

# BOOK OF BARAQIEL

## 1

1. The words of Baraqiel the son of Daniel, who was among the captives that Nebukadnetzar carried from Jerusalem to Babylon in the days of Yehoyakim king of Judah and whom the king appointed as ruler over all the province of Babylon.
2. In the days of Koresh, king of Persia, the Most High revealed to me, Baraqiel, the same words that He had given to Mosheh, concerning the creation of the Heavens and the Earth, the light and all the living beings.
3. After the Earth was desolated and empty, the Almighty created life again, and mankind in His likeness, male and female.
4. Yet, the Seraph dwelled around the delightful orchard where the man and his wife were placed to live; then, the Seraph approached the woman and beguiled her, bringing the curse on Earth again.
5. Even the Watchers lived on Earth and recalled that they were mankind before, and the wickedness of that generation caused the Earth to be desolated and empty, but they could not withstand temptation and deserted their habitation, because of the beauty of the daughters of Adam.
6. The Watchers remembered their previous lives, when they were like Adam having flesh and bones, before they got redemption to live in everlasting holiness. And they remembered the beauty of women that they liked, and downgraded themselves as they were before, in the likeness of men.
7. They knew there is no return; one is the judgment: The souls who lived in the flesh are not allowed to live in the flesh a second time. They infringed the eternal order. The temptation of the women's beauty overwhelmed their minds, and they fell.
8. They chose among the daughters of Adam and lied with them, and taught them all the secrets of wisdom which were hidden to the mankind.
9. And they begat the Nephilim, those were the mighty men who built the great stone monuments pointing to heaven to worship the stars and the lion statue near them, in the land of Mitzrayim, and they made monuments all over the Earth for the host of heaven.
10. A man of Elohim called Enoch was sent to the Watchers –as they were men before, on the Earth which perished– to announce their judgment and the verdict of the Most High, because they could not see the Most Holy any more.
11. And Enoch told them: «There is no more redemption, nor mercy, nor salvation for you, because you have broken the eternal design. You shall be no more, neither men nor heavenly spirits, but inhabitants of darkness, and shall not see the face of the Most Holy never again».
12. They were imprisoned in gloom forever. And even mankind was defiled by their lustful behaviour, and they mixed living creatures of different kinds, and every thought they had was wicked.
13. And YHVH determined to wipe off mankind from the face of the earth, and to bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh, mankind and animals.
14. But the righteous man who announced the verdict of the Most High was granted not to taste death, and was taken to his dwelling place in Heaven.
15. Before he was taken, he prophesied and named his son Methushelach, saying: 'death is sent to mankind after him'.
16. YHVH was grieved because of sin, that was great on Earth, and evil was every day in mankind's thoughts and deeds.
17. Yet, YHVH found one righteous man and his wife. He had three sons which had taken wives. And YHVH spoke to him, saying that judgment would come on mankind, but he and his house shall be saved because he had not been defiled, neither his forefathers, and no evil was found in him.
18. And YHVH warned him, not to let his wife, or his sons, or their wives to get defiled, that they could be spared from the destruction that was to come.
19. YHVH instructed him to build an ark, in which life of mankind, and life of animals, and life of birds was to be preserved to multiply again on the surface of the Earth.
20. Then, the male waters of above fell, and the female waters of below arose, and all the Nephilim perished. All the children that the Watchers begat in their profanation with the daughters of Adam, they all died.
21. All the tops of the mountains were covered by the waters for forty days, so that not a single living being survived, except those that were in the ark.
22. And YHVH blessed Noah and his wife, and his sons, and the wives of his sons – And ordered them to be fruitful, and to work on Earth to make it fruitful, to behave with good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, for He will bless the work of the righteous.

## 2

1. Noah built an altar, and offered YHVH a burned offering to praise Him for His mercy and loving-kindness.
2. These are the names of the children of Noah: His firstborn's name was hidden by YHVH because his seed is blessed, and is called Shem ["Name"], for his name is not known. And the name of the second son was Ham, and the name of the third son was Yefet.
3. The wife of Shem was Ofrah, daughter of Ner, of the house of Seth;
4. The wife of Ham was Tanith, the daughter of Tubal-Cain, son of Lamech, of the house of Cain;
5. The wife of Yefet was Anahit, the daughter of Na'amah, sister of Tubal-Cain, son of Lamech, of the house of Cain, and her father was Harel, of the house of Seth.
6. And the blessing of YHVH fell upon the seed of Shem, because he and his wife were of the seed of Seth.
7. On the day after Noah and his sons, and his wife, and the wives of his sons went out of the ark, the wife of Shem bore their firstborn son, and called him Elam.
8. Then, also the wife of Ham bore a son, and called him Kush.
9. In the same year also the wife of Yefet bore a son, and was called Gomer: his eyes were like bright sapphire gems, and his hair was reddish.

10. And in the second year after the Deluge, Ofrah, wife of Shem, bore twins and called them Ashur and Arpakshad. Then Ofrah bore again twins, Tiferet and Tirtzah, daughters of Shem.
11. And in that year Mitzrayim was born to Ham; and Magog was born to Yefet.
12. And a daughter was born to Ham after Mitzrayim, her name was Azufah. Then Anahit, wife of Yefet, had three children in her bowels, a son who was called Madai, and two daughters, Vashti and Aramati, twin sisters of Madai.
13. And Ofrah, wife of Shem, bore again a son, Lud; and Put was born to Tanith, wife of Ham.
14. And when Tanith bore her last son, she died in her travail. And Ham called him Canaan. And to Yefet was born again a son, his name was Yavan.
15. And a son was born to Shem, and was called Aram. And after Aram, Ofrah bore a daughter, Temimah, and had no more children.
16. Then other children were born to Yefet: Tubal, and Meshek, and Tiras.
17. And all the children of Shem were eight: five sons and three daughters. And the children of Ham were nine, four sons and five daughters: four daughters were born to his wife before Canaan was born, besides Azufah. They were Kelilah, Zemirah, Balqish, and Na'amah.
18. And Yefet was blessed with many children, as his father blessed him saying: Elohim shall enlarge Yefet. And all the children of Yefet were seventeen: seven sons and ten daughters.
19. And the sons of Shem took wives: Elam took Na'amah, daughter of Ham, and Lud took Nairi, daughter of Yefet.
20. But Ashur, Arpakshad and Aram made a covenant, not to take wives having the seed of Cain in their ancestry, and took their own sisters as wives, because all other women carried the seed of Cain.
21. Ashur took as wife Tirtzah, Arpakshad took as wife Tiferet, and Aram took their third sister, Temimah, as wife.
22. Then the house of Shem was perpetuated by three nations: the seed of Ashur, the seed of Heber, of the house of Arpakshad, and the seed of Aram.
23. There were no other daughters of Shem, and all the other nations had the seed of Cain.
24. And Kush took Zemirah, one of his sisters, as wife, and begat his first-born son, and called him Nimrod. And after Nimrod, Zemirah bore four daughters. But Kush took also Balqish, his sister, and had five sons with her: Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Ra'amah, and Sabtecha.
25. Ashur founded a city on the river Hiddeqel and called it by his own name, Ashur; and Arpakshad settled to the east of his brother and founded the city of Arpakshad, which is called Ur-Kashdim.
26. And the second city he founded was near the first, to the south of Ur-Kashdim, and called it Gasur. Then, Tiferet his wife had a daughter, and called her Malkah.
27. And Tirtzah, the wife of Ashur, bore him a daughter, and he founded a city and called it by the name of his daughter, Nineveh.
28. Also Na'amah bore a daughter to Elam, and called her Shushan. And Elam built a city for his people, and called it by the name of his daughter.
29. By that time, Nimrod, son of Kush, settled in the land of Shin'ar and founded Babel, and Erech, and Akkad, and Nippur. And Kush his father founded Ur, and Larsa, and Isin, and the city of Kush in the land of Shin'ar. And Nimrod became the first king on the Earth.
30. Then, Nimrod went to the land of Ashur along the river and founded a city, which called by his name. And Ashur went to that city and there he killed Nimrod because of Nimrod's wickedness against YHVH.
31. After that, Ashur went forth to the land of Shin'ar and took Akkad, and appointed his son Sharkenu as king.
32. Then he went back to his land and on the way, he took the city of Nimrod and changed its name into Kalah, and made it a city of his own domain.
33. The children of Ashur became numerous, and reigned over the cities of Ashur, although they dwelled in tents.

### 3

1. Shem took his wife Ofrah and went forth from the land of Ashur to the mount Tzion, and built a house to dwell there, and called that place Or-Shalem.
2. The children of Canaan were the inhabitants of that land, but Shem was highly respected by all mankind, and was called King of Shalem, and he was kohen of the Most High. And he brought light to the land of darkness, amidst the children of Canaan, where he dwelled.
3. A son was born to Arpakshad, and his name was Shelach. The wife of Shelach, mother of Heber, was Nineveh, daughter of Ashur.
4. Before Shelach, to Arpakshad was born Qenan. He was his first son, born after Malkah his daughter. But Shelach was preferred by Shem because Qenan took as wife Kanisha the daughter of Madai, and not a daughter of the children of Shem as his father vowed with his brothers.
5. Qenan dwelled among the children of Elam and the children of Madai, and took their daughters for his sons, and gave his daughters to their sons. Thus, was founded the nation of the Persians.
6. And Arpakshad gave Malkah his daughter to Sharkenu, son of Ashur and brother of Nineveh. And Malkiel, son of Ashur, took as wife Shushan, daughter of Elam.
7. Elam took a second wife, Humaiti, daughter of Madai, and she bare him a son, and called him Anshan. And Anshan, son of Elam, took Bahar, daughter of Qenan, as wife.
8. And the sons of Aram were Utz, and Hul, and Gether, and Mash. And his daughters were Leah and Yiskah. Aram took also a daughter of Mitzrayim as concubine, and she bare him a daughter, and called her Tzarfath.
9. Mitzrayim took Azufah, his sister, and she bare him Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehavim, and Naphtuhim, and Pathrusim, and Kasluhim, and Kaphtorim.
10. And Canaan took Tzarfath, the daughter of Aram as wife, and she bare him Tzidon, his first-born son, and Amur, and Girgash, and Arak, and Sini, and Arvad, and Tzemar, and Hamat.
11. Then Canaan took also a daughter of Tubal as concubine, and begat Heth, Yebus and Heve. These were the sons of Canaan, which inhabited all the land of the children of Heber from the mounts to the coastland.
12. And the children of Aram that dwelled in the land of Canaan took the daughters of Tzidon and the daughters of Amur, and gave their daughters to them, and became one people with the Canaanites and with the Amorites.
13. And Gomer, the first-born of Yefet, took Tzibiah, Yefet's daughter, and begat Ashkenaz, Riphath and Togarmah. And the eyes of Ashkenaz were like those of his father, like bright sapphire gems.

14. Magog took as wife Hatti, his sister, and his sons were Targitai, and Boaz, and Yobhat, and Patuhah.

15. Madai took as wife Yasna his sister, and she bare him Urqana, and Shu'al, and Bakhli.

16. Yavan took as wife Dana, his sister, and bare Elisha, and Tharshish, and Kittim, and Dodanim.

17. And Togarmah, son of Gomer, took as wife Ozniyah, daughter of Meshek, who bare him Hayk, and Karthli, and Elhanan, and Kavkaz, and Egris, and Buz, and Sivan. The sons of Togarmah took daughters of Meshek and Tubal as wives, and they populated the mounts beyond Ararat, up to the coast.

18. And Gomer took a second wife, Dayah, daughter of Magog, and went away to the islands of the nations with her, and begat sons and daughters; they populated the coasts and the lands westward.

19. And Tubal took Tzirah, his sister, as wife. And the sons of Tubal were Tahmas, and Tanna, and Kasdan.

20. And Meshek took as wife Anat, daughter of Zemirah, the sister of Nimrod, and she bare him the twins Hun and Urmag, who were hunters. They took as wives two daughters of Targitai, son of Magog.

21. And Tiras took Dunava, his sister, as wife. And the sons of Tiras were Mezenai, and Buzas, and Darsu, and Sura. And his daughters were Balti and Sibira. And Balti was the wife of Ashkenaz, son of Gomer, and Sibira was the wife of Riphath, son of Gomer. They took their wives and went to the empty lands of the north.

22. Then Heber took as wife Rivkah, daughter of Utz, son of Aram. And she bare him two sons: Peleg and Yoqtan. And Peleg took as wife Hogla, daughter of Nachor, son of Gether, son of Aram. But Yoqtan took as wife a daughter of Hadad, son of Havilah, son of Kush.

23. And Yoqtan was the father of Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Yerach, and Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diqlah, and Obal, and Abimael, and Sheba, and Ophir, and Havilah, and Yobab.

24. The children of Yoqtan went south and conquered the lands of the children of Kush, and they slew the kings of Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Ra'amah and Sabtecha, and they smote all the men of war with the edge of the sword, and took their women as wives and servants, and reigned over those lands.

25. Thus, the five Kushite kingdoms were taken by the children of Yoqtan unto this day, and they settled among the remnant of the children of Kush. Then Ophir took as wife a woman of the daughters of Elam, and dwelled in the coasts of the Eastern Sea.

26. And the children of Peleg wandered among the peoples in the land of Arpakshad, and in the land of Ashur, and in the land of Aram, and in Haran, and were called children of Heber, from Shin'ar to the land of Mitzrayim.

27. And the firstborn of Peleg was Re'u. He took a woman of the house of Aram, and begat Serug.

28. And Serug took as wife a woman of the house of Arpakshad, and begat Nachor.

29. And Nachor took a woman of the house of Ashur, and begat Terach, and Kemuel, and Haran in the city of Arpakshad, that is Ur-Kashdim.

30. And Terach took Shirah, of the house of Aram, as wife, and begat Avram, and Nachor, and Haran. Then Terach took Sarai, daughter of his brother Kemuel, as his own daughter, and gave her to Avram his son as wife.

31. Haran, brother of Terach, had not sons, but two daughters, Milkah and Yiskah.

32. And Terach went forth with his wives and his children out of Ur-Kashdim, to dwell in Haran.

33. Nachor took as wife Milkah, daughter of Haran, brother of Terach. And Haran, son of Terach, took a wife of the Arameans and begat Lot, who was his only child, because Haran died young.

34. Sarai, the wife of Avram, was barren. Then Avram took also Keturah, of the land of Meshek, as wife.

35. And Avram took his wives, Sarai and Keturah, and Lot, the son of Haran his brother, and all their servants and their belongings, and they went out into the land of Canaan.

36. And Keturah bare children to Avram in the land of Canaan: the first-born Zimran, and Yoqshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Yishbak, and Shuach, and three daughters. But Sarai could not have children.

37. And Midian was prominent among his brothers, and Yoqshan followed him. They went south to the realms of the children of Yoqtan, and took wives there from the Kushite daughters of Yoqtan, and made alliances with those peoples, and came back to their land with their wives.

38. But the other children of Keturah took wives from the land of Aram, although not of the daughters of Nachor.

39. And the sons of Midian were Eyphah, and Ephher, and Henoah, and Avida'a, and Elda'ah. They dwelled from the land of Dedan up to the borders of Aram.

40. And the sons of Yoqshan were Sheba and Dedan, father of the Ashshurim, and the Letushim, and the Le'ummim. They dwelled in the south, from the lands of the children of Midian up to the lands of the children of Yoqtan, and became numerous.

41. All the children of Keturah dwelled in the east, from the land of Aram to the land of Kush, and took for their sons wives of the house of Yoqtan, and gave their daughters to them.

42. Henoah, son of Midian, took as wife Zimrath, the daughter of Buz, son of Nachor, the brother of Avram; and the children of Henoah were Qeni, and Elyada'a, and Barachel. Qeni was the father of the Kenites, and the first kohen of the Midianites.

## 4

1. Avram took his wife Sarai and all his people, and dwelled in the land of Egypt. And Amon, the king of Egypt, coveted Sarai because she was beautiful. Then, YHVH sent plagues to king Amon and his house.

2. Thus, Amon did not touch Sarai, and sent them away because Avram did not tell that she was his wife. And Sarai brought a maid from Egypt to be her servant, whose name was Hagar.

3. Then Sarai told Avram: «I have this maid to give you a son instead of me; go into her, to build me a house through my servant». And Avram lay with Hagar, and she bare him a son, and called him Yishmael.

4. Then YHVH changed the name of Avram into Avraham, and the name of Sarai into Sarah, and promised them a son, to be the heir of the whole land promised to Avraham.

5. And Sarah conceived, and bare Yitzhak to Avraham. And after the child was weaned, Sarah required from Avraham to drive away Hagar and her son. So, Avraham took bread and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar, and sent her and Yishmael away. And she dwelled with her son in the wilderness, by the well she had called Be'er-LaHai-Roi.

6. Then, Elohim proved Avraham, binding Yitzhak as a burned offering on mount Moriah. But when Avraham took the knife, the Angel of YHVH called him from heaven and stopped him from slaying the lad, and showed him a ram entangled in a thicket by its horns, which Avraham offered instead.

7. And they returned from Moriah to their home in Be'er-Sheva. After a time, Avraham moved his tents to Kiryat-Arba', that is Hebron, but Yitzhak went to dwell in Be'er-LaHai-Roi, in the wilderness, near Yishmael his brother.

8. Then Sarah died in Hebron, and Avraham buried her in the cave of Makpelah, which he bought from the children of Heth, in Hebron, before the oaks of Mamre the Amorite.

9. And Avraham taught his son Yitzhak not to take wife from the daughters of the peoples, but only from the seed of Heber, that dwelled in Aram-Naharayim, to perpetuate the promise of YHVH.

10. So Avraham sent his servant to bring Rivkah, the daughter of Bethuel, son of Nachor, brother of Avraham, and gave her to Yitzhaq. Rivkah was the sister of Laban, the Aramean.

11. But Yishmael took a woman from the Mitzrayim as wife, and dwelled among the children of Keturah, because Avraham divided the inheritance of his sons, and to the sons of Keturah and to the son of Hagar he gave gold, silver, cattle and flocks, and sent them to the east and the south beyond the borders of the land of Canaan, but kept Yitzhak with him.

12. And the first-born son of Yishmael was Nebayot, then Basemath his daughter, and Qedar, and Adbe'el, and Mibsam, and Mishma', and Dumah, and Massa, and Hadar, and Teyma, and Yetur, and Nafish, and Qedmah.

13. Nebayot, son of Yishmael, took as wife Shaqilath, the daughter of Rimmon, of the house of Aram, and the children of Nebayot became a great nation.

14. And Qedar took as wife Ofirah, a daughter of Yoqshan, and Eyphah, son of Midian, took as wife Shlomith her sister, and Qedar made alliance with Eyphah.

15. Then Rivkah conceived twins from Yitzhak, and they struggled in her womb because they would become two peoples against each other.

16. Rivkah was a prophetess and she enquired of YHVH, and He revealed her who of the two sons was the one chosen by YHVH, but she concealed it from her husband.

17. And the first one to come out was Esav, and the second son was holding the heel of his brother, and was called Yakob, who is Israel.

18. Then Avraham died in good old age, the days of the years of the life of Avraham, which he lived, one hundred seventy-five years. And he was buried in the cave of Makpelah.

19. So Midian took Keturah his mother to his house, and Keturah died in the land of Midian, and was buried in the possession of Henoah, son of Midian, in a cava near mount Sinai.

20. And Esav did not hearken to the word of his fathers, and took wives from the daughters of Heth, and from the daughters of the Hivites, and the seed of Canaan was in his children. Esav is Edom.

21. Esav took also Mahalat, daughter of Yishmael, as his wife, and she bare him Reu'el. Reu'el took as wife Thamar, daughter of Ephher, son of Midian, and she bare him Nahath, and Zerah, and Shammah, and Mizzah. Nahath was the father of Tzophar, and Tzophar was the father of Elimelech, and Elimelech was the father of Hadar, who dwelled in the city of Pa'u.

22. And the name of the woman that Esav took from the daughters of Heth as wife was Adah, and she bare him Eliphaz. And Eliphaz had five sons: Teyman, Omar, Tzefo, Gatam and Kenaz.

23. Even Aholibamah, the daughter of Anah the daughter of Tzibeon the Hivite, was a wife of Esav, and bare him Ye'ush, and Ya'alam, and Korach.

24. And Rivkah sent her son Yakob to the house of Laban, her brother, to take wife from his daughters.

25. And Yakob took Leah and Rachel, daughters of Laban, and Bilhah and Zilpah, their servants, of the seed of Aram. These are the mothers of the twelve sons of Israel.

26. Yet, in that time the children of Israel did not own the land given to Avraham, but they all ended their days in the land of Egypt, and even their father Yakob died in Tzoan.

27. By that time, Amon, king of Egypt –of the seed of Amon, that ruled over Egypt since the days of Avraham–, made Yoseph, son of Yakob, ruler over Egypt; and Yoseph reigned in the land of Egypt. His wife was Asenat, the daughter of an Egyptian priest.

28. She bare him two sons, Menasheh and Ephrayim, the ones whom Yakob took as his own sons. Then Asenat bare a daughter, and Yoseph called her Mezahav.

29. There was famine over all the face of the earth, then Yakob sent his sons to Egypt to buy grain, because he heard that there was grain in Egypt. When he knew that Yoseph was the lord over Egypt, he moved with all his family and all his livestock to dwell in Egypt.

30. Also in the land of Edom the famine was severe, and Esav called his sons, and told them: «Go to the land of Egypt, and buy bread, so that we can eat and not die».

31. And he sent Teyman and Kenaz, sons of Eliphaz, and Nahath and Mizzah, sons of Reu'el, and Korach his own son to the land of Egypt to buy grain, and they came back to Edom their land with grain.

32. After one year, when they had eaten up all the grain which they had brought out of Egypt, Esav sent them again to buy more.

33. And even a third time, after another year, their food supplies were to finish and the famine was still severe, and they went down again to Egypt to buy more grain.

34. And when they were in Egypt, the sons of Esav were seen by Yakob, that was watching from a distance how Yoseph distributed the food to the foreigners, and having recognized them by their garments, he approached them.

35. And Yakob asked them: «Where do you come from? What is your land?» And they answered: «Your servants come from the land of Edom».

36. Then Yakob asked them again: «Whose sons are you?» And Teyman answered him: «We are sons of Eliphaz and Reu'el, sons of Esav». And Yakob was overjoyed, and declared to them that he was the brother of Esav their father.

37. And Yakob told Yoseph that the sons of his brother Esav were there, and Yoseph gave them more provisions than they had paid for, and said to them: «There are still four years of famine in the land, come and bring your father to dwell in Egypt until the famine passes». And Yoseph sent presents for Esav.

38. And when they returned back to their land, Teyman said to Esav: «The lord of all the land of Egypt, who sells us the grain, he is the son of your brother Yakob». And they told him everything that Yakob and Yoseph had said to them, and they gave him the presents that they had sent him.

39. And Esav was pleased for the news, and went to Egypt with his wives, his sons, and the children of his sons, to dwell there until the famine was over, as Yoseph had told them. But the other dukes of Edom remained in their land, because the people were numerous, and they sent men on their own to buy grain every year.
40. And when Yakob and Esav met they embraced each other, and kissed each other. And Yoseph gave them shelter in Goshen, and they stayed there until the famine ended.
41. Then Kenaz, the youngest son of Eliphaz, befriended Shelah, son of Judah, and they were like brothers, and they took as wives two sisters, daughters of Kaleb Midianite: Shelah took Na'amah, and Kenaz took Achinoam. And Kenaz and all his children dwelt with the children of Israel since then.
42. And the sons of Kenaz were Magdiel, and Elon, and Ephron, and Henoah, sons of Achinoam the Midianite, the wife of Kenaz. He was the father of the Kenizzites, that were counted with the tribe of Judah.
43. After four years the land began to produce again, and the drought ended. Then Esav said to Yakob: «I shall return to my land». And Yakob said to him: «Stay here, my brother, the land of Goshen is large enough for us».
44. But Esav answered him: «No, my brother, my people are very numerous and I must return, but my son Kenaz will remain here with you and with your people, with all his sons and his daughters, but my other sons will return with me».
45. And Yakob let his brother go in peace, and Esav returned to his land.
46. But Hur and Shaul, the sons of Teyman, son of Eliphaz, and Tzophar and Elyasaph, the sons of Nahath, son of Reu'el, and Abib, the son of Korach, remained in Egypt, for they bought possessions therein, and grew, and did not wish to return to Edom.
47. The sons of Teyman were Eliphaz, Hur, Shaul, and Abidan, and their mother was Ma'akah, daughter of Yobab Midianite.
48. The sons of Nahath were Yetur, Tzophar, Elyasaph, and Nadab, and their mother was Adah, daughter of Kemuel Ishmaelite.
49. The wife of Reu'el was Tamar, daughter of Henoah, son of Midian. She was the mother of Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

## 5

1. Amon, the king of Egypt who made Yoseph the ruler of the land, reigned forty-five years and died in a good old age, and after him his son was king in his place, but he died without a son, and his sister Nefer was made queen, but she also died without heirs, and there was no king over all the land of Egypt.
2. Also Yoseph died in that time, being a hundred and ten years old. And they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.
3. Asenat bare other children to Yoseph: Yakob'am, and Eythan, and Meheytav'el their sister. And Yakob'am, the son of Yoseph, was made king in Tzoan over all the land of Goshen, but the land of Egypt was divided.
4. And after Yakob'am reigned Yamin his son, and Korach son of Yamin, and Amminadab his brother, son of Yamin, and Mamre son of Amminadab, and Sheshai the Kenizzite, and Nahash his son, and Sheneh, son of Mamre, and Yakob-El his son. And the children of Yoseph ruled over the land of Goshen one hundred and fifty-five years.
5. Also the children of Edom had multiplied in all Egypt, and while Egypt was without a king, Shemqen, the son of Shaul, the son of Teyman, was made king in Abarim, for the children of Edom had chariots and horses, and they prevailed over the Egyptians.
6. Thus, the children of Edom reigned over Egypt, but the children of Yosef continued to reign over Goshen.
7. Shemqen died, and Anath, son of Epher, son of Elyasaph, son of Nahath reigned in his place.
8. Anath died, and Hadar the son of Elimelech, son of Tzophar, son of Nahath, reigned in his place, and he took as wife Meheytav'el, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahav, the daughter of Yoseph. He was from the inhabitants of Pa'u, in Goshen.
9. When Hadar was king in Egypt, Baal-hanan, king of Edom, died, and Hadar was made king of Edom, and joined Edom to Egypt.
10. And Hadar died, and Hayan the son of Sheshai, who was of the lineage of the Kenizzites, reigned in his place. And he made a covenant with Yakob-El, who reigned over the children of Israel in Goshen.
11. After him Abib reigned and became powerful in all Egypt, and ruled over all the land. And Hamudi was the last king of the house of Esav to reign over Egypt.
12. And Egypt prospered all the time that the children of Edom were ruling over the land; but the children of Edom departed from the way of Elohim, and followed the gods of the Egyptians.
13. Then, a new king arose over Egypt, who had not known Yoseph, and he rose up against the house of Edom that was ruling over the land, and conquered their city, and defeated them.
14. And Pharaoh expelled Edom from the land of Egypt, and fought them up to Sharuhen, and besieged the city for three years, and destroyed it.
15. But the children of Israel remained in the land of Egypt, and Pharaoh afflicted them with burden and heavy service.
16. After many years, Elohim raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel, Mosheh the son of Amram and Yoqved, of the tribe of Levi. He grew up in the court of the kingdom as the son of the daughter of Pharaoh.
17. It happened that Mosheh went to the place where the children of Israel were working, and he saw an Egyptian officer striking one of the Hebrews, and he smote the Egyptian, and hid his body in the sand.
18. And Pharaoh came to know about this matter, and sought to slay Mosheh, but Mosheh fled through the wilderness, and reached the land of Midian.
19. There, Mosheh found a well, and sat down by it to rest of his journey. Then, seven maidens came with their flocks to draw water from the well, but some shepherds came at the same time, and tried to drive the maidens away.
20. But Mosheh stood up and, taking out his sword, he warned the shepherds to stay away from the maidens, so they left the place, because they feared of him.
21. The maidens were the seven daughters of Reu'el, who is Yethro, the kohen of Midian: they were as beautiful as the daughters of Iyob, and in all the land there were not found women as beautiful as the daughters of Yethro.
22. Their names were Tzipporah, Yael, Yemimah, Tirtzah, Tamar, Na'omi and Zabibi. And they had a brother, younger than all of them, called Hobab, who was with their father. Tzipporah became the wife of Mosheh, who brought out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt.
23. Reu'el was the son of Heber, son of Elihu, son of Qeni, son of Henoah, son of Midian, and his wife was Rachel, daughter of Eythamar, son of Elihu and brother of Heber.

24. And Yethro asked his daughters about the Egyptian man who helped them –because Mosheh looked like an Egyptian nobleman–, and sent them back to the well to call him to eat at his house.

25. Thus, Mosheh dwelled with his father-in-law, who taught him about the covenant of YHVH with the children of Avraham, because Elohim had purposed that Mosheh be instructed by Reu’el in His laws.

26. And Reu’el showed Mosheh the records of the generations of mankind, which he kept, because he was kohen of Elohim the Most High, and the name of YHVH was known in Midian in that time, as it is written: “The mountains melted from before YHVH, even that Sinai from before YHVH Elohim of Israel”.

27. And it was in the same Sinai that, when Mosheh was keeping the flock of Yethro, that YHVH revealed His name to Mosheh, which had not been known to the children of Israel yet.

28. Mosheh told his father-in-law all the words that Elohim said to him on the mount, and Yethro said to him: «Do not delay your departure, for the will of Elohim is that you deliver His people from bondage. Go in peace».

29. And Mosheh took Tzipporah, his wife, and Gershom and Eliezer his sons, and took the way to Egypt.

30. But it was not right in the eyes of YHVH that Mosheh had still not circumcised his younger son, and it happened on the way, in the place in which they were lodging in the night, that Elohim stroke Mosheh with a deadly sickness.

31. So, Tzipporah took a flint and cut off the foreskin of her son, cast it at Mosheh’s feet, and Mosheh was healed. Then, she said to Mosheh: «This comes from YHVH. Why have you forsaken the covenant? I am your wife because of the blood covenant that you have in your flesh».

32. Mosheh said to her: «Certainly, YHVH has brought you with me unto this place for this purpose, but now our son cannot afford the journey through the wilderness until he is healed, so, please go back to your father’s house, and I shall see you again when I come out of Egypt with the children of Israel to the land that YHVH promised to our fathers».

33. And Tzipporah took her two sons and returned to her father’s house.

34. Aharon came to meet Mosheh in Sinai, and they kissed, and told each other what YHVH has said to them, to deliver the children of Israel from the bondage and to take them out of the land of Egypt.

35. And Aharon spoke to the children of Israel all the words that Mosheh said, because Mosheh spoke like the Midianites and the people would not receive him.

36. Then, Mosheh and Aharon spoke to Pharaoh, to let the people of Israel go to worship Him in the wilderness, but Pharaoh did not want to listen to them, and Elohim smote the whole land of Egypt and the house of Pharaoh with plagues and great judgments.

37. They said unto Pharaoh: «Thus says YHVH: Israel is My son, My firstborn. Let my son go, that he may serve Me: and if you refuse to let him go, I will slay your firstborn son».

38. But Pharaoh did not let Israel go, so Elohim slayed Pharaoh’s firstborn son, and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt died in one night.

39. Then, Pharaoh let Israel go, and all the children of Israel left the land of Egypt on that day.

40. But when the children of Israel were in the wilderness, Pharaoh’s heart was hardened again and he pursued after the children of Israel with all his hosts, chariots and horsemen.

41. And Elohim divided the waters of the sea, making a dry way for the children of Israel to cross to the opposite shore. Even the Egyptians pursued them, but when all the children of Israel reached the other side, the waters returned and covered all the hosts of Pharaoh in the midst of the sea.

42. Thus, Elohim delivered Israel with mighty hand.

## 6

1. And after Mosheh and all Israel had come out of Egypt, Yethro came to the camp of Israel at the Mount of Elohim in Sinai, and brought with him Tzipporah, and Gershom and Eliezer, sons of Mosheh, and Hobab his son.

2. And Mosheh went out of his tent to meet them, and he bowed down before Yethro and kissed him, because he had great respect of his father-in-law.

3. And Yethro said: «We have heard how YHVH has brought Israel out of Egypt with His mighty hand, performing powerful miracles. Please, tell me all the great wonders that YHVH has done, and how He has delivered the children of Israel out of the hand of the Egyptians».

4. And Mosheh told his father-in-law all the things that happened in Egypt, all that YHVH had done to Pharaoh, and how YHVH opened the waters of the sea, without missing any detail.

5. And Reu’el rejoiced and blessed Elohim, and offered sacrifices and a burned offering to YHVH in presence of Mosheh and Aharon, and all the people.

6. Yethro stayed some days at the camp of Israel, and gave wise counselling to Mosheh, how to judge all the matters that the people brought to Mosheh, and Mosheh hearkened to the voice of his father-in-law, and did all that he had said, and established judges, men that he found righteous and honest, to be leaders among the people; for the words of Reu’el came from YHVH Elohim.

7. Then Reu’el returned to his dwelling place, but left Hobab his son with Mosheh.

8. And YHVH called Mosheh from the top of the mount, and Mosheh went to His presence, in the place where YHVH spoke to him the first time from the burning bush.

9. And YHVH gave to Mosheh the tablets of stone in which YHVH has written the Law and the commandments for the children of Israel.

10. They built the tabernacle according to the instructions that YHVH gave to Mosheh, and Aharon and his sons were anointed as kohanim, and all the Levites consecrated for the service.

11. In the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, the children of Israel departed from Sinai, heading to the land of Canaan.

12. And Mosheh said to Hobab, his brother-in-law: «We are pulling up stakes to go to the land of which YHVH has said, I will give it to you; come with us, and we will do you good; for Elohim has spoken good concerning Israel».

13. But Hobab said: «I shall not go, but I shall go to my land and to my kindred».

14. And Mosheh said to him: «Leave us not, I pray you; do not forsake us, because you know as to how we encamp in the wilderness, and you shall be to us for eyes. And it shall be, if you go with us, that what goodness YHVH shall do to us, the same will we do to you».

15. Then, Hobab said to Mosheh: «I shall go to bid my father farewell, and I shall return».

16. And Hobab returned to his father’s house, because he did not want to leave him in his old age.

17. And Yael his sister was married to Magdiel the Kenite, who had a maiden sister living with them, and Hobab took her as wife.

18. Then Yethro said to Hobab: «My daughters and my sons-in-law are with me to help me, take your wife and return to the camp of Israel, and I shall die in peace».

19. And Reu'el gathered his daughters and sons-in-law, and made them swear, saying: «The people of Midian have departed away from YHVH and are serving false gods, worshipping the sun and the moon, the gods of the Ishmaelites, and making alliances with heathen peoples.

20. When the days of my life be ended and I be gathered to my people, do not remain in this land, do sell it, and join the people of Israel; take all the livestock, and do not give your sons or your daughters in marriage to the heathen, but among the children of Israel, so that our seed may not depart away from YHVH our Elohim».

21. Then, Hobab said farewell to his father, and returned to the camp of Israel.

22. Tzipporah, the wife of Mosheh, was a wise woman and she counselled him as her father did before. But Myriam, the sister of Mosheh and prophetess of Israel, was jealous of her and spoke against Mosheh because of the Kushite woman he had taken as wife, calling her as the Egyptians did, because the Egyptians called Kushites to the Midianites.

23. So YHVH punished Myriam with leprosy, and Mosheh prayed for her healing, but she was shut out from the camp seven days for purification.

24. The people encamped in the wilderness of Paran, and Mosheh sent twelve spies to Canaan, one for each tribe of Israel, to spy out the land that Israel had to conquer.

25. And they gave out an evil report of the land which they had spied out, because they feared the Anakites that they saw.

26. But Yehoshua the son of Nun, of the tribe of Ephrayim, and Kalev the son of Yephunneh the Kenizzite, of the tribe of Judah, encouraged the people to conquer the land which Elohim promised to give to the children of Israel.

27. But the congregation did not hear their report, and Elohim determined for the children of Israel to wander in the wilderness for forty years, until all those who left Egypt from twenty years old and upward, save Yehoshua son of Nun and Kalev son of Yephunneh, would die in the wilderness without seeing the land of Canaan, but their children would conquer the land.

28. And Mosheh sent messengers from Kadesh unto Kush-Melech, king of Edom, saying: “Thus says Israel, your brother: You know all the travail we have had while we sojourned in Egypt, and how YHVH has delivered us from the hand of Pharaoh.

29. Now we are in Kadesh, on the edge of your border, on the way to the land promised to our father Yakob, your brother. Please let us pass over, through your land, along the King's highway; we will not turn aside to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed your border. We will not take anything from you, neither water nor food, unless we pay for it”.

30. But the king of Edom sent his army with many people, and refused to allow Israel to pass over through his land. So, the children of Israel went along the border of Edom, without entering the country.

31. And the people spoke against Elohim, and against Mosheh, because of their journey in the wilderness, and Elohim sent fiery serpents that bit the people, and many people of Israel died.

32. Mosheh prayed on behalf of the people, because they repented of having spoken against Elohim and against him.

33. And YHVH spoke to Mosheh, to make a seraph of brass, and set it on a pole, so that when anyone was bitten, shall live looking to it.

34. Then Israel passed along the border of Edom by mount Seir, and the children of Esav feared of them, but the children of Israel were kind with their brethren and bought from them water and food, and passed on up to the wilderness of Moab.

35. By that time, the Midianites became a numerous people, so that the land of Midian was not enough for all of them, and they spread from Sheba and Dedan up to Aram, and they dwelled among the Ishmaelites, and their princes ruled in Qedar and Sheba.

36. The children of Eyphah and Ephher joined the children of Nebayot, and the children of Qedar, and thus, Midianites and Ishmaelites became one people.

37. And the princes of Avida'a and Elda'ah settled in the lands of Sheba and Dedan. Only the children of Henoah remained in the land of Midian.

38. But five princes of the Midianites made alliance with the Moabites, and dwelled in the land of Moab, and ruled over them.

39. And Balak was the king of Moab, and was sore afraid of Israel, and sought the princes of Midian for help.

40. And he also sent messengers to Bil'am, the diviner, of the lineage of Bel'a, son of Be'or, who had been king of Edom, to curse Israel.

41. But Bil'am could not curse Israel, for Israel is blessed by Elohim. Yet, he gave an evil counsel, and the women of Moab and the Midianites who were among them caused the men of Israel to sin against Elohim at Ba'al-Pe'or.

42. And Israel warred against them, and slew the Midianite princes who ruled over the land of Moab, and they slew also Bil'am the diviner, and all the men of war, and took captive all the women and their children, and all their cattle, and all their flocks, and plundered all their wealth.

43. And Mosheh was wroth with the officers of the army of Israel because they spared all the women and children leaving them alive, and commanded them to slay every male among the infants and every woman having known a man by lying with a male.

44. And to keep alive of all the women only the Midianites who have not known a man by lying with a male, because Moabites shall not enter into the assembly of Elohim, even to the tenth generation. And the number of the women who were saved was thirty-two thousand. They were taken as concubines and wives by the men of Israel.

45. Thus, Israel conquered the land of Gil'ad and the land of Bashan from the kings of the Amorites, and dwelt in their cities.

## 7

1. The land of Canaan was to be divided among the twelve tribes of Israel, but YHVH separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant before YHVH, and to minister to Him, and to bless in His name, until today.

2. Therefore, Levi has no portion nor inheritance with his brothers; YHVH is his inheritance, and the fire offerings of YHVH the Elohim of Israel.

3. And the house of Aharon was appointed to be the kohanim, and Aharon was the first High Kohen of YHVH Elohim. The wife of Aharon was Elisheva, of the tribe of Judah, the sister of Nachshon, prince of Judah, son of Amminadav.

4. The sons of Aharon were Nadav, Abihu, Eleazar and Eythamar. They ministered as kohanim.

5. The sons of Mosheh were Gershom and Eliezer, and the son of Gershom was Shuvael the chief, and the son of Shuvael was Yehdiyah. The son of Eliezer was Rehabiyah the chief, and the son of Rehabiyah was Yeshayah. They were appointed as rulers over the treasuries.

6. And Israel encamped at Shittim, at the east of the Yarden, before the conquest of the land of Canaan.

7. Then Yethro died in a good old age, and was buried in the cave near mount Sinai, where also Keturah and Midian had been buried.

8. And after the war ended, the daughters of Yethro came to meet Mosheh at Shittim with their husbands, their children and their livestock, as Reu'el their father commanded them, to join the people of Israel.

9. Then Mosheh called for Yehoshua the son of Nun, and appointed him in the sight of all Israel to lead the people to the land which Elohim has sworn to their fathers, to give it to them, and to inherit it.

10. And committed him to dispose an inheritance within Israel for the Kenites, the children of Reu'el, and for the Kenizzites, and they were given allotment in the tribe of Judah.

11. And Yehoshua took as wife Yedidah, daughter of Hobab, son of Yethro.

12. After the death of Mosheh, YHVH renewed His promise to Yehoshua the son of Nun, and ordered him to cross the Yarden with all the people, for Elohim has given the land of Canaan to the children of Israel. And all Israel crossed the river on dry ground, for the waters of the Yarden that come down from above were cut off and stood on a heap.

13. And no man was able to stand before Yehoshua, because YHVH was with him as He was with Mosheh. And all the princes of Israel, the heads of the twelve tribes, hearkened to Yehoshua and went whithersoever he sent them.

14. Even the chiefs of Reuven and Gad, and of half of the tribe of Menasheh, who had received their inheritance in the east of the Yarden, in the lands that Israel conquered from the Amorites, crossed over the river before their brothers, all the mighty warriors, to help them conquer the land.

15. Only their wives, their children, their livestock, and watchers were left in the cities of their inheritance, until all Israel took possession of Canaan, then they returned to the land of their possession.

16. And Yehoshua took the whole of the land which the sole of his foot trod upon, according to the word of YHVH spoken to Mosheh.

17. And Yehoshua gave the land for an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions, by their tribes. He also cut off all the Anakites and none of them was left in the land of the children of Israel; but some Anakites took refuge in the land of the Philistines, in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod.

18. And Yehoshua became aged, and still there was land to possess: all the country of the Philistines and all the Lebanon, that was promised to be given to the children of Israel. These nations YHVH left to prove Israel by them, to know whether they would hearken to the commandments of Elohim, which He commanded their fathers by the hand of Mosheh.

19. Yehoshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for its princes, and they placed themselves before Elohim. And Yehoshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem, to serve only YHVH the Elohim of Israel.

20. Then Yehoshua sent the people away, every man unto his inheritance.

21. And after these things, Yehoshua the son of Nun, the servant of Elohim, died being a hundred and ten years old; and they buried him in the land of his inheritance in Timnath-Serach, which is in the hill country of Ephrayim.

22. Also Eleazar the son of Aharon died, and they buried him in the hill of Phinehas his son, which was given to him in the hills of Ephrayim.

23. And Israel served YHVH all the days of Yehoshua, and all the days of the elders whose days were prolonged after Yehoshua, and who knew all the work of YHVH which He did to Israel.

24. Then, the children of Israel did that which was evil in the sight of YHVH, and each man did the right in his own eyes.

25. They dwelt among the Canaanites and among all the peoples which Elohim drove out from before Israel, and they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods.

26. And the anger of YHVH glowed against Israel, and He gave them over into the hand of the king of Kushan, who ruled in Haran. So, the children of Israel repented from their evil ways, and Elohim raised up Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Kalev, as deliverer to the children of Israel. He moved war against the king of Kushan, and prevailed. And Othniel judged Israel with peace for forty years.

27. After him, the children of Israel again did that which was evil in the sight of YHVH, and they were subdued by the king of Moab. The children of Israel sought for Elohim and He raised them up Ehud, of the lineage of Gera, of Benjamin, and he delivered Israel from the yoke of Moab.

28. But the children of Israel again did that which was evil in the sight of YHVH, and YHVH gave them over into the hand of Yabin king of Canaan, that reigned in Hatzor; because Hatzor was rebuilt after Yehoshua had burned the city with fire and smote the king and all the souls that were therein with the edge of the sword.

29. And this Yabin was of the lineage of the Yabin whom Yehoshua slew, and sought revenge on Israel, and hired the army of the Shardanites, and appointed Sisera, commander of the Shardanites who dwelt in Harosheth-Hagoyim as captain of all his army.

30. For twenty years he oppressed the children of Israel, and his army had nine hundred chariots of iron.

31. In that time, YHVH raised up a prophetess to deliver Israel, Deborah, daughter of Qadmiel, son of Ammiel, son of Eliezer, son of Yehoshua, son of Nun. She sat under the palm-tree of Deborah between Ramah and Beyth-El in the hill country of Ephrayim; and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.

32. And Deborah gathered the tribes of Israel, and called Baraq the son of Avinoam, a captain of Israel, to draw to mount Tabor men of war, to battle against Sisera by the brook Kishon.

33. But Baraq said to Deborah, that he would not go to battle, unless she goes with him. And Deborah said to him that she would certainly go, but the honour of the battle will be given to a woman, and not to him.

34. And Deborah rose up and went to meet Baraq at Kedesh in Naphthali, and they went up to the mount Tabor with the army.

35. And when Sisera was coming with nine hundred chariots of iron to the Kishon, Deborah and Baraq went down from mount Tabor with ten thousand men.

36. And YHVH discomfited Sisera before Israel, and the children of Israel smote all his warriors and horsemen with the edge of the sword, and not a man was left alive. And Sisera came down from the chariot and fled on his feet.

37. And Heber the Kenite, son of Aholiyav, son of Yequiel, son of Yehu, son of Hobab, son of Reu'el, the father-in-law of Mosheh, departed away from his brothers and pitched his tent at Elon-Betza'anayim, and his wife was Yael the Kenite, daughter of Barachel, son of Reu'el, son of Elihu, son of Hobab, son of Reu'el, the father-in-law of Mosheh.

38. And Sisera fled on his feet to the tent of Heber, because Baraq pursued him, and Yael went out of the tent and said to him: «Turn in; fear not». And he turned into the tent, and fell to the ground exhausted, and she covered him with a rug.

39. Sisera asked her water to drink, and Yael opened a skin of milk and gave him to drink, so that he was fast asleep. Then she took a stake of the tent, and a hammer in her hand, and went softly to him, and smote the stake into his temples, and it pierced through into the ground.

40. And Yael went to meet Deborah and Baraq, that were pursuing Sisera, and showed them the man they were seeking, with his head smashed with the stake that she struck through his temples.

41. And Deborah praised Yael, and blessed her.

42. And the armies of Yabin, the king of Canaan, fainted since that day, and the children of Israel moved war against Yabin until they had cut off him, and Baraq slew him with the sword.

43. Deborah was twenty-four years old when she began to judge; and she judged Israel forty years.

44. And the children of Israel did that which was evil in the sight of YHVH after the death of Deborah; and YHVH gave them into the hand of their enemies.

45. Then Midianites and Ishmaelites were one people, and they ravaged the land of Israel, and all the Kedmonites came with them to plunder the land.

46. Even again Elohim raised up men who delivered Israel, but they returned back to their evil ways, and they were oppressed by the children of Ammon, and by the Philistines, and even the tribes of Israel fought against each other, because there was no king in Israel, and every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

47. In those days the Philistines made alliance with the Shekelites, the Tzikelites and the Shardanites, and with mingled people that were expelled from Egypt, and they ruled over the coastland from Tzidon to Gaza.

48. Then the tribe of the Danites sought them a land to dwell in; for until that day the inheritance that was allotted to them among the tribes of Israel was not conquered. The Shekelites pressed the children of Dan into the hills, for they could not come down to the valley.

49. And they went to Laish, on the border of Naphthali and the half tribe of Menasheh, by the mount Hermon, to a people quiet and secure, and smote them with the edge of the sword; and they burned the city with fire.

50. And they built the city, and dwelt therein, and they called the name of the city, Dan, by the name of their father. That was the possession of the children of Dan until the day that the king of Assyria carried Israel away to Assyria.

## 8

1. Then YHVH raised up Shmuel the prophet. He gathered all Israel to Mizpah, and prayed for the people, and Israel returned to Elohim, and they put away the foreign gods. And Shmuel judged Israel all the days of his life.

2. He delivered Israel from the Philistines, and defeated them, so that they came no more within the border of Israel all the days of Shmuel, because the hand of YHVH was on the Philistines. Even the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel.

3. But when Shmuel was old, his sons were judging Israel, and they did not walk in his ways, and turned aside after dishonest gain.

4. So, the elders of Israel gathered and came to Shmuel, and asked him to appoint a king to rule over Israel, like every other nation.

5. And it was evil in his eyes what the people demanded, but he anointed Shaul the son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, as king over Israel and over Judah.

6. And the spirit of YHVH came upon Shaul, and he prophesied, and was a mighty warrior, and he fought against all the enemies of Israel on every side, against Ammon, and against Moab, and against Edom, and against Tzobah, and against the Philistines; and whithersoever he turned himself, he put them to the worse.

7. And in one day Yehonathan his son struck the Philistines from Michmash to Ayalon, and the Philistines feared of him.

8. Then Elohim commanded Shaul to smite the Amalekites and wipe them off, slaying every man and woman, and all their livestock.

9. And Shaul gathered the army and encamped in the country of Amalek, and he warned the Kenites that were dwelling in Amalek to depart from that land, not to be slain with the Amalekites, because the Kenites were allied of Israel and they showed Israel the way in the wilderness when Israel came out of Egypt. And the Kenites departed from the land of Amalek.

10. And Shaul smote all the Amalekites in their country, but many of them dwelled in the land of Edom, and many others fled to Edom and to the land of the Kedmonites, for they feared Shaul, and they survived in the lands where they fled.

11. But Shaul captured Agag, king of Amalek, alive, and took all the best of the livestock, and did not kill them.

12. And Shmuel rebuked Shaul for he hearkened not the word given by YHVH, and did not slay all the livestock, and kept the king of Amalek alive. And Shmuel took a sword and slew Agag, and hewed him in pieces in the presence of YHVH in Gilgal.

13. Then Shmuel said to Shaul: «Today YHVH has taken away the kingdom from you, and shall be given to a man who is better than you». And Shmuel did not see Shaul again all the days he lived.

14. Then the Philistines made themselves stronger, and hired the Anakites in their army. And they sent one of their champions to defy the army of Israel, and he was one of the giants that remained in the country of the Philistines.

15. And David, son of Yishai, of the tribe of Judah, who was shepherd in the fields, heard the Philistine speaking against Israel, and he came down to the valley and smote him on his forehead with a stone, and the Philistine fell down to the ground.

16. Then David ran, and stood over the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw that their mighty man was dead, they fled.

17. And Shaul took David that day, and set him over the men of war, and gave him his daughter Michal as wife. And Yehonathan, the son of Shaul, linked his soul to David, and made a covenant with him.

18. And the people loved David, and the women sang celebrating him. So, Shaul was wroth and sought to slay David, and David fled with his men to the wilderness.

19. Then David met Avigail, a woman of good understanding and of a beautiful countenance, and he took her as wife.

20. By that time Shmuel the prophet died, and all Israel was gathered, and mourned for him.

21. And Shaul heard that David was in the wilderness of Ziph, and came after him, and camped on a hill before the wilderness.

22. Then David came by night to the place where Shaul camped, and saw him sleeping, and Avner the son of Ner, the captain of his armies, was sleeping beside him, and their men around. And Shaul's spear was stuck into the ground near his head, and a jar of water.

23. And David and Avishai the son of Tzerviah took the spear and the jar of water from beside Shaul; and they got them away, and no man saw them, nor knew it, neither did any of them awake.

24. Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of the hill afar off; and shouted to Avner, rebuking him for not having watched over his king, and showed him the spear and the jar of water. Thus, David spared Shaul's life.

25. But David knew that Shaul would not forbear from pursuing him, and fled with his men and his wives, Avigail the Carmelitess and Ahinoam the Yizreelitess to Gath, in the land of the Philistines, and served their king Achish.

26. And David requested from Achish to give him a city to dwell in, and Achish gave him Tziklag, which had belonged to the tribe of Shim'on, but since that day was counted among the cities of Judah.

27. When the Philistines gathered all their armies in Apheq, also David with his men passed on in the rearward with Achish, but the rulers of the Philistines did not trust David, and requested from Achish to send him back to Tziklag.

28. And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Tziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had made a raid upon the Negev, and upon Tziklag, and had smitten the city, and burned it with fire;

29. And had taken captive the women and all that were therein, both small and great; they slew not any, but carried them off, and went their way. Even the two wives of David, and the wives of his men, their sons and their daughters had been taken captive.

30. So David and his men went on to the camp of the Amalekites, and smote them from the twilight even until the evening of the next day, and they slew all the Amalekites, save four hundred men who fled on camels.

31. And David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken; and rescued his two wives. And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them; David brought back all.

32. And David took also all the livestock that the Amalekites had plundered before, as spoil for him and his men.

33. Then the Philistines fought against Israel in mount Gilboa, and they slew Yehonathan, and Avinaday, and Malkishua, the sons of Shaul. And even Shaul died after that battle.

34. And it came to pass after this, that David left the Philistines and went up to Hevron with his wives and all his men, and was anointed there as king of Judah. But Avner appointed Ishbosheth the son of Shaul as king of Israel.

35. And there was war between the people of Saul and the people of David, but David became stronger.

36. And these were the sons that were born to David in Hevron: Amnon, son of Ahinoam the Yizreelitess, and Kil'av, son of Avigail, and Avshalom, son of Ma'akah, of the royal house of Geshur, and Adoniyah, son of Hagith, and Shephatiah, son of Avital, and Yithre'am, son of Eglah.

37. Then Yoav the son of Tzerviah smote Avner to death, and also Ishbosheth was slain on his bed; therefore, there was no man of the house of Shaul to reign.

38. And all the elders of the tribes of Israel came to David in Hevron. And David made a covenant with them in Hevron before YHVH, and they anointed David as king over all Israel.

## 9

1. Then David fought the Jebusites that dwelled in Jerusalem, and took the stronghold of Tzion, and called it Ir-David. And he settled in Jerusalem, and established his kingdom in the city.

2. And Hiram king of Tzor made alliance with David, and sent him cedar wood, and carpenters, and masons; and they built David a house in Jerusalem.

3. And David took him more wives and concubines out of Jerusalem, after he was come from Hevron; and there were yet sons and daughters born to David in Jerusalem. But he loved Avigail more than all his wives.

4. And he took for Kil'av his son a wife from the daughters of Judah, Na'arah, daughter of Eythan. And it came to pass, when Na'arah bare Kil'av a son, her soul departed, and Avigail called him Daniel, and took him as her own son.

5. And David enlarged the borders of Israel. He subdued the Philistines and took the city of Gath. Then he smote the land of Moab, and made the Moabites servants of Israel, and they paid tribute to David.

6. David subdued the kingdoms of the Arameans, and took their gold, and they became his servants. And David set garrisons in the land of Aram.

7. Then David pursued the Amalekites that had fled to Edom, and sent Yoav to smite them in Edom. And Yoav and the army of Israel remained there six months, until he had slain every Amalekite, but he even smote all the men of war of Edom.

8. And Heniyah, a prince of the royal house of Edom, of the lineage of Korach, son of Esav, fled with his men to Ashkelon, and joined a company of Shekelites; and they took a ship to Kittim, for the Shekelites had their own realm in the islands of Kittim.

9. Even other servants of the king of Edom fled to Egypt, and they took with them Hadad, the son of the king, and Pharaoh gave them shelter in Egypt.

10. And there was no more king in Edom, and all the Edomites became servants to David. And David set garrisons throughout all the land of Edom, and appointed a governor over the country.

11. And after some years, Avigail, wife of David, died on her bed while she was sleeping. And David mourned for her deeply, for he loved her more than his other wives.

12. It was the time when kings go forth to battle, and David sent Yoav and all his army to fight Ammon, for the king of Ammon hired men of war from the Arameans, and became an enemy of David. But David remained in Jerusalem.

13. And it came to pass at eventide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the royal house; and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon.

14. The woman he saw was Bathsheva, the daughter of Eliyam, the wife of Uriyah the Hittite. And David sent messengers to take her to his presence. And he slept with her.

15. And the woman conceived from David. So, David sent messengers to call Uriyah the Hittite from the battlefield, and sent him to his house. But Uriyah went not down to his house, but he slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants.

16. Then David sent Uriyah back to the battle, for he wanted not to take rest while the men of war were fighting. And David sent a letter to Yoav, to set Uriyah in the forefront and leave him alone, so that he be killed by the enemy.

17. And also Kil'av, the son of David, was fighting in the front. When Kil'av saw that Uriyah was left alone as the mighty men withdrew from him, he went up to help Uriyah, and the archers shot at them, and killed the two of them.

18. And Bathsheva mourned for her husband; but even David mourned for his son Kil'av, who was the only son he had of Avigail; and he took Daniel, the son of Kil'av, as his own son.

19. And Nathan the prophet came to David and rebuked him for his sin, and said: «Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house; YHVH shall raise up evil against you out of your house, and shall take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of the sun».

20. And David bitterly repented for what he has done. So, Nathan said to him: «YHVH also has put away your sin; you shall not die; but the son who shall be born to you, surely shall die».

21. And when the child was born to Bathsheva, YHVH struck him with a sickness, and the child died.

22. Then Yoav called David to take Rabbah, the royal city of Ammon, as the city fell before the army of Israel. And David gathered the men and took the city, and the crown of the king of Ammon was taken off his head, and it was set on David's head.

23. And David brought great wealth out of the spoil of the city; and laid upon the Ammonites hard bondage into the brick kiln and as ironsmiths.

24. Then, David came to Bathsheva, and she bare a son, and he called his name Shlomo. And Nathan the prophet called the child Yedidiyah, for he was loved by YHVH.

25. And David had a daughter called Tamar who was beautiful, daughter of Ma'akah and sister of Avshalom, and she was a virgin.

26. And Amnon, the firstborn son of David, son of Ahinoam, fell sick because of her, for he loved her and coveted her.

27. And Amnon sent for Tamar with deceit, and she came to his place, and he forced her. Then, he sent her away. And Tamar rent her garment of virgin and put ashes on her head, for she was desolate, and fled to the house of Avshalom her brother.

28. And Avshalom sent his servants to smite Amnon, and they slew him, and he died. Thus, Avshalom took revenge for his sister, whom Amnon had forced with deceit.

29. Then, Avshalom fled to Geshur, and the king of Geshur, who was the father of Ma'akah, mother of Avshalom, received him in his house.

30. And it came to pass after three years, David sent Yoav to Geshur and let Avshalom return to Jerusalem, to his house, but not to see his face.

31. Then Avshalom went to Hebron and made himself king of Israel in Hebron. And the hearts of the people were with him, and he came into Jerusalem, but David was out of the city, by the river Yarden.

32. And Ahithophel Gilonite, who was a counsellor of David, passed to Avshalom and counselled him, to take the concubines of David, who were left to keep the king's house. And they spread out a tent for Avshalom on the roof; and Avshalom took the concubines of his father before the eyes of all Israel.

33. Thus, the word spoken by Nathan the prophet was fulfilled.

34. And Avshalom gathered the army and went to pursue his father David, to fight him and take the kingdom from him.

35. But the servants of David met the men of Avshalom in the forest of Ephrayim, and prevailed over them. And Avshalom fled, but Yoav went after him and found him entangled by his hair into the thick boughs of an oak, and Yoav took three darts, and thrust them through the heart of Avshalom.

36. And the Philistines had war again with Israel; and David went with his servants to fight them, and they smote the Philistines, and the Anakites who were with them. But after that, David did not go out to battle again, for he was old.

37. And the servants of David sought for a fair damsel throughout all the borders of Israel, and found Avishag the Shunammite, and brought her to the king to sleep with him, for he could get no heat covered with garments.

38. And Avishag cherished the king, and served him, but David knew her not.

39. Then Adoniyah the son of Hagith claimed himself king, and Yoav was with him. So, Bathsheva and Nathan the prophet told David that Adoniyah made himself king, and David called Benayahu son of Yehoyada, chief of the mighty men, and Tzadok the kohen, and commanded them to sit Shlomo on his throne.

40. So, Nathan the prophet and Tzadok the kohen anointed Shlomo in presence of David, and made him king.

41. And David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David. He reigned forty years. He was the man raised on high, the man according to the heart of YHVH, the anointed of the Elohim of Yakob, and the sweet singer of Israel.

## 10

1. After Shlomo sat on the throne of David his father, Adoniyah the son of Hagith requested from Bathsheva that Abishag the Shunammite be given to him as wife. Then Bathsheva spoke to his son, the king Shlomo, what Adoniyah his brother requested from her.

2. And Shlomo understood that certainly Adoniyah would claim even the throne of David, and sent Benayahu son of Yehoyada to smite Adoniyah, and put him to death.

3. Then, Shlomo gave Avishag the Shunammite to Daniel, the son of Kil'av his brother, as wife, for he was of the lineage of David his father, though not an heir of the throne.

4. And Shlomo sent Benayahu son of Yehoyada to smite Yoav the son of Tzerviah, to take away from the house of David the blood which Yoav shed without cause, and return his blood upon his own head. So, Benayahu slew Yoav, and he was buried in his own house.

5. And Shlomo appointed Benayahu as commander of the army in the place of Yoav, and Tzadok as high kohen in the place of Evyathar, for Evyathar was with Adoniyah; and the king sent Evyathar to exile in Anathoth.

6. And the kingdom was firmly established to Shlomo, as it was to David his father.

7. And Shlomo made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter as wife, and brought her into the city of David.

8. Then YHVH appeared to Shlomo in a dream by night; and said: «Ask what I shall give you». And Shlomo requested from Elohim to give him an understanding heart, to judge Elohim's people and to discern between good and evil.

9. And it was good in the eyes of YHVH what Shlomo had asked, for he did not request for himself many days, nor riches, nor the life of his enemies, but asked for discernment, to understand judgment.

10. So, YHVH gave Shlomo also that which he did not request, both riches and honour, that there was not a man like Shlomo among the kings all his days.

11. And Judah and Israel dwelt safely all the days of Shlomo. And the wisdom of Shlomo was known in all the Earth; there came of all peoples to hear his wisdom, from all kingdoms of the Earth.

12. And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Shlomo concerning the name of YHVH, she came to prove him with hard questions. She came to Jerusalem with a very great company, camels bearing a great abundance of spices, and a great amount of gold, and precious stones. And she spoke to Shlomo all that had been in her heart.

13. And Shlomo told her all her questions; there was not any thing hidden from the king which he told her not.

14. And the king gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, and abundance of presents from the royal bounty, and made alliance with her, and she returned to her kingdom.

15. And King Shlomo brought from Sheba spices and precious stones, and sandal-wood from Ophir, through the navy of ships that he built in Etzion-Geber, in the coastland of Edom.

16. In seven years and six months, Shlomo built the House of YHVH in Jerusalem, and in the month of Ethanim, that is the month of Tishrey, the kohanim brought the Ark of the Covenant of YHVH from the city of David, and placed it in the Holy of Holies, in the House of YHVH.

17. And Shlomo stood before the altar of YHVH in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spreading forth his hands toward heaven, he prayed and blessed the Elohim of Israel, and dedicated the House of YHVH.

18. And YHVH sanctified the House, to put His Name there perpetually.

19. Thus, Shlomo reigned in peace all his days. Yet, he took many wives of the nations which YHVH said to the sons of Israel, “You shall not go in to them, and they shall not go in to you”, and he loved women of Tzidon, and Ammon, and Moab, and Edom, and of the Canaanites, of the Hittites, even of the Kushites, and from far away kingdoms. And they worshipped their own gods.

20. Shlomo reigned forty years in Jerusalem, and slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David; and Rehavam his son reigned in his stead.

21. Then Yarov’am, son of Nevat, came to Rehavam with the elders of all the assembly of Israel, and requested to lighten the yoke that Shlomo had put upon the children of Israel; but Rehavam hearkened not to the people.

22. So the tribes of Israel departed from Judah and Yarov’am reigned over them in Shechem, as Ahiyah the prophet had said; and Rehavam was king over Judah and over Benyamin in Jerusalem.

23. But Yarov’am did that which was evil in the sight of Elohim, and built altars in Beyth-El and Dan, and ordained for the children of Israel to celebrate a feast devised out of his own heart, so that the people shall not go up to offer sacrifices in the House of YHVH in Jerusalem and their heart shall not turn again to the house of David.

24. Also Rehavam did that which was evil in the sight of Elohim, and the people of Judah built them high places, and pillars, and groves, according to all the abominations of the nations which YHVH cast out before the children of Israel.

25. And there was war between the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah many years.

26. When Asa was king of Judah, in the thirty and eighth year of his kingdom, Ahab the son of Omri began to reign in Shomron over Israel, and did evil in the eyes of YHVH above all the kings that reigned in Israel, for he took to wife Iyzebel of Tzor, and they served Baal, and worshipped him.

27. So YHVH raised a prophet in Israel, Eliyahu the Tishbite, and rebuked Ahab for all his wicked ways, but the king did not hearken to the word of the prophet.

28. And YHVH sent drought to the whole Israel, and there was a sore famine in Shomron, because there was no dew and no rain for three years, according to the word said by the prophet.

29. And Eliyahu called Ahab to mount Karmel, and gathered there all the false prophets, and defied them. And YHVH answered to Eliyahu the prophet, and the people saw that YHVH is Elohim. So Eliyahu said to the people: «Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape», and brought them to the Kishon, and there slew them all.

30. Then Eliyahu went to Be’er-Sheva in Judah, for Iyzebel the queen pursued him and sent men to kill him; and then he rose up and went to meet YHVH at the Mount of Elohim, that is Horev in Sinai.

31. And YHVH commanded Eliyahu to anoint Elisha as prophet, and to anoint Yehu, son of Yehoshaphat, son of Nimshi, of the tribe of Ephrayim, as king of Israel, and Hazael as king of Aram.

32. In those days Yehoshaphat the son of Asa, king of Judah, made alliance with Ahab, and came down to Shomron, to see the king of Israel. And they went up to battle against the king of Aram; and Ahab was shot by an archer, and died.

33. When YHVH would take up Eliyahu the prophet by a whirlwind into heaven, the prophet Elisha followed him, and did not leave him wherever he went, for Elisha knew that his master would be taken away by Elohim.

34. And Eliyahu took his mantle, and rolled it up, and struck the Yarden, and the waters that come down from above were cut off and stood on a heap, and they crossed on dry ground to the other side.

35. And on the place where YHVH buried Mosheh –though no man knows his grave unto this day, but it was revealed to Eliyahu– a chariot and horses of fire parted them both asunder; and Eliyahu was taken up by a whirlwind into heaven.

36. And Elisha took the mantle of Eliyahu, that fell to the ground; and returning to Yericho, he struck the Yarden with the mantle, and he crossed on dry ground.

37. And Elisha rebuked Yehoram, the son of Ahab, king of Israel, as Eliyahu did to Ahab, but the king of Israel did not turn away from his evil ways.

38. Even Yehoram, the son of Yehoshaphat, reigned over Judah, and did not follow the ways of his father, but he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, for the daughter of Ahab was his wife; and he did evil in the sight of YHVH.

39. In his days Edom fought against the rule of Judah and appointed their own king.

40. And YHVH stirred up against Yehoram king of Judah the spirit of the Philistines, and the Ishmaelites, and the Midianites, and the Kushites, and they came up into Judah, and brake into Jerusalem;

41. And they carried away all the wealth of the royal house, and they took his sons and his wives; so that not a son was left him, save the youngest of his sons, Yehoahaz, who is Ahaziyahu.

42. And the fame of Elisha the prophet was known also in the land of Aram. Then, Elisha came to Damascus and announced to Hazael that he would be king of Aram, according to the word said by Eliyahu the prophet. And on the next day, the king of Aram died, and Hazael took the reign.

43. Also Yehoram, the son of Yehoshaphat, died of painful diseases, according to the words that the prophet had said concerning him, and Ahaziyahu his son reigned over Judah in his place.

44. Then, Elisha sent one of the sons of the prophets to Yehu, son of Yehoshaphat, son of Nimshi, to anoint him king of Israel, to cut off the whole house of Omri until not leaving none of them alive.

## 11

1. So Yehu the son of Yehoshaphat the son of Nimshi took his company and went to Yizreel on chariots, because the king of Israel was in Yizreel, and also Ahaziyahu, the king of Judah, was with him.

2. And when Yehoram, king of Israel, heard that Yehu was coming to him, he took his chariot and went out to meet Yehu, and also Ahaziyahu, king of Judah, went with him in his own chariot.

3. But when the kings saw that Yehu was not coming to them in peace, they fled. And Yehu drew his bow and smote Yehoram, piercing his heart, and he fell down dead; and they threw him on the field.

4. Then Yehu sent his captains to pursue Ahaziyahu, that was fleeing to Shomron, to hide there, and they reached him on the way to Yibleam, and they smote him. Then Ahaziyahu turned to Megiddo, and died there, for he was sore wounded.

5. And they took him and brought him to Yehu; and Yehu sent the servants of Ahaziyahu to bury him in Jerusalem, for he was the son of Yehoshaphat, who sought YHVH with all his heart.

6. Then Yehu went to the gate of Yizreel and ordered the eunuchs of Iyzebel to throw her down from the window, and his horses trampled her. So Yehu came into the house and ate and drank; and she was eaten by the dogs, as it was said by Eliyahu the prophet.

7. Then Yehu sent letters to the rulers of Yizreel, to the elders, and to the men who were over the household of Ahab and over the city in Shomron: if they were loyal to Yehu, to bring him the heads of all the children of Ahab. And they slew seventy persons, all the house of Ahab in Shomron, and sent their heads to Yizreel.

8. And Yehu slew all the house of Ahab in Yizreel, and all his great men, and his kinsfolks, and his priests, until he left him none remaining. Then, he departed for Shomron.

9. On the way to Shomron, Yehu found the princes of Judah, and the sons of the brethren of Ahaziyahu, and slew them all, forty-two men. And he smote all the men of Ahab that remained in Shomron, according to the word of Elohim, which He spoke to Eliyahu the prophet.

10. Then Yehu gathered all the prophets of Baal, and all his priests, and all his servants, and called them from all Israel to come to the house of Baal in Shomron, and he sent his captains and guards to slay them all, and they smote them with the edge of the sword.

11. And they brought forth the images out of the house of Baal, and burned them, and broke down the house of Baal, and made it a draught-house. Thus, Yehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.

12. And Elisha was the prophet of Israel all the time that Yehu reigned, and in the reign of Yehoahaz his son, and when Elisha was to die, the king Yehoash the son of Yehoahaz, came to him and wept. And Elisha prophesied to him, that he would defeat the king of Aram, and would take back the cities that Aram had taken from Israel. And so it came to pass.

13. In those days Amatziyahu, king of Judah, made war against Edom and smote twenty thousand men, and took Sela, that is Yoqte'el. And many of the Edomites fled to Egypt, and took a ship to the land of Kittim.

14. Then, after that Amatziyahu was come from the slaughter of the Edomites, he brought in the gods of Edom and made them stand as gods for himself. And the anger of YHVH glowed against Amatziyahu, for he sought the gods that have not delivered their own people out of his hand.

15. And there was war between Amatziyahu, king of Judah, and Yehoash; and YHVH gave Amatziyahu over into the hand of the king of Israel, because Amatziyahu had turned aside from following YHVH.

16. And Yehoash broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephrayim unto the corner gate, and he took all the gold and the silver, and all the vessels that were in the House of YHVH, and in the royal house, and took hostages, and returned to Shomron.

17. And the sons of Yehu sat on the throne of Israel up to the fourth generation. Howbeit, the kings of Israel did not depart from the ways of Yarov'am the son of Nevat, wherewith he made Israel to sin, the golden calves that he built in Beyth-El and Dan.

18. And Elohim brought Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria, in the days of Menahem, king of Israel, and captured the tribes in the east of the Yarden, and sent the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half tribe of Menasheh to exile, and placed them in the land of Haran, in Halah and Habor, by the river Gozan, and they dwell there unto this day.

19. Then, Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria came again in the days of Peqach, king of Israel, and took the cities of the Galil, and the tribes of the north, and carried them captive, and placed them in that land.

20. And Hoshea the son of Elah rose up against Peqach and slew him, and took his place as king of Israel.

21. In the seventh year of his reign, Hoshea the son of Elah sought alliance with the king of Egypt and paid not tribute to the king of Assyria as he had done year by year; therefore, Salman-Ashared king of Assyria came up to Shomron, and besieged it three years.

22. In the ninth year of Hoshea, Salman-Ashared king of Assyria died, and Sargon was made king in his place. And the king of Assyria captured Shomron, and carried Israel away to Haran, and to the land of Madai.

23. The children of Israel were taken captive and sent to exile because they had sinned against YHVH their Elohim, and walked in the statutes of the nations, and did what is evil in the eyes of YHVH.

24. And they built them high places, and set them up images and groves in every high hill, and used divination and enchantments, until YHVH removed them out of His sight, as He spoke by the mouth of all His prophets.

25. So Israel was carried away out of their own land to Assyria, unto this day. And the king of Assyria brought peoples from the lands that he subdued to dwell in Shomron and the cities thereof instead of the children of Israel.

26. He brought Arameans from Avva, and Hamath, and Sepharvayim, cities of Aram, and from Babylon and Kuthah, and they made their own gods and placed them in the high places which the children of Israel had built.

27. And they knew not YHVH, Elohim of Israel, and He sent them lions in the land, that killed the people.

28. And they spoke to the king of Assyria, and said that the Elohim of the land sent them lions, because they do not know Him, and how to worship Him.

29. So the king of Assyria sent them Hananiyah son of Eliyav, one of the kohanim that he exiled from Shomron, who taught them how they should fear YHVH, and he lived in Beyth-El.

30. In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Hizkiyah son of Ahaz began to reign in Judah, and he did that which was right in the eyes of YHVH, according to all that David his father did.

31. He threw down the altars and all the images, and broke in pieces the seraph of brass that Mosheh had made, for in those days the children of Israel burned incense to it. And Hizkiyah rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not.

32. And in the fourteenth year of King Hizkiyah, Sennacherib the king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah, and captured them, and took captives and carried them to the land of Halah and Habor; and Sennacherib settled himself in Lakish.

33. And he sent to Jerusalem the chief of the army, and the chief officer, and the chief cup-bearer, with a great army, to Jerusalem. And the chief cup-bearer was of the captives of Moab and spoke the Hebrew language, and called for king Hizkiyah to surrender, and blasphemed against YHVH Elohim.

34. Then Elyakim the son of Hilqiyahu, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Yoah the son of Asaph the recorder, asked him to speak Aramaic, for they understood, but the chief cup-bearer raised his voice in Hebrew, to frighten the people of Jerusalem at hearing his words.

35. So, the king Hizkiyah sent his servants to the prophet Yeshayahu the son of Amotz, to inquire of the words of Elohim.

36. And the prophet sent them to Hizkiyah, saying: «Thus said YHVH concerning the king of Assyria: He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, neither shall he come before it with shield, nor cast a mound against it.

37. By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and he shall not come unto this city; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land».

38. And it came to pass that night, that the Angel of YHVH went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians with a great slaughter; and when men arose early in the morning, they saw all dead corpses.

39. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and returned to Nineveh, the royal city, and did never again come against Jerusalem.

40. And after twenty years, as he was worshipping in the house of his god, his sons Ardamelech and Nabusharetzer smote him with the sword, and they fled into the land of Ararat. And Asarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

41. And Asarhaddon, king of Assyria, fought against his enemies and took captives from the land of Madai, from Partakka and Partukka, and Persians, and Dahaites, and Dayanites, and from the land of Tubal, and brought them to Shomron.

42. Even Ashurbanipal, king of Assyria, took captives from Erech, and Babylon, and Shushan, and Elam, and placed them in the cities of Israel. And they feared YHVH, but served their own gods, and did not the commandments of Elohim.

## 12

1. The spirit of Asarhaddon king of Assyria was troubled, for the chief officer, and the chief cup-bearer, and the governor of Haran devised evil against him, and the soothsayers, and the enchanters, and the inquirers of oracles announced that the kingdom of Assyria would be taken from him, and other shall reign in his place.

2. Then Hodaviah son of Uziel, who was of the captives of Judah that Sennacherib carried from Lakish to Assyria, said to the king: «O King, fear not, and believe not the words of those who speak evil against you, for Elohim has secured you on the throne, and your kingdom shall prosper in your hand, and in the hand of your son after you.

3. For Elohim shall give Egypt and Kush in your hand; for He spoke through Yeshayahu the prophet, that the king of Assyria shall lead away the captives of Egypt, and the exiles of Kush. Only Judah you shall not wound with your sword, and Elohim shall establish your kingdom».

4. And Asarhaddon appointed Hodaviah as his counsellor, and he dwelled in the royal house in Nineveh all his days, in the reign of Asarhaddon, and in the reign of Ashurbanipal his son.

5. In the tenth year of his reign, Asarhaddon came against Egypt, even against Tirhaqa, king of Kush, and besieged Noph, the royal city, and broke down its walls, and burned its houses with fire; and from all Egypt and Kush he took captives, livestock and treasures in great amount, and carried them to Assyria.

6. And Asarhaddon built a garrison in Sevneh, at the gates of the land of Kush, and there he placed men of war of Judah and Israel who were loyal to the king of Assyria; and they dwell in Sevneh until today. And the king of Assyria imposed tribute to Egypt, and returned back to Nineveh.

7. In the days of Ashurbanipal, king of Assyria, there was among the children of Israel, of the captives that Sargon carried away to the land of Madai, a man whose name was Zerach, son of Asare'el, son of Ammihud, of the tribe of Ephrayim, who wandered from the land of Minni up to Hodu, proclaiming that Elohim is One.

8. And some of the peoples hearkened to him and believed in Elohim, but the Name of YHVH was forgotten, and they sought Elohim after the manner of the nations; they took the image of Ashur as the image of Elohim, and they worship with sacred fire, and under the cypress trees.

9. And the words of Zerach son of Asare'el reached the princes of the Persians, and they favoured him, and made him their prophet.

10. After the death of Ashurbanipal, Nahum of Elqosh prophesied against Nineveh and against Assyria, for YHVH has pronounced the judgment and He shall make their dwelling desolate, and shall cut off the images out of the house of their gods, and shall put an end to their bloody wickedness.

11. Then Nabupalassar, prince of Babylon, made alliance with Ahashverosh, king of the Medes. And they led their armies against the king of Assyria, and they broke down the cities of Ashur, and Kalah, and Nineveh, and the king of Babylon reigned over the kingdom of Assyria.

12. The Word of YHVH came to the prophet Yirmeyahu the son of Hilqiyahu, who was of the kohanim that were in Anathoth, concerning Judah, in the days of Yoshiyahu, and Yehoyakim, and Yehoyakin, and Tzidkiyahu, kings of Judah.

13. And Yoshiyahu did that which was right in the eyes of YHVH, and walked in all the way of David his father, and there was no king like him, who turned to YHVH with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Law of Mosheh; neither after him arose there any like him.

14. After his death, the people of the land took Yehoahaz his son, and anointed him, and made him king. And Yehoahaz did what is evil in the eyes of YHVH.

15. And YHVH determined to remove Judah also out of His sight, as He has removed Israel, and the city which He has chosen, even Jerusalem, and the house in which he has put His Name.

16. And Pharaoh carried Yehoahaz captive to Egypt, and made Yehoyakim to be king of Judah instead of his brother. And Yehoyakim did what is evil in the eyes of YHVH, and shed innocent blood, for which YHVH would not forgive.

17. In the third year of the reign of Yehoyakim king of Judah, Nebukadnetzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.  
 18. And YHVH gave the king of Judah into his hand, and part of the vessels of the House of YHVH, which he carried into Babylon.  
 19. And he chose among the sons of Judah young men of the royal house in whom was no blemish, who were of good appearance and with understanding in all wisdom, skilful in knowledge and discerning in science, and carried them to Babylon, to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the writing and the language of the Chaldeans.  
 20. Now among these young men were Daniel, Hananiyah, Mishael, and Azaryah.  
 21. Daniel was the son of Eleazar, the son of Uziyah, the son of Yizrahiyah, the son of Yehezqel,  
 22. The son of Azaryahu, the son of Ahishachar, the son of Abihayil, the son of Evyasaph,  
 23. The son of Ephher, the son of Abiezer, the son of Yerahme'el, the son of Abdiel,  
 24. The son of Eythan, the son of Hilqiyahu, the son of Nathan, the son of Daniel the wise, counsellor of Shlomo, the son of Kil'av, the son of David.  
 25. And Ashpenaz, the chief officer, gave them Chaldean names, and called Daniel Beltshatzar; and Hananiyah, Shadrach; and Mishael, Meshach; and Azaryah, Abednego.  
 26. And Elohim gave them knowledge and skill in all writing and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.  
 27. And at the end of the days which Nebukadnetzar had appointed for bringing them into his presence, in all matters of wisdom and understanding that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the astrologers and enchanterers that were in all his realm.  
 28. The spirit of Nebukadnetzar was troubled because of a dream which broke his sleep from him, and he could not know the meaning of the dream which he had, and he called all the star-gazers, and enchanterers, and soothsayers, and Chaldeans, and required from them to reveal the dream and its meaning, but none of them was able to know the dream.  
 29. So, the king determined for all the wise men of Babylon to be slain, for none of them was able to reveal the dream that troubled the spirit of the king.  
 30. When Daniel heard the matter, he requested from Arioch, the king's captain, not to slay the wise men of Babylon, and to bring him before Nebukadnetzar, for he shall declare to the king the dream and its interpretation.  
 31. And Daniel told the king all details of his dream, and its interpretation. And Elohim revealed to Nebukadnetzar concerning his reign, and the kingdom of Babylon, and the kingdoms which shall come after him, until the kingdom of Elohim shall come and stand forever.  
 32. Then King Nebukadnetzar fell on his face and did homage to Daniel, and acknowledged that Elohim is the Most High, over all the mighty ones.  
 33. And the king made Daniel great and gave him many rich gifts, and appointed him ruler over all the province of Babylon, and chief of all the wise men of Babylon. Also Hananiyah, Mishael, and Azaryah were appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon, for Daniel requested it from the king.

## 13

1. And in the third year of the reign of Yehoyakim king of Judah, the Word of Elohim came to Yirmeyahu concerning all the people of Judah, saying: «Behold! says YHVH, I shall send Nebukadnetzar the king of Babylon, My servant; and I shall bring him against this land, and against those living in it, and against all these nations all around. And I shall completely destroy them!  
 2. And this whole land shall be a desolation; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.  
 3. And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebukadnetzar the king of Babylon, My servant; all nations and great kings shall serve him, and his son, and the son of his son, until the time of his own land comes.  
 4. And it shall be, the nation and kingdom which will not serve him, Nebukadnetzar the king of Babylon, and that will not put its neck in the yoke of the king of Babylon, I will punish that nation with the sword, and with the famine, and with the plague, until I have destroyed them by his hand.  
 5. And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I shall punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans; and I shall make it perpetual desolations».  
 6. Then, Yehoyakim, king of Judah, did not listen to the words said by the prophet Yirmeyahu, and turned and rebelled against Nebukadnetzar king of Babylon; so, Nebukadnetzar sent his servants to Jerusalem, and they besieged the city.  
 7. And Nebukadnetzar came to Jerusalem when the city was under siege, and sent to capture Yehoyakim to bring him to Babylon, but Yehoyakim fled, and was slain by the gate of the city, and his body was thrown in the field out of the city.  
 8. And Yekonyahu his son was made king in his place; and he reigned three months, because Nebukadnetzar took him captive to Babylon, and appointed Tzidkiyahu, brother of Yehoyakim, as king of Judah.  
 9. And Nebukadnetzar carried away ten thousand captives from Jerusalem, besides the king and his mother, and all his servants, and the princes, and the mighty men, and the craftsmen and smiths. Also the prophet Yehezqel the son of Buzi, the kohen, was carried to Babylon, and was sent to dwell in Tel-Abib, by the river Kebar, in the land of Shin'ar.  
 10. After that, Yirmeyahu the prophet sent a letter from Jerusalem to the elders of the exile, and to the kohanim, and to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebukadnetzar had exiled from Jerusalem to Babylon, saying:  
 11. «Thus said YHVH Tzevaoth, Elohim of Israel, to all the captivity, whom I have caused to be carried away captive from Jerusalem unto Babylon:  
 12. Build your houses, and dwell in them, and plant orchards, and eat the fruit of them; take wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; and multiply there, and be not diminished.  
 13. And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to YHVH for it; for in the peace thereof you shall have peace.  
 14. For thus said YHVH: After seventy years are accomplished for Babylon, I shall remember you, and perform My good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope».  
 15. And the captives of Judah who hearkened to the words sent by the prophet Yirmeyahu prospered in Babylon, and bought for themselves lands, and planted therein, and built their houses, and multiplied, according to the words of the prophet.

16. And King Nebukadnetzar knew the message that Yirmeyahu sent to the people of Judah, and was pleased for the words that YHVH had said to them.

17. Daniel, who was the ruler of the province of Babylon, had the oversight of the captives in the land of Shin'ar, and journeyed to Tel-Abib to meet Yehezqel the son of Buzi, to hear concerning the visions which he saw from Elohim.

18. And Yehezqel told him all what he received from Elohim, regarding Jerusalem and Egypt, and what the king of Babylon would have done to them.

19. In those days, the king Nebukadnetzar made an image of gold in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon, whose height was sixty cubits and its breadth, six cubits; and gathered all the princes, and governors, and the captains, and the judges, and the treasurers, and the astrologers, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebukadnetzar the king had set up.

20. And they stood before the image, and were commanded to bow down and worship the golden image. But Hananiyah, Mishael, and Azaryah, whose Chaldean names were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, did not bow down before the image, and did not worship it.

21. Then the king commanded mighty men of his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and cast them into the burning fiery furnace, for it was the sentence against those who disobeyed the king.

22. And the three men were cast bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace, but the fire had no power upon their bodies, and only the ropes with which they were bound were burned, but neither the hair of their head was singed, nor were their garments changed. And the Angel of YHVH was with them in the furnace.

23. Nebukadnetzar was astonished, for he saw four men loose walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the appearance of the fourth was like a son of the Elohim.

24. And the king came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace; he spoke and called them, saying: «Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of Elohim Most High, come forth, and come hither». Then the three men came forth out of the midst of the fire.

25. And all the princes, and governors, and the captains, and the judges, and the treasurers, and the astrologers saw that the fire had no power upon the bodies of the three men, nor was the hair of their head singed, neither were their garments changed, and they had not even the smell of fire over them.

26. Then, King Nebukadnetzar blessed Elohim Most High, and in that time, he set out a decree that every people, nation, and language, which speak anything amiss against the Elohim of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be slain and cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill; because there is no other god that is able to deliver as Elohim does.

27. And the king gave Hananiyah, Mishael, and Azaryah higher honour than they had before in Babylon.

28. Then Daniel returned from Tel-Abib to Babylon, and heard all that happened to his three friends, and how YHVH delivered them, and the honour that the king bestowed on them.

29. And he told them what Yehezqel had said to him concerning Jerusalem, and what Elohim determined upon the captivity of Judah.

30. And Tzidkiyahu, king of Judah, did that which was evil in the sight of YHVH, and did not hearken to the words of Yirmeyahu the prophet, and he turned away from YHVH, for Whom he swore loyalty before Nebukadnetzar, and rebelled against Elohim and against the king of Babylon.

31. In the ninth year of the reign of Tzidkiyahu, Nebukadnetzar the king of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem, and encamped before the city, and built a siege mound all around it.

32. Then Nebukadnetzar returned to Babylon, but left his army around Jerusalem, and the city was besieged until the eleventh year of the reign of Tzidkiyahu.

33. When the famine was severe, Tzidkiyahu and his men of war made a breach and fled from the city, but the army of the Chaldeans pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains, and carried him captive to Babylon.

34. Then, Yirmeyahu the prophet, and Baruch son of Neriya the scribe, and some of the kohanim took the Ark of the Covenant of the House of YHVH, and hid it in a secret chamber under the ground, for Yirmeyahu knew what was to happen, and the Ark should not be carried to Babylon.

35. In the nineteenth year of king Nebukadnetzar, he sent Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, to Jerusalem, to take the city and carry away captive the people still dwelling in it, and to destroy the city.

36. But concerning Yirmeyahu the prophet, Nebukadnetzar commanded to Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, saying: «Take him, and look well to him, and do him no harm; but keep him safe and do with him even as he shall say to you. If he wants to come, bring him to Babylon; but if he wants to remain in Jerusalem, let him stay there».

37. And he sent the chief officers, and they took Yirmeyahu out of the court of the guardhouse –for Tzidkiyahu had commanded to shut Yirmeyahu into the court of the guardhouse–, and they committed him unto Gedalyahu the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, that he should carry him home; and he dwelt among the people.

38. Then the Babylonians took all the firepans, and the sprinkling basins, all that which was of gold and which was of silver, and broke into pieces the brazen sea, and pillars and the bases of brass that Shlomo had made for the House of YHVH, and all the vessels and every thing which was of brass, and carried all the gold, the silver and the brass to Babylon.

39. And they set fire to the House of YHVH, and to the king's house, and the houses of every great man in Jerusalem, and they carried the people in captivity to Babylon, but they left the poor of the people to work on the land and grow vines and orchards.

40. And Nebukadnetzar appointed Gedalyahu the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan as governor in Jerusalem, over the people that were left in the land of Judah.

41. Then Yishmael, the son of Nethanyah, the son of Elishama, of the royal seed, came to Gedalyahu in Mitzpeh, and ate with him; but Yishmael and ten of his men rose up against Gedalyah and slew him with the sword, whom the king of Babylon had made governor over the land. And they smote also the men who were with Gedalyahu.

42. Yishmael also took captive all the rest of the people who were in Mitzpeh, but Yohanan the son of Qareach went with his men to fight Yishmael and delivered the captives, but Yishmael fled to the land of Ammon.

43. And Yohanan with all the people departed to leave the land and enter to Egypt, for they were afraid of the Babylonians because of the evil that Yishmael had done against the man whom the king of Babylon had appointed in the land.

44. Then Yirmeyahu the prophet said to them the words that he received from Elohim: «If you will still remain in this land, then I will build you up, and will not tear you down. And I will plant you, and will not pluck you up. Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his hand.

45. But if you set your faces to enter into Egypt, and go to sojourn there, then it shall come to pass that the sword, which you fear, shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt, and the famine, whereof ye are afraid, shall follow hard after you there in Egypt; and there you shall die, and none of you shall remain or escape from the evil that I will bring upon you».

46. But Yohanan the son of Qareach and all the men who were with him, and all the people, hearkened not to the voice of YHVH, to live in the land of Judah; and they took all the remnant of the people that Nebuzaradan had left with Gedalyahu;

47. And they took also Yirmeyahu the prophet, and Baruch the scribe, and carried them into the land of Egypt, and dwelled in Thahaphnehes.

48. Then the word of YHVH came to Yirmeyahu in Thahaphnehes, saying: «Behold, I will bring Nebukadnetzar, My servant, and will set his throne upon this land, and he shall spread his royal pavilion over Egypt;

49. And he shall come, and shall smite the land of Egypt; such as are the sword to the sword, and such as are for captivity to captivity. And I will set the houses of the gods of Egypt on fire, and he shall burn them; he shall break also the images of Beyth-Shemesh, and the houses of the gods of the Egyptians shall he burn with fire.

50. And all those from Judah that dwell in the land of Egypt, that dwell at Migdol, and at Thahaphnehes, and at Noph, up to Sevneh, shall be consumed by the sword, and by the famine».

51. And the word of YHVH came also to Yehezqel in Tel-Abib, saying: «Nebukadnetzar the king of Babylon shall have no great wages for the service his army is doing for Me against Tzor; so, I will give him the land of Egypt; and he shall carry off her abundance, and take her spoil, and take her prey; and it shall be the wages for his army».

52. And it came to pass after these things, that Daniel took a wife, Elisheva, daughter of Yoel, of Jerusalem, who was among the captives by the river Kebar; her sister was the wife of Yehezqel, whom YHVH took away from him with a stroke before the fall of Jerusalem.

53. Also Hananiyah, Mishael, and Azaryah took wives from among the captives of Judah in the city of Babylon.

54. And Elisheva bore a son, and called him Baraqiel. Then she bore a daughter, and called her Yafah.

55. And the children of Judah multiplied in Babylon, and became wealthy, and Elohim blessed them according to the words that Yirmeyahu the prophet had said.

## 14

1. After the days of the siege of Tzor were accomplished and the city surrendered to Nebukadnetzar, the king of Babylon headed to Egypt, against Pharaoh, king of Egypt.

2. And the king of Babylon took the treasures of Egypt, gold and silver, and burned the houses of the gods of the Egyptians with fire, and took captives and carried them to Babylon.

3. And the Chaldeans slew Yohanan the son of Qareach and the men of Judah who followed him, as the word of YHVH was said by Yirmeyahu the prophet.

4. Then they took Yirmeyahu and brought him on a chariot to Babylon, and Nebukadnetzar gave him a house to live in the city until the end of his days.

5. Besides all his wars, the king Nebukadnetzar wrought in Babylon many buildings for his own glory and might, to show to the nations his power and richness, but Elohim Most High sent him a dream which frightened him.

6. Again the king called all the star-gazers, and enchanters, and soothsayers, and Chaldeans, and required from them the meaning of the dream he saw, but none of them was able to understand the dream except Daniel, whose name was Beltshatzar, and he revealed to Nebukadnetzar the decree of the Most High, which is come upon the king.

7. Then the understanding departed from the king's mind, and he was not able to reign, nor to live among men, and lived in the field and ate grass like an ox, for seven seasons.

8. And his son Merodach-Nadenach ruled in Babylon instead of his father, until the king's mind was healed; but he took care of his own possessions and not for the kingdom, and he also shut his brother in the prison house.

9. And at the end of the days which the Most High had decreed, the king Nebukadnetzar lifted up his eyes to the heaven, and his understanding returned to him, and he blessed the Most High, and he praised and honoured Him who lives forever, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and His rule from generation to generation.

10. And all the glory of the kingdom, majesty and splendour, were restored to Nebukadnetzar; and even more greatness was added to him, for he acknowledged the King of Heaven.

11. Then he sent his eldest son out of the city, to the land of his possession, and appointed Amel-Merodach his son to reign after him.

12. And Amel-Merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, brought Yekonyahu king of Judah forth out of the house of prison, and sat him on a throne which was higher than the thrones of the kings that were with him in Babylon, and gave him a continual allowance of the king, every day, all the days of his life.

13. It came to pass in the second year of the reign of Amel-Merodach, that Nergal-Sharetzer his brother-in-law, and the chief officers, and the priests of Bel, rose up against the king and slew him; and Nergal-Sharetzer sat on the throne of Babylon in his stead.

14. Then, Elohim came to Daniel in dreams and warned him to take his wife, and his sons, and his daughters, and his companions with their wives, their sons and their daughters, and all their substance, and lead them to the land of Anshan, until Elohim had taken the kingdom from Nergal-Sharetzer.

15. And Daniel told what Elohim said, to Hananiyah, Mishael, and Azaryah, and they left Babylon on that day, and dwelled in Anshan.

16. That was the first year of the reign of Koresh, king of Persia, whose throne was in Anshan. And the guards of the gates of the city sent a messenger to the king, saying that certain nobles from Babylon came in the city.

17. Then Koresh sent for them, to come to his presence, and they brought Daniel and his companions before the king of Persia.

18. And the king asked them: «Who are you, and why came you to my kingdom? Has the king of Babylon sent you to me?»

19. And Daniel answered to the king: «O King, we come not in the name of the king of Babylon, and we do not serve him, for he has taken the throne with violence. We are of the captives of Judah, whom King Nebukadnetzar appointed as rulers in Babylon; and our Elohim, the Elohim of Israel, He has sent us to you.

20. For you shall certainly become great, and you shall be the king of Persia and Madai, and Elohim shall give the kingdom of Babylon in your hands».

21. And Koresh was pleased for the words that Daniel said to him, and let him and his company dwell in his kingdom.

22. Then Koresh said to Daniel: «Certainly, what the King of Heaven has decreed may no man reverse. He is the Creator, the Lord of Wisdom and Lord of Light».

23. Daniel was astonished at the words of the Persian king, and said: «How can you, O King, know about our Elohim?»

24. The king answered to Daniel: «There was in our realm a prophet called Zerach, who spoke to our fathers that there is One Lord over all divinities, the Creator of all good things, and the good spirits serve him; and we hearkened to his teachings».

25. After four years, arose a new king in Babylon, Nabunaid; but in the third year of his reign, the king left Babylon and dwelled in Teyma for ten years, and his son Belshatzar sat on the throne in Babylon.

26. When Daniel heard that Nabunaid was king, he took his household and came to Shushan, which belonged to Babylon. And Daniel dwelled in Shushan twelve years.

27. By that time, a daughter was born to Koresh, king of Persia, and was called Hadassah. And the king sent for Daniel in Shushan, and Daniel inquired from Elohim concerning Hadassah.

28. Then Daniel said to the king: «She certainly shall be a wise and righteous queen, and her name shall be great among the Persians, and even greater among my people Israel».

29. And Daniel returned to Babylon, for Elohim sent him to see the accomplishment of the word given by Yirmeyahu concerning the captivity of Judah.

30. By that time the king of Babylon broke the alliance with Madai, which Nabupalassar king of Babylon had made with Ahashverosh, king of Madai; and Daryavesh, son of Ishtumegu, son of Ahashverosh, king of Madai, made alliance with Koresh, king of Persia.

31. Belshatzar was sitting on the king's throne and made a great banquet for his nobles, their wives and their concubines, and commanded to be brought to him the golden and silver vessels which Nebukadnetzar had taken out of the House of YHVH in Jerusalem, that he and his guest might drink wine therein.

32. In the same hour a man's hand came forth, and wrote over upon the wall of the king's hall; and the king saw the hand that was writing, and his countenance was changed, and was affrighted in his thoughts; and cried aloud to bring in the enchanters, the Chaldeans, the soothsayers, and all the wise men of Babylon to read the writing on the wall, and show the interpretation thereof.

33. But they could not read the writing, nor understand the interpretation of the words. And Belshatzar was greatly troubled, and his face was changing on him, and all his guests in the king's hall were perplexed.

34. When the queen, his mother, who was the daughter of Nebukadnetzar, heard the words of Belshatzar, she came into the banquet house, and said:

35. «There is a man in the kingdom, in whom the spirit of the holy Elohim dwells, in whom light, and understanding, and wisdom was found in the days of Nebukadnetzar my father, and the king, my father, appointed him as master of all the wise men of Babylon over the enchanters, the Chaldeans, the soothsayers and star-gazers;

36. Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, explaining of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and the unravelling of knots, were found in this man, Daniel, whom the king named Beltshatzar. Now let Daniel be called, and he will reveal the meaning».

37. Then was Daniel brought in before Belshatzar; and the king spoke and said to Daniel what he has heard of him, that he is endowed with light, and excellent wisdom, and interpretation of meanings, and unraveling knots.

38. Then the king said to Daniel, if he can read the writing and reveal its meaning to Belshatzar, he shall be clothed with purple and have a golden chain around his neck, and become the third ruler in the kingdom –for the second ruler was Belshatzar himself, as the king was Nabunaid, who was not in Babylon in that time–.

39. Then Daniel answered and said before the king: «Let your gifts be to yourself, and give your rewards to another. Yet I will read the writing to the king, and make the meaning known to him».

40. And Daniel said to Belshatzar: «You have lifted yourself up against the King of Heaven, and brought the vessels of His house before you, and you, and your nobles, your wives, and your concubines have drunk wine with them.

41. Then, He sent a hand to write this message to you: “MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN”, and the declaration of these words is: “Elohim has numbered your kingdom, and brought it to an end; you are weighed in the balances and found lacking; your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians”».

42. In that night Belshatzar was slain; and Daryavesh, the king of Madai, was appointed by Koresh, king of Persia, as ruler over Babylon. And Daryavesh appointed Daniel over the rulers and satraps of the kingdom.

## 15

1. In the first year of the reign of Daryavesh of Madai over Babylon, Daniel understood that the number of the years of the captivity of Judah announced by the prophet Yirmeyahu shall be accomplished in that time, and YHVH shall visit His people and confirm His good word towards Jerusalem.

2. In that year the queen of Persia, the wife of Koresh, died, and there was a great mourning in all the kingdom. After the mourning for his wife was ended, Koresh took the daughter of Daryavesh of Madai as wife.

3. And Daryavesh reigned two years over Babylon, and died without a son; and Koresh, king of Persia, became king of Madai, according to the word of Elohim said to him by Daniel.

4. And the time decreed by Elohim concerning Jerusalem, from the going forth of the word announced by Yirmeyahu, that the city shall be restored and built, to the coming of an anointed prince, is of seven sevens.

5. And Daniel understood that the anointed prince was Koresh, according to the word said by Yeshayahu the prophet.

6. Now in the first year that Koresh reigned over Babylon, he made a decree exalting the Elohim of Israel, and declared that all the captives of Israel may return to their land, and build Jerusalem to dwell therein, and build the House of YHVH in Jerusalem.

7. And Koresh sent the treasurer of the kingdom and brought forth the vessels of the House of YHVH, which Nebukadnetzar had carried out of Jerusalem to Babylon, and gave them to the princes of Judah.

8. Then the chiefs of Judah, and the chiefs of Benjamin, and the Levites and kohanim rose up and gathered the people, and returned to the land of Judah to build Jerusalem and the House of YHVH;

9. But many of the people of Judah, and the people of Israel, remained in Babylon and in the lands where they were carried captive, because they prospered in those lands, and many became rich.

10. In that time Hadassah, the daughter of the king, was twelve years old, and on the night after Koresh made the decree, she had a dream that troubled her spirit.

11. Then Koresh called the Magians, and the wise men of the Persians, to inquire about the dream of his daughter. And they called upon the King of Heaven, according to the manner of the Persian kings, but they could not know the interpretation of the dream.

12. Then Hadassah said to her father the king: «O my father, send for the holy man who blessed me in the days of my birth, for he shall know the meaning of my dream». And Koresh sent for Daniel, and they brought him before the king.

13. And Koresh said to Daniel: «My daughter, whom you blessed after her birth, had a dream which troubled her spirit, and we know that you have understanding in all visions and dreams, and that the King of Heaven is with you. She is here to tell you the dream that she had, for you may reveal its meaning».

14. Then Hadassah told her dream to Daniel and said: «I was in my bed and saw in my thoughts a tree that was higher than all trees, and beautiful to see, and the sunlight was on that tree more brilliant than anywhere;

15. And two branches came forth out at the sides of the stock; one of them grew higher than the other, but they had no fruit in them; and a third branch which came forth was hidden behind the stock;

16. And the higher branch which was fruitless grew up towards the west, but the wind dried it up and all its strength was withered, and it fell to the ground.

17. At the same moment, the other branch which was at the opposite side of the first one was cut off, and the darkness covered the whole tree.

18. Then, the light came forth from the branch which was hidden behind the stock, and the darkness vanished. And that branch was plenty of fruit, and brought life to the tree, and an offshoot came forth from it, and grew up from the stock. So, I awoke».

19. And Daniel answered to her, and said: «The tree that you saw in your dream which was higher than all trees, and beautiful to see, and the sunlight was on it, is the kingdom of Persia, which is the greatest of the kingdoms, and the stock of the tree is your father the king;

20. The branch which grew up towards the west is the king who shall come after him, your brother; he shall enlarge the kingdom towards the west, but was fruitless because he shall have no son to come after him;

21. And that shall be a time of darkness; then, the branch which was at the opposite side shall take the kingdom, but his reign shall not last, for he will be cut off.

22. And you, O princess, are the branch which was hidden, which was plenty of fruit and brought life to the tree; you shall be the queen, and you shall bring light to the kingdom, and the offshoot which came forth from the branch and grew up from the stock is a son of you; and your son shall sit on your father's throne».

23. The king was astonished at the words of Daniel, for he had two sons; and he understood that the interpretation of the dream was true.

24. In the third year of Koresh a word was revealed to Daniel, and a vision concerning the kingdom of Persia and the kingdoms to come after, and what shall befall the people of Israel until the end of days, the words which are closed up and sealed until the time of the end.

25. And Daniel was in good old age, and died in Babylon, and was mourned by the people.

26. Then also Koresh the king died, and Kanbuzi his son reigned in his place.

27. When the children of Judah began to build the House of YHVH and the city of Jerusalem, the people of the land opposed them, and sought to hinder the building; the Medes, and the Elamites, and the Arameans, and the children of Shin'ar and of the other nations that Asarhaddon and Ashurbanipal, kings of Assyria, brought from their lands and settled in Shomron.

28. And when Kanbuzi began to reign, the enemies of Judah wrote a letter to the king, saying that, if Jerusalem and the House of YHVH are rebuilt completely, that city shall be rebellious against the kingdom, as it was in the past.

29. Then Kanbuzi made a decree, commanding that the works for rebuilding the city and the House of YHVH should cease, and the children of Judah could not complete the work.

30. In the fourth year of his reign, Kanbuzi came against Egypt and conquered the land; and the kings of Persia ruled over Egypt since then.

31. Then, the king heard news that revolts arose in Persia and Barzai his brother was sitting on his throne, so he hastily returned to Shushan, but died on the way in the land of Aram.

32. Also Barzai, son of Koresh, was slain, and Daryavesh the son of Vishtaspa, who had taken Vashti, daughter of Koresh as wife, was made king.

33. Then Daryavesh the son of Vishtaspa, who was called Artachshashta, that is, "righteous ruler", took as wife also Hadassah, the daughter of Koresh, to establish himself on the throne.

34. And Daryavesh established seven rulers who had the higher places of honour and authority in the kingdom and sat next to the king, according to the belief of the Persians and Medes.

35. In those days the prophet Zekaryah son of Berekiyah, and Haggai the prophet, spoke the word of YHVH to the princes of Judah and the rulers of Jerusalem, to complete the building of the House of YHVH.

36. Then the governor appointed by the Persians over Judah and Shomron sent a letter to King Daryavesh, to search in the royal treasure house of Babylon, if there is a decree made by Koresh the king, ordering to rebuild the city and the House of YHVH.

37. But they could not find the decree made by Koresh in the royal treasure house in Babylon, and the king would not reverse the order given by Kanbuzi to cease the work.

38. So Hadassah, who secretly served the Elohim of Israel –although outwardly she kept the worship to the King of Heaven according to the Persian manner–, requested from the king to search in the other royal cities where her father settled his throne, for she knew that such a decree was made.

39. And the decree made by Koresh was found in Achmethan, the royal city in Madai.

40. Then Daryavesh son of Vishtaspa, king of Persia, commanded the governor of the province of Judah and Shomron, and all his officers, to withdraw from hindering the work and let the people of Judah build the House of YHVH in Jerusalem, according to the decree made by Koresh;

41. And to give to the elders of Judah the expenses for the building from the king's treasure, and all that they need concerning bullocks, and rams, and lambs, for burnt-offerings to the King of Heaven in favour of the king and his sons.

42. And the people of Jerusalem continued to build the city and the House of YHVH in the second year of the reign of Daryavesh son of Vishtaspa, and completed the work in the sixth year of his reign.

## 16

1. And the House of YHVH was built, according to the decree of Koresh, and completed on the third day of Adar, which was the last month of the sixth year of the reign of Daryavesh son of Vishtaspa, who is Artachshashta, king of Persia.
2. And the king appointed Ezra, son of Serayah, son of Azaryah, son of Hilqiyah, of the seed of Aharon, a kohen and a scribe, gifted in knowledge of the Law of Elohim, who was among the children of the captivity in Babylon, to serve the Elohim of Israel in Jerusalem, and to teach His Law to the people.
3. And Ezra went up from Babylon with a company of kohanim, and Levites, and singers, and servants of the House of YHVH, on the first day of Nisan, which was the first month of the seventh year of the reign of Daryavesh son of Vishtaspa;
4. And came to Jerusalem on the first day of Av, the fifth month of the seventh year of the reign of Daryavesh son of Vishtaspa, king of Persia.
5. And Ezra carried to Jerusalem gold and silver that Daryavesh the king and the seven rulers who are with him offered to the Elohim of Israel, to buy the animals for the burnt-offerings on the altar of the House of YHVH.
6. And the king commanded to the treasurers of the kingdom in the province of Judah and Shomron, to give Ezra all the gold and silver, and wheat, oil, wine, salt, and whatever that he may request for the House of YHVH, for the king and his sons be blessed by Elohim.
7. The king Daryavesh decreed unlawful to take tributes or tolls from the kohanim and the Levites, and from any kind of servants of the House of YHVH.
8. So the king favoured the people of Judah for he feared the Elohim of Israel, for the Persians and the Medes served the King of Heaven, according to the teaching of Zerach son of Asare'el;
9. They served Him as the Highest Elohim, though they still worshipped also the queen of heaven, and the lady of the waters, and the lord of covenants.
10. And also the children of Israel, whose fathers the kings of Assyria carried away to the land of Haran and to the land of Madai, they served Elohim in the manner of the Persians and of the Medes, and of the nations where they dwelled, and they turned not to YHVH their Elohim, nor did they return to the land of their fathers.
11. And Jerusalem was built and restored, but not the wall and the gates of the city, which were still broken down since the day when Nebuzaradan, servant of Nebukadnetzar, king of Babylon, burned them with fire.
12. Then Nehemyah son of Hakalyah was the cup-bearer of King Daryavesh.
13. And on the twentieth year of the reign of Daryavesh son of Vishtaspa, in the month of Nisan, in the royal house of Shushan Nehemyah gave the cup of wine to the king, and Hadassah was sitting beside him.
14. And King Daryavesh saw that the countenance of Nehemyah showed sadness, and understood that it was sorrow of heart, and asked him why was he afflicted.
15. Then Nehemyah said to the king, that his sadness was because the wall and the gates of the city of his fathers was still in ruins, and threatened by the enemies of Judah.
16. And Nehemyah requested from the king to be allowed to go to Jerusalem, and see the city, and seek the good for the people of Jerusalem.
17. And Hadassah saw with favour the request of Nehemyah, and looked at the king for approval, without saying a word. And it pleased the king to send Nehemyah to Jerusalem, and gave him letters for the rulers of the kingdom in Judah, and sent captains of his army, and horsemen with him.
18. And Nehemyah gathered the kohanim, and the Levites, and the people of the cities of Judah, and they worked for fifty-two days, until the wall and the gates of Jerusalem were completely restored.
19. And King Daryavesh appointed Nehemyah as governor of Judah; and Nehemyah dwelled in Jerusalem and ruled with righteousness, and did not take tribute from the people.
20. Thus, the children of Judah returned to their land and dwelled in their cities, the cities of their fathers, in the land which Elohim promised to Avraham, Yitzhak and Yakob.
21. But the children of Israel whom the kings of Assyria carried away, they cannot be measured nor numbered, and shall not return until the end of the days, when they shall be called "children of El-Hai".
22. Behold, at the end of the days YHVH shall come, and Jerusalem shall be cleansed and shall be holy to YHVH Tzevaoth, and the exiles of Judah and Israel shall return and they shall be gathered on the mountains of Israel, and there shall be one Shepherd to all of them; and the nations of the earth shall come to celebrate YHVH in Jerusalem.