, when he had taken a full evil counsel, sent to the king of Israel, Jehoash*, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, and said, Come thou, and see we us together.

* **CHAPTER 25:17** Also known as Joash.

18 And *Jehoash, the king of Israel*, sent messengers *back to him*, and said *mystically*, A thistle, that is in the Lebanon, sent to a cedar tree of the Lebanon, and said, Give thy daughter *as a wife to my son*; and lo! [*the*] beasts that were in the wood of the Lebanon went and defouled the thistle.

19 Thou saidest, I have smitten Edom, and therefore thine heart is raised into pride; sit thou *still* in thine house; why stirrest thou evil against thyself, that thou fall, and Judah with thee?

20 Amaziah would not hear *this*, for it was the will of the Lord, that he should be betaken into the hands of his enemies, for the gods of Edom *which he worshipped*.

21 Therefore Jehoash, king of Israel, went up *against Judah*, and they saw themselves together. Soothly Amaziah, the king of Judah, was in Bethshemesh of Judah;

22 and Judah felled [*or fell*] down before Israel, and fled into his tabernacles.

23 And [*Jehoash*], the king of Israel, took in Bethshemesh Amaziah, the king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz†, and brought *him* into Jerusalem; and he destroyed the walls thereof from the gate of Ephraim to the gate of the corner, by four hundred cubits *in length*.

24 And he led again into Samaria all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that he found in the house of the Lord, and at Obedom, in the

† **CHAPTER 25:23** A variant form of Ahaziah (the son of Jehoram, king of Judah).

treasuries also of the king's house, also and the sons of hostages.

²⁵ And Amaziah, king of Judah, the son of Joash, lived fifteen years after that Jehoash, king of Israel, the son of Jehoahaz, was dead.

²⁶ Soothly the residue of the former and the last words of Amaziah, be written in the book of *[the]* kings of Judah and of Israel.

²⁷ And after that he had gone away from the Lord, they set to him treasons in Jerusalem; and when he had fled to Lachish, they sent *thither*, and killed him there;

²⁸ and they brought *him* again upon horses, and buried him with his fathers in the city of David.

CHAPTER 26

¹ Forsooth all the people of Judah made Uzziah*, his son, of sixteen years *of age*, king for his father Amaziah.

² He builded Eloth, and restored it to the lordship of Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

³ Uzziah was of sixteen years, when he began to reign; and he reigned two and fifty years in Jerusalem; and the name of his mother *was* Jecoliah, of Jerusalem.

⁴ And he did that, that was rightful *[or right]* in the sight of the Lord, by all things which Amaziah, his father, had done.

* **CHAPTER 26:1** Also known as Azariah.

5 And he sought the Lord in the days of Zechariah, understanding and seeing God; and when he sought God, God ruled him in all things.

6 And he went out, and fought against Philistines, and destroyed the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod; and he builded strong places in Ashdod, and in Philistines.

7 And the Lord helped him both against Philistines, and against Arabians that dwelled in Gurbaal, and against Ammonites.

8 [And] Ammonites paid gifts to Uzziah, and his name was published unto the entering of Egypt for *his* oft victories.

9 And Uzziah builded towers in Jerusalem over the gate of the corner, and over the gate of the valley, and other towers in the same side of the wall; and he made those steadfast, *or strong*.

10 Also he builded towers in the wilderness, and digged full many cisterns; for he had many beasts, as well in the field places, as in the vastness of desert. Also he had vineries [*or vines*], and tillers of vines in the hills, and in Carmel or the great mountains; for he was a man given to earth-tilling.

11 And *he had* the host of his warriors, that went forth to battles, under the hand of Jeiel, scribe, and of Maaseiah, the teacher, and under the hand of Hananiah, that was of the dukes of the king.

12 and all the number of princes, by their *meines*, was of strong men two thousand and six hundred.

13 And under them was all the host, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and five hundred, that were able to battle, and fought for the king against adversaries.

14 And Uzziah made ready to them, that is, to all the host, shields, and spears, and basinets, and habergeons, and bows, and slings to cast stones.

15 And he made in Jerusalem engines of diverse kind, which he set in towers, and in the corners of walls, that those [*or they*] should cast out arrows and great stones; and his name went out far, for the Lord helped him, and had made him strong.

16 But when he was made strong, his heart was raised up into his perishing; and he despised the Lord his God; and he entered into the temple of the Lord, and would burn incense upon the altar of incense.

17 And anon Azariah, the priest, entered after him, and with him sixty priests of the Lord, men full noble;

18 which against-stood the king, and said *to him*, Uzziah, it is not of thine office, that thou burn incense to the Lord, but of the priests of the Lord, that is, the sons of Aaron, that be hallowed to such service; go thou out of the saintuary; *and* despise thou not *God*; for this thing shall not be areck-oned of the Lord God to thee into glory.

19 And Uzziah was wroth, and he held in his hand the censer for to offer incense, and he menaced [*or threat-ened*] the priests; and anon leprosy was sprung forth in his forehead, before

the priests in the house of the Lord, upon the altar of incense.

²⁰ And when Azariah, the bishop, had beheld him, and also all the other priests, they saw leprosy in his fore-head, and anon they putted [*or put*] the king out of the temple; but also he was afeared, and hasted to go out; for he feeled anon the vengeance of the Lord.

²¹ Therefore king Uzziah was leprous unto the day of his death, and dwelled in an house by itself, and he was full of leprosy; for which he was cast out of the house of the Lord. And Jotham, his son, governed the house of the king, and deemed the people of the land.

²² And Isaiah, the prophet, the son of Amoz, wrote the residue of the former and of the last words of Uzziah.

²³ And Uzziah slept with his fathers, and they buried not him in the field of the kings' sepulchres, for he was leprous; and Jotham, his son, reigned for him.

CHAPTER 27

¹ Jotham was of five and twenty years, when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem; the name of his mother was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok.

² He did that, that was rightful [*or right*] before the Lord, by all things which Uzziah, his father, had done; except that he entered not into the temple of the Lord, and the people trespassed yet.

³ He builded the high gate of the house of the Lord, and he builded many things in the wall of Ophel;

⁴ also he builded cities in the hills of Judah, and *he builded* castles and towers in forests [*or high woods*].

⁵ He fought against the king of the sons of Ammon, and overcame him; and the sons of Ammon gave to him in that time an hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand cors of barley, and so many of wheat; the sons of Ammon gave these things to him in the second, and the third years.

⁶ And Jotham was made strong, for he had dressed his ways before the Lord his God.

⁷ Forsooth the residue of [*the*] words of Jotham, and all his battles, and works, be written in the book of the kings of Israel and of Judah.

⁸ He was of five and twenty years, when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

⁹ And Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David; and Ahaz, his son, reigned for him.

CHAPTER 28

¹ Ahaz was of twenty years, when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem; he did not rightfulness [*or right*] in the sight of the Lord, as David, his father, *did*;

² but he went in the ways of the kings of Israel. Furthermore and he melted out images to Baalim.

³ He it is that burnt incense in the valley of Ben-hinnon, and purged his sons by fire, by the custom of heathen men, whom the Lord killed in the coming of the sons of Israel *from Egypt or towards the land of promise*.

⁴ Also he made sacrifice, and burnt incense in high places, and in hills, and under each tree full of boughs.

⁵ And the Lord his God betook him into the hand of the king of Syria, which smote Ahaz, and took a great prey of his empire, and brought into Damascus. Also Ahaz was betaken to the hands of the king of Israel, and he was smitten with a great wound.

⁶ And Pekah, the son of Remaliah, killed of Judah sixscore thousand in one day, all the men warriors; for they had forsaken the Lord God of their fathers.

⁷ In the same time Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, killed Maaseiah, the son of Jotham, the king; and *he killed* Azrikam, the duke of his house, and Elkanah, the second *person* from the king.

⁸ And the sons of Israel took of their brethren two hundred thousand of women and of children and of damsels, and prey without number, and bare it into Samaria.

⁹ In that tempest, *or time of vengeance*, a prophet of the Lord, Oded by name, was there, which went out against the host *of Israel* coming into Samaria, and he said to them, Lo! the Lord God of your fathers was wroth against Judah, and he hath betaken them into your hands; and

ye have slain them cruelly, so that your cruelty stretcheth forth into heaven.

¹⁰ Furthermore and ye will make subject to you the sons of Judah and of Jerusalem into servants and hand-maids; which thing is not needful to be done; certainly ye have sinned in this thing to the Lord your God.

¹¹ But hear ye my counsel, and lead again the prisoners, which ye have brought *thence* of your brethren; for great vengeance of the Lord nigheth to you.

¹² Therefore men of the princes of the sons of Ephraim, Azariah, the son of Johanan, Berechiah, the son of Meshill-emoth, Jehizkiah, the son of Shallum, and Amasa, the son of Hadlai, stood against them that came from the battle;

¹³ and said to them, Ye shall not bring in hither the prisoners, lest we do *more* sin against the Lord; why will ye lay to on your sins, and heap *more on your* old trespasses? Certain-ly this is great sin; the wrath of the strong vengeance of the Lord nigheth on Israel.

¹⁴ And the men warriors left the prey, and all things which they had taken, before the princes and all the multitude.

¹⁵ And the men stood *there*, which we remembered before, and they took the prisoners, and they clothed of the spoils all that were naked; and when they had clothed them, and shod *them*, and refreshed *them* with meat, and with drink, and anointed *them* for travail, and gave cure, *either medicine*, to them; whichever of *them were feeble*, and might not go, they putted [*or put*] on

horses, and they brought *them* to Jericho, the city of palms, to their brethren; and they turned again into Samaria.

¹⁶ In that time, king Ahaz sent to the king of Assyrians, and asked help *of him*.

¹⁷ And Idumeans came, and killed many men of Judah, and took great prey.

¹⁸ Also [*the*] Philistines were spread abroad by cities of the fields, and at the south of Judah; and they took Beth-shemesh, and Ajalon, and Gederoth, and Shocho, and Timnah, and Gimzo, with their villages; and they dwelled in those [*or them*].

¹⁹ For the Lord made low Judah for Ahaz, the king of Judah*; for he had made him naked of help, and despised the Lord.

²⁰ And the Lord brought against him Tilgath-pilneser, king of Assyrians, that tormented him, and wasted *him*, while no man against-stood.

²¹ Therefore Ahaz, after that he had spoiled the house of the Lord, and the house of the king, and of the princes, gave gifts to the king of Assyrians, and nevertheless it profited nothing to him.

²² Furthermore also in the time of his anguish he increased despite against God; that king Ahaz, himself,

²³ offered sacrifices to the gods of Damascus, his smiters, *or destroyers*, and he said, The gods of the kings of Syria help them, which gods I shall please by sacrifices, and they shall help me;

* **CHAPTER 28:19** Here the *KJV* mistakenly says, 'king of Israel'.

when, on the contrary, they were falling to him, and to all Israel.

²⁴ Therefore after that Ahaz had taken away, and broken all the vessels of the house of God, he closed the gates of God's temple, and he made altars to himself in all the corners of Jerusalem.

²⁵ And in all the cities of Judah he builded altars to burn incense *to other gods*, and he stirred the Lord God of his fathers to wrathfulness.

²⁶ Soothly the residue of his words and of all his works, the former and the last, be written in the book of [*the*] kings of Judah and of Israel.

²⁷ And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of Jerusalem; for they received not him into the sepulchres of the kings of Israel; and Hezekiah, his son, reigned for him.

CHAPTER 29

¹ And Hezekiah began to reign, when he was of five and twenty years, and he reigned in Jerusalem nine and twenty years; the name of his mother was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah.

² And Hezekiah did that, that was pleasing in the sight of the Lord, by all things that David, his father, had done.

³ In that year, and in the first month of his realm, he opened the gates of the house of the Lord, and restored, *or repaired*, those gates;

⁴ and he brought the priests, and deacons [*or Levites*], and he gathered them *together* into the east street,

⁵ and said to them, Sons of Levi, hear ye me, and be ye hallowed; cleanse ye the house of the

Lord God of your fathers; and do ye away all uncleanness from the saintuary.

⁶ Our fathers have sinned, and done evil in the sight of the Lord our God, and forsook him; they turned away their faces from the tabernacle of the Lord our God, and gave their back.

⁷ They closed the doors that were in the porch, and quenched the lanterns; and they burnt not incense, and they offered not burnt sacrifices in the saintuary of God of Israel.

⁸ Therefore the strong vengeance of the Lord was raised upon Judah and Jerusalem; and he gave them into stirring or moving, *or unstable-ness*, and into perishing, and into hissing, *either scorning*, as ye see with your eyes.

⁹ Lo! our fathers have fallen down by swords; our sons, and our daughters, and our wives be led *away as* prisoners for this great trespass.

¹⁰ Now therefore it pleaseth me, that we make a bond of peace with the Lord God of Israel, and that he turn from us the strong vengeance of his wrath.

¹¹ My sons, do not ye *herein* be reckless; the Lord hath chosen you, that ye stand before him, and serve him, that ye praise him, and burn incense to him.

¹² Therefore the deacons [*or Levites*] rose up, Mahath, the son of Amasai, and Joel, the son of Azariah, of the sons of Kohath; and of the sons of Merari, Kish, the son of Abdi, and Azariah, the son of Jehalelel; and of the sons of Gershon, Joah, the son of Zimmah, and Eden, the son of Joah;

13 and of the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri, and Jeiel; and of the sons of Asaph, Zechariah, and Mattaniah;

14 also of the sons of Heman, Jehiel, and Shimei; but also of the sons of Jeduthun, Shemiah, and Uzziel.

15 And they gathered together their brethren, and they were hallowed; and they entered by the commandment of the king, and by *[the]* commandment of the Lord, for to cleanse the house of the Lord.

16 Also *[the]* priests entered into the temple of the Lord, for to hallow it, and they bare out all the uncleanness, that they found therein in the porch, *either large* place, of the house of the Lord; which uncleanness the deacons *[or Levites]* took, and they bare *it* out to the strand *[or stream]* of Kidron withoutforth.

17 Soothly they began to cleanse in the first day of the first month, and in the eighth day of the same month they entered into the porch of the house of the Lord, and they cleansed the temple eight days; and in the sixteenth day of the same month they *[ful]* filled that, that they had begun.

18 And they entered to Hezekiah, the king, and said to him, We have hallowed, *or cleansed*, all the house of the Lord, and the altar of burnt sacrifice thereof, and the vessels thereof, also and the board of setting forth with all his vessels,

19 and all the appurtenance of the temple, that king Ahaz had defouled in his realm, after that he brake the law; and lo! all things be set forth before the altar of the Lord.

20 And Hezekiah, the king, rose up in the morrowtide, and he gathered together all the princes of the city, and he went up into the house of the Lord;

21 and they offered together seven bulls, and seven rams, seven lambs, and seven bucks of goats, for *[the]* sin, for the realm, for the saintuary, and for Judah. And he said to *[the]* priests, the sons of Aaron, that they should offer *sacrifices* on the altar of the Lord.

22 Therefore they killed bulls, and the priests took the blood, and poured it upon the altar; also they killed rams, and they poured the blood of those *[or them]* upon the altar; and they offered lambs, and they poured the blood upon the altar.

23 And they brought *[the]* bucks of goats for sin before the king and all the multitude, and they setted their hands on those *[or them]*;

24 and the priests offered them, and they sprinkled the blood of them before the altar, for the cleansing of all Israel. For the king commanded, that burnt sacrifice should be made for all Israel, and for sin *thereof*.

25 Also he ordained deacons *[or Levites]* in the house of the Lord, with cymbals, and psalteries, and harps, by the ordinance of David the king, and of Gad, the prophet, and of Nathan, the prophet; for it was the commandment of the Lord by the hand of his prophets.

26 And the deacons *[or Levites]* stood, and held the organs of David; and priests *held[the]* trumps.

27 And Hezekiah commanded, that they should offer burnt sacrifices upon the altar; and when

burnt sacrifices were offered, they began to sing praisings to the Lord, and to sound with trumps, and with diverse organs, which David, king of Israel, had made ready to sound *with*.

²⁸ Forsooth when all the company worshipped/ And when all the company worshipped *the Lord*, [*the*] singers and they that held trumps were in their office, till the burnt sacrifice was filled.

²⁹ And when the offering was ended, the king was bowed *down*, and all that were with him, and they worship-ped *God*.

³⁰ And Hezekiah and the princes commanded to the deacons [*or Levites*], that they should praise the Lord with the words of David, and of Asaph, the prophet; which praised *him* with great gladness, and kneeled, and worshipped.

³¹ Soothly Hezekiah added also these things, Ye have filled your hands *with blessings* to the Lord; nigh ye, and offer sacrifices and praisings in the house of the Lord. Therefore all the multitude offered with devout soul sacrifices, and praisings, and burnt sacrifices.

³² And this was the number of burnt sacrifices, which the multitude offered; seventy bulls, and an hundred rams, and two hundred lambs.

³³ Also they hallowed to the Lord six hundred oxen, and three thousand sheep.

³⁴ And the priests were few, and they might not suffice for to draw, *or flay off*, the skins of [*the*] burnt sacrifices; wherefore and the deacons [*or Levites*] their brethren helped them, till the work was [*ful*] filled, and the priests were hallowed;

for the deacons [*or Levites*] be hallowed by lighter custom than the priests.

³⁵ Therefore there were full many burnt sacrifices, and inner fatness of peaceable sacrifices, and the moist [*or liquor*] sacrifices of burnt sacrifices, and *thereby* the worship of the house of the Lord was [*ful*] filled.

³⁶ And Hezekiah was glad, and all the people, for the service of the Lord was fulfilled; for it pleased, that this was done suddenly.

CHAPTER 30

¹ And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and to Judah, and he wrote epistles to Ephraim and to Manasseh, that they should come into the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, and make pask to the Lord God of Israel.

² Therefore when counsel was taken of the king, and of [*the*] princes, and of all the company of Jerusalem, they deemed, *or purposed*, to make pask in the second month.

³ For they deemed not to *be able to do this* in his time, *that is, the first month*; for the priests which might suffice *thereto* were not yet hallowed, and the people was not yet gathered into Jerusalem.

⁴ And the word pleased the king, and all the multitude.

⁵ And they deemed to send mes-sengers into all Israel, from Beersheba unto Dan, that they should come, and make pask to the Lord God of Israel in Jerusalem; for many men had not done *it*, as it is before-written in the law.

⁶ And couriers went forth with epistles, by *[the]* commandment of the king and of his princes, into all Israel and Judah, and preached by that, that the king had commanded, Sons of Israel, turn ye again to the Lord God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Israel; and he shall turn again to the remnant of men, that escaped the hands of the kings of Assyrians.

⁷ Do not ye be made as your fathers and *your* brethren, which went away from the Lord God of their fathers; and he gave them into perishing, as ye see.

⁸ Do not ye make hard your nolls, as your fathers *did*; give ye *your* hands to the Lord *in promising that ye shall serve him faithfully*, and come ye to his saintuary, which he hath hallowed without end; serve ye the Lord God of your fathers, and the wrath of his strong vengeance shall turn away from you.

⁹ For if ye turn again to the Lord, your brethren and your sons shall have mercy before their lords that led them prisoners; and they shall turn again into this land. For the Lord our God is pious, *either benign*, and merci-ful; and he will not turn away his face from you, if ye turn again to him.

¹⁰ Therefore the couriers went swiftly from city into city through the land of Ephraim and Manasseh unto Zebulun, while they scorned and bemocked them.

¹¹ Nevertheless some men of Asher, and of Manasseh, and of Zebulun, assented to the counsel, and came into Jerusalem.

¹² Forsooth the hand of the Lord was made in Judah, that he gave to them one heart, and that they did the word of the Lord, by the commandment of the king and of the princes.

¹³ And many peoples were gathered into Jerusalem, for to make the solem-nity of therf loaves in the second month.

¹⁴ And they rose, and destroyed the altars, that were in Jerusalem; and destroyed all things in which incense was burnt to idols, they casted *them* forth into the strand [*or stream*] of Kidron.

¹⁵ And they offered pask in the fourteenth day of the second month; also the priests and the deacons [*or Levites*] were hallowed at the last, and offered burnt sacrifices in the house of the Lord.

¹⁶ And they stood in their order, by the ordinance and law of Moses, the man of God. Soothly the priests took of the hands of deacons [*or Levites*] the blood to be shed out,

¹⁷ for much *of the* company was not hallowed; and therefore the deacons [*or Levites*] offered pask for them, that might not be hallowed to the Lord.

¹⁸ Also a great part of the people of Ephraim, and of Manasseh, and of Issachar, and of Zebulun, that was not hallowed, ate pask not by that that is written. And Hezekiah prayed for them, and said, The good Lord shall do mercy to all men,

¹⁹ which seek in all their heart the Lord God of their fathers; and it shall not be areckoned to them *into sin*, that they be not hallowed by *offering of gifts*.

20 And the Lord heard him, and was pleased to the people.

21 And the sons of Israel, that were found in Jerusalem, made the solemnity of therf loaves seven days in great gladness, and they praised the Lord by each day; and the deacons [*or Levites*] and [*the*] priests *praised the Lord* by organs, which accorded to their office.

22 And Hezekiah spake to the heart of all the deacons [*or Levites*], that had good understanding of the Lord; and they ate by seven days of the solemnity, offering sacrifices of peace-able things, and praising the Lord God of their fathers.

23 And it pleased all the multitude to hallow also other seven days; which thing also they did with great joy.

24 Forsooth Hezekiah, king of Judah, gave to the multitude a thousand bulls, and seven thousand of sheep; and the princes gave to the people a thousand bulls, and ten thousand sheep. There-fore a full great multitude of priests was hallowed*;

25 and all the company of Judah was filled with gladness, as well of priests and deacons [*or Levites*], as of all the multitude that came from Israel, and of [*the*] converts of the land of Israel, and of [*the*] dwellers in Judah.

26 And great solemnity was made in Jerusalem, what manner was not in that city from the days of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel.

* **CHAPTER 30:24** That is, ordained to kill and offer to the Lord these beasts.

27 And *[the]* priests and deacons *[or Levites]* rose up, and blessed the people; and the voice of them was heard, and their prayer came into the holy dwelling place of heaven.

CHAPTER 31

1 And when these things were done rightfully, all Israel went out, that was found in the cities of Judah; and they brake *[the]* simulacra, and cutted down *[maumet]* woods, and wasted *[the]* high places, and destroyed *[the]* altars, not only of all Judah and Benjamin, but also of Ephraim and Manasseh, till that they had destroyed *those altars or their idols* utterly. And *then* all the sons of Israel turned again into their possessions and cities.

2 And Hezekiah ordained companies of priests and deacons *[or Levites]* by their partings, each man in his own office, that is, as well of priests as of deacons *[or Levites]*, to burnt sacrifices and peaceable sacrifices, that they should minister, and acknowledge, and sing in the gates of the castles *[or tents]* of the Lord.

3 And the part of the king's *sacrifice* was, that of his own substance, or chattel, burnt sacrifice should be offered evermore in the morrowtide and in the eventide, also in sabbaths, and calends, and in other solemnities, as it is written in the law of Moses.

4 Also he commanded to the people of them that dwelled in Jerusalem, to give parts to the priests and deacons *[or Levites]*, that they might give attention to the law of the Lord.

⁵ And when this was known in the ears of the multitude, the sons of Israel offered full many first fruits of wheat, of wine, of oil, and of honey; and of all things which the earth bringeth forth, they offered tithes.

⁶ But also the sons of Israel and of Judah, that dwelled in the cities of Judah, offered tithes of oxen, and of sheep, and the tithes of holy things, which they avowed [*or vowed*] to their Lord God, and they brought all things, and made full many heaps.

⁷ In the third month they began to lay the foundations of the heaps, and in the seventh month they filled, *or ended*, those heaps.

⁸ And when Hezekiah and his princes had entered, they saw the heaps, and they blessed the Lord, and the people of Israel.

⁹ And Hezekiah asked the priests and deacons [*or Levites*] why the heaps lay so.

¹⁰ And Azariah, the first, *or chief*, priest of the generation of Zadok, answered to him and said, Since the first fruits began to be offered in the house of the Lord, we have eaten *of those fruits*, and been fulfilled, and full many things be left; for the Lord hath blessed his people; and this plenty, which thou seest, is of the remnants.

¹¹ Therefore Hezekiah commanded, that they should make ready barns in the house of the Lord; and when they had done this thing,

¹² they brought in faithfully both the first fruits, and tithes, and whatever things they had avowed [*or vowed*]. And Conaniah, the deacon [*or Levite*], was [*the*] sovereign of those things;

and Shimei, his brother was the second, *next to him*;

¹³ after whom Jehiel, and Azaziah, and Nahath, and Asahel, and Jerimoth, and Jozabad, and Eliel, and Ismachiah, and Mahath, and Benaiah, were sov-ereigns under the hands, *or powers*, of Conaniah and Shimei, his brother, by the commandment of Hezekiah the king, and of Azariah, the bishop of the house of the Lord, to whom all things pertained.

¹⁴ But Kore, the son of Imnah, deacon [*or Levite*], and porter of the east gate, was sovereign of those things that were offered by free will to the Lord, and of the first fruits, and of [*the*] things hallowed into the holy things *of the number* of holy things;

¹⁵ and under his care, *were* Eden, and Miniamin, Jeshua, and Shemaiah, and Amariah, and Shecaniah, in the cities of priests, that they should part faithfully to their brethren the parts, to the less and to the greater,

¹⁶ besides males from three years and above, these things to all that entered into the temple of the Lord, and whatever thing by each day was hired in the service and observances, by their partings.

¹⁷ To priests by *their* families, and to deacons [*or Levites*] from twenty years and above, by their orders and companies,

¹⁸ and to all the multitude, *that is*, both to the wives, and the free children of them of ever either kind, meats,, were given faithfully of these things that were hallowed.

19 But also men of the sons of Aaron were ordained, by the fields and by suburbs of all the cities, which men should deal parts to all the male kind of priests, and deacons [*or Levites*].

20 Therefore Hezekiah did all *these* things, which we have said, in all Judah, and he wrought that, that was rightful [*or right*] and good and true before the Lord his God,

21 in all the religion of the service of the house of the Lord, by the law and by the ceremonies; and he would seek his Lord God in all his heart, and he did *so*, and had prosperity.

CHAPTER 32

1 After which things and such truth, Sennacherib, the king of Assyrians, came and entered into Judah; and he besieged strong cities, and would take those [*or them*].

2 And when Hezekiah had heard this thing, that is, that Sennacherib had come, and that all the fierceness of his battle was turned against Jerusalem,

3 he took counsel with [*the*] princes and with most strong men, that they should stop the heads of wells, which were without the city; and when the sentence of all men deemed this *profitable*,

4 he gathered together a full great multitude of *men*, and they stopped *up* all the wells, and the river, that flowed in the midst of the land; and said, Lest the kings of Assyrians come, and find abundance of waters.

5 Also Hezekiah did wittingly, and he builded all the wall that was destroyed, and he builded

towers on *the wall*, and another wall without-forth. And he repaired Millo in the city of David; and made armour *or arms* of all kind, and shields.

⁶ And he ordained princes of warriors in the host; and he called together all men in the street of the gate of the city, and spake to the hearts of them, and said,

⁷ Do ye manly, and be ye comfort-ed; do not ye dread, neither be ye afear'd of the king of Assyrians, nor of all the multitude that is with him; for many more be with us than with him.

⁸ A fleshly arm is with him; and the Lord our God is with us, which is our helper, and shall fight for us. And the people was comforted with such words of Hezekiah, king of Judah.

⁹ And after that these things were done, Sennacherib, [*the king of Assyria*], sent his servants to Jerusalem; for he himself, with all the host, besieged Lachish. *He sent* to Hezekiah, king of Judah, and to all the people that was in the city *of Jerusalem*, and said,

¹⁰ Sennacherib, king of Assyrians, saith these things, In whom have ye trust, and sit besieged in Jerusalem?

¹¹ Whether not Hezekiah deceiveth you, that ye betake *you* to death in hunger and thirst, and he affirmeth, that the Lord your God shall deliver you from the hand of the king of Assyrians?

¹² Whether this is not Hezekiah, that destroyed high places, and altars of him, and commanded to Judah and Jerusalem, and said, Ye shall

worship before one altar, and therein ye shall burn incense?

¹³ Whether ye know not what things I have done, and my fathers, to all the peoples of lands? Whether the gods of folks and of all lands might deliver their country from mine hand?

¹⁴ Who is, of all the gods of folks, which my fathers destroyed, that might deliver his people from mine hand, that also your God may deliver you from mine hand?

¹⁵ Therefore Hezekiah deceive not you, neither scorn he *you* by vain counselling, neither believe ye to him; for if no god of all folks and countries might deliver his people from mine hand, and from the hand of my fathers, pursuingly [*or followingly*] neither your God shall be able to deliver you from this mine hand.

¹⁶ But also his servants spake many other things against the Lord God, and against Hezekiah, his servant.

¹⁷ Also he wrote epistles full of blas-phemy against the Lord God of Israel, and he spake against God, *and said*, As the gods of other folks might not deliver their people from mine hand, so and the God of Hezekiah may not deliver his people from mine hand.

¹⁸ Furthermore, and with [*a*] great cry in the language of Jews, he sounded against the people, that sat on the walls of Jerusalem, to make them afeared, and to take the city.

¹⁹ And he spake against [*the*] God of Israel, as against the gods of the peoples of [*the*] earth, the works of men's hands.

²⁰ Therefore Hezekiah, the king, and Isaiah, the prophet, the son of Amoz, prayed against this blasphemy, and cried [*out*] till into heaven.

²¹ And the Lord sent his angel, the which killed each strong man and warrior, and the prince of the host of the king of Assyrians; and he/*Sen-nacherib* turned again with shame to his land. And when he had entered into the house of his god, the sons, which went out of his womb, killed him *there* with sword.

²² And the Lord saved Hezekiah, and the dwellers of Jerusalem, from the hand of *Sen-nacherib*, king of Assyrians, and from the hand of all men; and he gave to them rest by compass.

²³ Also many men brought offerings and sacrifices to the Lord into Jeru-salem, and gifts to Hezekiah, king of Judah; which was enhanced after these things before all folks.

²⁴ In those days Hezekiah was sick unto the death, and he prayed the Lord; and he heard him, and gave to him a sign;

²⁵ but he yielded not *thankings to the Lord* after the benefits which he had taken, for his heart was raised *into pride*; and *wrath of the Lord* was made against him, and against Judah, and against Jerusalem.

²⁶ And he was meeked afterward, for-*thy* that his heart was raised; both he *was meeked*, and the dwellers of Jerusalem; and therefore the wrath of the Lord came not upon them in the days of Hezekiah.

²⁷ And Hezekiah was rich, and full noble, and he gathered to himself full many treasures of

silver, and of gold, and of precious stones, and of sweet smelling spices, and of armours of all kind, and of vessels of great price.

²⁸ Also he builded large houses of wheat, [*and*] of wine, and of oil, and cratches of all beasts, and folds to sheep,

²⁹ and *he builded* six cities. And he had unnumberable flocks of sheep and of great beasts; for the Lord had given to him full much chattel [*or substance*].

³⁰ That is Hezekiah, that stopped the higher well of the waters of Gihon, and he turned those [*or them*] away under *the earth* at the west side of the city of David; in all his works he did by prosperity, whatever thing he would *do*.

³¹ Nevertheless in the message of the princes of Babylon, that were sent to him for to ask of the great wonder, that befelled on the land, God forsook him, that he were assayed, and that all things were known that were in his heart.

³² Soothly the residue of [*the*] words of Hezekiah, and of his mercies, be written in the prophecy of Isaiah, the prophet, the son of Amoz, and in the book of kings of Judah and of Israel.

³³ And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him above the sepulchres of the sons of David. And all Judah and all the dwellers of Jerusalem made solemn the services of his burying; and Manasseh, his son, reigned for him.

CHAPTER 33

¹ Manasseh was of twelve years, when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem five

and fifty years.

² And he did evil before the Lord after the abominations of heathen men, whom the Lord destroyed before the sons of Israel.

³ And he turned, and restored the high places, which Hezekiah, his father, had destroyed. And he builded altars to Baalim, and made woods, and worshipped all the knighthood of heaven, and praised it.

⁴ And he builded altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, My name shall be in Jeru-salem without end.

⁵ Soothly he builded those altars to all the knighthood of heaven in the two large places of the house of the Lord.

⁶ And he made his sons to pass through the fire in the valley of Ben-hinnom; he kept dreams; he pursued [*or followed*] false divining by chittering of birds; and he served witch-crafts; and he had with him astron-omers and enchanters, *either tregetours, that deceived men's wits*, and he wrought many evils before the Lord to stir him to wrath.

⁷ And he set a graven and a molten sign in the house of the Lord, of which house God spake to David, and to Solomon, his son, and said, I shall set my name without end in this house, and in Jerusalem, which I chose of all the lineages of Israel;

⁸ and I shall not make the foot of Israel to move from the land which I gave to their fathers, so only that they take heed to do those things that I have commanded to them, and all the law, and ceremonies, and dooms, by the hand of Moses.

⁹ But Manasseh deceived the men of Judah, and the dwellers of Jerusalem, so that they did evil, more than all heathen men, which the Lord had destroyed from the face of the sons of Israel.

¹⁰ And the Lord spake to him, and to his people; and they would not take heed.

¹¹ Therefore the Lord brought upon them the princes of the host of the king of Assyrians; and they took Manasseh, and bound him with chains, and stocks, and led him into Babylon.

¹² And after that he was anguished, he prayed the Lord his God, and did penance greatly before the God of his fathers.

¹³ And he prayed God, and beseech-ed him intently; and God heard his prayer, and brought him again into Jerusalem into his realm; and *then* Manasseh knew, that the Lord himself is God *alone*.

¹⁴ After these things he builded the wall without *or outside* the city of David, at the west *side* of Gihon, in the valley, from the entering of the gate of fishes, by compass unto Ophel; and he raised it up greatly; and he ordained princes of the host in all the strong cities of Judah.

¹⁵ And he did away alien gods and simulacra from the house of the Lord; and *he did away* the altars, which he had made in the hill of the house of the Lord, and in Jerusalem, and he casted them away all without the city.

¹⁶ Certainly he restored the altar of the Lord, and offered thereon slain sacrifices, and peaceable sacrifices, and praising; and he commanded Judah to serve the Lord God of Israel.

17 Nevertheless the people offered yet in high places to the Lord their God.

18 Forsooth the residue of *[the]* deeds of Manasseh, and his beseeching to his Lord God, and the words of *[the]* prophets, that spake to him in the name of the Lord God of Israel, be contained in the words of the kings of Israel.

19 And his prayer, and the hearing *that the Lord heard him*, and all *his* sins, and *all his* despising, and also the places in which he builded high things, and made maumet woods and images, before that he did penance, these be written in the book of Hozai.

20 And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and they buried him in his house; and Amon, his son, reigned for him.

21 Amon was of two and twenty years, when he began to reign; and he reigned two years in Jerusalem.

22 And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, as Manasseh, his father, had done; and he offered, and served to all the idols, which Manasseh had made.

23 And he revered not the face of the Lord, as Manasseh, his father, revered; and he did much greater trespasses *than his father did*.

24 And when his servants had sworn together against him, they killed him in his house.

25 Soothly the residue multitude of the people, after that they had slain them that had slain Amon, ordained Josiah, his son, king for him.

CHAPTER 34

¹ Josiah was of eight years, when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years.

² And he did that, that was rightful [*or right*] in the sight of the Lord; and went in the ways of David, his father, and bowed not to the right side, neither to the left side.

³ And in the eighth year of the realm of his empire, when he was yet a boy, *that is, sixteen years old*, he began to seek the God of his father David; and in the twelfth year after that he began, he cleansed Judah and Jerusalem from high places, and woods, and simulacra, and graven images.

⁴ And they destroyed before him the altars of Baalim, and they destroyed the simulacra, that were put above. Also he hewed down the maumet woods, and the graven images, and brake to small gobbets; and scattered abroad the small gobbets on the burials of them, that were wont to offer *to those*.

⁵ Furthermore *the king* burnt the bones of priests upon the altars of idols, and he cleansed Judah and Jerusalem *of idolatry*.

⁶ But also he destroyed all the idols in the cities of Manasseh, and of Ephraim, and of Simeon, unto Naphtali.

⁷ And when he had scattered the altars, and had all-broken into gobbets the maumet woods, and the graven images, and had destroyed all [*the*] temples of idols from all the land of Israel, he turned again into Jerusalem.

⁸ Therefore in the eighteenth year of his realm, when the land and the temple was cleansed now, he sent Shaphan, the son of Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, the prince of the city, and Joah, the son of Joahaz, his chan-cellar, that they should repair the house of the Lord his God.

⁹ Which came to Hilkiah, the great priest; and when they had taken of him the money, that was brought into the house of the Lord, which *money* the deacons [*or Levites*] and porters had gathered of *men of* Manasseh, and of Ephraim, and of all the remnant men of Israel, and of Judah and of Benjamin, and of the dwellers of Jerusalem,

¹⁰ they gave it into the hands of them that were sovereigns of the workmen in the house of the Lord, that they should restore the temple, and repair all the feeble things *thereof*.

¹¹ And they gave that money to the craftsmen and masons, for to buy stones hewed out of the quarries, and wood to the joinings of the buildings, and to the couplings of [*the*] houses, which the kings of Judah had destroyed.

¹² The which workmen did faithfully all things. And the sovereigns of workers were Jahath, and Obadiah, of the sons of Merari; and Zechariah, and Meshullam, of the sons of Kohath, which hastened the work; all *were* deacons [*or Levites*], knowing how to sing with organs.

¹³ And over them that bare burdens to diverse uses were scribes, and masters of deacons [*or Levites*], and porters.

14 And when they bare out the money, that was brought into the temple of the Lord, Hilkihah, the priest, found a book of the law of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

15 And *Hilkihah* said to Shaphan, the writer [*or scribe*], I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord. And Hilkihah took *it* to Shaphan,

16 and he bare in the book to the king; and he told to him, and said, Lo! all things be fulfilled, *or ended*, which thou hast given into the hands of thy servants.

17 And they have welled together the silver, which is found in the house of the Lord; and it is given to the sov-ereigns of the craftsmen, and *those* making diverse works;

18 furthermore Hilkihah, the priest, took to me this book. And when he had rehearsed this book in the presence of the king,

19 and *when the king* had heard the words of the law, he rent his clothes;

20 and he commanded to Hilkihah, and to Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, and to Abdon, the son of Micah, and to Shaphan, the scribe, and to Asaiah, the servant of the king, and said,

21 Go ye, and pray the Lord for me, and for the remnant of men of Israel and of Judah, on all the words of this book, that is found. For great venge-ance of the Lord hath dropped upon us, for our fathers kept not the words of the Lord, to do all things that be written in this book.

22 Therefore Hilkihah, and they that were sent together from the king, *went* to Huldah, the

prophetess, the wife of Shallum, the son of Tikvath, the son of Hasrah, keeper of the *king's* clothes, the which Huldah dwelled in Jeru-salem in the second *ward*; and they spake to her the words, which we told before.

²³ And she answered to them, The Lord God of Israel saith these things, Say ye to the man, that sent you to me,

²⁴ The Lord saith these things, Lo! I shall bring evils upon this place, and upon the dwellers thereof, and all the cursings that be written in this book, that they have read before the king of Judah.

²⁵ For they have forsaken me, and have sacrificed to alien gods, for to stir me to wrathfulness in all the works of their hands; therefore my strong vengeance shall drop upon this place, and it shall not be quenched.

²⁶ But speak ye thus to the king of Judah, that sent you to pray the Lord, The Lord God of Israel saith these things, For thou heardest the words of the book,

²⁷ and thine heart *thereby* is made nesh, and thou art meeked in the sight of the Lord of these things which be said against this place, and *against* the dwellers of Jerusalem, and thou hast revered my face, and hast rent thy clothes, and hast wept before me; also I have heard thee, saith the Lord.

²⁸ For now I shall gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be borne into thy sepulchre in peace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil, *that is, none of all the evils*, that I shall bring in

upon this place, and upon the dwellers thereof. Then they told to the king all things, that Huldah had said.

²⁹ And after that *the king* had called together all the elder men of Judah and of Jerusalem,

³⁰ he went up into the house of the Lord, and *there went up together with him* all the men of Judah, and the dwellers of Jerusalem, priests, and deacons [*or Levites*], and all the people, from the least unto the most; to whose hearing in the house of the Lord, the king read all the words of the *foresaid* book.

³¹ And he stood in his throne, and smote, *or made*, a bond of peace before the Lord, for to pursue or go after him, and to keep the command-ments, and the witnessings, and the justifying of him, in all his heart, and in all his soul; and to do those things which were written in that book, that he had read.

³² And he charged greatly upon this thing all men, that were found in Jeru-salem and Benjamin; and the dwellers of Jerusalem did after the covenant of the Lord God of their fathers.

³³ Therefore Josiah did away all the abominations from all the countries of the sons of Israel; and made all men, that were left in Israel, to serve the Lord God; and in all the days of his life they went not away from the Lord God of their fathers.

CHAPTER 35

¹ Forsooth Josiah made pask to the Lord in Jerusalem, the which *pask* was offered in the

fourteenth day of the first month;

² and he ordained priests in their offices; and commanded them for to serve in the house of the Lord.

³ And he spake to the deacons [*or Levites*], at whose teaching all Israel was hallowed to the Lord, Set ye [*or Putteth*] the ark *of the Lord* in the saintuary of the temple, that Solomon, king of Israel, the son of David builded; for ye shall no more bear it *about*. But now serve ye the Lord your God, and his people Israel,

⁴ and make you ready by your houses and meines, in the partings of each by himself, as David, king of Israel, commanded, and as Solomon, his son, ordained;

⁵ and serve ye in the saintuary by the families and companies of deacons [*or Levites*],

⁶ and be ye hallowed, and offer ye pask; also make ready your brethren, that they may do after the words, which the Lord spake by the hand of Moses.

⁷ Furthermore Josiah gave to all the people, that was found there in the solemnity of pask, *that is, to make the solemnity*, lambs and kids of the flocks, and of residue sheep *he gave* thirty thousand, and of oxes [*or oxen*] three thousand; these things *were given* of the substance of the king.

⁸ And his dukes offered those things which they avowed [*or vowed*] by their free will, as well to the people, as to priests and deacons [*or Levites*]. And Hilkiah, and Zechariah, and Jehiel, princes of the house of the Lord, gave to [*the*] priests,

to make pask in com-mon, two thousand and six hundred sheep, and three hundred oxen.

⁹ And Conaniah, and Shemaiah, and Nethaneel, and his brethren, and also Hashabiah, and Jeiel, and Jozabad, the princes of deacons [*or Levites*], gave to other deacons, to make [*the*] pask, five thousand of sheep, and five hundred oxen.

¹⁰ And the service was made ready; and [*the*] priests stood in their office, and deacons [*or Levites*] in their companies, by the commandment of the king;

¹¹ and pask was offered. And [*the*] priests sprinkled their hands with blood, and deacons [*or Levites*] drew off the skins of sacrificed beasts,

¹² and they parted those sacrifices, for to give *them* by the houses and meines of all men *that were come thither to make pask*; and that those *sacrifices* should be offered to the Lord, as it is written in the book of Moses; and of oxen they did in like manner.

¹³ And they roasted the pask *lamb* upon the fire, after that that is written in the law. And they seethed peace-able sacrifices in pans, and in caul-drons, and in pots, and in haste they dealed *it* to all the people;

¹⁴ but they made ready afterward to themselves, and to priests; for the priests were occupied unto [*the*] night in the offering of burnt sacrifices and of the inner fatnesses. Wherefore the deacons [*or Levites*] made ready *their part* at the last to themselves, and to the priests, the sons of Aaron.

15 And *[the]* singers, the sons of Asaph, stood in their order, by the commandment of David, and of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, the prophets of the king; but the porters kept *their office* by each gate, so that they went not away from their service, soothly *not* in a point, *that is, they were in no time absent from their office*; wherefore and the deacons *[or Levites]*, their brethren, made ready meats to them.

16 Therefore all the religion of the Lord was fulfilled rightfully in that day, that they made pask, and offered burnt sacrifices upon the altar of the Lord, by the commandment of king Josiah.

17 And the sons of Israel, that were found there, made pask in that time, and the solemnity of therf loaves seven days.

18 No pask was like this in Israel, from the days of Samuel, the prophet; but neither any of the kings of Israel made pask as Josiah *did*, to *[the]* priests and deacons *[or Levites]*, and to all Judah and Israel, that was found *there*, and to the dwellers of Jerusalem.

19 This pask was hallowed in the eighteenth year of the realm of Josiah.

20 After that Josiah had repaired the temple, Necho, the king of Egypt, went up to fight in Charchemish beside Euphrates; and Josiah went forth into his meeting.

21 And *Necho* said by messengers sent to Josiah, King of Judah, what *cause of strife* is to me and to thee? I come not against thee today, but I fight against another house, to which God bade me go

in haste; cease thou to do *thus* against God, that is with me, lest he slay thee.

²² But Josiah would not turn again, but he made ready battle against him; and he assented not to the words of Necho, by God's mouth, but he went for to fight in the field of Megiddo.

²³ And there he was wounded of archers, and *Josiah* said to his children *or servants*, Lead ye me out of the battle, for I am wounded greatly.

²⁴ And they bare him over from that chariot into another chariot, that pursued [*or followed*] him, by custom of the king, and they brought him *forth* into Jerusalem; and he died *there*, and was buried in the sepulchre of his fathers. And all Judah and Jeru-salem bewailed him,

²⁵ Jeremy mostly, of whom all [*the*] singers and singeresses till into [*the*] present day rehearse lamentations, *either wailings*, on Josiah; and it came forth as a law in Israel, Lo! it is said written in [*the*] Lamentations.

²⁶ Forsooth the residue of [*the*] words of Josiah, and of his mercies, that be commanded in the law of the Lord,

²⁷ and his works, the first and the last, be written in the book of [*the*] kings of Israel and of Judah.

CHAPTER 36

¹ Therefore the people of the land took Jehoahaz, the son of Josiah, and ordained him king for his father in Jerusalem.

² Jehoahaz was of three and twenty years, when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.

³ And *when* the king of Egypt had come to Jerusalem, he removed him, and he condemned the land in an hundred talents of silver and in a talent of gold.

⁴ And he ordained for him Eliakim, his brother, king upon Judah and Jerusalem; and he turned his name, *and called him* Jehoiakim. And he took that Jehoahaz with himself, and he brought *him* into Egypt.

⁵ Jehoiakim was of five and twenty years, when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem, and he did evil before the Lord his God.

⁶ And Nebuchadnezzar, king of Chaldees, went up against this Jehoi-akim, and he led him bound with chains into Babylon.

⁷ To which Babylon he translated *or brought over* also the vessels of *the house of* the Lord, and he set those [*or put them*] in his temple.

⁸ Soothly the residue of [*the*] words of Jehoiakim, and of his abominations which he wrought, and which were found in him, be contained in the book of [*the*] kings of Israel and of Judah. And Jehoiachin, his son, reigned for him.

⁹ Jehoiachin was of eighteen years, when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem, and he did evil in the sight of the Lord.

10 And when the circle of the year was turned about, Nebuchadnezzar the king sent men, which also brought him into Babylon, when the most precious vessels of the house of the Lord were borne out together. And Nebuchadnezzar ordained Zedekiah, his father's brother, king upon Judah and Jerusalem.

11 Zedekiah was of one and twenty years, when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.

12 And he did evil in the sight of the Lord his God, and he was not ashamed of the face of Jeremy, the prophet, that spake to him by the mouth of the Lord.

13 Also he went [*away*] from king Nebuchadnezzar, which *had* made him to swear by God, *that is, to promise steadfastly to be true to him;* and Zedekiah made hard his noll and his heart, that he would not turn again to the Lord *God* of Israel.

14 But also all the princes of priests, and the people, trespassed wickedly, by all the abominations of heathen men; and they defouled the house of the Lord, which he had hallowed to himself in Jerusalem.

15 And the Lord God of their fathers sent to them by the hand of his messengers, and the Lord rose up by night, and *he* admonished *them* each day; for-thy that he would spare his people, and his dwelling place.

16 And they mocked the messengers of God, and they despised his words, and they scorned his prophets; till the great vengeance of the Lord

ascended [*or went up*] upon his people, and no cure, *or healing*, were to them.

17 And he brought on them the king of Chaldees; and [*he*] killed the young men of them by sword in the house of [*the*] saintuary; he had not mercy of a young man, and of a virgin, and of an eld [*or old*] man, and soothly neither of a man nigh the death for eldness, but he betook all into the hand of that *king of Chaldees*.

18 And he translated *or brought over* into Babylon all the vessels of the house of the Lord, both the greater and the lesser vessels, and the treasures of the temple, and of the king of *Judah*, and of the princes *thereof*.

19 *And* enemies burnt the house of the Lord; *and* they destroyed the wall of Jerusalem; they burnt all the towers; and they destroyed whatever thing was precious *therein*.

20 If any man escaped the sword, he was led into Babylon, and served the king and his sons; *this subjection or thralldom continued upon the men of Judah*, till the king of Persia reigned,

21 and till the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremy was fulfilled, and till the land hallowed his sabbaths. Soothly *Judah* in all the days of desolation, *or of the destroying, or forsaking thereof*, it made sabbath, till that seventy years were fulfilled.

22 Forsooth in the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, to fulfill the word of the Lord, which he had spoken by the mouth of Jeremy, the Lord raised the spirit of Cyrus, king of Persia, that

commanded to be preached in all his realm, yea, by writing, and said,

²³ *I* Cyrus, king of Persia, saith these things, The Lord God of heaven hath given to me all the realms of [*the*] earth, and he commanded to me, that I should build to him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who of you is in all his people? the Lord his God be with him, and go he up *thither*.

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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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