

1ST SAMUEL

¹ There was a man of Ramathaim in Zophim, of the hill (*country*) of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, son of Elihi, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, of Ephraim.

² And Elkanah had two wives; the name to the one was Hannah, and the name of the second *was* Peninnah; and sons were to Peninnah; but Hannah had none free children. (*And Elkanah had two wives; the name of the first was Hannah, and the name of the second was Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.*)

³ And that man went up from his city in the days *that were* ordained, to worship and to offer sacrifice to the Lord of hosts in Shiloh. And [*the*] two sons of Eli were there, Hophni and Phinehas, priests of the Lord.

⁴ Then the day came, and Elkanah offered, and he gave parts to Peninnah, his wife, (*or and he gave portions to his wife Peninnah*), and to all his sons and daughters;

⁵ forsooth he gave sorrowfully one part, *either double*, to Hannah, for he loved Hannah; forsooth the Lord had closed her womb. (*and sorrowfully he gave only one special portion to Hannah; for he loved Hannah, but the Lord had closed up her womb.*)

⁶ And her enemy (*Peninnah*) tormented her, and anguished (*her*) greatly, in so much that she

upbraided her, that the Lord had closed (*up*) her womb.

⁷ And so Peninnah did each year, when the time came that they went up into the house of the Lord; and so she stirred Hannah. And then she wept, and took no meat. (*And Peninnah did so each year, when the time came that they went up to the House of the Lord; and so she tormented Hannah. And then Hannah wept, and ate no food.*)

⁸ Therefore Elkanah, her husband, said to her, Hannah, why weepest thou, and why eatest thou not, and why is thine heart tormented? Whether I am not better to thee than be ten sons? (*or Am I not better to thee than ten sons?*)

⁹ Soothly Hannah rose, after that she had eaten and drunk in Shiloh. And the while Eli [*the priest*] was on his great seat before the posts of the house of the Lord, (*And Hannah rose up, after that she had eaten and drunk in Shiloh. And while Eli the priest was on his great throne, beside the door of the House of the Lord,*)

¹⁰ and when she was in bitter sorrow of soul, she prayed (*to*) the Lord, and wept largely (*or and greatly wept*);

¹¹ and she made a vow to the Lord, and said, Lord God of hosts, if thou beholdest, and seest the torment of thy servantess, and if thou hast mind of me, and forgettest not thine handmaid, and givest a son to thy servantess, I shall give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and a razor shall not come upon his head.

¹² And it was done, when she multiplied her prayers before the Lord, that Eli espied her mouth.

13 Forsooth Hannah spake in her heart, and only her lips were moved, and utterly her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli guessed her drunken, *(And Hannah spoke in her heart, so that only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. And so Eli guessed that she was drunk.)*

14 and he said to her, How long shalt thou be drunken? Avoid thou a little the wine, by which thou art moist, *(or Be thou done with the wine, by which thou art made drunk).*

15 Hannah answered, and said, Nay, my lord, for I am an unhappy woman; I have not drunk wine, neither anything that may make drunken, but I have poured out my soul in the Lord's sight *(or but I have poured out my soul before the Lord);*

16 guess thou not thine handmaid as one of the daughters of Belial, for of the multitude of my sorrow and of my mourning I have spoken unto this present time. *(think thou not that thy servantess is one of the daughters of Belial, for until this present time I have spoken out of the multitude of my sorrow, and of my mourning.)*

17 Then Eli said to her, Go thou in peace, and *(the)* God of Israel give to thee the asking that thou hast prayed him *(for)*.

18 And she said, I would that thine handmaid find grace in thine eyes. And the woman went into her way, and ate, and her cheers were no more changed diversely. *(And she said, I desire that thy servantess find favour in thine eyes. And the woman went her way, and ate, and her face was no longer sad.)*

19 And they rised (*up*) early, and worshipped before the Lord; and they turned again, and came into their house in Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah, his wife; and the Lord thought on her (*or and the Lord remembered her*).

20 And it was done after the compass of days, Hannah conceived, and childed a son, and called his name Samuel; for she had asked him of the Lord (*or for she had asked for him from the Lord*).

21 And her husband Elkanah went up, and all his house, to offer a solemn sacrifice, and his avow to the Lord. (*And then as before, her husband Elkanah, and all his household, or family, went up to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord, and to renew his vow.*)

22 And Hannah went not up to that solemnity (*or But Hannah did not go up to that feast*), for she had said to her husband, I shall not go (*up*), till the young child be weaned, and till I lead him *thither*, and he appear before the sight of the Lord, and dwell there continually.

23 And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, Do thou that that seemeth good to thee, and dwell thou still till thou have weaned him; and I beseech, that the Lord [*ful*] fill his word. Therefore the woman abode, and gave milk to her son, till the time (*that*) she removed him from the milk.

24 And (*then*) she brought him with her, after that she had weaned him, with three calves, and three bushels of meal, and an amphora, *either a pot*, of wine; and she brought him to the house of the Lord in Shiloh. And the child was yet full young.

²⁵ And they sacrificed a calf, and they offered the child to Eli.

²⁶ And Hannah said, My lord, I beseech thee, (as) thy soul liveth; I am the woman, that stood before thee here, and prayed (to) the Lord;

²⁷ for this child I prayed (or I prayed for this child), and the Lord gave to me mine asking which I asked (of) him;

²⁸ therefore and I have given him to the Lord in all [the] days, in which he is given to the Lord. And they worshipped there the Lord. (and so I am lending him to the Lord; yea, for all his days, he shall be lent to the Lord. And then they worshipped the Lord there.)

CHAPTER 2

¹ And Hannah worshipped, and said, Mine heart fully joyed in the Lord, and mine horn is raised in my God; my mouth is alarged on mine enemies, for I was glad in thine health. (And Hannah worshipped, and said, My heart full out joyeth in the Lord, and my head is raised up to my God; my mouth is enlarged upon my enemies, or harshly speaketh about them, and I am happy for thy help.)

² None is holy as the Lord is; for none other is, except thee, and none is strong as our God. (No one is as holy as the Lord is; for there is no other, except thee, and no one is as strong as our God.)

³ Do not ye multiply to speak high things, and have glory therein; eld things go away from your mouth; for God is Lord of knowings, and thoughts be made ready to him. (Do not ye

continue to speak proud things, and have glory in it; let not proud words come out of your mouth; for God is the Lord of all knowledge, and he judgeth all that people do.)

⁴ The bow of strong men is overcome, and feeble men be girded with strength.

⁵ Men full-filled before, setted themselves to hire for loaves, and hungry men be filled; while the barren woman childed full many, and she that had many sons, was *made sick*. (*Men filled full before, now hire themselves out to work for loaves, and hungry men be filled; while the barren woman bare a great many, and she who had many sons, was made feeble, or weak.*)

⁶ The Lord slayeth, and quickeneth; he leadeth forth to hells, and bringeth again. (*The Lord killeth, and maketh alive; he leadeth down to Sheol, or into the grave, and bringeth up again.*)

⁷ The Lord maketh poor, and he maketh rich; he maketh low, and he raiseth up.

⁸ He raiseth a needy man from powder, and he raiseth a poor man from drit, that he sit with princes, and hold the seat of glory; for the ends of [*the*] earth be of the Lord, and he hath set the world on those. (*He raiseth up the needy from the dust, and he raiseth up the poor from the dirt, so that they sit with princes, and have seats, or places, of honour; for the ends of the earth be the Lord's, and he hath set the world upon them.*)

⁹ He shall keep the feet of his saints, and wicked men shall be still (*al*)together in darknesses; for a man shall not be made strong in his own strength. (*He shall guard the footsteps of*

his saints, and the wicked shall be still, or shall be silent, in the darkness; for no one shall be made strong by their own strength.)

¹⁰ [The] Adversaries of the Lord shall dread him, and from (the) heavens he shall thunder upon them; the Lord shall deem the ends of [the] earth, and he shall give lordship to his king, and he shall enhance the horn, *that is, (the) power, of his Christ. (The Lord's adversaries shall fear him, and he shall thunder upon them from heaven; the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth, and he shall give lordship to his king, yea, he shall enhance the horn, that is, the power, of his anointed king.)*

¹¹ And Elkanah went into Ramah, into his house; and the child was (a) servant in the sight of the Lord before the face of Eli the priest.

¹² Forsooth the sons of Eli *were* the sons of Belial, and they knew not the Lord,

¹³ neither the office of (the) priests to the people; but whoever had offered sacrifice, the servant of the priest came, while the fleshhook were in seething, and he had a fleshhook with three teeth in his hand;

¹⁴ and he sent it into the great vessel of stone, either into the cauldron, either into the pot, either into the pan; and whatever thing the fleshhook raised, the priest took that to himself; so they did to all Israel of men coming into Shiloh. *(and he sent it into the great stone vessel, or the cauldron, or the pot, or the pan; and whatever thing the fleshhook raised up, or caught hold of, the priest took that for himself; and so they did to all Israel who came to Shiloh.)*

¹⁵ Yea, before that they burnt the inner fatness, the priest's servant came, and said to the offerer, Give thou flesh to me/Give to me the flesh, that I seethe it to the priest; for I shall not take of thee sodden flesh, but raw. *(Yes, before that they burned the inner fatness, the priest's servant came, and said to the offerer; Give thou to me the flesh, so that I can roast it for the priest; for I shall not take boiled flesh from thee, but only raw meat.)*

¹⁶ And he that offered said to him, Be first the inner fatness burnt today after the custom, and take thou *then* to thee how much ever thy soul desireth. The which answered, and said to him, Nay, but thou shalt give it now; for else I shall take it by violence. *(And if he who offered said to him, First let the inner fatness be burned today, after the custom, and then take thou for thyself however much thy soul desireth, the servant would answer; and say, No, thou shalt give it to me now; or else I shall take it by force.)*

¹⁷ Therefore the sin of the young men was full grievous before the Lord; for they withdrew men from the sacrifice of the Lord *(or for they drew people away, or discouraged them, from sacrificing to the Lord).*

¹⁸ Forsooth Samuel, a child girded with a linen cloth *(or a boy wearing a linen cloak)*, ministered before the face of the Lord.

¹⁹ And his mother made to him a little coat, the which (s)he brought *to him* in the days ordained *to offer*, and she went up with her husband, that he would offer a solemn offering, and his

avow. *(And his mother made a little coat for him, which she brought to him in the days ordained for offering, when she went up each year with her husband, when he offered a solemn sacrifice, and renewed his vow.)*

²⁰ And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife; and said, The Lord yield to thee seed of this woman, for the gift which thou hast given to the Lord. And they went into their place *again*. *(And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife; and said, May the Lord give thee children from this woman, for the loan which thou hast lent to the Lord. And then they went home again.)*

²¹ Therefore the Lord visited Hannah, and she conceived, and childed three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel was magnified at the Lord *(or But their boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the Lord)*.

²² And Eli was full eld, and he heard all the things that his sons did in all Israel, and how they slept with women, that waited at the door of the tabernacle. *(And Eli grew very old, and he heard of all the improper things that his sons did to all Israel, and how they slept with the women, who served at the entrance to the Tabernacle of the Witnessing.)*

²³ And he said to them, Why do ye such things, (yea), the worst things, which I hear of *(from)* all the people?

²⁴ Do not ye, my sons; it is not a good fame, that I hear, that ye make the Lord's people to do trespass. *(Do not ye do this, my sons; for it is not*

a good report that I hear; that ye make the Lord's people to trespass.)

²⁵ If a man sinneth against a man, God may be pleased to him *by prayers and sacrifices*; but if a man sinneth against the Lord, who shall pray for him? And they heard not the voice of their father, for God would slay them. *(If a man sinneth against another man, God may make him appeased by prayers and sacrifices; but if a man sinneth against the Lord, who shall pray for him? But they would not listen to their father, for God had decided to kill them.)*

²⁶ Forsooth the child Samuel profited, and increased, and pleased both God and men. *(And the boy Samuel grew, and learned, and pleased both God and men.)*

²⁷ Soothly a man of God came to Eli, and said to him, The Lord saith these things, Whether I was not showed apertly to the house of thy father, when he was in Egypt, in the house of Pharaoh? *(And a man of God came to Eli, and said to him, The Lord saith these things, Was I not openly showed to thy father's family, when they were in Egypt, in Pharaoh's house?)*

²⁸ And I chose him of all the lineages of Israel *to be a priest to me, that he should go up to mine altar, and should burn incense to me, and that he should bear before me a priest's cloth (or cloak); and I gave to the house of thy father all things of the sacrifices of the sons of Israel. (And I chose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, so that he could go up to my altar, and burn incense to me, and that he would wear the ephod; and I*

gave to thy father's family all of the sacrifices of the Israelites.)

²⁹ Why hast thou cast away with the heel my sacrifice, and my gifts, which I [*have*] commanded to be offered in the temple; and thou honouredest more thy sons than me, that ye eat the principal parts of each sacrifice of Israel my people? (*Why hast thou kicked away my sacrifice, and my gifts, which I commanded to be offered in the Temple; and why hast thou honoured thy sons more than me, so that ye eat the principal, or the choicest, parts of each offering from my people Israel?*)

³⁰ Therefore the Lord God of Israel saith these things, I speaking spake, that thine house, and the house of thy father, should minister in my sight till into without end; now forsooth the Lord saith, Far be this from me; but whoever honoureth me, I shall glorify him; forsooth they that despise me, shall be unnoble. (*And so the Lord God of Israel saith these things, Before I said, that thy family, and thy father's family, shall serve before me forevermore; but now the Lord saith, Far be this from me; yea, whoever honoureth me, I shall glorify him; but they who despise me, shall be despised.*)

³¹ Lo! [*the*] days come, and I shall cut away thine arm, *or thy power*, and the arm of the house of thy father, that an eld man be not in thine house (*or so that no man shall grow old in thy family*).

³² And thou shalt see thine enemy in the temple, in all the prosperities of Israel (*or amidst*

all of Israel's prosperity); and an eld man shall not be in thine house in all days.

³³ Nevertheless I shall not utterly take away of thee a man from mine altar, but that thine eyes fail, and thy soul fail/and thy life languish; and a great part of thine house shall die, when it shall come to man's age. *(And I shall not utterly take away all of thy men from my altar, but he who is left, his eyes shall fail, and his soul shall fail or and his life shall languish; and a great part of thy family shall die, when they come to a man's age.)*

³⁴ Forsooth this shall be *[the]* sign, that shall come to thy two sons, Hophni and Phinehas; both they shall die in one day *(or they shall both die on the same day)*.

³⁵ And I shall raise to me a faithful priest, that shall do by mine heart and my soul; and I shall build to him a faithful house, and he shall go before my Christ in all days. *(And I shall raise up a faithful priest for me, one who shall do according to my heart and my soul; and I shall build him a faithful family, and he shall go before my anointed king in all his days.)*

³⁶ Forsooth it shall come, that whoever *[still]* dwelleth in thine house, that he come to bow for himself, in an half-penny of silver, and a cake of bread, and say, I beseech, suffer thou me to one part of the priest(s?)(offices), that I eat a morsel of bread. *(And it shall come, that whoever still remaineth in thy family, he shall come to beg for himself, for a half-penny of silver, and for a cake of bread, and he shall say, I beseech thee, allow me*

to hold one of the priests' offices, so that I can get a morsel of bread to eat.)

CHAPTER 3

¹ Forsooth the child Samuel ministered to the Lord before Eli, and the word of the Lord was precious; in those days was none open revelation *(or for in those days there was no open revelation).*

² Therefore it was done in a day, Eli lay in his bed, and his eyes dimmed, and he might not see; *(And so it was done one night, when Eli lay on his bed, and his eyes had dimmed, and he could not see;)*

³ the lantern of the Lord was not yet quenched. And Samuel slept in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. *(and Samuel also slept in the Temple of the Lord, where the Ark of God was. And one morning, before that the lantern of God was quenched,)*

⁴ And the Lord called Samuel; and he answered and said, Lo! I./Lo! I am ready. *(the Lord called to Samuel; and he answered and said, Behold! I am here.)*

⁵ And he ran to Eli, and said to him, Lo! I; for thou calledest me. And Eli said, I called not thee; turn thou again and sleep. And he went and slept. *(And he ran to Eli, and said to him, Behold! I am here; for thou hast called me. And Eli said, I did not call thee; return thou, and go to sleep. And so he went and slept again.)*

⁶ And the Lord added again to call Samuel; and Samuel rose *(up)*, and went to Eli, and said, Lo! I *(am)* here; for thou calledest me. And Eli answered, I called not thee, my son; turn thou

again and sleep, *(or And Eli answered, I did not call thee, my son; return thou, and go back to sleep).*

⁷ Forsooth Samuel knew not yet the Lord, neither the word of the Lord was showed to him. *(For Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord was not yet shown to him.)*

⁸ And the Lord added, and called yet Samuel the third time; the which rose up and went to Eli, and said, Lo! I; for thou callest me. Then Eli understood, that the Lord had called the child; *(And the Lord added, and called to Samuel yet the third time; and he rose up and went to Eli, and said, Behold! I am here; for thou hast called me. Then Eli understood, that the Lord had called the child;)*

⁹ and Eli said to Samuel, Go thou and sleep; and if he calleth thee afterward, thou shalt say, Speak thou, Lord, for thy servant heareth. Then Samuel went and slept in his place.

¹⁰ And the Lord came, and stood, and called as he had called the second time, *(or and called to him as he had called the other times, saying),* Samuel, Samuel. And Samuel said, Speak thou, Lord, for thy servant heareth.

¹¹ And the Lord said to Samuel, Lo! I *(shall)* make a word, *that is, (I shall do) a thing signified by a word,* in Israel, which word whoever shall hear, both his ears shall ring, *that is, he shall be astonished for wonder and dread.*

¹² In that day I shall raise up against Eli all *(the)* things that I have spoken upon his house; I shall begin *(it),* and I shall end *(it).*

13 For I before-said to him, that I should deem his house without end for the wickedness thereof; for he knew, that his sons did unworthily, and he chastised not them. *(For I said to him before, that I would judge his family forevermore for its wickedness; and he knoweth, that his sons have done unworthily, and yet he hath not chastised them.)*

14 Therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli, that the wickedness of his family, *or his house*, shall not be cleansed with sacrifices and gifts till into without end.

15 And then Samuel slept till the morrowtide, and he opened the doors of the house of the Lord; and Samuel dreaded to show the revelation to Eli.

16 Therefore Eli called Samuel, and said, Samuel, my son. And he answered and said, I am ready, *(or And he answered, I am here)*.

17 And Eli asked him, What is the word that the Lord hath spoken to thee? I pray thee, hide it not from me; God do to thee these things, and increase these things, if thou hidest from me a word of all *[the]* words that be said to thee.

18 And Samuel showed to him all the words, and hid not *(anything)* from him. And Eli answered, He is the Lord; do he that, that is good in his eyes.

19 Forsooth Samuel increased *(or And so Samuel grew up)*, and the Lord was with him, and none of all his words felled into *[the]* earth, *that is, (were)in vain, for all was (ful) filled*.

20 And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew, that faithful Samuel was a prophet of the Lord.

(And all Israel knew, from Dan to Beersheba, that truly Samuel was a prophet of the Lord.)

²¹ And the Lord added to appear again in Shiloh, for the Lord was showed to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord;

CHAPTER 4

¹ and the word of Samuel came to all Israel. And it was done in those days *(the)* Philistines came together into battle; for Israel went out against the Philistines into battle, and setted tents beside the stone of help *(or and pitched their tents at Ebenezer)*. And the Philistines came into Aphek,

² and made ready *(the)* battle array against Israel. And when the battle was begun, Israel turned the*(ir)* backs to *[the]* Philistines; and as four thousand of men were slain in that battle everywhere by fields; and the people of Israel turned again to their tents. *(and prepared the battle array against Israel. And when the battle was begun, Israel turned their backs to the Philistines; and about four thousand men were killed that day in that battle, in every part of the field; and then the people of Israel returned to their tents.)*

³ And the greater men in birth of Israel said, Why hath the Lord smitten us today before the Philistines? Bring we to us from Shiloh the ark of the bond of peace of the Lord, and come it into the midst of us, that it save us from the hand of our enemies. *(And the men of great age, that is, the elders, of Israel, said, Why did the Lord let us*

be defeated today by the Philistines? Let us bring the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord from Shiloh, and have it come here into our midst, so that it can save us from the hand of our enemies.)

⁴ Therefore the people sent into Shiloh, and they took from thence the ark of the bond of peace of the Lord of hosts, that sat on cherubim. And Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were with the ark of the bond of peace of the Lord. *(And so the people sent to Shiloh, and they brought from there the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord of hosts, who sitteth above, or upon, the cherubim. And Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, came with the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord.)*

⁵ And when the ark of [the] bond of peace of the Lord had come into the tents *(or And when the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord came to the camp)*, all Israel cried [out] with [a] great cry, and the earth sounded.

⁶ And the Philistines heard the voice of their cry, and they said, And what is this voice of great cry in the tents of Hebrews? And they knew, that the ark of [the] bond of peace of the Lord had come into the tents of Israel. *(And the Philistines heard the sound of their cry, and they said, And what is this sound of a great cry from the Hebrews? tents? And then they knew, that the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord had come to Israel's camp.)*

⁷ And the Philistines dreaded, and said, God is come into their tents; and they wailed, and said, Woe to us! for so great out-joying was not

there yesterday, and the third day passed; (*And the Philistines were afraid, and said, God hath come to their tents; and they wailed, and said, Woe to us! for there was not so great rejoicing there yesterday, or the third day ago;*)

⁸ woe to us! who shall keep us from the hand of these high gods? these be the gods, that smited Egypt with all vengeance in desert. (*woe to us! who shall save us from the power of these high gods? these be the gods, who struck down the Egyptians with all that slaughter in the wilderness.*)

⁹ Philistines, be ye comforted, and be ye men, serve ye not to the Hebrews, as they have served to you; be ye comforted, and fight ye *against* Israel. (*Philistines, take ye courage, and be ye men, otherwise ye shall serve as slaves to the Hebrews, like they have served you; yea, be ye of good courage, and fight ye against Israel.*)

¹⁰ Then the Philistines fought, and Israel was overcome, and each man fled into his tabernacle; and a full great vengeance was made, and thirty thousand of (*the*) footmen of Israel felled down. (*Then the Philistines fought, and Israel was overcome, and each man fled into his tent; and there was a great slaughter, and thirty thousand of the footmen of Israel fell down.*)

¹¹ And the ark of God was taken; and, the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were dead. (*And the Ark of God was taken; and Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, were killed.*)

¹² And a man of Benjamin ran from the battle array, and came into Shiloh in that day, with his

cloth rent, and with his head besprinkled with dust; *(And a man of Benjamin ran from the battle array, and came into Shiloh that day, with his cloak torn, and with his head covered with dirt;)*

¹³ and when he was come, Eli sat upon a seat, and beheld against the way; for his heart was dreading for the ark of the Lord, *(or and when he arrived, Eli sat on a seat, looking toward the road; for his heart was fearing for the Ark of the Lord).* And after that that man had entered, he told *(what had happened)* to the men of the city, and *(then)* all the city yelled.

¹⁴ And Eli heard the sound of the cry, and he said, What is the sound of this noise? *(or And Eli heard all the yelling, and he said, What is the meaning of this noise?)* And the man hastened, and came, and told to Eli.

¹⁵ And Eli was of fourscore years and eighteen, and his eyes *(had)* dimmed/his eyes *(had)* darkened, and he might not see.

¹⁶ And the man said to Eli, I am *he* that came from the battle, and I am *he* that fled today from the battle array. To whom Eli said, My son, what is there done? *(or My son, what is done there?)*

¹⁷ And he that told answered, and said, Israel hath fled before the Philistines, and a great falling is made in the people *of Israel*; furthermore and thy two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, be dead, and the ark of God is taken. *(And he who had given the report answered him, and said, Israel hath fled before the Philistines, and a great number of the people of Israel have fallen; and*

furthermore thy two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, were killed, and the Ark of God was taken.)

¹⁸ And when he named the ark of God, Eli felled (off) from the seat backward beside the door, and was dead (*or and he died*); for his neck was broken. For he was an eld man, and of great age; and he deemed Israel forty years.

¹⁹ And his daughter-in-law, Phinehas? wife, was with child, and nigh the child bearing; and when the message was heard/and when she (*had*) heard by the messenger, that the ark of God was taken, and that her father-in-law was dead, and (*also*) her husband, she bowed herself down, and childed; for sudden sorrows felled into her (*or for suddenly her pains came upon her*).

²⁰ And in that moment of her death, (*the*)women that stood about her said to her, Dread thou not, for thou hast childed a son. And she answered not to them, neither she took heed. (*And at the moment of her death, the women who stood about her said to her, Fear thou not, for thou hast borne a son. But she did not answer them, nor take any heed.*)

²¹ And she called the child Ichabod, *that is, without glory*, and said, The glory of the Lord is translated from Israel, for the ark of God is taken; and for her father-in-law and for her husband (*And she called the child Ichabod, that is, Without glory, and said, Now the glory of the Lord hath been taken away from Israel; for the Ark of God was taken, and her father-in-law, and her husband, were dead;*)

²² she said, The glory of God is translated from Israel/is taken from Israel, for the ark of God is

taken. *(and she said again, The glory of God hath been taken away from Israel, for the Ark of God hath been taken from us.)*

CHAPTER 5

¹ And the Philistines took the ark of God, and bare it away from the stone of help into Ashdod. *(And the Philistines took the Ark of God, and carried it away from Ebenezer unto Ashdod.)*

² And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it into the temple of Dagon, and setted it beside Dagon.

³ And when men of Ashdod had risen early in the tother day, lo! Dagon lay low in the earth before the ark of the Lord. And they took Dagon, and restored him in his place. *(And when the men of Ashdod had risen early the next day, behold! Dagon lay low on the ground before the Ark of the Lord. And they took Dagon, and restored him to his place.)*

⁴ And again they rose early in the tother day, and they found Dagon lying on his face upon the earth before the ark of the Lord. And the head of Dagon, and the two palms of his hands, were broken off, *(and were lying)* upon the threshold; and the stock alone of Dagon *(was)* left in his place. *(And they rose up early the next day, and they found Dagon lying on his face on the ground before the Ark of the Lord. And the head of Dagon, and the two palms of his hands, were broken off, and were lying on the threshold; and only Dagon's body was left in its place.)*

⁵ For this cause the priests of Dagon, and all that enter into his temple, tread not upon the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day.

⁶ Forsooth the hand of the Lord was made grievous upon *[the]* men of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and he smote Ashdod and the coasts thereof in the privier part of *[the]* buttocks/in the more privy part of their tail ends.

⁷ And men of Ashdod saw such a vengeance, and they said, The ark of God of Israel dwell not with us; for his hand is hard on us, and on Dagon our god. *(And when the men of Ashdod saw such vengeance taken upon themselves, they said, The Ark of the God of Israel must not remain among us; for his hand is hard upon us, and upon our god Dagon.)*

⁸ And they sent, and gathered all the wise men, *either princes*, of Philistines to them, and said, What shall we do of the ark of God of Israel? And the men of Gath answered, The ark of God of Israel be led about; and they led about the ark of God of Israel. *(And they sent for, and gathered together, all the princes of the Philistines, and said to them, What shall we do with the Ark of the God of Israel? And the men answered, The Ark of the God of Israel should be taken to Gath; and so they took the Ark of the God of Israel there.)*

⁹ And while they led it about, the hand of the Lord was made upon all the cities *about*, of full great slaughter; and he smote men of each city, from a little man till to the more, and the lower entrails of them waxed rotten, and came forth; and men of Gath took counsel, and they made to

themselves seats of skins, *either cushions.* (And after they took it there, the hand of the Lord was made upon all the city with a full great slaughter; and he struck the men of the city, from a small, or a low, man unto a great man, and their lower entrails grew rotten, and came forth; and the men of Gath took counsel together, and then they made leather cushions for themselves.)

¹⁰ Therefore they sent the ark of the Lord into Ekron. And when the ark of the Lord had come into Ekron, men of Ekron cried [out], and said, They have brought to us the ark of God of Israel, that he slay us and our people. (And so they sent the Ark of the Lord to Ekron. And when the Ark of the Lord had come to Ekron, the men of Ekron cried out, and said, They have brought the Ark of the God of Israel to us, so that now he will kill us and our people!)

¹¹ Then they sent, and gathered together all the wise men, *either princes*, of Philistines; which said, Deliver ye the ark of God of Israel, and turn it again into his place, and slay not us with our people. For dread of death was made in all [the] cities, and the hand of the Lord was full grievous. (And they sent for, and gathered together, all the princes of the Philistines; and they said, Send the Ark of the God of Israel away, and let it return to its own place, so that it shall not kill us and our people. For the fear of death was made in all the city, and the hand of the Lord was very grievous there.)

¹² And the men, that were not dead (or who did not die), were smitten in the privy parts of

their buttocks, and the yelling of each city went up into heaven.

CHAPTER 6

¹ Therefore the ark of the Lord was in the country of *[the]* Philistines *(for)* seven months;

² and after these things the Philistines called together *[the]* priests and false diviners, and said, What shall we do of the ark of God? Show ye to us, how we shall send it into his place. *(and after these things the Philistines called together the priests and the false diviners, and asked, What shall we do with the Ark of God? Tell us how we should send it back to its own place?)*

³ Which said, If ye send again the ark of God of Israel, do not ye deliver it void, but yield ye to him that thing, that ye owe for *[the]* sin; and then ye shall be healed, and ye shall know, why his hand goeth not away from you. *(Who said, If ye return the Ark of the God of Israel, do not ye send it back without a gift, but send ye it back with what ye owe for your sin; and then ye shall be healed, and ye shall know why his hand goeth not away from you now.)*

⁴ And they said, What is it, that we ought to yield to him for *(the)* trespass? And they answered to them, By the number of the provinces of *(the)* Philistines, ye shall make five golden arses, and five golden mice; for one vengeance was to all *(of)* you, and to your wise men, *either princes.*

⁵ And ye shall make the likeness of your arses, and the likeness of *[the]* mice that destroyed your

land; and ye shall give glory to *[the]* God of Israel, if in hap he withdraw his hand from you, and from your gods, and from your land.

⁶ Why make ye heavy your hearts, as Egypt and Pharaoh grieved their heart(s)? Whether not after that he was smitten, then he delivered God's people, and they went forth? *(Why be ye stubborn, or stiff-necked, like Egypt and Pharaoh were stubborn, or stiff-necked? For after God had struck them, did they not let God's people go, and they went away?)*

⁷ Now therefore take ye, and make a new wain, and join ye therein two kine having calves, on which kine no yoke was put; and close ye their calves at home. *(And so now take ye, and make ready a new wagon, and join ye it up to two cows who have calves, on which cows no yoke was ever put; and enclose ye their calves at home.)*

⁸ And ye shall take the ark of the Lord, and ye shall set *(it)* in the wain; and ye shall put in a little coffer at the side of the ark the golden vessels, which ye have paid to the Lord for *your* trespass; and deliver ye the ark, that it go forth. *(And ye shall take the Ark of the Lord, and ye shall put it on the wagon; and ye shall put the gold vessels, that ye send to the Lord for your trespass, in a small box at the side of the Ark; and then let the Ark go forth as it will.)*

⁹ And ye shall behold *it*, and soothly if it goeth up against Bethshemesh by the way of his coasts, the Lord hath then done to you this great evil; but if it go not *thither*, we shall know that the hand of the Lord touched not us, but this thing

hath fallen to us by hap. (*And ye shall watch it, and truly if it goeth up toward Bethshemesh by the way of its coasts, then the Lord hath done this great evil to you; but if it go not there, then we shall know that the hand of the Lord did not touch us, and that this thing hath befallen to us all by happenstance, or chance.*)

¹⁰ Then they did in this manner; and they took two kine that gave milk to their calves, and they joined *them* to the wain; and they (*en*)closed their calves at home.

¹¹ And they put the ark of God upon the wain, and the little coffer, (*or the small box*), that had the gold mice, and the likeness of (*their*) arses.

¹² And the kine went straightly by the way that leadeth to Bethshemesh; and those kine went in one way going and lowing, and they bowed not neither to the right side nor to the left side; but also the wise men of Philistines followed unto the coasts of Bethshemesh (*or and the princes of the Philistines followed them to the border of Bethshemesh*).

¹³ Forsooth (*the*) men of Bethshemesh reaped wheat in the valley, and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and they were joyful, when they had seen it.

¹⁴ And the wain came into the field of Joshua of Bethshemesh, and stood there. And a great stone was there; and they cutted the wood of the wain, and putted the kine on that wood, (*as*) a burnt sacrifice to the Lord.

¹⁵ And the deacons took down the ark of God, and the little coffer that was beside it, wherein the golden vessels were; and they

putted those upon the great stone. And the men of Bethshemesh offered burnt sacrifices, and offered slain sacrifices in that day to the Lord. *(And the Levites took down the Ark of God, and the small box that was beside it, which held the gold vessels; and they put them on the great stone. And the men of Bethshemesh offered burnt sacrifices, and slain sacrifices, to the Lord that day.)*

¹⁶ And *[the]* five princes of Philistines saw, and turned again into Ekron in that day. *(And the five princes of the Philistines saw it, and then returned to Ekron that day.)*

¹⁷ Soothly these be the golden arses, which the Philistines yielded to the Lord for *their* trespass; Ashdod yielded one; Gaza one; Askelon one; Gath one; Ekron one;

¹⁸ and *the Philistines yielded* golden mice by the number of cities of Philistines of *[the]* five provinces, from a walled city unto an unwallled town, and unto the great stone that was called Abel, on which they putted the ark of the Lord, the which stone was there unto that day in the field of Joshua of Bethshemesh. *(and they also gave gold mice by the number of the Philistines? cities governed by the five princes, from a walled city unto an unwallled town. And the great stone that was called Eben, on which they put the Ark of the Lord, is there unto this day, in the field of Joshua of Bethshemesh.)*

¹⁹ Forsooth the Lord smote of the men of Bethshemesh, for they had seen the ark of the Lord, and he smote of the people seventy men,

and fifty thousand of the poor-all*. And the people mourned, for the Lord had smitten the people with [a] great vengeance. *(But the Lord struck down the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked inside the Ark of the Lord, and so he struck down seventy men of the people there. And the people mourned, for the Lord had struck down the people with such a great slaughter.)*

²⁰ And men of Bethshemesh said, Who shall now stand in the sight of the Lord God of this holy thing, and to whom shall it go up from us? *(And the men of Bethshemesh said, Who can now stand before the Lord, yea, this holy God, and to whom shall we send this Ark away from us? or and to whom shall he go away from us?)*

²¹ And they sent messengers to the dwellers of Kiriathjearim, and said, The Philistines have brought again the ark of the Lord; come ye down, and lead it again to you. *(And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kiriathjearim, who said, The Philistines have returned the Ark of the Lord; come ye down, and take it away with you.)*

CHAPTER 7

¹ Therefore men of Kiriathjearim came, and led again the ark of the Lord, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in Gibeah. And they hallowed Eleazar his son, that he should

* **CHAPTER 6:19** *Hebrews understand thus the number of men slain here; they say that only seventy men were smitten, which were of so great (a) reputation, that they were (each) comparisioned to (almost) one thousand of the common people.*

keep the ark of the Lord. *(And so some men of Kiriathjearim came, and took the Ark of the Lord, and they brought it to the house of Abinadab on the hill. And they consecrated his son Eleazar, so that he could be in charge of the Ark of the Lord.)*

² And it was done, from which day the ark of the Lord dwelled in Kiriathjearim, *(that the) days were multiplied; for the twentieth year was now, after that Samuel began to teach the people; and all Israel rested after the Lord (or and all Israel cried out to the Lord for help).*

³ And Samuel spake to all the house of Israel, and said, If in all your heart ye turn again to the Lord, do ye away alien gods, *(or do ye away foreign, or other, gods), (the) Baalim, and (the) Ashtaroath, from the midst of you; and make ye ready your hearts to the Lord, and serve ye him alone; and (then) he shall deliver you from the hand of the Philistines.*

⁴ Therefore the sons of Israel did away Baalim and Ashtaroath, and served the Lord alone. *(And so the Israelites did away the Baalim and the Ashtaroath, and served the Lord alone.)*

⁵ And Samuel said, Gather ye all Israel into Mizpah, that I pray the Lord for you *(or and I shall pray to the Lord for you).*

⁶ And they came together into Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out in the Lord's sight; and they fasted in that day, and said, Lord, we have sinned to thee, *(or and said, Lord, we have sinned against thee).* And Samuel deemed the sons of Israel in Mizpeh.

⁷ And the Philistines heard that the sons of Israel were gathered together in Mizpeh; and the princes of Philistines went up to Israel. And when the sons of Israel had heard this, they dreaded of the face of *(the)* Philistines. *(And the Philistines heard that the Israelites were gathered together in Mizpeh; and the princes of the Philistines came up against Israel. And when the Israelites had heard this, they feared to face the Philistines.)*

⁸ And they said to Samuel/And Israel cried to Samuel, Cease thou not to cry for us to our Lord God, that he save us from the hand of Philistines. *(And the Israelites cried to Samuel, Cease thou not to cry out to the Lord our God for us, so that he will save us from the hands of the Philistines.)*

⁹ And Samuel took one sucking lamb, and offered it whole into burnt sacrifice to the Lord, *(or And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it whole for a burnt sacrifice to the Lord).* And Samuel cried to the Lord for Israel; and the Lord heard him.

¹⁰ And it was done, when Samuel offered the burnt sacrifice, that the Philistines began *(to do)* battle against Israel. And the Lord thundered with great thunder in that day upon the Philistines, and made them afeared; and they were slain of the sons of Israel *(or and they fled in panic before the Israelites).*

¹¹ And the sons of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them unto the place that was under Bethcar.

¹² And Samuel took one stone, and put it betwixt Mizpeh, and Shen; and he called the

name of that place The stone of help (*or and he called the name of that place Ebenezer*). And he said, Hitherto the Lord hath helped us.

¹³ And the Philistines were made low, and they added no more to come into the terms of Israel, (*or And so the Philistines were humbled, and they did not come any more into the land of Israel*). And so the hand of the Lord was made [up] on (*the*) Philistines in all the days of Samuel.

¹⁴ And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel, were yielded again to Israel, from Ekron unto Gath, and the coasts of Gath; and the Lord delivered Israel from the hand of (*the*) Philistines; and peace was betwixt Israel and Amorites (*or and there was peace between Israel and the Amorites*).

¹⁵ And Samuel deemed Israel all the days of his life, *that is, till to the ordaining and confirming of Saul*;

¹⁶ and he went by each year, and compassed Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and he deemed Israel in the foresaid places.

¹⁷ And he turned again into Ramah, for his house was there; and he deemed Israel there, and he builded there also an altar to the Lord. (*And then he returned to Ramah, for his house was there; and he judged Israel there, and he also built an altar there to the Lord.*)

CHAPTER 8

¹ And it was done, when Samuel waxed eld, he set his sons *to be* judges of Israel. (*And it was done, when Samuel grew old, he made his sons to be judges in Israel.*)

² And the name of his first begotten son was Joel, and the name of the second was Abiah, that were judges in Beersheba (*or and they were judges in Beersheba*).

³ And his sons went not in his ways, but they bowed after avarice, and they took gifts, and perverted doom (*or and perverted justice, or judgement*).

⁴ Therefore all the greater men in birth of Israel were gathered together, and came to Samuel into Ramah. (*And so all the men of great age, that is, the elders, of Israel gathered together, and came to Samuel in Ramah.*)

⁵ And they said to him, Lo! thou hast waxed eld, and thy sons go not in thy ways; ordain thou a king to us, that he deem us, as also all *other* nations have. (*And they said to him, Behold! thou hast grown old, and thy sons do not go in thy ways; ordain thou a king for us, so that he can judge, or can rule, us, like all the other nations have.*)

⁶ And the word displeased in the eyes of Samuel, for they had said, Give thou to us a king, that he deem us. And Samuel prayed to the Lord. (*And this request displeased Samuel, for they had said, Give thou a king to us, so that he can judge us. And Samuel prayed to the Lord.*)

⁷ And the Lord said to Samuel, Hear thou the voice of the people in all things that they speak to thee; for they have not cast away thee (*or for they have not thrown thee away*), but me, (*so*) that I reign not upon them.

⁸ By all the works that they have done, from the day in which I led them out of Egypt unto this day, as they have forsaken me, and they have served alien gods, so they do also to thee, *(or and they have served foreign, or other, gods, and now they also do to thee).*

⁹ Now therefore hear thou their voice; nevertheless witness thou to them; and before-say thou to them the right of the king, that shall reign upon them, *(or and tell thou them, the rights of the king who shall reign over them).*

¹⁰ Then Samuel said all the words of the Lord to the people, that had asked of him a king *(or who had asked him for a king);*

¹¹ and he said, This shall be the right of the king, that shall command to you; he shall take your sons, and he shall set them in his chariots; and he shall make them to himself riders, and before-goers of his carts, *(or and he shall make them to be his horsemen, or his riders, and to run before his chariots);*

¹² and he shall ordain to him tribunes, *that is, sovereigns of a thousand*, and centurions, *that is, sovereigns of an hundred*, and earers/tillers of his fields, and reapers of his corns, and smiths of his armours, and *(smiths)* of his chariots. *(and he shall ordain his tribunes, that is, the rulers of a thousand, and his centurions, that is, the rulers of a hundred, and the tillers of his fields, and the reapers of his harvest, and the smiths of his arms, or of his weapons, and the smiths of his chariots.)*

¹³ Also he shall make your daughters *(to be)* makers of his ointments, and his fire-makers *(or*

and his cooks), and (his) bakers/his makers of bread.

¹⁴ And he shall take your fields, and your vineries (*or and your vineyards*), and the best places of olives, and he shall give *those* to his servants.

¹⁵ But also he shall take the tenth part of your corns, and (*of*) the rents of your vineries, that he give those to his chamberlains, and [*to his*] servants.

¹⁶ And he shall take away your servants, and *your* handmaids, and *your* best young men, and *your* asses, and he shall set these in his work. (*And he shall take away your servants, and your servantesses, and your best young men, and your donkeys, and he shall make them do his bidding or and he shall make them work for him.*)

¹⁷ Also he shall take the tenth part of your flocks; and ye shall be his servants.

¹⁸ And ye shall cry in that day from the face of your king, whom ye have chosen to you; and the Lord shall not hear you in that day; for ye [*have*] asked (*for*) a king to you. (*And ye shall cry out on that day because of your king, whom ye have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord shall not hear you on that day; for ye have asked for a king for yourselves.*)

¹⁹ Soothly the people would not hear the voice of Samuel, but they said, Nay, for a king shall be on us; (*But the people would not listen to Samuel, and they said, No! let a king rule over us;*)

²⁰ and (*then*) we also shall be as all folks (*or and then we shall be like all the other nations*),

and our king shall deem us, and he shall go out before us, and he shall fight our battles for us.

²¹ And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he spake them in the ears of the Lord.

²² And the Lord said to Samuel, Hear thou their voices, and ordain thou a king upon them. And Samuel said to the men of Israel, Each man go into his city (*or Now everyone go home*).

CHAPTER 9

¹ And there was a man of Benjamin, that was called Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, the son of a man *that was called Benjamin (or a Benjamite)*, a strong man in bodily might.

² And to him was a son, Saul by name, chosen and good(ly); and no man of the sons of Israel was better than he; (*and*) from the shoulder(s) and above, he appeared over all the people.

³ And the she-asses of Kish, the father of Saul, were lost, (*or And one day the female donkeys of Kish, Saul's father, went missing*). And Kish said to Saul his son, Take with thee one of the servants, and rise thou, and go seek the she-asses.

⁴ And when they had gone forth by the hill (*country*) of Ephraim, and by the land of Shalisha, and they had not found them, they passed forth also by the land of Shalim, and they were not *there*; but also *they passed* by the land of Benjamin, and yet they found (*them*) not.

⁵ And when they had come into the land of Zuph, and had not found (*them*), Saul said to his

servant that was with him, Come thou, and turn we again; lest peradventure my father hath left (*off caring about*) the female asses, and is busy for us (*or and is now concerned about us*).

⁶ And the servant said to him, Lo! a man of God is in this city, a noble man; all thing that he speaketh, cometh without (*a*) doubt. Now therefore go we thither, if peradventure he show to us of our way, for which we came, (*or And so now let us go there, perhaps he can show us the way that we should go*).

⁷ And Saul said to his servant, Lo! we shall go (*there*); (*but*) what shall we bear to the man of God? Bread hath failed in our srips, and we have no present, that we (*can*) give to the man of God, neither any other thing.

⁸ Again the servant answered to Saul, and said, Lo! the fourth part of a stater, *that is, a shekel*, of silver is found (*here*) in mine hand; give we *it* to the man of God, that he show to us our way (*or so that he will show us the way that we should go*).

⁹ Sometime in Israel each man going to counsel with God spake thus, Come ye, and go we to the seer; for he, that is said now a prophet, was called sometime a seer, (*or for he, who now is called a prophet, before was called a seer*).

¹⁰ And Saul said to his servant, Thy word is the best; come thou, go we. And they went into the city, in which the man of God was, (*or And they went to the city, where the man of God was*).

¹¹ And when they went up into the highness of the city, they found damsels going out to draw

water, and they said to the damsels, Whether the seer is here? (*or Is the seer here?*)

¹² And the damsels answered, and said to them, He is here; lo! he is before thee; haste thou now, for today he came into the city; for today is sacrifice of the people in the high place. (*And the young women answered, and said to them, He is here; behold! he is ahead of thee; haste thou now, for he came into the city today; for there is a sacrifice by all the people at the hill shrine today.*)

¹³ Ye shall enter into the city, and at once ye shall find him, before that he ascend into the high place to eat; for the people shall not eat till he come, for he shall (*first*) bless the sacrifice, and afterward they shall eat that be called (*or and then afterward they who be called shall eat*). Now therefore go ye up, for today ye shall find him.

¹⁴ And they went up into the city. And when they went into the midst of the city, Samuel appeared going out against them, that he should go up into the high place, (*or Samuel appeared coming out toward them, as he went on his way up to the hill shrine*).

¹⁵ And the day before that Saul came, the Lord (*had*) made (*a*) revelation in the ear of Samuel, and said,

¹⁶ In this same hour which is now, tomorrow, I shall send to thee a man of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him duke upon my people Israel (*or and thou shalt anoint him the ruler over my people Israel*), and he shall save my people from the hand(s) of (*the*) Philistines; for I have

beheld my people, forsooth their cry hath come to me.

¹⁷ And when Samuel had beheld Saul, the Lord said to Samuel, Lo! the man, (*of*) whom I said to thee; this man shall be lord of my people.

¹⁸ And Saul nighed to Samuel in the midst of the gate, and said, I pray thee, show thou to me, where is the house of the seer?

¹⁹ And Samuel answered to Saul, and said, I am the seer; go thou up before me into the high place, that thou eat with me today, and I shall deliver thee in the morrowtide, and I shall show to thee all things that be in thine heart. (*And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I am the seer; go thou up before me, or ahead of me, to the hill shrine, and thou shalt eat with me today, and in the morning I shall let thee go, after that I show thee all the things that be in thy heart.*)

²⁰ And be thou not busy of the female asses, which thou lostest the third day ago, for those be found; and whose shall be all the best things of Israel, whether not to thee, and to all the house of thy father? (*And be thou not concerned about the female donkeys, which went missing three days ago, for they be found; and now I ask thee, who shall be regarded as the very best in Israel, whether not thee, and all of thy father's family?*)

²¹ And Saul answered, and said, Whether I am not a son of Benjamin, of the least lineage of Israel, and my kindred is the last among all the families of the lineage of Benjamin? Why therefore hast thou spoken to me this word?

(And Saul answered, Am I not a Benjaminite, yea, of the smallest tribe of Israel, and is not my kindred, or my family, the least among all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then hast thou spoken such a word to me?)

²² And so Samuel took Saul, and his servant, and led them into the chamber of three orders (*of seats, or benches*), and he gave to them a place in the beginning of them that were called, (*or bidden to the meat*); for they were as thirty men. (*And then Samuel took Saul, and his servant, and led them into a chamber with three rows of seats, or benches, and he gave them a place at the head of those who were called, or were bidden to the meal; for there were about thirty men there.*)

²³ And Samuel said to the cook, Give thou the part which I gave to thee (*or Bring thou out the portion which I gave thee*), and commanded, that thou shouldest keep (*it*) by itself with thee.

²⁴ And the cook took up a shoulder, and he set it before Saul. And Samuel said, Lo! that, that hath (*been*) left, take before thee, and eat; for of (*this*) purpose it was kept to thee, when I called the people *hither*. And Saul ate with Samuel that day. (*And the cook took up a shoulder, and he put it before Saul. And Samuel said, Behold! that which was kept, take for thyself, and now eat it; for it was kept for thee for this purpose, when I called the people here. And so Saul ate with Samuel that day.*)

²⁵ And they came down from the high place into the city; and Samuel spake with Saul in the solar, and Saul arrayed a bed in the solar (*for*

himself), and slept. (And then they came down from the hill shrine into the city; and Samuel spoke with Saul on the roof, and then Saul arrayed a bed for himself on the roof, and slept.)

²⁶ And when they had risen early, and the day began to be clear, Samuel called Saul into the solar, and said, Rise thou up, that I deliver thee, *(or Samuel called to Saul on the roof, and said, Rise thou up, so that I can let thee go)*. And Saul rose up, and both went out, that is, he, and Samuel.

²⁷ And when they went down in(to) the last part of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Say thou to the servant, that he go before us, and pass *[forth]*; forsooth stand thou *[still]* a little, that I show to thee the word of the Lord, *(or but thou stand here for a little while, so that I can tell thee the word of the Lord)*.

CHAPTER 10

¹ Forsooth Samuel took a vessel of oil, and he poured it out on the head of Saul, and kissed him, and said, Lo! the Lord hath anointed thee into prince on his heritage, *(or Behold! the Lord anointeth thee to be the prince, or the ruler, over his people Israel)*;

² when thou shalt go from me today, thou shalt find two men beside the sepulchre of Rachel, in the ends of Benjamin, in midday; and they shall say to thee, The female asses be found, which thou wentest to seek; and while the *(she-)*asses be left *(off caring about)*, thy father is *(now)* busy for you, and saith, What shall I do of my son? *(when*

thou shalt go away from me today, thou shalt find two men beside the sepulchre of Rachel, at Zelzah, in the territory of Benjamin; and they shall say to thee, The female donkeys, which thou wentest to seek, be found; and the female donkeys be no more cared about, but thy father is now concerned about you, and saith, What shall I do about my son?)

³ And when thou hast gone from thence, and hast passed (*forth*) further, and hast come to the oak of Tabor, three men, going up to God into Bethel (*or going up to Bethel to worship God*), shall find thee there, one man bearing three kids, and another man bearing three cakes of bread, and another man bearing a gallon of wine.

⁴ And when they have greeted thee, they shall give to thee two loaves, and thou shalt take *those* of their hand (*or and thou shalt take their loaves*).

⁵ After these things thou shalt come into the hill of the Lord, where is the standing place, *that is, the forcelet*, of Philistines; and when thou shalt enter into the city, there thou shalt have meeting thee a flock, *or a company*, of prophets, coming down from the high place, and a psaltery, and a tympan, and a pipe, and an harp before them, and them prophesying. (*After these things thou shalt come to the Hill of the Lord, where the stronghold of the Philistines is; and when thou shalt enter into the city, there thou shalt meet a group of prophets, coming down from the hill shrine, with a lute, and a drum, and a pipe, and a harp going before them, and them prophesying.*)

⁶ And the Spirit of the Lord shall at once fall into thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and thou shalt be changed into another man.

⁷ Therefore when all these signs befall to thee, do thou, whatever things thine hand findeth, for the Lord is with thee.

⁸ And thou shalt go down before me into Gilgal; for I shall come down to thee, to offer an offering, and sacrifice peaceable sacrifices; by seven days thou shalt abide, till I come to thee, and show thee what thou shalt do. (*And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; for I shall come down to thee, to offer a burnt sacrifice, and to sacrifice some peace offerings; thou shalt wait there for seven days, until I come to thee, and show thee what thou shalt do.*)

⁹ Therefore when Saul had turned away his shoulder to go from Samuel, God exchanged another heart to Saul (*or God gave Saul another heart*), and all these signs came in that day.

¹⁰ And Saul and his servant came to the foresaid hill, and lo! a company of prophets were meeting with him (*or and behold! a group of prophets met him*); and the Spirit of the Lord fell at once upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the prophets.

¹¹ And all men, that knew Saul yesterday and the third day ago, saw that he was with the prophets, and that he prophesied, and they said together, What thing hath befallen to the son of Kish? Whether also Saul is among *[the]* prophets? (*or Is Saul now also among the prophets?*)

¹² And one man answered to another, and said, And who is the father of them? Therefore it was turned into a proverb, Whether also Saul is among the prophets? *(And one man answered to another; and said, But who is their father? And so it was turned into a proverb, Is Saul now also among the prophets?)*

¹³ And Saul ceased to prophesy, and he came to an high place *(or and he came to the hill shrine).*

¹⁴ And the brother of Saul's father said to him, and to his servant, Whither went ye? And they answered, To seek *[the]* she-asses; and when we found them not, we came to Samuel.

¹⁵ And the brother of Saul's father said to him, Show thou to me what Samuel said to thee. *(And the brother of Saul's father said to him, Tell thou to me what Samuel said to thee.)*

¹⁶ And Saul said to his uncle, Samuel showed to us, that the she-asses were found. But he showed not to his uncle of the word of the realm, that Samuel spake to him. *(And Saul said to his uncle, Samuel told us that the female donkeys were found. But he did not tell his uncle what Samuel had said to him about the kingdom or about becoming king.)*

¹⁷ And Samuel called together the people to the Lord in Mizpeh; *(And Samuel called the people together to the Lord at Mizpeh;)*

¹⁸ and he said to the sons of Israel, The Lord God of Israel saith these things, I led Israel out of the land of Egypt, and I delivered you from the hand of *(the)* Egyptians, and from the hand of all the kings that tormented you.

¹⁹ And today ye have cast away your Lord God, which alone saved you from all your evils and *[your]* tribulations (*or who alone saved you from all your evils and your tribulations*); and ye *[have]* said (*to him*), Nay, but ordain thou a king upon us. Now therefore stand ye before the Lord by your lineages, and by (*your*) families.

²⁰ And Samuel set together all the lineages of Israel, and *[the]* lot felled upon the lineage of Benjamin.

²¹ And he set together the lineage of Benjamin, and the families thereof; and (*the*) lot felled upon the family of Matri, and it came unto Saul, the son of Kish. Therefore they sought him, and he was not found there.

²² And after these things they counselled with the Lord, whether Saul should come thither. And the Lord answered, Lo! he is hid among (*the*) vessels.

²³ Therefore they ran, and took him from thence; and he stood in the middle of the people, and *[he]* was higher than all the people from the shoulder[s] and above.

²⁴ And Samuel said to all the people, Certainly ye see whom the Lord hath chosen; for none in all the people is like him (*or for there is no one like him among all the people*). And all the people cried, and said, (*Long*) Live the king!

²⁵ And Samuel spake to the people (*concerning*) the law of the realm, and he wrote it in a book, and put it up before the Lord. And Samuel delivered all the people, each man into his house,

(or And then Samuel sent all the people back to their homes);

²⁶ but also Saul went into his house in Gibeah; and a part of the host went with him, whose hearts God had touched. *(and Saul also went home, back to Gibeah; and a part of the army went with him, whose hearts God had touched.)*

²⁷ And the sons of Belial said, Whether this man may save us? And they despised him, and brought not gifts, *that is, presents*, to him; and he let *(it go)* as though he heard *(it)* not. *(But the sons of Belial said, Can this man truly save us? And they despised him, and did not bring him any gifts; but he held his peace.)*

CHAPTER 11

¹ And it was done as after a month, Nahash of Ammon went up, and began to fight against Jabesh of Gilead. And all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, Have thou us bound in peace *(or Make thou a covenant, or a bond of peace, with us)*, and we shall serve thee.

² And Nahash of Ammon answered to them, In this I shall smite *(a)* bond of peace with you, that I put out the right eyes of all you, and that I put you to be reproof in all Israel. *(And Nahash of Ammon answered to them, Only in this shall I strike a covenant with you, that I put out all of your right eyes, and that I bring reproach, or disgrace, upon all Israel.)*

³ And the elder men of Jabesh said to him, Grant thou to us seven days, that we send messengers to all the coasts of Israel; and if none

be that defend us, we shall go out to thee. (*And the elders of Jabesh said to him, First grant thou us seven days, so that we can send messengers into all the coasts of Israel; and if there be none who will defend us, then we shall come out to thee.*)

⁴ Then messengers came into Gibeah of Saul, and spake these words, while the people heard; and all the people raised (*up*) their voice, and wept.

⁵ And lo! Saul came from the field, and he followed [*the*] oxen; and he said, What hath the people, for it weepeth? (*or and he said, What maketh the people weep?*) And they told to him the words of the men of Jabesh.

⁶ And the Spirit of the Lord fell at once into Saul, when he had heard these words, and his fierce wrath was greatly stirred.

⁷ And he took ever either ox, and he cut *them* into gobbets, and he sent those into all the coasts of Israel, by the hands of messengers; and he said, Whoever goeth not out, and followeth not Saul and Samuel, so it shall be done to his oxen. Therefore the dread of the Lord went into the people (*or And so the fear of the Lord went into the people*), and they went out as one man.

⁸ And Saul numbered them in Bezek; and three hundred thousand were there of the sons of Israel; and of the men of Judah were thirty thousand. (*And Saul counted, or registered, them in Bezek; and there were three hundred thousand of the sons of Israel; and thirty thousand of the men of Judah.*)

⁹ And they said to the messengers that came, Thus ye shall say to the men that be in Jabesh of

Gilead, Tomorrow shall be health to you, when the sun is hot, (*or Tomorrow, help shall come to you, when the sun is hot*). Then the messengers came, and told to the men of Jabesh; the which were glad,

¹⁰ and said to Ammon, Early we shall go out to you, and ye shall do to us all that pleaseth to you*. (*and they said to the Ammonites, Early in the morning, we shall come out to you, and then ye can do to us all that pleaseth you.*)

¹¹ And it was done, when the morrowtide came, Saul ordained the people into three parts; and he entered into the middle (*of the*) tents (*of Ammon*) in the waking of the morrowtide, and he smote Ammon till the day was hot; forsooth the residues were scattered, so that twain together were not left in them. (*And it was done, when the morning came, Saul divided the people into three parts, or groups; and they entered into the midst of the tents of the Ammonites during the morning watch, and they struck down the Ammonites until the day was hot; and the rest of them scattered, so that two of them were not left together.*)

¹² And the people said to Samuel, Who is this, that said, Saul shall not reign upon us? Give ye (*up*) the men, and we shall slay them.

¹³ And Saul said, No man shall be slain in this day, for today the Lord hath made health in Israel. (*And Saul said, No one shall be killed on this day, for today the Lord hath given victory to Israel.*)

* **CHAPTER 11:10** *They said this in scorn, for they knew that help shall come to them in the morrow.*

¹⁴ And Samuel said to the people, Come ye, and go we into Gilgal, and renew we there the realm (*or and let us renew our loyalty to the kingdom there*).

¹⁵ And all the people went into Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the Lord in Gilgal; and they offered *there* peaceable sacrifices before the Lord. And Saul was glad there, and all the men of Israel greatly. (*And all the people went to Gilgal, and there in Gilgal they made Saul king before the Lord; and they offered peace offerings there before the Lord. And Saul and all the men of Israel were exceedingly glad there.*)

CHAPTER 12

¹ Forsooth Samuel said to all Israel, Lo! I [*have*] heard your voice by all (*the*) things which ye spake to me, and I [*have*] ordained a king upon you;

² and now the king goeth before you. And I have waxed eld and hoary; and my sons be with you; also I have lived before you from my young waxing age unto this day.

³ And lo! I am ready; speak ye to me before the Lord, and before the christ of him/before his anointed, *or king*; whether I have taken any man's ox, either his ass; if I have falsely challenged any man; if I have oppressed any man; if I have taken gift of any man's hand; I shall despise it today, and I shall restore (*it*) to you. (*And behold! I am ready; speak ye to me before the Lord, and before his anointed king; have I taken any man's ox, or his donkey; have I falsely*

challenged any man; have I oppressed any man; have I taken a gift from any man's hand? yea, if I have, I shall despise it today, and I shall restore it to you.)

⁴ And they said, Thou hast not falsely challenged us, neither thou hast oppressed us, neither thou hast taken anything of any man's hand.

⁵ And he said to them, The Lord is witness against you, and his christ, *or king*, is witness in this day (*or and his anointed king is a witness this day*); for ye have not found anything in mine hand. And they said, He is witness.

⁶ And Samuel said to the people, The Lord, that made Moses and Aaron, and that led your fathers out of the land of Egypt, is present; (*And Samuel said to the people, The Lord, who made Moses and Aaron, and who led your fathers out of the land of Egypt, is present here;*)

⁷ now therefore stand ye, that I strive by doom against you before the Lord, of all the mercies of the Lord, which he did with you, and with your fathers. (*and so now stand ye up, so that I can strive in judgement against you before the Lord, and remind you of all the Lord's mercies, which he did for you, and for your fathers.*)

⁸ How that Jacob entered into Egypt, and your fathers cried to the Lord; and the Lord sent Moses and Aaron, and led your fathers out of Egypt, and hath set them in this place.

⁹ Which forgot their Lord God; and he betook them into the hand of Sisera, master of the chivalry of Hazor, and in the hand of Philistines, and in the hand of the king of Moab; and they

fought against them. *(Who then forgot the Lord their God; and he delivered them into the hands of Sisera, the master of Hazor's cavalry, or his army, and into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the king of Moab; and they fought against them.)*

¹⁰ And after this your fathers cried to the Lord, and said, We have sinned, for we forsook the Lord, and served *(the)* Baalim and *(the)* Ashtaroth; now therefore deliver thou us from the hand of our enemies, and we shall serve thee.

¹¹ And the Lord sent Jerubbaal, *that is Gideon*, and Bedan, *that is, Samson*, and Barak, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you from the hand of your enemies by compass, *(or all about)*; and then ye dwelled securely.

¹² And ye saw, that Nahash, the king of the sons of Ammon, came against you; and ye said to me, *counselling you to ask none other king than God*, Nay, but a king shall command to us; when your Lord God reigned in you. *(And then ye saw, that Nahash, the king of the Ammonites, came against you; and ye said to me, when I counselled you to ask for no other king than God, No, but a king shall command us; when the Lord your God then reigned over you.)*

¹³ Now therefore your king is ready, whom ye have chosen and asked *(for)*; lo! the Lord hath given to you a king, *(or behold! the Lord hath given you a king)*.

¹⁴ If ye dread the Lord, and serve him, and hear his voice, and wrath not the mouth of the Lord; ye and your king, that commandeth to

you, shall follow your Lord God. *(If ye fear the Lord or If ye revere the Lord, and serve him, and listen to his voice, and do not rebel against the Lord's commands, then ye and your king, who commandeth you, shall follow the Lord your God.)*

¹⁵ Forsooth if ye hear not the voice of the Lord, but wrath his word, the hand of the Lord shall be on you, and on your fathers. *(But if ye do not listen to the Lord's voice, and rebel against his commands, the hand of the Lord shall be against you, and against your fathers.)*

¹⁶ But also now stand ye, and see this great thing, that the Lord shall do in your sight.

¹⁷ Whether *(the)* harvest of wheat is not today? I shall inwardly call *(upon)* the Lord, and he shall give voices, *that is, thunders*, and rains; and ye shall know, and see, for ye asking a king upon you, ye have done grievous evil to yourself in the sight of the Lord, *(or and ye shall know, and see, that in asking for a king to rule over you, ye have done grievous evil to yourselves before the Lord).*

¹⁸ And Samuel cried to the Lord, and the Lord gave thunders and rains in that day. And all the people dreaded greatly the Lord and Samuel; *(And Samuel cried to the Lord, and the Lord gave thunder and rain that day. And all the people greatly feared the Lord and Samuel;)*

¹⁹ and all the people said to Samuel, Pray thou for thy servants to thy Lord God, that we die not; for we *[have]* added evil to all our sins, that we ask a king to us. *(and all the people said to Samuel, Pray thou for thy servants to the Lord thy*

God, so that we shall not die; for we have added this evil to all our sins, that we asked for a king over us.)

²⁰ And Samuel said to the people, Dread ye not; ye have done all this evil; nevertheless go ye not away from (*following*) the back of the Lord, but serve ye the Lord in all your heart (*or but serve ye the Lord with all your heart*);

²¹ and do not ye bow after vain things, that shall not profit you, neither they shall deliver you; for those be vain things. (*and do not ye worship false gods, that shall not profit you, nor can they save you; for they be false gods.*)

²² And *then* the Lord shall not forsake his people for his great name; for the Lord hath sworn to make you a people to himself. (*And then the Lord shall not forsake his people for the sake of his great name; for the Lord hath sworn to make you his own people.*)

²³ And this sin be far from me against the Lord, that I cease to pray for you; and I shall teach you a rightful way and a good. (*And let this sin against the Lord be far from me, that I would ever cease to pray for you; yea, indeed, I shall teach you the good and the right way.*)

²⁴ Therefore dread ye the Lord, and serve ye him in truth, and of all your heart; for ye saw those great things, that he hath done to you; (*And so fear ye the Lord or And so revere ye the Lord, and serve ye him in truth, and with all your heart; for ye have seen all the great things which he hath done for you;*)

²⁵ that if ye continue in malice, both ye and your king shall perish *(al)together. (but if ye continue in malice, or in wickedness, both ye and your king shall altogether perish.)*

CHAPTER 13

¹ Saul was a son of one year, *that is, as innocent and clean of sin as a child of one year*, when he began to reign; and he reigned upon Israel two *(and twenty)* years. *(Saul was fifty years old when he began to reign; and he reigned over Israel for twenty-two years.)*

² And Saul chose to him three thousand *men* of Israel, and two thousand *of them* were with Saul in Michmash, *(and)* in the hill *(country)* of Bethel; and a thousand were with *(his son)* Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin; soothly he sent again the tother people each man into his tabernacle *(or and he sent the rest of the people back to their tents)*.

³ And Jonathan smote the station, *that is, (the) forcelet, either stronghold, of (the) Philistines*, that was in Geba. And when *(the)* Philistines had heard *(of)* this, Saul sounded with a clarion in all the land, and said, Hebrews, hear. *(And Jonathan struck the station, that is, the fortress, or the stronghold, of the Philistines, that was in Geba; and all the Philistines heard about it. And Saul sounded with a trumpet in all the land, and said, Hebrew men, hear this!)*

⁴ And all Israel heard such a fame, *(that)* Saul smote the station of Philistines; and Israel raised up himself against the Philistines; then the people cried after Saul in Gilgal. *(And all*

Israel heard the report, that Saul had struck the Philistines? station; and also that the people of Israel were loathed by all the Philistines. And the people came together in Gilgal to follow Saul.)

⁵ And the Philistines were gathered together to fight against Israel; thirty thousand of chariots, and six thousand of knights, and the tother common people, as gravel which is full much in the brink of the sea, *(or and the common people, as innumerable as the sand which is on the seashore)*; and they went up, and setted their tents in Michmash, at the east coast of Bethaven.

⁶ And when *[the]* men of Israel had seen, that they were set in straitness, for *(this)* the people was tormented, *(and)* they hid themselves in dens *(or and they hid themselves in caves)*, and in privy places, and in stones, and in ditches, and in cisterns.

⁷ Soothly *(some of the)* Hebrews passed *(over)* Jordan, into the land of Gad and of Gilead. And when Saul was yet in Gilgal, all the people was afeared that followed him, *(or And when Saul was still in Gilgal, all the people who followed him were afraid)*.

⁸ And seven days he abode Samuel by *[the]* covenant, and Samuel came not into Gilgal; and the people went away from Saul. *(And for seven days he waited for Samuel, as by their pact, but Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and then the people began to go away from Saul.)*

⁹ Therefore Saul said, Bring ye to me *(a)* burnt sacrifice, and peaceable offerings *(or and peace offerings)*; and he offered *(the)* burnt sacrifice.

¹⁰ And when he had ended offering the burnt sacrifice, lo! Samuel came; and Saul went out against him, to greet him (*or and Saul went out to greet him*).

¹¹ And Samuel said to Saul, What hast thou done? Saul answered, Lo! for I saw that the people went away from me, and thou camest not by the days of (*our*) covenant; and the Philistines were gathered together in Michmash;

¹² I said, Now (*the*) Philistines shall come down to me in(*to*) Gilgal, and I have not pleased the face of the Lord; (*and so*) I was compelled by need, and I offered (*a*) burnt sacrifice to the Lord.

¹³ And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done follily, and thou hast not kept the behests of thy Lord God, which he commanded to thee, (*or Thou hast done foolishly, and thou hast not obeyed the command of the Lord thy God, which he commanded to thee*); and if thou haddest not done this thing, right now the Lord had made ready thy realm upon Israel [*into*] without end;

¹⁴ but thy realm shall not rise further. The Lord hath sought a man to himself after his heart; and the Lord hath commanded to him, that he should be duke on his people, for thou keptest not those things which the Lord commanded. (*but now thy kingdom shall not endure. And the Lord shall seek another man for himself after his own heart; and the Lord shall command him, that he should be the ruler over his people, for thou hast not kept, or obeyed, what the Lord commanded to thee.*)

¹⁵ And Samuel rose, and went up from Gilgal into Gibeah of Benjamin; and the people that

(were) left went up after Saul against the people that fought against them; and they came from Gilgal into Gibeah, in the hill of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people, that were found with him, as six hundred men. (And Samuel rose up, and went away from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin; and the people who were left went up with Saul to fight against their enemies; and they came from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul counted the people who were found with him, and there were about six hundred men.)

¹⁶ And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people that was found with them, was in Gibeah of Benjamin; and the Philistines sat together in Michmash. *(And Saul, and his son Jonathan, and the people who were found with them, were in Gibeah of Benjamin; and the Philistines sat together in Michmash.)*

¹⁷ And three companies went out of the Philistines? tents to take prey; one company went against the way of Ophrah, to the land of Shual, *(or one group went toward Ophrah, in the land of Shual);*

¹⁸ and another company entered by the way of Bethhoron; and the third company turned itself to the way of the term in the land of Diba; and that term nigheth to the valley of Zeboim against the desert. *(and the second group went by the way of Bethhoron; and the third group turned toward the way of the border at Wadi Abu Diba; and that border overlooketh the Zeboim Valley and the wilderness.)*

19 And none ironsmith was found in all the land of Israel; for the Philistines were wary, *either eschewed*, lest peradventure the Hebrews made sword either spear. *(And no ironsmith was found in all the land of Israel; for the Philistines forbade them, lest the Hebrews made for themselves swords or spears.)*

20 Therefore all Israel went down to the Philistines, that each man should sharpen his share, and his pickaxe, and his ax, and his cutting hook; *(And so all Israel needed to go down to the Philistines, where each man could sharpen his plowshare, and his pickaxe, and his ax, and his cutting hook;)*

21 for all the edges of their shares were blunt, and of their pickaxes, and of their three-toothed forks, and of axes, unto a prick to be amended. *(for all the edges of their plowshares, their pickaxes, their three-toothed forks, and their axes, were blunt, and needed sharpening.)*

22 And when the day of battle came, no sword nor spear was found in the hand of all the people that was with Saul and Jonathan, except Saul, and Jonathan his son. *(And so when the day of battle came, no sword or spear was found in the hands of all the people who were with Saul and Jonathan, except Saul, and his son Jonathan.)*

23 Forsooth the station of Philistines went out, that it should pass into Michmash. *(And the Philistines? garrison went out to the Michmash Pass.)*

CHAPTER 14

¹ And it befell in a day, that Jonathan, the son of Saul, said to his squire, a young man, Come thou, and pass we (over) to the station of the Philistines, which is beyond that place; soothly he showed not this same thing to his father. *(And it befell one day, that Saul's son Jonathan, said to the young man who was his squire, Come thou, and go we over to the Philistines? station, or post, which is beyond that place over there; but he did not tell this to his father.)*

² And Saul dwelled in the last part of Gibeah, under a pomegranate tree, that was in the field of Gibeah; and the people as of six hundred men was with him. *(And Saul remained in the last part of Gibeah, under a pomegranate tree, that was in Migron; and the people who were with him were about six hundred men.)*

³ And Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, [the] brother of Ichabod, the son of Phinehas, that was engendered of Eli, the priest of the Lord in Shiloh, bare the ephod, *that is, the priest's cloth (or cloak);* but also the people knew not whither Jonathan had gone *(or and the people did not know that Jonathan had gone).*

⁴ And betwixt the goings up, by which Jonathan endeavoured to pass to the station of (the) Philistines, were stones standing forth on ever either side, and scars broken before, by the manner of teeth, on each side, *(or and broken scarps on each side, like teeth);* (the) name to the one was Bozez, and (the) name to the tother was Seneh;

⁵ one scar was standing forth to the north (over) against Michmash, and the tother scar to the south (over) against Gibeah. *(one scarp was to the north, facing Michmash, and the other scarp was to the south, facing Gibeah.)*

⁶ And Jonathan said to his young squire, Come thou, pass we (over) to the station of these uncircumcised men, if in hap the Lord do (battle) for us; for it is not hard to the Lord to save, either in many, either in few, *(or for it is not hard for the Lord to keep a man safe, yea, either a few, or many).*

⁷ And his squire said to him, Do thou all things that please thy soul; go whither thou covetest, I shall be with thee, wherever thou wilt.

⁸ And Jonathan said, Lo! we pass (over) to these men; and when we appear to them,

⁹ if they speak thus to us, Dwell ye *(or Stay)*, till we come to you; stand we in our place, and go we not up to them.

¹⁰ And if they say, Go ye up to us; go we up to them, for the Lord hath betaken them into our hands; this shall be a sign to us. *(But if they say, Come ye up to us; then we shall go up to them, for the Lord hath delivered them into our hands; this shall be a sign to us.)*

¹¹ Therefore ever either appeared to the station of Philistines *(or And so they both appeared before the Philistines? station)*; and the Philistines said, Lo! the Hebrews go out of [the] caves, in which they were hid.

¹² And men of the station spake to Jonathan and to his squire, and said, Go ye up to us, and

we shall show to you a thing. And Jonathan said to his squire, Ascend we, follow thou me; for the Lord hath betaken them into the hands of Israel. *(And the men of the station said to Jonathan and his squire, Come ye over to us, and we shall show you a thing or two. And Jonathan said to his squire, Go we up to them, follow thou me; for the Lord hath delivered them into the hands of Israel.)*

¹³ And Jonathan went up, creeping on hands and feet, and his squire after him; and when they had seen the face of Jonathan, some felled down before Jonathan, his squire killed others, and followed him, *(or and when they were face to face with Jonathan, he killed some, and his squire killed some others, following his master).*

¹⁴ And the first wound was made, which Jonathan and his squire smote, as of twenty men, in the middle part of land, which a pair of oxen was wont to ear in the day. *(And so the first attack was made, in which Jonathan and his squire killed about twenty men, in the middle part of a field which a pair of oxen could plow in a day.)*

¹⁵ And a miracle was done in the *Philistines'* tents, and by their fields, but also all the people of the *Philistines'* station that went out to take prey, dreaded, and their tents were troubled; and it befell as a miracle of God. *(And so terror spread across that field, and among the Philistines' host, or army, and all the people at the Philistines' station who went out to take prey were afraid, and the army was greatly troubled; and so it befell as a miracle of God.)*

16 And the espyers of Saul beheld *this doing*, that were in Gibeah of Benjamin, and lo! a multitude *of the Philistines* was cast down, and fleeing away hither and thither. *(And Saul's watchmen, who were in Gibeah of Benjamin, beheld this event, and behold! many Philistines were thrown down, and others fled away here and there.)*

17 And Saul said to the people that were with him, Seek ye, and see ye, who went away from us. And when they had sought, it was found, that Jonathan and his squire were not present.

18 And Saul said to Ahiah, Bring hither the ark of the Lord; for the ark of God was there in that time with the sons of Israel. *(And Saul said to Ahiah, Bring the ephod here; for at that time Ahiah carried the ephod before the Israelites.)*

19 And when Saul spake to the priest, a great noise *(a)rose* in the tents of the Philistines; and it increased little and little, and it sounded more clearly. And Saul said to the priest, Withdraw thine hand, *(or And Saul said to the priest, Hold back thy hand!)*.

20 Therefore Saul cried, and all the people that was with him; and they came unto the place of battle, and, lo! the sword of each man was turned to his neighbour, and a full great slaying was. *(And then Saul and all the people who were with him cried together; and they came to the place of the battle, and, behold! the sword of each man was turned against his neighbour, and there was a very great slaughter.)*

21 But also the Hebrews that were with *(the)* Philistines yesterday and the third day ago, and had gone up with them in*(to)* their tents, turned again to be with the men of Israel, that were with Saul and Jonathan.

22 Also all the men of Israel, that had hid themselves in the hill *(country)* of Ephraim, heard that the Philistines had fled; and they fellowshipped themselves with their men in *[the]* battle, and as ten thousand of men were with Saul *(or and about ten thousand men were with Saul)*.

23 And the Lord saved Israel in that day *(or And the Lord saved Israel that day)*. And the battle came till to Bethaven.

24 And men of Israel were fellowshipped to themselves in that day; forsooth Saul swore to the people, and said, Cursed be the man that eateth bread till to eventide, till I venge me of mine enemies. And all the people ate no bread. *(And the men of Israel felt faint that day; for Saul had commanded to the people, and said, Cursed be the man who eateth any food before evening, until I avenge myself upon my enemies. And so all the people ate no food.)*

25 And all the common people of the land came into a forest, in which was honey on the face of *(the)* earth *(or where there was honey on the ground)*.

26 And so the people entered into the forest, and flowing honey appeared *(there)*; and no man put his hand to his mouth *thereof*, for the people dreaded the oath, *(or but no man put his hand to*

his mouth, for the people feared the oath or for the people feared Saul's curse).

²⁷ And Jonathan heard not, when his father forbade this to the people, *(or But Jonathan did not hear his father forbid this to the people);* and *(so)* Jonathan held forth the end of a little rod, that he held in his hand, and he dipped it into an honeycomb; and he turned his hand to his mouth, and his eyes were *(en)*lightened, *(that is, he felt refreshed).*

²⁸ And *(at once)* one of the people answered, and said, Thy father bound the people with an oath, and said, Cursed be the man that eateth bread today *(or Cursed be the man who eateth any food today).* And *(so)* the people was faint.

²⁹ And *(then)* Jonathan said, My father hath troubled the land; ye see, that mine eyes be enlightened, *(or ye see, that I am refreshed),* for I tasted a little of this honey;

³⁰ how much more if the people had eaten *(some)* of the prey of their enemies, that they found; whether not greater vengeance had been made in *[the]* Philistines? *(or would not a greater slaughter have been done to the Philistines?)*

³¹ Therefore they smote *[the]* Philistines in that day from Michmash into Aijalon. And the people was made full weary; *(And so they struck down the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon. But the people were made faint;)*

³² and *(so)* the people turned to *[the]* prey, and took sheep and oxen, and calves; and they killed *these beasts* upon the earth *(or and they killed*

these beasts on the ground); and *(then)* the people ate *the flesh* with *(the)* blood *(still in it)*.

³³ And they told to Saul, and said, that the people eating with blood had sinned to the Lord. And Saul said, Ye have trespassed; wallow ye anon to me a great stone. *(And they told Saul, and said, The people have sinned against the Lord, eating the flesh with the blood! And Saul said, Ye have all trespassed; roll ye a great stone over to me at once.)*

³⁴ And Saul said, Go ye forth abroad into the common people, and say ye to them, that each man *(should)* bring to me his ox and his wether, *(or his ram)*; and slay ye those upon this stone, and *(then)* eat ye them, and *(so)* ye shall not do sin to the Lord, *(by)* eating them with *(the)* blood. And so all the people brought each man an ox in his hand unto the night, and they killed them there, *(or And so into the night each man brought forth an ox, and they killed them there)*.

³⁵ And Saul builded there an altar to the Lord; and then first he began to build an altar to the Lord. *(And Saul built an altar there to the Lord; and this was the first altar that he built to the Lord.)*

³⁶ And Saul said, Fall we upon the Philistines in the night, and waste we/destroy we them till the morrowtide shine; and leave we not of them a man *(alive)*. And the people said, Do thou all thing that seemeth good to thee in thine eyes. And the priest said, Nigh we hither to God.

³⁷ And Saul counselled with the Lord, and said, Whether I shall pursue the Philistines? whether

thou shalt betake them into the hands of Israel? And the Lord answered not to him in that day. (*And Saul counselled with the Lord, and asked, Shall I pursue the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into the hands of Israel? But the Lord did not answer him that day.*)

³⁸ And Saul said, Bring ye hither all the corners, or the uttermost parties, of the people, (*or Bring ye here all the chieftains, or the chief men, of the people*), and know ye, and see ye, by whom this sin hath fallen today.

³⁹ The Lord the saviour of Israel liveth; for (*even*) if it is done by Jonathan my son, he shall die without again-drawing. At which oath no man of all the people against-said him. (*As the Lord liveth, yea, the saviour, or the deliverer, of Israel; for even if it is done by my son Jonathan, he shall die without any drawing back, or without delay. At which oath no one of all the people answered anything back to him.*)

⁴⁰ And he said to all Israel, Be ye separated into one part, and I with my son Jonathan shall be in the tother part. And the people answered to Saul, Do thou that, that seemeth good to thine eyes, (*or Do thou what seemeth good in thine eyes*).

⁴¹ And Saul said to the Lord God of Israel, Lord God of Israel, give thou doom, what is it, that thou answerest not today to thy servant? If this wickedness is in me, either in Jonathan, my son, make thou showing *thereof*; either if this wickedness is in thy people, give thou holiness. And Jonathan was taken, and Saul, *by lot*; forsooth the people went out. (*And Saul*

said to the Lord God of Israel, Lord God of Israel, give thou judgement, why is it that thou hast not answered thy servant today? If this wickedness is in me, or in my son Jonathan, let the lot be Urim; but if this wickedness is in thy people, let it be Thummim. And by lot Jonathan and Saul were indicted; and the people were absolved.)

⁴² And Saul said, Send ye lot betwixt me and Jonathan my son, (or And Saul said, Cast ye the lot or Throw ye the lot between me and my son Jonathan). And Jonathan was taken.

⁴³ And Saul said to Jonathan, Show thou to me, what thou didest. And Jonathan showed to him, and said, I tasting tasted a little of honey in the end of the rod, that was in mine hand; and lo! I die. (And Saul said to Jonathan, Tell thou to me, what thou didest. And Jonathan said to him, I tasted a little honey using the end of the rod that was in my hand; and behold! now I must die.)

⁴⁴ And Saul said, God do to me these things, and add these things, for thou, Jonathan, shalt (indeed) die by death.

⁴⁵ And the people said to Saul, Therefore whether Jonathan shall die, that did this great health in Israel? this is unleaveful; the Lord liveth; none hair of his head shall fall into the earth; for he hath wrought with God today. Therefore the people delivered Jonathan, that he died not. (And the people said to Saul, Should Jonathan truly die, he who hath won this great victory for Israel? No! this is unlawful; as the Lord liveth, there shall not fall to the ground one hair of his head, for he hath worked with God

today. And so the people delivered Jonathan, so that he did not die.)

⁴⁶ And Saul went away, and he pursued not the Philistines; and the Philistines went into their places.

⁴⁷ And Saul, when his realm was stabled upon Israel, fought by compass against all his enemies, *(or And Saul, when his kingdom was established upon Israel, fought against all his enemies all around)*, (yea), against Moab, and the sons of Ammon, and Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines; and whither ever he turned him[*self*], he overcame (*them*).

⁴⁸ And when his host was gathered together, he smote Amalek; and delivered Israel from the hand of his destroyers. *(And then when his army was gathered together; he killed the Amalekites; and so he saved Israel from the hands of their destroyers.)*

⁴⁹ And the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Ishui, and Melchishua; the names of his two daughters *be these*, the name of the first engendered daughter was Merab, and the name of the younger was Michal.

⁵⁰ And the name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz; and the name of the prince of his chivalry *was Abner (or and the name of the leader of his cavalry, or of his army, was Abner)*, the son of Ner, the brother of the father of Saul.

⁵¹ And Kish was the father of Saul; and Ner, the son of Abiel, was the father of Abner.

⁵² Soothly mighty battle was against Philistines in all the days of Saul; for whomever Saul saw *(to be)* a strong man, and shapely to battle, he fellowshipped to himself that man. *(And there was great battle against the Philistines in all the days of Saul; and whenever Saul saw a strong man, ready for battle, he took that man into his own service.)*

CHAPTER 15

¹ And Samuel said to Saul, The Lord sent me, that I should anoint thee into king on his people Israel, *(or The Lord hath sent me to anoint thee king upon his people Israel)*; now therefore hear thou the voice of the Lord.

² The Lord of hosts saith these things, I have brought to mind whatever things Amalek hath done to Israel; how Amalek against-stood Israel in the way, when Israel went up from Egypt. *(The Lord of hosts saith these things, I have remembered all the things that the Amalekites did to Israel; how they opposed Israel on the way, when Israel came up from Egypt.)*

³ Now therefore go thou, and slay Amalek, and destroy thou all his things; spare thou not him, nor covet thou anything of his things; but slay thou from man unto woman, and little child, and sucking, ox, and sheep, and camel, and ass. *(And so now go thou, and kill the Amalekites, and destroy thou all of their things; spare thou not any of them, nor covet thou any of their things; but kill thou every man and woman, and little child, and*

suckling, yea, every ox, and sheep, and camel, and donkey.)

⁴ And so Saul commanded the people *to be gathered together*, and he numbered them as lambs, two hundred thousand of footmen, and ten thousand of men of Judah. *(And so Saul commanded the people to be gathered together, and he counted, or registered, them in Telaim, and there were two hundred thousand footmen, and also ten thousand men of Judah.)*

⁵ And when Saul came to the city of Amalek, he made ready ambushments in the *(dry bed of the)* strand. *(And when Saul came to the Amalekite city or And when Saul came to the city of Amalek, he prepared an ambush in the dry riverbed.)*

⁶ And Saul said to *(the)* Kenites, Go ye, depart ye, and go ye away from Amalek, lest peradventure I wrap thee in with them; for thou didest mercy with all the sons of Israel, when they went up from Egypt. And Kenites departed from the midst of Amalek *(or And so the Kenites departed from the midst of the Amalekites).*

⁷ And Saul smote Amalek, from Havilah, till thou come to Shur, which is even against Egypt. *(And Saul struck down the Amalekites, from Havilah until thou come to Shur, which is on the border with Egypt.)*

⁸ And Saul took Agag alive, the king of Amalek; and he killed by sharpness of sword all the common people. *(And Saul took Agag, the king of Amalek, alive; but they killed all the common people with the sharpness of their swords.)*

⁹ And Saul and the people spared Agag (*or But Saul and his people spared Agag*), and the best (*of the*) flocks of (*the*) sheep, and of (*the*) great beasts, and (*they kept the*) clothes, and (*the*) rams, and all things that were fair; and they would not destroy those; but whatever thing was vile, and reprovably, they destroyed that thing.

¹⁰ Forsooth the word of the Lord was made to Samuel, and said,

¹¹ It repenteth me, that I made Saul king; for he hath forsaken me, and hath not fulfilled my words in work. And Samuel was sorry, and he cried to the Lord in all that night. (*I repent, that is, I regret, that I made Saul king; for he hath deserted me, and hath not fulfilled my words in deeds. And Samuel was angry, and he cried out to the Lord all that night.*)

¹² And (*then*) when Samuel had risen up by night to go early to Saul, it was told to Samuel, that Saul had come into Carmel, and had raised up to him a sign of victory (*or and had raised up a victory monument for himself there*); and that he had turned again *from Amalek*, and had passed forth, and had gone down into Gilgal.

¹³ Then Samuel came to Saul, and Saul offered burnt sacrifice to the Lord of the chief things of the preys, which he had brought from Amalek. And the while Samuel came to Saul, Saul said to him, Blessed be thou of the Lord, I have [*ful*] filled the word of the Lord. (*And when Samuel came to Saul, Saul was offering a burnt sacrifice to the Lord of the chief things of the prey which he had taken from the Amalekites. And when Samuel*

came over to Saul, Saul said to him, Blessed be thou of the Lord! I have fulfilled the word of the Lord.)

¹⁴ And Samuel said, And what is this voice of flocks (*or But what is this sound of the flocks*), that soundeth in mine ears, and of (*the*) great beasts, which I hear?

¹⁵ And Saul said, They brought those from Amalek (*or They were taken from the Amalekites*); for the people spared the best sheep and (*the best*) great beasts, that those should be offered to thy Lord God; and we killed the tother beasts.

¹⁶ And Samuel said to Saul, Suffer thou me (*or Allow me*), and I shall show to thee what things the Lord hath spoken to me in this night. And Saul said to Samuel, Speak thou.

¹⁷ And Samuel said, Whether not, when thou were little in thine own eyes, thou were made head in the lineages of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee into king on Israel; (*And Samuel said, Was it not, when thou were small, or insignificant, in thy own eyes, thou were made the head of all the tribes of Israel, and did not the Lord anoint thee king upon Israel?*)

¹⁸ and the Lord sent thee into the way, and said, Go thou, and slay the sinners of Amalek, and thou shalt fight against them till to the slaying of them. (*and the Lord sent thee on the way, and said, Go thou, and kill those sinners, the Amalekites, and thou shalt fight against them until they all be slaughtered.*)

¹⁹ Why therefore heardest thou not the voice of the Lord, but thou were turned to the prey (*or*

but instead, thou took that prey), and (so) didest evil in the eyes of the Lord?

²⁰ And Saul said to Samuel, Yes, I heard the voice of the Lord, and I have gone in the way, by which the Lord sent me, and I have brought Agag, the king of Amalek, and I have killed Amalek. *(And Saul said to Samuel, Yes, I did listen to the Lord's voice, and I have gone on the way where he sent me, and I have brought Agag, the king of the Amalekites here, and I have killed all the other Amalekites.)*

²¹ Forsooth the people took of the prey, sheep and oxen, the first fruits/the chief fruits of those things that be slain, that they make sacrifice to their Lord God in Gilgal. *(But the people kept of the prey, sheep and oxen, the first fruits or the chief fruits of those things that should be killed, to offer as a sacrifice to the Lord their God here in Gilgal.)*

²² And Samuel said, Whether the Lord will burnt sacrifices, either slain sacrifices, and not more, *rather*, that men obey to the voice of the Lord? *(or And Samuel said, Desireth the Lord burnt sacrifices, and slain sacrifices, or rather, that people obey his voice?)* Forsooth obedience *to him* is better than sacrifices, and to take heed *to his word* is more than to offer the inner fatness of rams;

²³ for it is as the sin of maumetry to fight against *God's behest*, and it is as the wickedness of idolatry to not assent *to God's behest*. Therefore for that, that thou castedest away the word of the Lord, the Lord casted thee away, that thou

be not king. *(for it is like the sin of idolatry to fight against God's command, and it is like the wickedness of idolatry to not assent to God's command. And so because thou hast thrown away the word of the Lord, the Lord hath thrown thee away, so that thou not be king.)*

²⁴ And Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned, for I have broken the word of the Lord, and thy words; and I dreaded the people, and obeyed to the voice of them; *(And Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned, for I have disobeyed the word of the Lord, and thy words; for I feared the people, and obeyed their voice;)*

²⁵ but now, I beseech thee, bear thou my sin, and turn thou again with me, (so) that I *(can)* worship the Lord.

²⁶ And Samuel said to Saul, I shall not turn again with thee, for thou castedest away the word of the Lord, and the Lord hath cast away thee, that thou be not king upon Israel. *(And Samuel said to Saul, I shall not return with thee, for thou hast thrown away the word of the Lord, and so the Lord hath thrown thee away, so that thou not be king upon Israel.)*

²⁷ And Samuel turned to go away; soothly Saul took the end of the mantle of Samuel, which also was rent. *(And Samuel turned to leave; and Saul took hold of the end of Samuel's mantle, and it tore.)*

²⁸ And Samuel said to him, The Lord hath cut the realm of Israel from thee today *(or The Lord hath torn away the kingdom of Israel from thee*

today), and he hath given it to thy neighbour, *(who is)* better than thou;

²⁹ certainly the Overcomer in Israel shall not spare *them that will not obey to him*, and he shall not be bowed by repentance; for he is not man, *that is, changeable*, that he do repentance, *(or for he is not a man, that is, that he change his mind)*.

³⁰ And Saul said, I have sinned; but now honour thou me before the elder men of my people, and before Israel, and turn thou again with me, that I worship thy Lord God, *(or and return thou with me, so that I can worship the Lord thy God)*.

³¹ Therefore Samuel turned again, and followed Saul, and Saul worshipped the Lord.

³² And Samuel said, Bring ye to me Agag, the king of Amalek. And Agag, most fat *(and)* trembling, was brought to him. And Agag said, Whether thus departeth bitter death? *(And Samuel said, Bring ye to me Agag, the king of the Amalekites. And Agag, most fat and trembling, was brought to him. And Agag said, Hath bitter death thus departed, that is, May I live?)*

³³ And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women without free children, so thy mother shall be without free children among women. And Samuel hewed Agag into gobbets before the Lord in Gilgal.

³⁴ And *(then)* Samuel went into Ramah; and Saul went up into his house in Gibeah.

³⁵ And Samuel saw no more Saul unto the day of his death; nevertheless Samuel bewailed Saul, for it repented the Lord, that he had ordained

Saul king upon Israel. *(And Samuel never again saw Saul until his dying day; nevertheless Samuel bewailed Saul, and the Lord repented, that is, he regretted, that he had made Saul king upon Israel.)*

CHAPTER 16

¹ And the Lord said to Samuel, How long bewailest thou Saul, since I have cast him away, that he reign not upon Israel(?); fill thine horn with oil, and come, that I send thee to Jesse of Bethlehem; for among his sons I have purveyed a king to me *(or for I have chosen myself a king from among his sons)*.

² And Samuel said, How shall I go? for Saul shall hear *(of it)*, and he shall slay me. And the Lord said, Thou shalt take a calf of the drove in thy hand *(or Thou shalt take a calf from the herd with thee)*, and thou shalt say, I came to make sacrifice to the Lord.

³ And thou shalt call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I shall show to thee *(or and I shall tell thee)*, what thou shalt do; and thou shalt anoint whomever I shall show to thee.

⁴ Then Samuel did, as the Lord spake to him; and he came into Bethlehem, and the elder men of the city wondered, and came to him, and said, Whether thine entry be peaceable? *(or Hast thou come in peace? or Is all well?)*

⁵ And he said, It is peaceable; I came to make sacrifice to the Lord; be ye hallowed, and come ye with me, that I make sacrifice. Therefore he hallowed Jesse, and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice. *(And he said, Yea, I have come in*

peace or all is well; I have come to offer a sacrifice to the Lord; be ye hallowed, and then come ye with me, and make ye also the sacrifice. Then he hallowed Jesse, and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.)

⁶ And when they had entered, he saw Eliab, and said, *in his heart*, Whether before the Lord is his christ? *(or Is this the Lord's anointed?)*

⁷ And the Lord said to Samuel, Behold thou not his cheer *(or Look thou not at his face)*, neither the highness of his stature; for I have cast him away, and I deem not by man's sight; for man seeth those things that be open, but the Lord beholdeth the heart.

⁸ And Jesse called Abinadab, and brought him before Samuel; and he said, Neither the Lord hath chosen this, *(or and he said, The Lord hath not chosen this man either)*.

⁹ And Jesse brought forth Shammah; of whom Samuel said, Also the Lord hath not chosen this *(man)*.

¹⁰ And so Jesse brought forth his seven sons before Samuel *(or And so Jesse brought forth seven of his sons before Samuel)*; and Samuel said to Jesse, The Lord hath chosen none of these.

¹¹ And Samuel said to Jesse, Whether thy sons be now filled? And Jesse answered, Yet there is another little child, and he pastureth sheep. And Samuel said to Jesse, Send ye, and bring him *hither*; for we shall not sit to meat, before that he come hither. *(And Samuel said to Jesse, Be these all thy sons? And Jesse answered, There is still another young boy, and he pastureth the sheep.*

And Samuel said to Jesse, Send ye for him, and bring him here; for we shall not sit to the meal, before that he come here.)

¹² Therefore Jesse sent, and brought him, (or *And so Jesse sent for him, and brought him forth*); soothly he was ruddy, and fair in sight, and of seemly face. And the Lord said, Rise thou, and anoint him; for it is he.

¹³ Therefore Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren; and the Spirit of the Lord was directed into David from that day forth. And (*then*) Samuel rose up, and went into Ramah.

¹⁴ And so the Spirit of the Lord went away from Saul, and a wicked spirit of the Lord travailed Saul (*or and then a wicked spirit from the Lord tormented him*).

¹⁵ And the servants of Saul said to him, Lo! an evil spirit of the Lord travaileth thee; (*And Saul's servants said to him, Behold! an evil spirit from the Lord tormenteth thee*);

¹⁶ our lord the king command, and thy servants, that be before thee, shall seek a man, that can sing with an harp, and when the evil spirit of the Lord taketh thee, he harp with his hand, and thou bear it more easily. (*let our lord the king command, and then thy servants, who be before thee, shall seek out a man who can play a harp, and so when the evil spirit from the Lord taketh hold of thee, he shall play his harp, and then thou shalt be able to bear it more easily.*)

¹⁷ And Saul said to his servants, Purvey ye to me some man singing well (*or Find ye some man*

for me who can play well), and bring ye him to me.

¹⁸ And one of his servants answered and said, Lo! I saw a son of Jesse of Bethlehem, cunning to sing (*or who knoweth how to play*), and (*a*) most strong man, and a man able to (*do*) battle, and prudent in words, and a fair man; and the Lord is with him.

¹⁹ Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, Send thou to me David thy son, that is keeping thy beasts. (*And so Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, Send thou to me thy son David, who is keeping watch over thy sheep.*)

²⁰ And so Jesse took an ass charged with loaves, and a gallon of wine, and a goat kid; and he sent those by the hand of David his son to Saul. (*And so Jesse took a donkey loaded with loaves, and a gallon of wine, and a goat kid; and he sent them to Saul with his son David.*)

²¹ And David came to Saul, and stood before him; and Saul loved him greatly (*or and Saul greatly loved him*), and he was made his squire.

²² And Saul sent to Jesse, and said, (*Let*) David stand in my sight, for he hath found grace in mine eyes.

²³ Then whenever the evil spirit of the Lord travailed Saul (*or And whenever the evil spirit from the Lord tormented Saul*), David took his harp, and harped with his hand, and Saul was comforted, and he had *it* more lightly; for (*then*) the evil spirit went away from him.

CHAPTER 17

¹ Soothly the Philistines gathered together their companies into battle, and came together in Shochoh of Judah, and they setted tents betwixt Shochoh and Azekah, in the coasts of Dammim (*or in Ephesdammim*).

² And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and came into the valley of Terebinth, and they dressed (*the*) battle array to fight against [*the*] Philistines. (*And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and came into the Elah Valley, and they directed the battle array to fight against the Philistines.*)

³ And the Philistines stood above the hill on this part, and Israel stood on the hill on the tother part of the valley, that was betwixt them. (*And the Philistines stood on a hill on one side, and Israel stood on a hill on the other side, and the valley was between them.*)

⁴ And a man in the midst, *that is, a strong man, and hardy, that goeth before the host, and is ready to fight against one of the enemies in singular battle, (that is, man-to-man)*, went out of the Philistines? tents, Goliath by name, of Gath, of six cubits high and a span; (*And a champion went out from the Philistines? camp, whose name was Goliath, and was from Gath, and he was six cubits and a span in height;*)

⁵ and a brazen basinet on his head; and he was clothed with a mailed habergeon; and the weight of his habergeon was five thousand shekels of brass; (*and he had a bronze helmet on his head; and was clothed with a breastplate of mail; and*

the weight of his breastplate was equal to five thousand brass shekels;)

⁶ and he had on his thighs brazen boots, and a brazen shield covered his shoulders. *(and he wore bronze boots up to his thighs, and a bronze shield covered his shoulders.)*

⁷ Forsooth the shaft of his spear was as the beam of webs *(or And his spear shaft was like a weaver's beam)*; and the iron of his spear weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his squire went before him.

⁸ And he stood, and cried *(out)* against the companies of *(the)* armed men of Israel, and said to them, Why came ye ready to *(do)* battle? Whether I am not a Philistine, and ye be the servants of Saul? Choose ye a man of you, and come he down to a singular battle, *(that is, man-to-man)*;

⁹ if he may fight with me, and slay me, we shall be your servants; forsooth if I have the mastery, and slay him, ye shall be bond *(or ye shall be our bondsmen, or our slaves)*, and serve us.

¹⁰ And the Philistine said, I have said shame today to the companies of Israel; give ye *[to me]* a man, and begin he singular battle with me. *(And the Philistine said, I have shamed Israel's companies this day; now give ye to me a man, and let him fight with me man-to-man.)*

¹¹ Soothly Saul and all men of Israel heard such words of the Philistine, and they were astonished, and dreaded greatly *(or and were greatly afraid)*.

¹² Forsooth David was the son of a man of Ephrath, of whom it is said before, of Bethlehem of Judah, to whom the name was Jesse, and he had eight sons; and in the days of Saul, Jesse was an old man, and of great age among men. *(And David was the son of a man of Ephrath, of whom it was spoken of before, of Bethlehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse, and he had eight sons; and Jesse was an old man in the days of Saul, and of great age among men.)*

¹³ And the three eldest sons of Jesse went after Saul into battle; and the names of his three sons, that went to battle *(or who went to battle)*, were Eliab, the first begotten, and the second, Abinadab, and the third, Shammah.

¹⁴ And David was the youngest. Then while the three eldest sons followed Saul,

¹⁵ David went, and turned again from Saul, that he should keep the flock of his father in Bethlehem. *(David returned home from Saul, so that he could care for his father's flock in Bethlehem.)*

¹⁶ Forsooth the Philistine came forth in the morrowtide, and *[at]* eventide; and stood by forty days. *[Forsooth the Philistine came forth early, and at even, standing (and) reproving the children of Israel (for) forty days.]*

¹⁷ And Jesse said to David his son, Take thou to thy brethren meat made of meal, the measure of ephah, and these ten loaves, and run thou in to the tents to thy brethren; *(And Jesse said to his son David, Take thou to thy brothers this meal of*

roasted grain, an ephah in measure, and these ten loaves, and run thou to thy brothers? camp;)

¹⁸ and thou shalt bare to the tribune these ten small cheeses; and thou shalt visit thy brethren, whether they do rightly (*or and see if all is well*), and learn thou, with which men they be ordained.

¹⁹ Forsooth Saul, and they, and all the sons of Israel in the valley of Terebinth fought against the Philistines. (*Now Saul, and David's brothers, and all the Israelites were in the Elah Valley fighting against the Philistines.*)

²⁰ And so David rose (*up*) early, and he betook the flock to a keeper, and he went charged, as Jesse commanded to him; and he came to the place of Magal, and to the host, the which host went out to the fight, and it cried [*out*] in the fighting, (*or and he came to the place of the circle of the camp, and to the army, who were going out to the battle, and were shouting out the war-cry*).

²¹ For Israel had ordained (*the*) battle array; and even against them, the Philistines were ready also, (*or and opposite them, the Philistines were also ready*).

²² Then David left the vessels, that he had brought, under the hand of a keeper at the fardels, and he ran to the place of [*the*] battle, and he asked, if all things were done rightly with his brethren (*or and he asked his brothers if all was well*).

²³ And when he spake yet to them, that bastard appeared, Goliath by name, the Philistine of Gath, and he went up from the tents of the

Philistines; and while he spake these same words, David heard. *(And while he spoke to them, that champion appeared, Goliath by name, the Philistine of Gath, and he went up from the Philistines' camp; and when he spoke the same words as before, then David heard them.)*

²⁴ And when all the men of Israel had seen the man, they fled from his sight, and dreaded him greatly *(or and were greatly afraid of him).*

²⁵ And each man of Israel said *to (the) other*, Whether thou hast seen this man that hath gone up? forsooth he went up to say shame, or reproof, to Israel; therefore the king shall make rich with great riches the man that slayeth that Philistine; and the king shall give his daughter to that man, and shall make the house of his father without *(having to pay)* tribute in Israel *(or and he shall let his father's family be exempt from paying any taxes in Israel).*

²⁶ And David spake to the men that stood with him, and said, What shall be given to the man that slayeth this Philistine, and doeth away shame from Israel? for who is this Philistine uncircumcised, that despiseth the battle arrays of God living? *(or for who is this uncircumcised Philistine who despiseth the battle arrays of the living God?)*

²⁷ Forsooth the people told to him the same word, and said, These things shall be given to the man that slayeth him.

²⁸ And when Eliab, his more brother/the elder brother of David, had heard this, while he spake with other men, he was wroth against David, and

said, Why camest thou *hither*, and why hast thou left those few sheep in desert? (*or and why hast thou left those few sheep back in the wilderness?*) I know thy pride, and the waywardness of thine heart; for thou camest down to see the battle.

²⁹ And David said, What have I done? Whether it is not *but* a word? (*or Did I not just ask a question?*)

³⁰ And David went thence a little from him to another man; and David said the same word, and the people answered to him the word as they did before, (*or and David asked the same question, and the people gave him the same answer.*)

³¹ And the words were heard, that David spake, and they were told before Saul. And when David was brought to Saul,

³² David spake to him *thus*, The heart of any man fall not down *in him*, for I thy servant shall go, and fight against the Philistine. (*David spoke thus to him, Let not any man's heart fall down because of that man, for I, thy servant, shall go, and fight against the Philistine.*)

³³ And Saul said to David, Thou mayest not against-stand this Philistine, neither fight against him, for thou art a child (*or for thou art but a boy, that is, a young man*); forsooth this man is a warrior from his young waxing age.

³⁴ And David said to Saul, Thy servant kept his father's flock, and (*when*) a lion came, also a bear/either a bear, and took away a ram from the midst of the flock;

³⁵ I pursued, and killed them, and I ravished it from their mouth; and they rose against me,

and I took their nether jowl, and I strangled, and killed them. (*I pursued him, and killed him, and I delivered the ram out of his mouth; and when he rose up against me, I took his lower jaw, and I strangled him, and killed him dead.*)

³⁶ For I thy servant killed both the lion and the bear; therefore and this Philistine uncircumcised shall be as one of them. Now I shall go, and I shall do away the shame/the reproof of the people; for who is this Philistine uncircumcised, that was hardy to curse the host of God living? (*For I thy servant, killed both the lion and the bear; and so this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them. And now I shall go, and I shall do away the people's shame, or their reproof; for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, who was fool-hardy enough to curse the army of the living God?*)

³⁷ And again David said, The Lord that delivered me from the mouth of the lion, and from the hand, *that is, (the) power*, of the bear, he shall deliver me from the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Go thou, and the Lord be with thee.

³⁸ And Saul clothed David with his clothes, and he set a brazen basinet on his head, and clothed him with an habergeon.

³⁹ Therefore David was girded with his sword on his cloth (*or cloak*), and began to assay if he might go armed; for he had not [*the*] custom. And David said to Saul, I may not go thus, for I have not the uses *of it*. And David put away (*all*) those [*things*],

⁴⁰ and he took his staff, that he had ever[*more*] in his hands. And he chose to him five full clear round stones, *that is, hard, plain, and round*, of the strand, (*or And he chose out of the stream for himself five hard, round, plain stones*); and he put those into his shepherd's scrip, that he had with him; and he took a sling in his hand, and he went forth against the Philistine.

⁴¹ Soothly the Philistine went, going and nighing against David; and his squire went before him. (*And the Philistine came forth toward David; and his squire went before him.*)

⁴² And when the Philistine had beheld David, and saw him, he despised David; forsooth David was a young waxing man, ruddy, and fair in sight.

⁴³ And the Philistine said to David, Whether I am a dog, for thou comest to me with a staff? And the Philistine cursed David in his gods; (*And the Philistine said to David, Am I but a dog, that thou comest to me with a staff? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods;*)

⁴⁴ and he said to David, Come thou to me, and I shall give thy flesh to the fowls of the air, and to [*the*] beasts of the earth.

⁴⁵ And David said to Goliath, Thou comest to me with a sword, and (*a*) spear, and (*a*) shield; but I come to thee in (*the*) name of the Lord of hosts, (*the*) God of the companies of Israel, to whom thou hast said reproof today.

⁴⁶ And the Lord shall give thee in(*to*) mine hand, and I shall slay thee, and I shall take thine head from thee; and today I shall give the dead

bodies of the tents of Philistines to the fowls of *(the)* heaven(s), and to the beasts of the earth, *(or and today I shall give the dead bodies of the Philistine's host, or army, to the birds of the air; and to the beasts of the earth);* (so) that all the earth *(shall)* know, that the Lord God is in Israel,

⁴⁷ and that all this church know, that the Lord saveth not in sword neither in spear; for the battle is his, and he shall betake you into our hands. *(and so that all this congregation shall know, that the Lord saveth not by sword or by spear; for the battle is his, and he shall deliver you into our hands.)*

⁴⁸ Therefore when the Philistine had risen *(up)*, and came, and nighed against David *(or and came toward David)*, David hasted, and ran to *(the)* battle against the Philistine.

⁴⁹ And David put his hand in his scrip, and he took out a stone, and he casted it with his sling, and led *[it]* about, and smote the Philistine in the forehead; and the stone was fastened in his forehead, and he felled down into his face on the earth. *(And David put his hand into his bag, and he took out a stone, and he led it about, and threw it with his sling, and hit the Philistine in the forehead; and the stone stuck in his forehead, and he fell down on his face on the ground.)*

⁵⁰ And David had the mastery against the Philistine in a sling and a stone, and he killed the Philistine smitten. And when David had no sword in his hand, *(And so David had the mastery against the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and he struck down the Philistine, and killed him. And when David had no sword in his hand,)*

51 he ran, and stood on the Philistine, and took (*hold of*) his sword; and David drew out the sword of his sheath, and killed him, and cut off his head, (*or and David drew the sword out of its sheath, and killed him, and cut off his head*). And the Philistines saw, that the strongest of them was dead, and they fled.

52 And the sons of Israel and of Judah rose up together, and cried [*out*], and pursued the Philistines, till the time they came into the valley, and unto the gate(s) of Ekron. And the wounded men of the Philistines fell down in the way of Shaaraim, and unto Gath, and unto Ekron, (*or And the wounded men of the Philistines fell down on the way to Shaaraim, and unto Gath, and unto Ekron*).

53 And the sons of Israel turned again, after that they had pursued the Philistines, and they assailed their tents. (*And the Israelites returned, after that they had pursued the Philistines, and they looted their camp.*)

54 Forsooth David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it into Jerusalem; soothly he putted his armours in the tabernacle of the Lord (*or but he put Goliath's arms, or his weapons, in his own tent*).

55 Forsooth in that time in which Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, [*the*] prince of his chivalry, Abner, of what generation is this young man? And Abner said, King, thy soul liveth, I know not. (*Now at the time when Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the leader of his*

cavalry, or his army, Abner; whose son is this young man? And Abner said, O king, as thy soul liveth, I do not know.)

⁵⁶ And the king said, Ask thou, whose son this boy is.

⁵⁷ And when David had come again, when the Philistine was slain, Abner took David, and brought him in, having in the hand the head of the Philistine, before Saul. *(And when David had come back, after the Philistine was killed, Abner took David, and brought him in before Saul, with the head of the Philistine still in his hand.)*

⁵⁸ And Saul said to him, Of what generation art thou, young man? And David said, I am the son of thy servant, Jesse of Bethlehem.

CHAPTER 18

¹ And it was done, when David had ended to speak to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was glued together to the soul of David, *that is, (they were) joined together by the glue of charity, (or of love), that may not be broken*, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul *(or and Jonathan loved him as much as he loved his own life)*.

² And Saul took David in that day, and granted not to him, that he should turn again into the house of his father. *(And from that day on, Saul kept David with him, and would not allow him to return to his father's house.)*

³ And Jonathan and David made a bond of peace; for Jonathan loved David as his own soul; *(And Jonathan and David made a covenant; for*

Jonathan loved David as much as he loved his own life;)

⁴ for why Jonathan unclothed himself from the coat that he was clothed in, and he gave it to David, and his other clothes, unto his sword and his bow, and unto his girdle.

⁵ And David went forth to all things, to whatever things Saul sent him, and he governed himself prudently; and Saul setted him over the men of battle, and he was accepted in the eyes of all the people, and mostly in the sight of the servants of Saul (*or and even before Saul's officers*).

⁶ Forsooth when David turned again, when the Philistine was slain, and bare the head of the Philistine into Jerusalem, women went out of all the cities of Israel, and sang, and led dances, against the coming of king Saul, in tympanis of gladness, and in trumps. (*And when David returned, when the Philistine was killed, and carried the Philistine's head into Jerusalem, women came out from all the cities of Israel, and sang, and danced, and greeted King Saul with joyful tambourines, and trumpets.*)

⁷ And the women sang, playing, and saying, Saul hath slain a thousand, and David ten thousand. (*And the women sang to one another as they danced, saying, Saul hath killed thousands, but David hath killed tens of thousands.*)

⁸ And Saul was wroth greatly, and this word displeased before him; and he said, They have given ten thousand to David, and but one thousand to me; what leaveth to him, no but the

realm alone? *(And Saul was greatly angered, for these words displeased him; and he said, They have given tens of thousands to David, but only thousands to me; what is left for him now, but only the kingdom itself?)*

⁹ Therefore Saul beheld David not with rightful eye, from that day and afterward. *(And so from that day on, Saul did not look kindly upon David.)*

¹⁰ Soothly after the tother day, a wicked spirit of God assailed Saul, *(or And the next day, a wicked spirit from God tormented Saul)*, and he prophesied in the midst of his house. And David harped with his hand, as by all days *before*; and Saul held a spear,

¹¹ and *(then he)* cast it, and guessed that he might preen David with the wall, *that is, pierce (right through him) with the spear, so that it should pass into the wall*; and David bowed *[aside]* from his face the second time *(or and twice David veered away from the spear that Saul threw at him)*.

¹² And Saul dreaded, *(or feared)*, David, for the Lord was with David, and had gone away from him.

¹³ Then Saul removed David from himself *(or Then Saul removed David from his household)*, and made him *(a)* chieftain upon a thousand men; and David went out and he came in before the people.

¹⁴ And David did wisely in all his ways, and the Lord was with him;

¹⁵ and so Saul saw that David was full prudent/ was full wise, and he began to beware of David.

16 And all Israel and Judah loved David; for he went in and out before them.

17 And Saul said to David, Lo! mine elder daughter Merab, I shall give her *(for a)* wife to thee; only be thou a strong man, and fight thou the Lord's battles. Forsooth Saul areckoned, and said, Mine hand be not in him, but the hand of Philistines be on him, *(or But Saul reckoned, and said to himself, My hand shall not be upon him, but the hands of the Philistines shall be upon him).*

18 And David said to Saul, Who am I, either what is my life, either *(what is)* the family of my father in Israel, that I *(should)* be made the son-in-law of the king?

19 And when the time came that Merab, the daughter of Saul, should have been given wife to David, she was given wife to Adriel Meholathite. *(But when the time came that Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given for a wife to David, instead she was given for a wife to Adriel the Meholathite.)*

20 Forsooth David loved Michal, the *[tother]* daughter of Saul; and it was told to Saul, and it pleased him.

21 And Saul said, I shall give her to him, that it be to him into cause of stumbling, and the hand of Philistines be upon him. Therefore Saul said to David, In *(wedding one of my)* two daughters thou shalt be my son-in-law today. *(And Saul said, I shall give her to him, so that she shall become a cause of stumbling to him, and so that the hands of the Philistines shall be upon him. And so Saul*

said to David, By wedding my younger daughter, on that day thou shalt become my son-in-law.)

²² And Saul commanded to his servants, *(and said)*, Speak ye privily to David, as if it were me unwitting, *(or Speak ye privately to David, as if I did not know it)*, and say ye to him, Lo! thou pleasest the king, and all his servants love thee; now therefore be thou *[the]* husband of the king's daughter.

²³ And the servants of Saul spake all these words in the ears of David. And David said, Whether it seem little to you *(for)*me to be the king's son-in-law? Forsooth I am a poor man, and a feeble *(or I am but a poor and feeble man)*.

²⁴ And the servants told to Saul, and said, David spake such words.

²⁵ Soothly Saul said, Thus speak ye to David, The king hath no need to gifts for spousals, no but only to an hundred prepuces, *that is, men's rods uncircumcised*, of the Philistines, that vengeance be made of the king's enemies. Certainly Saul thought to betake David into the hands of Philistines. *(And Saul said, Speak ye thus to David, and say, The king hath no need for wedding gifts, but only for a hundred prepuces, that is, the rods of a hundred uncircumcised men, of the Philistines, so that vengeance be taken upon the king's enemies. For Saul intended to deliver David into the hands of the Philistines.)*

²⁶ And when the servants of Saul had told to David the words, which Saul had said, the word pleased in the eyes of David, that he should be made the king's son-in-law. And after a few days,

(And when Saul's servants told David what Saul had said, it pleased him, that he could become the king's son-in-law. And so, after a few days,)

²⁷ David rose up, and went into Ekron, with the men that were with him, and he killed of Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their prepuces, and he numbered those to the king, that he should be the king's son-in-law. And so Saul gave Michal, his daughter, wife to him. *(David rose up, and went to Ekron, with the men who were with him, and he killed two hundred of the Philistine men; and David brought their foreskins, and he counted those out to the king, so that he could be made the king's son-in-law. And so Saul gave Michal, his daughter, for a wife to him.)*

²⁸ And Saul saw, and understood, that the Lord was with David. Certainly Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David,

²⁹ and Saul began more to dread David *(or and then Saul began to fear David even more)*; and *(so)* Saul was made *(an)* enemy to David in all days.

³⁰ And the princes of *(the)* Philistines went out to fight; but from the beginning of their going out, David bare himself more wisely than all the men of Saul; and the name of David was made full solemn *(or and David's name became very famous)*.

CHAPTER 19

¹ Soothly Saul spake to Jonathan, his son, and to all his servants, that they should slay David;

² certainly Jonathan, the son of Saul, loved David greatly. And Jonathan showed to David, and said, Saul, my father, seeketh to slay thee; wherefore, I beseech, keep thyself *tomorrow* early; and thou shalt dwell privily, and thou shalt be hid. *(but Jonathan, Saul's son, greatly loved David. And Jonathan told David, My father Saul seeketh to kill thee; and so, I beseech thee, be careful tomorrow morning; remain thou in secret, and be thou hid.)*

³ And I shall go out, and stand beside my father in the field, wherever he shall be; and I shall speak of thee to my father, and whatever thing I shall see/and whatever thing I shall understand of him, I shall tell thee, *(or and whatever I shall learn from him, I shall tell thee).*

⁴ Then Jonathan spake good things of David to Saul, his father, and said to him, King, do thou not sin against thy servant David, for he hath not sinned to thee, and his works be full good to thee; *(Then Jonathan spoke good things about David to his father Saul, and said to him, O king, do not thou sin against thy servant David, for he hath not sinned against thee, and his works be very good towards thee;)*

⁵ and he putted his life in his hand, and he killed the Philistine. And the Lord made great help to all Israel; thou sawest, and were glad; why therefore sinnest thou in guiltless blood, and wilt slay David, that is without guilt? *(and he put his life in his hands, and he killed the Philistine. And the Lord won a great victory for all Israel; thou sawest this, and wast glad; and so*

why sinnest thou against innocent blood, and wilt kill David, who is without guilt?)

⁶ And when Saul had heard this, he was pleased with the speaking of Jonathan, and he swore, (As) The Lord liveth, for David shall not be slain.

⁷ And so Jonathan called David, and showed to him all these words (*or and told him all these things*). And Jonathan brought in David to Saul, and he was before him as [*he was*] yesterday and the third day ago.

⁸ Forsooth (*the*) battle was moved again; and David went out, and fought against the Philistines, and he smote them with a great wound/with great fierceness, and they fled from his face.

⁹ And the evil spirit of the Lord was made upon Saul (*or And then again an evil spirit from the Lord came upon Saul*); and he sat in his house, and held a spear; certainly David harped with his hand.

¹⁰ And Saul enforced to preen, *that is pierce*, with the spear (*right through*) David in(*to*) the wall; and David bowed [*aside*] from the face of Saul; and the spear without hurt *of* David was fixed into the wall; and David fled, and so he was saved in that night. (*And Saul endeavoured to preen David with the spear, that is, to pierce right through him, into the wall; but David veered away from the spear thrown by Saul; and it was fixed into the wall without hurting him; and David fled, and so he was saved that night.*)

11 Therefore Saul sent his knights in the night into the house of David, that they should keep him, and that he should be slain in the morrowtide. And when Michal, the wife of David, had told this to David, and said, If thou savest not thee in this night, thou shalt die tomorrow; (*And so Saul sent his sergeants in the night to David's house, to keep watch over him, and then to kill him in the morning. And Michal, David's wife, told this to David, and said, If thou savest not thyself this night, thou shalt die tomorrow;*)

12 and she let him down by a window. And David went, and fled thence, and (so) he was saved.

13 And Michal took an image (*or And Michal took an idol*), and laid it on the bed of David, and she put a rough goatskin at the head thereof, and covered it with clothes.

14 Forsooth Saul sent sergeants, that should ravish David, and it was answered, that he was sick. (*Then when Saul's sergeants entered to take hold of David, she said that he was sick.*)

15 And again Saul sent messengers, that they should see David, and he said, Bring ye him to me in the bed, that he be slain. (*And Saul sent the men back to see David for themselves, and he said, Bring ye him to me in his bed, and then I shall kill him myself!*)

16 And when the messengers had come, a simulacrum was found on the bed, and skins of goat at the head thereof. (*And when the men had come in, they found the idol on the bed, with a goatskin at its head.*)

¹⁷ And Saul said to Michal, Why scornedest thou me so (*or Why hast thou so scorned me*), and deliveredest mine enemy, (*so*) that he fled? And Michal answered to Saul, For he spake to me, and said, Deliver thou me, (*or*) else I shall slay thee.

¹⁸ Forsooth David fled, and was saved; and he came to Samuel into Ramah, and told to him all things which Saul had done to him; and he and Samuel went, and dwelled in Naioth.

¹⁹ And it was told to Saul of men (*or And some men told this to Saul*), saying to him, Lo! David is in Naioth in Ramah.

²⁰ Therefore Saul sent men-slayers, that they should ravish (*from*) thence David; and when they had seen the company of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing over them, the Spirit of the Lord was made in them, and they also began to prophesy. (*And so Saul sent some men-killers to take hold of David there; and when they had seen the group of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing at their head, the Spirit of the Lord was made upon them, and they also began to prophesy.*)

²¹ And when this was told to Saul, he sent also other messengers; soothly and they prophesied. And again Saul sent the third messengers, and they prophesied. (*And when this was told to Saul, he sent other men; and they also prophesied. And a third time Saul sent even more men, and they also prophesied.*)

²² And Saul was wroth with irefulness; and he also went into Ramah (*or and then he went to Ramah*), and he came unto the great cistern

which is in Sechu, and he asked, and said, In what place be Samuel and David? And it was said to him, Lo! they be in Naioth in Ramah.

²³ And he went (*thither*) into Naioth in Ramah; and the Spirit of the Lord was made also on him, (*or And he went on toward Naioth in Ramah; and the Spirit of the Lord was also made upon him*); and he went (*on*), and entered, and prophesied, till the while he came into Naioth in Ramah.

²⁴ And Saul also unclothed him(*self*) of his clothes, and he prophesied with other men before Samuel, and he prophesied naked all that day and night. Wherefore a *common* saying went out, Whether and Saul be among [*the*] prophets? (*or And so a common saying went out, Is Saul now also among the prophets?*)

CHAPTER 20

¹ Forsooth David fled from Naioth, which is in Ramah, and came and spake before Jonathan (*or and came and said to Jonathan*), What have I done? what is my wickedness, and what is my sin against thy father, for (*that*) he seeketh my life?

² And Jonathan said to him, Far be it from thee, thou shalt not die, for my father shall not do anything great either little, no but he show first to me; therefore, (*would*) my father (*have*) kept privy from me this word only, forsooth it shall not be. And again he swore to David. (*And Jonathan said to him, Far be it from thee, thou shalt not die, for my father shall not do anything great or small, no but first he tell it to me; would*

my father have only kept secret this word from me? no, it is not so. And again he swore to David.)

³ And David said, Truly thy father knoweth, that I have found grace in thine eyes, and he shall say, Jonathan know not this, lest peradventure he be sorry; certainly the Lord liveth, and thy soul liveth, for, that I say so, I and death be parted only by one degree. *(And David said, Truly thy father knoweth that I have found favour in thy sight, and he shall say, I will not let Jonathan know this, lest he become angry, or upset; truly, as the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I say that I and death be separated by only one degree.)*

⁴ And Jonathan said to David, Whatever thing thy soul shall say to me, I shall do it to thee. *(And Jonathan said to David, Whatever thou shalt ask me, I shall do it for thee.)*

⁵ And David said to Jonathan, Lo! calends be tomorrow, *that is the feast of the new moon*, and by custom I am wont to sit by the king to eat; therefore suffer thou me, that I be hid in the field till to *[the]* eventide of the third day, *(or but instead, allow me to hide in the field until the evening of the third day).*

⁶ And if thy father beholdeth, and asketh after me, thou shalt answer to him, David prayed me, that he might go at once into Bethlehem, his city, for solemn sacrifices be *now* there to all *[the]* men of his lineage *(or for now is the time of the annual sacrifice there for all the men of his family).*

⁷ If he saith, Well, peace shall be to thy servant; forsooth if he is wroth, know thou, that his malice is filled. *(And if he saith, Fine, then peace*

shall be to thy servant; but if he is angry, then know thou, that he is determined to harm me.)

⁸ Therefore do thou mercy into thy servant, for thou hast made me thy servant to make with thee (a) bond of peace of the Lord; but if any wickedness is in me, slay thou me, and bring thou not in me to thy father. *(And so do thou mercy with me, thy servant, for thou hast made a covenant with me before the Lord; but if there is any wickedness in me, then thou kill me, and do not bring me in to thy father.)*

⁹ And Jonathan said, Far be this from me, for it may not be done, that I tell (it) not to thee, if I know certainly, that the malice of my father is filled against thee. *(And Jonathan said, Far be this from me, for it will not be done, that I do not tell it to thee, if I know with certainty, that my father is determined to harm thee.)*

¹⁰ And David answered to Jonathan, Who shall tell me, if in case thy father answereth hard [to thee] anything of me? *(And David asked Jonathan, Who shall tell me, if thy father saith anything hard to thee about me?)*

¹¹ And Jonathan said to David, Come thou, and go we forth into the field. And when they both had gone into the field,

¹² Jonathan said (out loud) to David, Thou Lord God of Israel, if I inquire the sentence of my father tomorrow, either in the next day after, *(or O Lord God of Israel, if I inquire about my father's thoughts tomorrow, or the next day)*, and any good thing be said of thee, *(David)*, and I send not at once to thee, and make it known to thee,

13 God do these things to Jonathan, and add these (*other*) things. And if the malice of my father continue against thee, I shall show it to thine ear (*or I shall tell it to thee*), and I shall deliver thee, (*so*) that thou go in peace; and the Lord be with thee, as he was with my father.

14 And if I live, do thou the mercies of the Lord to me; forsooth if I am dead, (*And while I live, do thou the Lord's mercies to me; but if I should die,*)

15 take thou not away thy mercy from mine house unto without end; and if I do it not, when the Lord shall draw out by the root the enemies of David, each man from the land, take he away Jonathan from his house, and seek the Lord of the hand of the enemies of David. (*take thou not away thy mercy from my family forevermore; and even when the Lord shall draw out David's enemies by the root, yea, each man from the land, let the Lord call David to account, if he and his household, or his family, no longer be my friends.*)

16 Therefore Jonathan made [*a*] bond of peace with the house of David, and the Lord sought (*it*) of the hand of [*the*] enemies of David. (*And so Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, Let the Lord seek justice for me at the hands of David's enemies.*)

17 And Jonathan added to swear steadfastly to David, for he loved him; for he loved so David, as his own soul. (*And Jonathan added to steadfastly swear to David, for he loved him; yea, he loved David as much as his own life.*)

18 And Jonathan said to David, Tomorrow is the first day of the month, that is solemn (*or and that*

is a feast day), and thou shalt be sought (*after*);

¹⁹ and thy sitting shall be asked (*of*) till after the morrow. Therefore thou shalt go down hastily, and thou shalt come into a place, where thou shalt be hid in the day, when it is leaveful to work (*or while this business is at hand*); and thou shalt sit beside the stone, that is called Ezel.

²⁰ And I shall shoot three arrows beside that stone, and I shall cast (*those*) as (*if*) exercising, *either playing me at a sign. (And I shall shoot three arrows toward that stone, and I shall shoot them as if I were aiming at a mark, or at a target.)*

²¹ I shall send my child, and I shall say to him, Go thou, and bring to me the arrows. If I say to the child, Lo! the arrows be on this side (*of*) thee, take thou those; *then* come thou to me, for peace is to thee, and nothing is of evil, the Lord liveth. (*And I shall send my boy, and I shall say to him, Go thou, and bring me the arrows. Now if I say to the boy, Behold! the arrows be on this side of thee, take thou them; then come thou to me, for all is well for thee, and nothing is of evil, as the Lord liveth.*)

²² But if I speak thus to the child, Lo! the arrows be beyond thee; go thou in peace, for the Lord hath delivered thee. (*But if I speak thus to the boy, Behold! the arrows be beyond thee; then go thou away to save thy own life, for the Lord hath sent thee away.*)

²³ Certainly of the word that thou and I have spoken, *that is, of the bond of peace betwixt us and our heirs, (or that is, of the covenant between*

us and our heirs), the Lord be witness betwixt me and thee till into without end.

²⁴ Therefore David was hid in the field; and the calends/the solemn feast came, and the king sat to eat bread (*or and the king sat down to eat his meal*).

²⁵ And when the king had set on his chair (*as*) by custom, which chair was beside the wall, Jonathan rose, and sat *after Abner*, and Abner sat at the side of Saul, and the place of David appeared void (*or and David's place was empty*).

²⁶ And Saul spake not anything in that day; for he thought, that in hap it befelled to him, that he was not clean, neither purified. (*And Saul did not say anything about David that day; for he thought perhaps it befell that David was not clean, or purified.*)

²⁷ And when the second day after the calends had shined, again the place of David appeared void. And Saul said to Jonathan his son, Why cometh not the son of Jesse, neither yesterday, neither today, to eat? (*And when the second day came after that the new moon had shone, again David's place was empty. And Saul said to his son Jonathan, Why cometh not the son of Jesse to eat, not yesterday, or today?*)

²⁸ And Jonathan answered to Saul, He prayed me meekly that he should go into Bethlehem (*or He humbly asked me if he could go to Bethlehem*);

²⁹ and he said, Suffer thou me, for solemn sacrifice is (*now*) in my city; one of my brethren [*hath*] called me; now therefore, if I [*have*] found grace in thine eyes, I shall go soon, and I shall see

my brethren, (*or I shall go swiftly, and I shall see my brothers*); for this cause he cometh not to the table of the king.

³⁰ And Saul was wroth against Jonathan, and said to him, Thou son of the woman willfully ravishing a man (*or Thou son of the woman who willfully robbeth a man*), whether I know not, that thou lovest the son of Jesse into thy [own] confusion, and into the confusion of thy shameful mother?

³¹ For in all the days in which the son of Jesse liveth on [the] earth, thou shalt not be stablished, neither thy realm, (*or thou shalt not be secure, nor shall thy kingdom*); therefore right now/at once send thou, and bring him to me, for he is the son of death.

³² And Jonathan answered to Saul his father, and said, Why shall he die? what hath he done?

³³ And Saul took a spear, that he should smite him, and Jonathan understood, that it was determined of his father, that David should be slain, (*or and Jonathan understood that his father was determined to kill David*).

³⁴ Then Jonathan rose (*up*) from the table in full fierce wrath, and he ate not bread in the second day of calends (*or and he ate nothing on the second day of the feast*); for he was sorry for David, for his father had shamed him.

³⁵ And when the morrowtide had shined, Jonathan came into the field, and a little child with him, by the covenant made of David. (*And when the morning came, Jonathan went into the*

field, and had a young boy with him, as by the pact which he had made with David.)

³⁶ And Jonathan said to his child, Go thou, and bring to me the arrows that I shoot. And when the child had run forth, he shot another arrow beyond the child. *(And Jonathan said to his boy, Go thou, and bring me back the arrows that I shoot. And as the boy ran forth, he shot the arrows beyond the boy.)*

³⁷ Therefore when the child came to the place of the arrow that Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried behind the back of the child, and said, Lo! the arrow is not there, certainly it is beyond thee. *(And so when the boy came to the place where the arrows were that Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried behind the boy's back, and said, Behold! the arrows be not there, but they be beyond thee.)*

³⁸ And Jonathan cried again behind the back of the child, Haste thou swiftly, stand thou not. Soothly the child gathered up the arrows of Jonathan, and brought *them* to his lord, *(And Jonathan cried again behind the back of the boy, Run thou quickly, do not thou stand still. And the boy gathered up the arrows of Jonathan, and brought them back to his lord.)*

³⁹ and utterly the child knew not what was done; for only Jonathan and David knew the thing. *(and utterly the boy could not understand what had happened; but Jonathan and David knew what the words really meant.)*

⁴⁰ Then Jonathan gave his bow and arrows to the child, and said to him, Go thou, bear *these* into the city. *(Then Jonathan gave his bow and*

arrows to the boy, and said to him, Go thou, carry these back to the city.)

⁴¹ And when the child had gone, David rose from the place that went to the south; and he felled low upon the earth, and worshipped the third time, and they kissed themselves together, and wept together; but David wept more. *(And when the boy had gone, David rose up from a place toward the south; and he fell low on the ground, and bowed three times, and then they kissed one another, and wept together; but David wept more.)*

⁴² Then Jonathan said to David, Go thou in peace; whatever things we both have sworn in the name of the Lord, and said, The Lord be betwixt me and thee, and betwixt my seed and thy seed, till into without end, *be steadfast, (or unwavering)*. And David rose up, and went forth, but and Jonathan went into the city.

CHAPTER 21

¹ Forsooth David came into Nob to Ahimelech, the priest; and Ahimelech wondered, for David had come, *(or and Ahimelech wondered why David had come there)*; and he said to David, Why art thou alone, and no man is with thee?

² And David said to Ahimelech the priest, The king hath commanded to me a word, and said, No man know this thing, for which thou art sent from me, and what manner behests I have given to thee; for I said also to my young men, that they should go into that and that place, *(or and so I said to my young men, that they should go to such and such a place)*;

³ now therefore if thou hast anything at hand, either five loaves (*or even five loaves*), give thou (*them*) to me, either whatever thing thou findest.

⁴ And the priest answered to David, and said to him, I have not lay, *that is, common*, loaves at hand, but only holy bread; whether the young men be clean, and mostly of women? (*And the priest answered David, and said to him, I do not have any lay loaves, or common bread, at hand, only holy bread; thy young men, be they clean, at least from women?*)

⁵ And David answered to the priest, and said to him, And soothly if it is done of women, we have abstained us from yesterday and the third day ago, when we went out, and the vessels, *that is, (the) bodies*, of the young men were clean; certainly this way is defouled, but and it shall be hallowed today in the vessels. (*And David answered the priest, and said to him, If it is asked of women, we have abstained ourselves from yesterday and the third day ago, when we went out, and so the young men's bodies be clean; truly, that way is defiled, but their bodies remain pure.*)

⁶ Therefore the priest gave to him hallowed bread, for none other bread was there, but only loaves of setting forth, that were taken away from the face of the Lord, that hot loaves shall be set forth. (*And so the priest gave him the consecrated bread, for there was no other bread there, but only the loaves of setting forth, that is, the loaves of proposition, or the showbread, which*

had been taken away from before the Lord, and replaced with fresh hot loaves.)

⁷ And a man of the servants of Saul was there that day, within in the tabernacle of the Lord; and his name was Doeg of Idumea, the mightiest man of the herds(*men*) of Saul.

⁸ And David said to Ahimelech, If thou hast here at hand (*a*) spear, either (*a*) sword, give it to me; for I took not with me my sword, neither mine armours (*nor my own arms, or my own weapons*); for why the king's word constrained me *to go in haste*.

⁹ And the priest said, Lo! the sword of Goliath (*the*) Philistine, whom thou killedest in the valley of Terebinth, is wrapped in a cloth *next after [the] ephod*; if thou wilt take this, take it; for (*t*)here is none other except that. And David said, None other is like this, give thou it to me. (*And the priest said, Behold! the sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou killedest in the Elah Valley, is wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod; if thou wilt have it, then take it; for there is nothing else here except that. And David said, There is no other like it, give it to me.*)

¹⁰ And so David rose up, and fled in that day from the face of Saul, and came to Achish, the king of Gath.

¹¹ And the servants of Achish said to him, when they had seen David, Whether this is not David, [*the*] king of the land? Whether they sang not to him by quires/by carols, and said, Saul smote a thousand, and David smote ten thousand? (*or Did they not sing about him as they*

danced, saying, Saul struck down thousands, but David struck down tens of thousands?)

¹² And David took these words in his heart, and he dreaded greatly of the face of Achish, king of Gath. *(And David took these words to heart, and so he greatly feared King Achish of Gath.)*

¹³ And David changed his mouth before Achish, and felled down betwixt their hands, and he painted on the doors of the gate, and his dribbles, *that is, spittles*, flowed down into his beard.

¹⁴ And Achish said to his servants, See ye the mad man? *(or See ye not that the man is mad?)* why brought ye him to me?

¹⁵ whether mad men fail to us? why have ye brought in him, that he should be mad, while I am present? Deliver ye him from hence, lest he enter into mine house. *(do we not have enough mad men here already? why have ye brought him in, so that he can be deranged right in front of me! Get ye him away from here, lest he enter into my house, and touch things!)*

CHAPTER 22

¹ Therefore David went from thence, and fled into the den of Adullam, *(or And so David went from there, and fled to the cave of Adullam)*; and when his brethren, and all the house of his father had heard this, they came down thither to him.

² And all men that were set in anguish, and oppressed with other men's debt, and in bitter soul, came together to him; and he was made the prince of them, and as four hundred men were with him. *(And all men who were set in anguish,*

and were oppressed with owing debt to other men, and were bitter in soul, came together to him; and so about four hundred men were with him.)

³ And David went forth from thence into Mizpeh, that is in Moab; and he said to the king of Moab, I pray, dwell my father and my mother with you, till I know what thing God shall do to me. *(And David went forth from there to Mizpeh, which is in Moab; and he said to the king of Moab, I pray thee, let my father and my mother stay with you, until I know what God shall do for me.)*

⁴ And he left them *there* before the face of the king of Moab; and they dwelled at him in all the days, that David was in stronghold. *(And so he left them there with the king of Moab; and they stayed with him all the days that David was in his stronghold.)*

⁵ And Gad, the prophet, said to David, Do not thou dwell in the forcelet, *or the stronghold*; go thou forth, and go into the land of Judah. And David went forth, and came into the forest of Hareth.

⁶ And Saul heard, that David appeared, and the men that were with him. And when Saul dwelled in Gibeah, and was in a wood that is in Ramah, and he held a spear in his hand, and all his servants stood about him, *(And Saul heard that David, and the men who were with him, had appeared. And Saul then lived in Gibeah, and was in a forest that is in Ramah, and he held a spear in his hand, and all his servants stood about him,)*

⁷ he said to his servants that stood nigh *[to]* him, Ye sons of Benjamin, hear me now; whether the son of Jesse shall give to all you fields and

vineries, and he shall make all you chieftains upon thousands, and upon hundreds of men? *(and he said to his officers who stood about him, Ye sons of Benjamin, hear me now; will the son of Jesse give all of you fields and vineyards, and will he make all of you chieftains over thousands, and chieftains over hundreds?)*

⁸ For all ye have sworn, *either conspired, together against me, and none is that telleth to me; mostly since also my son hath joined (in a) bond of peace with the son of Jesse; none is of you, that sorroweth for my stead, or my while, neither that telleth to me, for my son hath raised my servant against me, setting treason to me, unto this day. (Is that why all of you have conspired together against me, and no one told me that my son hath made a covenant with the son of Jesse; yea, none of you hath concern for me, nor even telleth me that my own son hath raised up my servant against me, setting treason for me, unto this day.)*

⁹ Soothly Doeg of Idumea answered, that stood nigh, and was the first among the servants of Saul, and said, I saw the son of Jesse in Nob, at Ahimelech, the priest, the son of Ahitub; *(And Doeg of Idumea, who stood near; and was the first among Saul's officers, answered, and said, I saw Jesse's son in Nob, with Ahimelech, the priest, the son of Ahitub;)*

¹⁰ and Ahimelech counselled with the Lord for David, and gave him meats, *(or and gave him food, or sustenance)*, but also he gave to David the sword of Goliath *(the) Philistine.*

11 Therefore the king sent to call Ahimelech, the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all the house of his father, of *[the]* priests that were in Nob; which all came to the king. *(And so the king sent for Ahimelech, the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all those in his family, who were also priests in Nob; and they all came to the king.)*

12 And Saul said to Ahimelech, Hear me, thou son of Ahitub. Which answered, Lord, I am ready. *(And Saul said to Ahimelech, Listen to me, O son of Ahitub. Who answered, My lord, I am listening.)*

13 And Saul said to him, Why hast thou conspired against me, thou, and the son of Jesse, and *[thou]* hast given loaves and a sword to him, and hast counselled with the Lord for him, that he should rise *(up)* against me, and he dwelleth a traitor *(now)* unto this day?

14 And Ahimelech answered to the king, and said, Who among all thy servants is so faithful as David, and he is thy son-in-law, and going at thy behest, and glorious in all thine house? *(And Ahimelech answered the king, and said, Who among all thy servants is as faithful as David, and he is the king's son-in-law, and doeth thy bidding, and who is more honourable in all thy household?)*

15 Whether I began today to counsel *(with)* the Lord for him? Far be this from me; suppose not the king such *(a)* thing against his servant, *(or)* in all the house of my father *(or in all my family)*; for thy servant knew not anything, either little, either great, of this cause.

¹⁶ And the king said, Ahimelech, thou shalt die by death, thou, and all the house of thy father. *(And the king said, Ahimelech, thou shalt die, thou, and all thy family.)*

¹⁷ And the king said to *(the)* men able to be sent out *(to do his bidding)*, that stood about him, Turn ye, and slay the priests of the Lord, for the hand of them is with David; and they knew that he fled, and they showed not to me. Soothly the servants of the king would not hold forth their hand into the priests of the Lord *(or But the king's guards would not put their hands against the Lord's priests)*.

¹⁸ And the king said to Doeg, Turn thou, and hurtle into the priests of the Lord. And Doeg of Idumea turned, and hurtled into the priests, and strangled in that day fourscore and five men, clothed with ephods of linen cloth, *or linen priests? capes, (or and killed eighty-five men that day, each bearing or wearing an ephod)*.

¹⁹ Forsooth he smote Nob *(or And then he struck Nob)*, the city of the priests, by the sharpness of *(the)* sword, men and women, little children and *(those)* sucking, and ox, and ass, and sheep, *(all)* by the sharpness of *(the)* sword.

²⁰ But one son of Ahimelech, the son of Ahitub, escaped, of which son the name was Abiathar; and he fled to David,

²¹ and *(he)* told him that Saul had slain the priests of the Lord.

²² And David said to Abiathar, Soothly I knew in that day, that when Doeg of Idumea was there, he would tell without doubt to Saul; I am guilty of all

the lives *that be slain* of thy father('s) house. (*And David said to Abiathar, Truly I knew on that day, when Doeg the Idumean was there, that without a doubt he would tell Saul; yea, I am guilty for all the livesthat be lost in thy father's family.*)

²³ Dwell thou with me, dread thou not; if any man seeketh thy life, he shall seek also my life, and thou shalt be kept with me. (*Stay thou with me, and fear thou not; if any man seeketh thy life, he shall also seek my life, but thou shalt be kept safe with me.*)

CHAPTER 23

¹ And they told to David, and said, Lo! The Philistines fight against Keilah, and ravish the cornfloors (*or and steal the harvest, or and rob the threshing floors*).

² Therefore David counselled (*with*) the Lord, and said, Whether I shall go, and smite these Philistines? (*or And so David counselled with the Lord, and asked, Shall I go, and strike down these Philistines?*) And the Lord said to David, Go forth, and thou shalt smite the Philistines, and thou shalt save Keilah.

³ And (*the*) men, that were with David, said to him, Lo! we be here in Judah, and have dread (*or and be afraid*); how much more if we shall go into Keilah against the companies of (*the*) Philistines.

⁴ Therefore again David counselled with the Lord; the which answered (*or who answered*), and said to David, Rise thou up, and go into Keilah; for I shall betake [*the*] Philistines into thine hand.

⁵ Therefore David went, and his men, into Keilah, and fought against the Philistines; and he drove away their work beasts, and smote them with [a] great wound; and David saved the dwellers of Keilah. *(And so David and his men went to Keilah, and fought against the Philistines; and he took away their work beasts, and struck them down with a great slaughter; and so David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.)*

⁶ And in that time, wherein Abiathar, [the] son of Ahimelech, fled to David into Keilah, he came down, and had with him (the) ephod, *that is, the cloth of the highest priest. (And when Abiathar, the son of Ahimelech, joined David at Keilah, he brought the ephod, that is, the high priest's cloak, with him.)*

⁷ And it was told to Saul, that David had come into Keilah; and Saul said, The Lord hath taken him into mine hands, and he is (en)closed, and entered into a city, in which be gates and locks. *(And Saul was told that David had gone to Keilah; and Saul said, The Lord hath delivered him into my hands, and now he is enclosed, for he hath gone into a city, where there be gates and locks.)*

⁸ And Saul commanded to all the people, that it should go down to battle into Keilah *(or that they should go down to do battle at Keilah)*, and besiege David and his men.

⁹ And when David perceived, that Saul made ready evil privily to him, he said to Abiathar, the priest, Bring hither [the] ephod. *(And when David understood, that Saul planned to attack him, he said to Abiathar, the priest, Bring the ephod here.)*

10 And David said, Lord God of Israel, thy servant hath heard say, that Saul disposeth to come to Keilah, that he destroy the city for me; *(Then David said, Lord God of Israel, thy servant hath heard say, that Saul disposeth to come to Keilah, to destroy the city because of me;)*

11 if the men of Keilah shall betake me into his hands, and if Saul shall come down, as thy servant hath heard, thou Lord God of Israel, show to thy servant? And the Lord said, He shall come down. *(will the men of Keilah deliver me into his hands? and will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard? O Lord God of Israel, tell thy servant. And the Lord said, He shall come down.)*

12 And David said again, Whether the men of Keilah shall betake me, and the men that be with me, into the hands of Saul? And the Lord said, They shall betake thee to Saul, if thou abidest him there. *(And David asked, Shall the men of Keilah deliver me, and my men, into the hands of Saul? And the Lord said, They shall deliver thee to Saul, if thou waitest here for him.)*

13 Therefore David rose, and his men, as six hundred; and they went out of Keilah, and wandered uncertain hither and thither. And it was told to Saul, that David had fled from Keilah, and was saved; wherefore Saul dissembled to go out. *(And so David and his men, about six hundred in all, rose up; and they went out of Keilah, and wandered about with uncertainty. And it was told to Saul, that David had fled from Keilah, and so he was saved; and for a short while Saul left off going after him.)*

14 But David dwelled in the desert, in full strong places, and he dwelled in the hill of *(the)* wilderness of Ziph, in a dark hill; nevertheless Saul sought him in all days, and the Lord betook not him into the hands of Saul. *(And David lived in the wilderness, in secure places, and he stayed in the hill country of the wilderness of Ziph, on a dark hill; and Saul continued to seek after him in all days, but the Lord did not deliver him into Saul's hands.)*

15 And David saw, that Saul went out, that he would seek his life. And David was in the desert of Ziph, in a wood. *(And David saw, that Saul went out to seek his life. And David was in the wilderness of Ziph, in a forest.)*

16 And Jonathan, the son of Saul, rose up, and went to David into the wood, and comforted his hands in God. *(And Saul's son Jonathan rose up, and went to David in the forest, and strengthened his hand in God or and encouraged him in the name of God.)*

17 And he said to David, Dread thou not; for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee, and thou shalt reign on Israel, and I shall be the second to thee; but also Saul my father knoweth this. *(And he said to David, Fear not; for the hand of my father Saul shall not find thee, and thou shalt reign upon Israel, and I shall be second to thee; and my father Saul knoweth this.)*

18 Therefore ever either smote *(a)* bond of peace before the Lord. And David dwelled in the wood; and Jonathan turned again into his house. *(And so they both struck a covenant before*

the Lord. And David stayed in the forest; and Jonathan returned home.)

¹⁹ Certainly men of Ziph went up to Saul in Gibeah, and said, Lo! whether not David is hid with us in the full secure places in the thick wood(s), in the hill of Hachilah, that is at the right side of desert? *(Then men of Ziph went up to Saul in Gibeah, and said, Behold! David is hid among us in the most secure places, in the thick forest on Mount Hachilah, which is to the south of Jeshimon.)*

²⁰ Now therefore come thou down, as thy soul desired, that thou shouldest come down; forsooth it shall be our *doing*, that we betake him into the hands of the king. *(And so now come thou down, as thy soul truly desireth to come down; and it shall be our doing that we deliver him into thy hands.)*

²¹ And Saul said, Blessed be ye of the Lord, for ye *[have]* sorrowed for my stead/for my while *(or for ye be concerned about my situation)*.

²² Therefore, I pray you, go ye, and make ready more diligently, and do ye more curiously, *either attentively*, and behold ye swiftly, where his foot is, either who saw him there, where ye said; for he thinketh on me, that fellily I ambush him. *(And so, I pray you, go ye, and more diligently, yea, most attentively, seek ye him out, and quickly see ye, where his foot is, and who saw him there, where ye said; for he thinketh, that I am foolish to even try to ambush him.)*

²³ Behold ye, and see all his hiding places, in which he is hid, and then turn ye again to me

at a certain thing, that I go with you; that if he *(en)*closeth himself yea in *[the]* earth, I shall seek him with*(in)* all the thousands of Judah. *(Seek ye out, and see all his hiding places, where he can be hid, and return to me with this certain information, and then I shall go back with you; yea, if he is hid there in the land, I shall seek him out among all the thousands of Judah.)*

²⁴ And they rose up, and went into Ziph before Saul. And David and his men were in the desert of Maon, in the field places, at the right half of Jeshimon, *(or And David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, to the south of Jeshimon).*

²⁵ Therefore Saul went and his fellows to seek David, and it was told to David; and anon he went down to the stone, and lived in the desert of Maon; and when Saul had heard this, he pursued David in the desert of Maon. *(And so Saul and his fellows went to seek out David, and this was told to David; and at once he went down to a rocky hill, and lived there in the wilderness of Maon; and when Saul had heard this, he pursued David in the wilderness of Maon.)*

²⁶ And Saul went and his men at the side of the hill on *[the]* one part; forsooth David and his men were in the side of the hill on the tother part; soothly David despaired, that he might *(not)* escape from the face of Saul. And so Saul and his men compassed by the manner of a crown *round about* David and his men, that they should take them. *(And Saul and his men went on one side of the hill; and David and his men were on the other side of the hill; and David truly despaired that he might not escape from Saul. And Saul and his men*

encompassed David and his men round about like a crown, in order to capture them.)

²⁷ And (*then*) a messenger came to Saul, and said, Haste thou, and come, for the Philistines have spread themselves on the land.

²⁸ Therefore Saul turned again, and ceased to pursue David; and went against the coming of (*the*) Philistines. For this thing they called that place The Stone of Parting (*or And because of this they called that place Selahammahlekoth*).

²⁹ Therefore David went up from thence, and dwelled in the most secure places of Engedi.

CHAPTER 24

¹ And when Saul turned again, after that he pursued [*the*] Philistines, they told to him, and said, Lo! David is in the desert of Engedi, (*or Behold! David is in the wilderness of Engedi*).

² Therefore Saul took three thousand chosen men of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men, yea upon the most broken rocks, the which be thorough-ways to wild goats alone (*or which be thoroughfares only for wild goats*).

³ And he came to the folds of sheep, that offered themselves to the way-goer. And there was a cave, into which Saul entered, that he would purge his womb; forsooth David and his men were hid in the inner part of the den. (*And he came to the sheepfolds, or the pens, that offered themselves to the way-goer. And there was a cave, into which Saul entered, where he could empty his bowels; and David and his men were hid in the inner part of that cave.*)

⁴ And the servants of David said to him, Lo! the day of which the Lord spake to thee, *(and said)*, I shall betake to thee thine enemy, that thou do to him as it pleaseth in thine eyes. Therefore David rose up, and cutted *(away)* the hem of the mantle of Saul privily. *(And David's servants said to him, Behold! this is the day of which the Lord spoke to thee, and said, I shall deliver thy enemy to thee, so that thou can do to him as it pleaseth thee. And David rose up, and secretly cut away the hem of Saul's mantle.)*

⁵ After these things, David smote his heart, *that is, his conscience reproved him*, for he had cut away the hem of the mantle of Saul. *(But after doing this, David's heart struck him, that is, his conscience reproved him, for he had cut away the hem of Saul's mantle.)*

⁶ And David said to his men, The Lord be merciful to me, lest I do this thing to my lord, the anointed of the Lord, or that I send mine hand on him, for he is the christ of the Lord. *(And David said to his men, The Lord forbid that I do this to my lord, who is the Lord's anointed, or that I put my hand against him, for he is the Lord's anointed.)*

⁷ The Lord liveth, for but the Lord smite him, either his day come, that he die, either he go down into battle, and perish, the Lord be merciful to me, that I send not mine hand into the christ of the Lord; *and David brake his men by such words, and suffered not them, that they rised against Saul.* And Saul rose out of the den, and went in the way begun. *(As the Lord liveth,*

but the Lord strike him down, or his day come that he die, or that he go down to the battle, and perish, the Lord forbid that I put my hand against the Lord's anointed; and David convicted his men with such words, and did not allow them to rise up against Saul. And so Saul left the cave without any harm, and went on the way begun.)

⁸ And David rose up after him, and he went out of the den, and cried after the back of Saul, and said, My lord, the king! And Saul beheld behind himself; and David bowed himself low to the earth, and worshipped him, *(or and David bowed low to the ground, and honoured him).*

⁹ And David said to Saul, Why hearest thou the words of men speaking, David seeketh evil against thee? *(And David said to Saul, Why hearest thou the words of men who say that David seeketh to harm thee.)*

¹⁰ Lo! today thine eyes saw, that the Lord betook thee in mine hand in the den, and I thought that I would slay thee, but mine eye spared thee; for I said, I shall not hold forth mine hand into my lord, for he is the anointed of the Lord. *(Behold! today thine eyes can see that the Lord delivered thee into my hands in the cave, and I thought that I would kill thee, but instead, I spared thee; for I said, I shall not put my hand against my lord, for he is the Lord's anointed.)*

¹¹ But rather, my father, see thou, and know the hem of thy mantle in mine hand; for when I cutted away the hem off thy mantle, I would not hold forth mine hand against thee, *(or for when I cut off the hem of thy mantle, I would not*

put forth my hand against thee); perceive thou, and see, for neither evil neither wickedness is in mine hand, neither I have sinned against thee; but thou ambushest my life, that thou do it away.

¹² The Lord deem betwixt me and thee, and the Lord venge me of thee (*or and the Lord avenge me upon thee*); but mine (*own*) hand be not against thee,

¹³ as it is said in [*the*] eld proverb, Wickedness shall go out of wicked men; therefore mine hand be not against thee (*or and so my hand shall not be against thee*).

¹⁴ Whom pursuest thou, king of Israel, whom pursuest thou? Thou pursuest a dead hound, and a quick flea.

¹⁵ The Lord be judge, and the Lord deem betwixt me and thee, and see, and deem my cause, and deliver me from thine hand.

¹⁶ And when David had filled, *or ended*, speaking such manner words to Saul, Saul said, Whether this is thy voice, my son David? And Saul raised up his voice, and wept.

¹⁷ And he said to David, Thou art more just than I; for thou gavest good things to me; but I have yielded evils to thee. (*And he said to David, Thou art more in the right than I; for thou gavest good to me; but I yielded only evil to thee.*)

¹⁸ And thou hast showed to me today, what goods thou hast done to me, how the Lord betook me in thine hand, and thou killedest not me. (*And thou hast shown me today the good that thou hast done for me, yea, how the Lord delivered me into thy hands, but thou didest not kill me.*)

¹⁹ For who, when he findeth his enemy, shall deliver him into *(a)* good way? But the Lord yield to thee this while, for that, *(that)* thou hast wrought today in me *(or for what thou hast done for me today)*.

²⁰ And now, for I know, that thou shalt reign most certainly, and shalt have in thine hand the realm of Israel, *(And now, for I know, that most certainly thou shalt reign, and shalt have in thy hands the kingdom of Israel,)*

²¹ swear thou to me in the Lord, that thou do not away my seed after me, neither take away my name from the house of my father. *(swear thou to me by the Lord, that thou shalt not do away my descendants after me, nor take away my name from my father's house.)*

²² And David swore to Saul. Therefore Saul went into his house *(or And then Saul went back to his house)*, and David and his men went up to *(the)* secure places.

CHAPTER 25

¹ Forsooth Samuel was dead; and all Israel was gathered together, and they bewailed him greatly, and buried him in his house in Ramah. And David rose up, and went down into the desert of Paran. *(And then Samuel died; and all Israel was gathered together, and they greatly bewailed him, and buried him at his house in Ramah. And David rose up, and went down to the wilderness of Paran.)*

² And in Maon there was a man, and his possession was in Carmel; and that man was

full great, and there were to him three thousand sheep, and a thousand of goats; and it befelled that his flock was shorn in Carmel. (*And in Maon there was a man, and his possession was in Carmel; and that man was very rich, and there were to him three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats; and it befell that his flock was clipped in Carmel.*)

³ And the name of that man was Nabal, and the name of his wife was Abigail; and that woman was most prudent and fair (*or and that woman was very intelligent and beautiful*); but her husband was hard and full wicked and malicious; and he was of the kin of Caleb.

⁴ Therefore when David had heard in desert, that Nabal clipped his flock, (*And when David had heard in the wilderness, that Nabal clipped his flock,*)

⁵ he sent ten young men, and said to them, Go ye up into Carmel, and ye shall come to Nabal, and ye shall greet him of my name peaceably (*or and ye shall give him a friendly greeting in my name*);

⁶ and ye shall say thus (*or and so ye shall say*), Peace be to my brethren and to thee, and peace be to thine house, and peace be to all things, whatever thou hast.

⁷ I have heard that thy shepherds, that were with us in desert, have shorn thy flocks; we were never dis-easeful to them, neither any time anything of the flock failed to them, in all the time in which they were with us in Carmel; (*I have heard that thy shepherds, who were with us*

in the wilderness, have clipped thy flocks; we never threatened them, nor at any time did anything of theirs go missing, in all the time when they were with us in Carmel;)

⁸ ask thy young men, and they shall show to thee. Now therefore thy young men find grace in thine eyes; for in a good day we come to thee; whatever thing thine hand findeth, *or (it) pleaseth to thee*, give it to thy servants, and to thy son David. *(ask thy young men, and they shall tell thee. And so now let my young men find favour in thine eyes, for we come to thee on a good day; and whatever thing that thy hand findeth, or it pleaseth thee, give it to thy servants, and to thy son David.)*

⁹ And when the young men of David had come, they spake to Nabal all these words in the name of David, and held *[their]* peace *(or and then they were silent)*.

¹⁰ Forsooth Nabal answered to the young men of David, and said, Who is David? and who is the son of Jesse? Today servants *[have]* increased that flee their lords *(or Today too many servants have fled from their lords)*.

¹¹ Therefore shall I take my loaves, and my waters, and the flesh of *(my)* beasts, which I have slain to my shearers *(or which I have killed for my shearers)*, and shall I give *(it)* to men, that I know not of whence they be?

¹² Therefore the young men of David went again by their way; and they turned again, and came, and told to him all *(the)* words which Nabal had said.

13 Then David said to his young men, *(Let)* Each man be gird with his sword. And all *(his)* men were girded with their swords, and David also was girded with his sword; and as four hundred men followed David, for two hundred *(were)* left at the fardels, *(or and about four hundred men followed David, for two hundred were left behind with the bundles, or the supplies).*

14 And one of the young men told to Abigail, the wife of Nabal, and said, Lo! David sent messengers from desert, that they should bless our lord, and he turned them away, *(or Behold! David sent messengers from the wilderness to greet our lord, but he turned them away);*

15 these men were good enough, and not diseaseful to us, and nothing of ours perished in all the time in which we were with them in desert, *(or in the wilderness);*

16 they were to us for a wall, both in night and day, in all the days in which we pastured flocks with them. *(they were like a wall for us, both night and day, all the days in which we pastured the flocks with them.)*

17 Wherefore behold thou, and think, what thou shalt do; for malice is full-filled against thine husband, and against thine house, *(or for malice is now filled full against thy husband, and against all thy family);* and he is the son of Belial, so that no man may speak *(sense)* to him.

18 Therefore Abigail hasted, and took two hundred loaves, and two vessels of wine, and five wethers sodden, and seven bushels and an half of flour, *(or and five roasted sheep, and seven and*

a half bushels of flour), and an hundred bundles of dried grapes, *or raisins*, and two hundred pieces of dried figs; and she put *all this* upon asses,

¹⁹ and said to her servants, Go ye before me; lo! I shall follow you behind your back. And she showed not *this* to her husband Nabal (*or But she did not say anything about this to her husband Nabal*).

²⁰ Therefore when she had gone upon an ass, and came down to the foot of the hill, David and his men came down into her coming; the which she met (*or and she met them*).

²¹ And (*earlier*) David (*had*) said, Verily in vain I have kept all these things that were of this Nabal in the desert, and nothing perished of all things that pertained to him, and (*yet*) he hath yielded to me evil for good. (*And earlier David had said, Truly in vain have I kept watch over all those things that were Nabal's in the wilderness, and though nothing perished of all the things that pertained to him, yet he hath yielded to me evil for good.*)

²² The Lord do these things, and add he these things to the enemies of David, if I shall leave (*anything*)*undestroyed* of all things that pertain to him till tomorrow, (*yea, even*) a pisser to a wall. (*May the Lord do these things, and add he other things, to David's enemies, if I leave anythingunwasted until tomorrow out of all the things that pertain to him, yea, even a pisser on the wall.*)

²³ And when Abigail saw David, she hasted, and went down off the ass; and she fell down before David on her face, and worshipped *him* on the earth (*or bowing low to the ground before him*).

²⁴ And she felled down to his feet, and said, My lord the king, this wickedness be in me; I beseech thee, speak thine handmaid in thine ears, and hear thou the words of thy servantess; (*And she fell down at his feet, and said, My lord the king, let this wickedness be upon me; I beseech thee, let thy servantess speak to thee, and listen thou to the words of thy servantess;*)

²⁵ I pray (*thee*), my lord the king, set not his heart on this wicked man Nabal, for by his name he is a fool, and folly is with him; but, my lord, I thine handmaid saw not thy young men, which thou sentest, (*or but my lord, I thy servantess, did not see thy young men, whom thou sentest*).

²⁶ Now therefore, my lord, the Lord liveth, and thy soul liveth, the which Lord hath forbidden thee, that thou shouldest come into blood, and the Lord saved thy life to thee; and now thine enemies, and they that seek evil to thee my lord, be they made as Nabal. (*And so now, my lord, as the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, the which Lord hath forbidden thee, that thou shouldest come to shed blood, and so to avenge thyself with thy own hand; yea, now let thy enemies, and they who seek evil for thee my lord, be they made like Nabal.*)

²⁷ Wherefore receive thou this blessing, (*or this gift*), which thine handmaid [*hath*] brought to

thee, my lord, and give it to the young men that follow thee, my lord.

²⁸ (And) Do thou away the wickedness of thy servantess; for the Lord making shall make a faithful house to thee, my lord, (*or for the Lord shall make a faithful family for thee, my lord*), for thou, my lord, fightest the battles of the Lord; therefore malice be not found in thee in all the days of thy life.

²⁹ For if a man riseth any time, and pursueth thee, and seeketh thy life, the life of my lord shall be kept (*safe*) as in a bundle of living trees, at thy Lord God (*or with the Lord thy God*); but the soul of thine enemies shall be hurled round about as in [*the*] fierceness, and [*the*] circle of a sling.

³⁰ Therefore when the Lord hath done to thee, my lord, all these good things, which he hath spoken of thee, and hath ordained thee duke upon Israel (*or and hath ordained thee ruler upon Israel*),

³¹ this shall not be into sighing, *that is, into mourning of soul, and into remorse of conscience*, and into doubt of heart to thee, my lord, that thou hast shed out guiltless blood, either that thou hast (*a*)venged thyself. And when the Lord hath done well to thee, my lord, thou shalt have mind on thine handmaid (*or thou shalt remember thy servantess*), and thou shalt do well to her.

³² And David said to Abigail, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, that sent thee today into my coming (*or who sent thee today to meet me*),

³³ and blessed be thy speech; and blessed be thou, that hast forbade me, lest I went *today* to

(shed) blood, and had venged me with mine hand
(or and had avenged myself with my own hands);

³⁴ else the Lord God of Israel liveth, which forbade me, lest I did evil to thee, if thou haddest not soon come into meeting to me, (yea, even) a pisser to the wall should not have (been) left to Nabal till to the morrow light. (else as the Lord God of Israel liveth, who forbade me, lest I did evil to thee, if thou haddest not swiftly come to meet me, yea, even a pisser on the wall would not have been left to Nabal by the morning light.)

³⁵ Therefore David received (out) of her hand all (the) things which she had brought to him; and he said to her, Go thou in peace into thine house; lo! I have heard thy voice, and I honoured thy face (or behold! I have heard thy voice, and I grant thy request).

³⁶ Forsooth Abigail came to Nabal; and lo! a feast was to him in his house, as the feast of a king; and the heart of Nabal was merry, certainly he was full drunken; and she showed not to him a word, little or great, till the morrow. (And Abigail came back to Nabal; and behold! he was giving a feast in his house, a feast fit for a king; and Nabal's heart was merry, for he was very drunk; and so she did not tell him anything, little or great, until the morning.)

³⁷ But in the morrowtide, when Nabal had voided the wine, his wife showed to him all these words; and his heart was almost dead within, and he was made as a stone. (But in the morning, when Nabal had voided the wine, his wife told him

everything; and his heart was almost dead within, and he was made like a stone.)

³⁸ And when ten days had passed, the Lord smote Nabal, and he was dead (*or and he died*).

³⁹ The which thing when David had heard, Nabal *to be* dead, he said, Blessed be the Lord God, that hath venged the cause of my shame of the hand of Nabal, and hath kept his servant from evil, and the Lord hath yielded the malice of Nabal into the head of him. Therefore David sent, and spake to Abigail, that he would take her (*as a*) wife to him. (*Which thing when David had heard, that is, that Nabal had died, he said, Blessed be the Lord God, who hath avenged the cause of my shame at the hand of Nabal, and hath kept his servant from evil; yea, the Lord hath yielded the malice of Nabal onto his own head. Then David sent word to Abigail that he would take her for his wife.*)

⁴⁰ And the servants of David came to Abigail into Carmel, and spake to her, and said, David sent us to thee, that he take thee into wife to him. (*And so David's servants came to Abigail at Carmel, and spoke to her, and said, David sent us to tell thee, that he would take thee as his wife.*)

⁴¹ And she rose up, and worshipped low to the earth (*or and bowed low to the ground*), and said, Lo! (*let*) thy servantess be into an handmaid, that she wash the feet of the servants of my lord.

⁴² And Abigail hasted, and rose (*up*), and ascended on an ass (*or and mounted her donkey*); and five damsels, (*the*) followers of her feet, went

with her, and she followed the messengers of David, and (so) was made [a] wife to him.

⁴³ But also David took Ahinoam of Jezreel, and ever either was wife to him (*or and they both became his wives*);

⁴⁴ and Saul gave Michal his daughter, [the] wife of David, to Phalti, the son of Laish, that was of Gallim.

CHAPTER 26

¹ And Ziphites came to Saul into Gibeah, and said, Lo! David is hid in the hill of Hachilah, which is even against the wilderness. (*And the Ziphites came to Saul at Gibeah, and said, Behold! David is hid on Mount Hachilah, overlooking Jeshimon.*)

² And Saul rose up, and went down into the desert of Ziph, and with him three thousand of men of the chosen of Israel, that he should seek David in the desert of Ziph. (*And Saul rose up, and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, and three thousand chosen men of Israel went with him, to help him seek out David in the wilderness of Ziph.*)

³ And Saul setted his tents in the hill of Hachilah, that was even against the wilderness, in the way. And David dwelled in the desert. Forsooth David saw that Saul had come after him into desert; (*And Saul pitched his tents on Mount Hachilah, on the way overlooking Jeshimon. And David stayed in the wilderness. And David knew that Saul had come after him into the wilderness;*)

⁴ and David sent spyers, and learned most certainly, that Saul had come thither.

⁵ And David rose up privily, and came to the place where Saul was. And when David had seen the place, wherein Saul slept, and Abner, the son of Ner, the prince of his chivalry; and Saul sleeping in the tent, and the tother common people by his compass; *(And David rose up quickly, and came to the place where Saul was. And when David had seen the place where Saul slept, and Abner, the son of Ner, the leader of his cavalry, or his army; and Saul was sleeping in his tent, and the other common people were all around him;)*

⁶ David said to Ahimelech, *(the)* Hittite, and to Abishai, the son of Zeruiah, the brother of Joab, saying, Who shall go down with me to Saul into his tents? And Abishai said, I shall go down with thee.

⁷ Therefore David and Abishai came to the people in the night, and they found Saul lying and sleeping in the tent, and a spear set fast in the earth at his head; forsooth *they found* Abner and the people sleeping in his compass *(or and they found Abner and the other people sleeping all around him).*

⁸ And Abishai said to David, God hath closed to-day thine enemy into thine hands; now therefore I shall pierce him with the spear once *(through, and)* in *(to)* the earth, and no need shall be *(for)* the second time. *(And Abishai said to David, God hath enclosed thy enemy in thy hands today; and so now I shall pierce him once through with the spear; and into the ground, and there shall be no need for a second thrust.)*

⁹ And David said to Abishai, Slay thou not him, for who shall hold forth his hand into the christ of the Lord, and shall be innocent? *(And David said to Abishai, Kill thou him not, for who shall put his hand against the anointed of the Lord, and still be innocent?)*

¹⁰ And David said, (As) The Lord liveth, for no but the Lord smite him, either his day come that he die, either he go down into battle, and perish;

¹¹ the Lord be merciful to me, that I hold not forth mine hand into the christ of the Lord; now therefore take thou the spear, that is at his head, and the cup of water, and go we away. *(the Lord forbid or God forbid that I put my hand against the Lord's anointed; and so now, let us take the spear, that is at his head, and the cup of water, and go we away.)*

¹² Then David took the spear, and the cup of water, that was at the head of Saul, and they went forth, and no man was that saw, and understood, and waked, but all men slept, *(or and there was no one who saw it, or knew it, or even awoke, but all the men slept)*; for the sleep of the Lord had fallen *[up]* on them.

¹³ And when David had passed *[over]* even against, and had stood on the top of the hill afar *(off)*, and a great space was betwixt them,

¹⁴ David cried to the people, and to Abner, the son of Ner, and said, Abner, whether thou wilt not answer? *(or Abner, wilt thou not answer me?)* And Abner answered, and said, Who art thou, that criest, and dis-easest the king?

¹⁵ And David said to Abner, Whether thou art not a man *(or Art thou not a man)*, and what

other man is like thee in Israel? why therefore hast thou not kept thy lord the king (*safe*)? For one man of the company entered, that he should slay thy lord the king;

¹⁶ this that thou hast done, is not good; the Lord liveth, for ye be sons of death, that kept not your lord, the christ of the Lord, (*or this is not good, what thou hast done; as the Lord liveth, for ye be the sons of death, who kept not your lord safe, yea, the Lord's anointed*). Now therefore see thou, where is the spear of the king, and where is the cup of water, that was at his head.

¹⁷ Forsooth Saul knew the voice of David, and said, Whether this voice is thine, my son David? And David said, My lord the king, it is my voice. (*And Saul knew the voice of David, and said, Is this thy voice, David my son? And David said, My lord the king, it is my voice.*)

¹⁸ And David said, For what cause pursueth my lord his servant? What have I done, either what evil is in mine hand?

¹⁹ Now therefore, my lord the king, I pray, hear the words of thy servant; if the Lord stirreth thee against me, the sacrifice be smelled; forsooth if [*the*] sons of men *stir thee*, they be cursed in the sight of the Lord, which have cast me out today, that I dwell not in the heritage of the Lord, and say, Go thou, serve thou alien gods. (*And so now, my lord the king, I pray thee, listen to the words of thy servant; if the Lord stirreth thee against me, let the sacrifice be smelled; but if the sons of men stir thee, be they cursed before the Lord, they who have thrown me out today, so that I live not in the*

inheritance of the Lord, and who say to me, Go thou, serve thou foreign, or other, gods.)

²⁰ And now my blood be not shed out in the earth before the Lord; for the king of Israel hath gone out, that he seek a quick flea, as a partridge is pursued in hills. *(And now let not my blood be shed out on the ground before the Lord; for the king of Israel hath gone out, so that he can seek after a quick, or an insignificant, flea, like a partridge is pursued over the hills.)*

²¹ And Saul said, I have sinned; turn thou again, my son David, for I shall no more do evil to thee, for my life was precious today in thine eyes; for it seemeth, that I have done follily *(or that I have done foolishly)*, and I have unknown full many things.

²² And David answered and said, Lo! the spear of the king, one of the young men of the king pass *(over hither)*, and take it; *(And David replied, Behold! the spear of the king; one of the king's young men come over here, and take it back;)*

²³ forsooth the Lord shall yield to each man after his rightfulness and *his* faith; for the Lord betook thee today into mine hand, and I would not hold forth mine hand into the christ of the Lord; *(and the Lord shall yield to each man after his uprightness and his faithfulness, or his loyalty; for the Lord delivered thee today into my hands, but I would not put my hand against the Lord's anointed;)*

²⁴ and as thy life is magnified today in mine eyes, so my life be magnified in the eyes of the Lord, and deliver he me from all anguish. *(and*

as thy life is magnified today in my eyes, so let my life be magnified in the eyes of the Lord, and let him deliver me from all anguish.)

²⁵ Therefore Saul said to David, Blessed be thou, my son David; and soothly thou doing shalt do, and thou mighty shalt be mighty. Then David went forth into his way, and Saul turned again into his place, *(or Then David went forth on his way, and Saul returned home).*

CHAPTER 27

¹ And David said in his heart, Sometime I shall fall in one day in the hand of Saul *(or One day I shall fall by Saul's hand)*; whether it is not better, that I flee, and be saved in the land of *(the)* Philistines, *(so)* that Saul despair, and cease to seek me in all the ends of Israel; therefore flee we his hands.

² And *(so)* David rose up, and went forth, he and six hundred men with him, to Achish, the son of Maach, king of Gath.

³ And David dwelled with Achish in Gath, he, and his men, and his house*(hold)*, *(or And David lived with Achish in Gath, he, and his men, and his family)*; that is, David, and his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel, and Abigail, the wife of Nabal of Carmel.

⁴ And it was told to Saul, that David *(had)* fled into Gath; and he added no more that he should seek *(after)* David *[or and he added no more for to seek him]*.

⁵ Forsooth David said to Achish, If I have found grace in thine eyes, *(let)* a place be given to me in one of the cities of this country, that I dwell

there; for why dwelleth thy servant in the city of the king with thee? *(or for why should thy servant remain with thee in the king's city?)*

⁶ Therefore Achish gave him Ziklag in that day *(or And so Achish gave him Ziklag that day)*, for the which cause Ziklag was made into *(a) possession* of the kings of Judah unto this day.

⁷ And the number of days, in which David dwelled in the country of *(the)* Philistines, was days, *that is a year*, and four months.

⁸ And David went up, and his men, and they took preys of Geshurites, and of Gezrites, and of men of Amalek; for these towns were inhabited by *(them in)* eld time(s) in the land, to men going to Shur, unto the land of Egypt. *(And David and his men went up, and they took prey from the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites; for these people inhabited the land in old times, unto Shur, and the land of Egypt.)*

⁹ And David smote all the land of them, and he left not man nor woman living *(or and he left no man or woman alive)*; and he took sheep, and oxen, and asses, and camels, and clothes, and turned again, and came to Achish.

¹⁰ And Achish said to him, Into whom hurled ye today?/Against whom have ye hurled today? And David answered, Against the south of Judah, and against the south of Jerahmeel, and against the south of Kenites. *(And Achish would say to him, Where did ye attack today? And David would answer, In the south of Judah, or In the south of Jerahmeel, or To the south of the Kenites.)*

¹¹ David left not quick man and woman (*or David left no man or woman alive*), neither brought (*them back*) into Gath, and said, Lest peradventure they speak against us. David did these things, and this was his doom, in all [*the*] days in which he dwelled in the country of (*the*) Philistines.

¹² Therefore Achish believed to David (*or And so Achish trusted David*), and said, Certainly he hath wrought many evils against his people Israel, therefore he shall be a servant to me for evermore.

CHAPTER 28

¹ Forsooth it was done in those days, the Philistines gathered together their companies, that they should be made ready against Israel to battle. And Achish said to David, Thou witting know now, for thou shalt go out with me in tents, thou and thy men. (*And it was done in those days, the Philistines gathered together the companies of their troops, to prepare for battle against Israel. And Achish said to David, Thou must know, that thou shalt go out with me to the battle, thou and thy men.*)

² And David said to Achish, (*And*) Now thou shalt know what things thy servant shall do. And Achish said to David, And I shall set thee (*the*) keeper of mine head in all days.

³ Forsooth Samuel was dead, and all Israel bewailed him, and they buried him in Ramah, his city. And Saul did away from the land witches and false diviners.

4 And *(the)* Philistines were gathered, and came, and setted tents in Shunem; soothly and Saul gathered all Israel, and came into Gilboa.

5 And Saul saw the castles of Philistines [*or And Saul saw the tents of (the) Philistines*], and he dreaded, and his heart dreaded greatly. (*And Saul saw the army of the Philistines, and he was afraid, and his heart greatly dreaded or and his heart greatly feared.*)

6 And he counselled *(with)* the Lord; and the Lord answered not to him *(or but the Lord did not answer him)*, neither by priests, nor by dreams, nor by prophets.

7 And Saul said to his servants, Seek ye to me a woman having a fiend speaking in the womb; and I shall go to her, and I shall inquire by her. And his servants said to him, A woman having a fiend speaking in the womb is in Endor. (*And Saul said to his servants, Seek ye out for me a woman who hath a familiar spirit; and I shall go to her, and I shall inquire through her. And his servants said to him, There is a woman who hath a familiar spirit in Endor.*)

8 Therefore Saul changed his clothing, and he was clothed with other clothes; and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman in the night. And he said, Divine thou to me in a fiend speaking in the womb, and raise thou up to me whom I shall say to thee, *(or And he said, Call thou for me thy familiar spirit, and raise thou up for me whom I shall name to thee).*

9 And the woman said to him, Lo! thou knowest how great things Saul hath done, and

how he hath done away from the land witches, and false diviners, *(or and how he hath done away with witches, and false diviners, from the land)*; why therefore settest thou treason to my life, that I be slain?

¹⁰ And Saul swore to her in the Lord, and said, The Lord liveth; for nothing of evil shall come to thee for this thing. *(And Saul swore to her by the Lord, and said, As the Lord liveth; nothing of evil shall come to thee for this thing.)*

¹¹ And the woman said to him, Whom shall I raise up to thee? And he said, Raise thou Samuel up to me. *(And the woman said to him, Whom shall I raise up for thee? And he said, Raise thou up Samuel for me.)*

¹² Soothly when the woman had seen Samuel, she cried with *[a]* great voice, and said to Saul, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul.

¹³ And the king said to her, Do not thou dread *(or Fear not)*; what hast thou seen? And the woman said to Saul, I saw gods ascending from *[the]* earth.

¹⁴ And Saul said to her, What manner form is of him? *[or What manner is the form of him?]* And she said, An eld man goeth up, and he is clothed with a mantle. And Saul understood that it was Samuel; and Saul bowed himself on his face to the earth, and worshipped. *(And Saul said to her, What is his form? And she said, An old man goeth up, and he is clothed with a mantle. And Saul understood that it was Samuel; and Saul bowed himself low to the ground, and honoured him.)*

¹⁵ And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou diseased me, that I should be raised? And Saul said, I am constrained greatly; for the Philistines fight against me, and God hath gone away from me, and he would not hear me, neither by the hand of prophets, nor by dreams; therefore I called thee, that thou shouldest show to me what I shall do. *(And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disturbed me, so that I am raised up? And Saul said, I am in great trouble; for the Philistines fight against me, and God hath gone away from me, and he will not answer me, not by prophets, nor by dreams; and so I called thee, so that thou couldst tell me what I should do.)*

¹⁶ And Samuel said, What askest thou me, when God hath gone away from thee, and hath passed to thine enemy? *(And Samuel said, Why askest thou me, when God hath gone away from thee, and hath become thy enemy?)*

¹⁷ For the Lord shall do to thee as he spake in mine hand *(or For the Lord shall do to thee as he spoke through me)*, and he shall cut away thy realm from thine hand, and he shall give it to David, thy neighbour;

¹⁸ for thou obeyedest not the voice of the Lord, neither thou didest the fierce wrath of the Lord in Amalek. Therefore the Lord hath done to thee today that that thou sufferest *(or And so the Lord hath done to thee what thou sufferest today);*

¹⁹ and the Lord shall give also Israel with thee in the hand of Philistines. Forsooth tomorrow thou and thy sons shall be with me; but also the Lord shall betake the castles of Israel in the hand of the Philistines, *[or but and the Lord shall take*

the tents of Israel in the hand of the Philistines]. (and the Lord shall also give Israel along with thee into the hands of the Philistines. Yea, tomorrow thou and thy sons shall be with me; and the Lord shall deliver the army of Israel into the hands of the Philistines.)

²⁰ And anon Saul fell down and was stretched forth upon the earth; for he dreaded the words of Samuel, and strength was not in him, for he had not eaten bread in all that day and all that night. *(And at once Saul fell down and was stretched out on the ground; for he feared Samuel's words, and there was no strength in him, for he had not eaten any food all that day and all that night.)*

²¹ Therefore that woman entered to Saul, and said; for he was troubled greatly *(or for he was greatly troubled)*; and she said to him, Lo! thine handmaid hath obeyed to thy voice, and I have put my life in mine hand, and I heard thy words, which thou spakest to me.

²² And now therefore thou hear the voice of thine handmaid, and I shall set a morsel of bread before thee, and that thou eating wax strong, and mayest do thy journey. *(And so now listen thou to the voice of thy servantess, for I shall set a morsel of food before thee, and once that thou hast eaten it, thou shalt grow strong, and then thou shalt go forth on thy journey.)*

²³ And he forsook it, and said, I shall not eat. But his servants and the woman compelled him; and at the last, when the voice of them was heard, he rose up from the earth, and sat on the bed.

²⁴ Soothly that woman had a fat calf in the house, and she hasted, and killed it; and she took meal, and meddled it together, and made therf bread, *(or and she took meal, and mixed it together, and made unleavened bread);*

²⁵ and she set *(it)* forth before Saul, and before his servants, and when they had eaten, they rose up, and walked in all the night *(or and walked through all that night).*

CHAPTER 29

¹ Therefore all the companies of the Philistines were gathered in Aphek, but also Israel settet tents above the well that was in Jezreel. *(And so all the companies of the Philistines were gathered together at Aphek, and Israel pitched their tents by the well that was in Jezreel.)*

² And soothly the princes of the Philistines went in companies of an hundred, and in thousands; but David and his men were in the last company with Achish. *(And the princes of the Philistines led out their companies in units of a hundred, and of a thousand; and David and his men were in the last group with Achish.)*

³ And the princes of Philistines said to Achish, What will these Hebrews to themselves? And Achish said to the princes of Philistines, Whether ye know not David, that was the servant of Saul, king of Israel? and he was with me many days, either years, and I found not in him anything *of imagining to evil*, from the day in which he fled to me unto this day. *(And the princes of the Philistines said to Achish, What be these Hebrews*

doing here? And Achish said to the Philistine princes, Do ye not know David, who was the servant of Saul, the king of Israel? he hath been with me for many years, and I have found nothing of evil in him, from the day in which he fled to me until this day.)

⁴ Certainly the princes of *(the)* Philistines were wroth against Achish, and they said to him, *(Have)* The man turn again, and abide he in his place, in which thou hast ordained him, and come he not down with us into battle, lest he be made *(an)* adversary to us, when we have begun to fight; for how may he please his lord in other manner, but in our heads? *(or for how can he please his lord in any other manner, but than with our heads?)*

⁵ Whether this is not David, to whom they sang in dances, and said, Saul smote in *[his]* thousands, and David smote in his ten thousands? *(Is this not David, whom they sang about as they danced, and said, Saul struck down thousands, but David struck down tens of thousands?)*

⁶ Therefore Achish called David, and said to him, *(As)* The Lord liveth; for thou art rightful *(or for thou art upright)*, and good in my sight, and thy going out and thy coming in is with me in *[the]* tents, and I have not found in thee anything of evil, from the day in which thou camest to me till to this day; but thou pleasest not the princes, *or satraps.*

⁷ Therefore turn thou again, and go in peace, *(or And so return thou, and go home in peace),*

and offend thou not the eyes of the princes, *or satraps*, of the Philistines.

⁸ And David said to Achish, And what have I done, and what hast thou found in me thy servant, from the day in which I was *(first)* in thy sight till into this day, that I come not, and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?

⁹ And Achish answered, and spake to David, *(and said)*, I know that thou art good, and *(be)* as the angel of God in my eyes; but the princes of Philistines said, He shall not go up with us into battle.

¹⁰ Therefore rise thou up early, thou, and thy servants that came with thee; and when ye have risen by night, and it beginneth to be clear *day*, go ye forth. *(And so rise thou up early, thou, and thy servants who came with thee; and when ye have risen in the night, and it beginneth to be clear daylight, then go ye forth.)*

¹¹ Therefore David rose up by night, he and his men, that they should go forth early, and turn again to the land of Philistines; but the Philistines went up into Jezreel. *(And so David and his men rose up in the night, so that they could go forth early, and return to the land of the Philistines; and the Philistines went on to Jezreel.)*

CHAPTER 30

¹ And when David and his men had come into Ziklag in the third day, *(they learned that)* men of Amalek had made assault on the south part *(of Judah)*, *(and)* in Ziklag; and *(had)* smitten Ziklag, and burnt it by fire. *(And when David and his*

men had come into Ziklag on the third day, they learned that the Amalekites had made an assault on the southern part of Judah, and in Ziklag; and they had struck Ziklag, and had burned it down.)

² And they led (away) the women (as) prisoners from thence, from the least unto the most; and they had not slain any, but they led them forth with them, and went in their way. *(And they took away the women as prisoners from there, from the least unto the most; and they did not kill any, but they took them away with them, and went on their way.)*

³ Therefore when David and his men had come to the city, and had found it burnt with fire, and that their wives, and their sons, and daughters were led away (as) prisoners,

⁴ then David and the people that was with him raised [*up*] their voices, and wailed, till the tears failed in them.

⁵ And also [*the*] two wives of David were led away (as) prisoners, Ahinoam of Jezreel, and Abigail, the wife of Nabal of Carmel.

⁶ And David was full sorry; certainly all the people would have stoned David, for the soul of each man was bitter on their sons and daughters. Forsooth David was comforted in his Lord God. *(And David was in great trouble; yea, all the men would have stoned David, for all of them were bitter over losing their sons and daughters. But David was strengthened by the Lord his God.)*

⁷ And he said to Abiathar, the priest, the son of Ahimelech, Bring thou [*the*] ephod to me. And Abiathar brought the ephod to David;

⁸ and David counselled with the Lord, and said, Shall I pursue these thieves, either no? and shall I take them? And the Lord said to him, Pursue thou; for without doubt thou shalt take them, and thou shalt take away from them their prey. *(and David counselled with the Lord, and said, Shall I pursue these thieves, or not? and shall I be able to overtake them? And the Lord said to him, Pursue thou them; for without a doubt thou shalt overtake them, and thou shalt take their prey away from them.)*

⁹ Therefore David went forth, he and six hundred men that were with him, and they came unto the strand of Besor; and *there* the weary men *of the host of David* abode behind. *(And so David went forth, he and the six hundred men who were with him, and they came to the Besor Stream; and the weary men in David's army stayed behind there.)*

¹⁰ Forsooth David pursued, he and four hundred men; for two hundred abided *(behind)*, that were weary, and might not pass *[over]* the strand of Besor.

¹¹ And they found a *(young)* man of Egypt in the field, and they brought him to David; and they gave him bread, that he should eat, and water to drink, *(or and they gave him some bread to eat, and some water to drink);*

¹² but also *they gave to him* a gobbet of a bundle of dried figs, and two clusters of dried grapes. And when he had eaten those, his spirit turned again *to him*, and he was comforted; for he had not eaten bread, neither had drunk water in three days and three nights. *(and they also*

gave him a piece of a bundle of dried figs, and two clusters of dried grapes. And when he had eaten them, his spirit returned to him, and he was strengthened; for he had not eaten any bread, or drunk any water, for three days and three nights.)

¹³ Then David said to him, Whose *man* art thou, either from whence and whither goest thou? And he said, I am a young man of Egypt, the servant of a man of Amalek; but my lord forsook me, for I began to be sick the third day ago.

¹⁴ For we brake out at the south coast of *(the)* Cherethites, and against Judah *(or near Judah)*, and at the south of Caleb, and we burnt Ziklag with fire.

¹⁵ And David said to him, Mayest thou lead me to this company? Which said *(or And the young man said)*, Swear thou to me by God, that thou shalt not slay me, and that thou shalt not betake me into the hands of my lord; and I shall lead thee to this company. And David swore to him.

¹⁶ And when the young man had led him *thither*, lo! they sat at the meat, upon the face of all the earth, eating and drinking, and as hallowing a feast day, for all the prey and spoils which they had taken of the land of Philistines, and of the land of Judah. *(And when the young man had led him there, behold! they sat spread out over all the ground, eating and drinking, as if celebrating a feast day, because of all the prey and the spoils which they had taken from the land of the Philistines, and the land of Judah.)*

¹⁷ And David smote them from the eventide unto the eventide of the tother day, and not any

of them escaped, no but four hundred young men, that went upon camels, and fled, (*or who went upon camels, and fled*).

¹⁸ Forsooth David delivered all things which the men of Amalek took, and he delivered his two wives; (*And so David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken, and he rescued his two wives;*)

¹⁹ neither any of them failed, from little till to great, as well of sons as of daughters, and of spoils; and whatever things they had ravished, David led again all things; (*nor were any of them lost, from the least unto the greatest, sons as well as daughters; and all the spoils, yea, whatever they had taken, David brought home again.*)

²⁰ and he took all the flocks and great beasts, and drove them before his face. And they said, This is the prey of David, (*or And the men said, This should all be David's prey*).

²¹ Forsooth David came to the two hundred men, that were weary, and abided behind, and might not follow David; and he [*had*] commanded them to sit at the strand of Besor; which went out against David, and the people that was with him. Forsooth David nighed to the people, and he greeted it peaceably. (*And David came back to the two hundred men who were weary, and had stayed behind, and did not follow David; and he had commanded them to remain there at the Besor Stream; and they went out to meet David, and the people who were with him. And David came to these men, and he greeted them warmly.*)

22 And one man, the worst man and wicked of the men that were with David, answered, and said, For they came not with us, we shall not give to them anything of the prey, that we have ravished, but suffice it to each man his wife and his children; and when they have taken them, go they away. *(But some men, the worst and the most wicked of those who went with David, said, For they did not come with us, we shall not give them any of the prey, that we have recovered, but let each man take only his wife and his children; and when they have taken them, go they away.)*

23 And David said, My brethren, ye shall not do so, *as ye speak*, of these things, which the Lord hath given to us, and he hath kept us, and gave the thieves, that brake out against us, into our hands; *(But David said, My brothers or My kinsmen, ye shall not do, as ye speak, with these things, which the Lord hath given us, for he hath kept us safe, and delivered the thieves, who broke out against us, into our hands;)*

24 neither any shall hear us strive on this word. For even part shall be of him that goeth down to battle, and of him that dwelleth at the fardels; and in like manner they shall part *the prey*. *(nor shall anyone hear us arguing over this matter. For even portion shall be for him who went down to the battle, as well as for him who stayed with the bundles, or the supplies; yea, in like manner they shall divide up the prey.)*

25 And this was made a constitution and a doom from that day and afterward, and as a law in Israel till into this day. *(And from that*

day forward, this was made a custom, and a judgement, and a law in Israel, until this day.)

²⁶ Then David came into Ziklag, and he sent gifts of the prey to the elder men of Judah, his neighbours, and said, Take ye blessing of the prey of *[the]* enemies of the Lord (*or Have ye a gift out of the prey from the Lord's enemies*);

²⁷ to them that were in Bethel, and that were in Ramoth, at the south, and that were in Jattir,

²⁸ and that were in Aroer, and that were in Siphmoth, and that were in Eshtemoa,

²⁹ and that were in Rachal, and that were in the cities of Jerahmeel, and that were in the cities of Kenites,

³⁰ and that were in Hormah, and that were in Chorashan, and that were in Athach,

³¹ and that were in Hebron, and to other men, that were in these places, in which David dwelled and his men. (*and those in Hebron, and to the other men who were in those places, where David and his men had lived.*)

CHAPTER 31

¹ Forsooth the Philistines fought against Israel, and the men of Israel fled before the face of Philistines, and they fell down slain in the hill of Gilboa. (*Then the Philistines fought against Israel, and the men of Israel fled from the Philistines, and they fell down dead on Mount Gilboa.*)

² And the Philistines hurled fiercely into Saul, and into his sons, and they killed Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchishua, *[the]* sons of Saul.

³ And (*then*) all the weight, or charge, of the battle was turned against Saul; and (*the*) men

archers pursued him, and he was wounded greatly of the archers (*or and he was seriously wounded by the archers*).

⁴ And Saul said to his squire, Draw out thy sword, and slay me, lest peradventure these uncircumcised men come, and slay me, and scorn me. And his squire would not, for he was afeared by full great dread; therefore Saul took his sword, and felled thereon, (*or But his squire would not do it, for he was afraid with a very great fear; and so Saul took his own sword, and fell on it*).

⁵ And when his squire had seen this, that Saul was dead, also he felled upon his sword (*or he also fell on his sword*), and was dead with him.

⁶ And so Saul was dead, and his three sons, and his squire, and all his men in that day together. (*And so Saul, and his three sons, and his squire, and all his men, died together on the same day.*)

⁷ And the sons of Israel, that were beyond the valley, and beyond Jordan, saw that the men of Israel had fled, and that Saul was dead, and his sons, and they left their cities, and fled; and the Philistines came, and dwelled there. (*And when the Israelites, who were beyond the valley, and east of the Jordan River, saw that the other Israelites had fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they left their cities, and fled; and the Philistines came, and lived there.*)

⁸ Forsooth in the tother day made, Philistines came, that they should despoil the slain men, and they found Saul, and his three sons, lying in the hill of Gilboa; (*And the next day, the Philistines*

came to rob the dead men, and they found Saul, and his three sons, lying there dead on Mount Gilboa;)

⁹ and they cutted away the head of Saul, and despoiled him of his armours; and sent into the land of Philistines by compass, that it should be told in the temple of idols, and in the peoples. *(and they cut off Saul's head, and stripped him of his armour or and robbed him of his arms, or of his weapons; and then they sent messengers into all the land of the Philistines, so that it could be told to their idols, and to their people alike.)*

¹⁰ And they putted his armours in the temple of Ashtaroth; but they hanged his body in the wall of Bethshan. *(And they put his armour in the temple of Ashtoreth or And they put his arms, or his weapons, in the temple of Astarte, but they hung up his body on the wall of Bethshan.)*

¹¹ And when the dwellers of Jabesh of Gilead had heard this, and whatever things the Philistines had done to Saul, *(And when the inhabitants of Jabesh of Gilead had heard this, and all the things that the Philistines had done to Saul,)*

¹² and all the strongest men rose *(up)*, and went forth all that night, and they took *(down)* the dead body of Saul, and the dead bodies of his sons, from the wall of Bethshan; and the men of Jabesh of Gilead came, and burnt those *dead bodies* with fire.

¹³ And they took the bones of them, and buried them in the wood of Jabesh, and fasted by seven days. *(And they took their bones, and buried them*

under the tamarisk tree in Jabesh, and then fasted for seven days.)

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