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**Chapter 1**

(1) Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim {Ramah; Bethlehem}, of mount Ephraim, and his name *was* Elkanah {God has obtained},<sup>a</sup> the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephrathite {born in Bethlehem}:

(2) And he had two wives;<sup>b</sup> the name of the one *was* Hannah {favored; beautiful},<sup>c</sup> and the name of the other Peninnah {pearl}:<sup>d</sup> and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

(3) And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts in Shiloh.<sup>e</sup> And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD {Jehovah}, *were* there.

(4) And when the time was that Elkanah offered, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions:

(5) But to Hannah he gave a double portion; because he loved Hannah: but the LORD {Jehovah} had closed up her womb.

(6) And her adversary {Peninnah} also greatly provoked her, to cause her to fret, because the LORD {Jehovah} had closed up her womb.

(7) And *as* he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD {Jehovah}, so she provoked her; therefore she wept, and did not eat.

(8) Then Elkanah her husband said to her, Hannah, why do you cry? and why do you not eat? and why is your heart grieved? *am* I not better to you than ten sons?

(9) So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drank. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD {Jehovah}.

(10) And she *was* in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the LORD {Jehovah}, and wept greatly.

(11) And she vowed a vow {pledge; promise}, and said, O LORD {Jehovah} of hosts {armies; multitudes}, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your handmaid, and remember me, and not forget Your handmaid, but will give to Your handmaid a son, then I will give him to the LORD {Jehovah} all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head.<sup>f</sup>

1:1a - Elkanah {אֱלְקָנָה} - God has obtained – from Ramah; born in Bethlehem

1:2b – two wives – Elkanah was a Levite {I Chr. 6:27} and according to the law was only allowed to have one wife [Lev. 21:13-14] but Elkanah probably had two wives because Hannah was barren

1:2c – Hannah {חַנָּה} – favored; beautiful

1:2d - Peninnah {פְּנִינָה} – pearl [or possibly ruby]

1:3e – Shiloh – When the Israelites entered the promised land, the tabernacle was first set up at Shiloh [Josh. 18:1; Jg. 21:19; I Ki. 14:2; John 4:20]

1:11f – no razor – vow of the Nazarite -see Num. 6:2-21; Judges 13:5-7; 16:17

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(12) And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD {Jehovah}, that Eli<sup>s</sup> watched her mouth.

(13) Now Hannah spoke in her heart; her lips only moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she was drunk.

(14) And Eli said to her, How long will you be drunken? put away your wine from you.

(15) And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I *am* a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD {Jehovah}.

(16) Do not count your handmaid for a daughter of Belial {wickedness}: because out of the abundance of my complaint and grief I have spoken.

(17) Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant *to you* your petition that you have asked of Him.

(18) And she said, Let your handmaid find grace in your sight. So the woman went her way, and ate, and her countenance {facial expression; attitude}<sup>h</sup> was no longer *sad*.

(19) And they rose up in the morning early, and worshiped before the LORD {Jehovah}, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife {sexually}; and the LORD {Jehovah} remembered her.

(20) Therefore it came to pass, when the time had come after Hannah had conceived, that she gave birth to a son, and called his name Samuel {asked of God};<sup>i</sup> *saying*, Because I have asked of the LORD {Jehovah} for him.

(21) And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer to the LORD {Jehovah} the yearly sacrifice, and his vow {pledge; promise}.

(22) But Hannah did not go up; because she said to her husband, *I will not go up* until the child is weaned, and *then* I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD {Jehovah}, and stay there forever.

(23) And Elkanah her husband said to her, Do what seems good to you; wait until you have weaned him; only the LORD {Jehovah} establish His word. So the woman stayed, and nursed her son until she weaned him.

(24) And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bulls, and one ephah of flour {about 6 gallons; 22.2 L.},<sup>j</sup> and a bottle of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD {Jehovah} in Shiloh: and the child *was* young.

(25) And they killed a bull, and brought the child to Eli.

(26) And she said, Oh my lord, *as* your soul lives, my lord, I *am* the woman who stood by you here, praying to the LORD {Jehovah}.

(27) I prayed for this child; and the LORD {Jehovah} has given me my petition which I asked of Him:

1:12g – Eli judged Israel from the end of Philistine oppression [2963 A.H./C-1079 B.C.] to 3003 A.H./C-1039 B.C. - 40 years. - See I Sam. 4:18  
– see [Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History](#)

1:18h – countenance – facial expression; attitude

1:20i – Samuel {שְׁמוּאֵל} - asked of God

1:24j – ephah - about 24 quarts.; 6 gallons; 22.2 Liters  
– see [Appendix J: Bible Weights and Measures](#)

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(28) Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD {Jehovah}; as long as he lives he shall be lent to the LORD {Jehovah}. And he worshiped the LORD {Jehovah} there.

**Chapter 2**

- (1) And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoices in the LORD {Jehovah}, my horn {kingdom; household} is exalted in the LORD {Jehovah}: my mouth boasts over my enemies; because I rejoice in Your salvation.
- (2) *There is* no one as holy as the LORD {Jehovah}: because *there is* no one besides You: neither *is there* any rock like our God.
- (3) Never again talk so exceedingly proud; do not let arrogance come out of your mouth: because the LORD {Jehovah} *is* a God of knowledge, and by Him actions are weighed.
- (4) The bows of the mighty men *are* broken, and those who stumbled are bound up with strength.
- (5) *Those who were* full have hired themselves out for bread; and *those who were* hungry ceased: so that the barren has born seven; and she who has many children has grown feeble.
- (6) The LORD {Jehovah} kills, and makes alive: He brings down to the grave, and brings up.
- (7) The LORD {Jehovah} makes poor, and makes rich: He brings low, and lifts up.

(8) He raises up the poor out of the dust, *and* lifts up the beggar from the dunghill, to set *them* among princes, and to cause them to inherit the throne of glory: because the pillars of the earth *are* the LORD's {Jehovah's}, and He has set the world upon them.

(9) He will keep the feet of His saints {from stumbling},<sup>a</sup> and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; because by {their own} strength no man shall prevail.

(10) The adversaries of the LORD {Jehovah} shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven He shall thunder upon them: the LORD {Jehovah} shall judge the ends of the earth; and He shall give strength to His King, and exalt the horn {kingdom} of His Anointed.

(11) And Elkanah returned to Ramah to his house. And the child ministered to the LORD {Jehovah} before Eli the priest.

(12) Now the sons of Eli *were* sons of Belial {wickedness}; they did not know the LORD {Jehovah}.

(13) And the priests' custom with the people *was, that*, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the meat was boiling, with a meat-hook of three teeth in his hand;

(14) And he struck *it* into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the meat-hook brought up the priest took for himself. So they did in Shiloh to all the Israelites who came there.

2:9a – keep the feet {from stumbling} – He will guide the paths of His saints

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(15) Also before they burnt the fat, the priest's servant came, and said to the man who sacrificed, Give meat to roast for the priest; because he will not have boiled meat from you, but raw.

(16) And *if* any man said to him, Do not let them fail to soon burn the fat, and *then* take *as much* as your soul desires; then he would answer him, *No*; but you shall give *it to me* now: and if not, I will take *it* by force.

(17) Therefore the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD {Jehovah}: because men despised the offering of the LORD {Jehovah}.

(18) But Samuel ministered before the LORD {Jehovah}, *being* a child, clothed with a linen ephod {priestly robe}.

(19) Furthermore his mother made him a little coat, and brought *it* to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

(20) And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The LORD {Jehovah} give you children of this woman in the place of the loan which is lent to the LORD {Jehovah}. And they went to their own home.

(21) And the LORD {Jehovah} visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bore three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD {Jehovah}.

(22) Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did to all Israel; and how they lay with the women who assembled *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

(23) And he said to them, Why do you do such things? because I hear of your evil dealings from all these people.

(24) No, my sons; because *it is* no good report that I hear: you cause the LORD's {Jehovah's} people to sin.

(25) If one man sins against another, the judge shall judge him: but if a man sins against the LORD {Jehovah}, who shall plead for him? Nevertheless they would not listen to the voice of their father, because the LORD {Jehovah} would kill them.

(26) And the child Samuel grew up, and was in favor both with the LORD {Jehovah}, and also with men.

(27) And there came a man of God to Eli, and said to him, This is what the LORD {Jehovah} says, **Did I plainly appear to the house of your forefather, when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh's house?**

(28) **And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer upon My altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod {priestly robe} before Me? and did I give to the house of your father all the offerings made by fire of the children of Israel?**

(29) **Why do you kick at My sacrifice and at My offering, which I have commanded *in My* house; and honor your sons above Me, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel My people?**

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(30) Therefore the LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel says, I said indeed *that* your house, and the house of your forefather, should walk before Me forever: but now the LORD {Jehovah} says, Far be it from Me; because those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be despised.

(31) Indeed, the days are coming, that I will cut off your arm, and the arm of your father's house, that there shall not be an old man in your house.

(32) And you shall see an enemy *in My* house, in all *the wealth* which God shall give Israel: and there shall not be an old man in your house forever.

(33) And your man, *whom* I shall not cut off from My altar, *shall be* to consume your eyes, and to grieve your heart: and all the increase of your house shall die in the flower of their age.

(34) And this *shall be* a sign to you, that shall come upon your two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas; in one day they shall both die.<sup>b</sup>

(35) And I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest, *who* shall do according to *that* which is in My heart and in My mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before My Anointed forever.

(36) And it shall come to pass, *that* everyone who is left in your house shall come *and* bow to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and shall say, I ask you to put me into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a piece of bread.

**Chapter 3**

(1) And the child Samuel ministered to the LORD {Jehovah} before Eli. And the word of the LORD {Jehovah} was precious in those days; *there was* no open vision.

(2) And it came to pass at that time, when Eli laid down in his place, and his eyes began to grow dim, *that* he could not see;

(3) And when the lamp of God went out in the temple {tabernacle; tent}<sup>a</sup> of the LORD {Jehovah}, where the ark of God *was*, and Samuel laid down *to sleep*;

(4) That the LORD {Jehovah} called Samuel: and he answered, Here I *am*.

(5) And he ran to Eli, and said, Here I *am*; because you called me. And he {Eli} said, I did not call; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

(6) And the LORD {Jehovah} called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here I *am*; because you called me. And he answered, I did not call, my son; lie down again.

(7) Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD {Jehovah}, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed to him.

(8) And the LORD {Jehovah} called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here I *am*; because you did call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD {Jehovah} had called the child.

2:34b – I Sam. 4:11

3:3a – temple – the tabernacle {tent} was first set up in Shiloh – see I Sam. 1:3

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(9) Therefore Eli said to Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if He calls you, that you shall say, Speak, LORD {Jehovah}; because Your servant is listening. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

(10) And the LORD {Jehovah} came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; because Your servant is listening.

(11) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to Samuel, *Indeed, I will do a thing in Israel, that will cause both the ears of everyone who hears it to tingle.*

(12) *In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end.*

(13) *Because I have told him that I will judge his house forever because of the sin which he knows; because his sons made themselves evil, and he did not restrain them.*

(14) *And therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli, that the sin of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering forever.<sup>b</sup>*

(15) And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the LORD {Jehovah}. And Samuel was afraid to tell Eli the vision.

(16) Then Eli called Samuel, and said, Samuel, my son. And he answered, Here I am.

(17) And he said, What is the thing that *the LORD* {Jehovah} has said to you? I ask you not to hide *it* from me: God do so to you, and more also, if you hide *anything* from me of all the things that He said to you.

(18) And Samuel told him every bit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It is the LORD {Jehovah}: let Him do what seems good to Him.

(19) And Samuel grew, and the LORD {Jehovah} was with him, and let none of his words fall to the ground.

(20) And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel *was* established *to be* a prophet of the LORD {Jehovah}.

(21) And the LORD {Jehovah} appeared again in Shiloh: because the LORD {Jehovah} revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the LORD {Jehovah}.

**Chapter 4**

(1) And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and camped beside Ebenezer:<sup>a</sup> and the Philistines camped in Aphek.

(2) And the Philistines put themselves in array against Israel: and when they joined battle, Israel was struck before the Philistines: and they killed of the army in the field about four thousand men.

(3) And when the people had come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, Why has the LORD {Jehovah} struck us today before the Philistines? Let us fetch the ark of the covenant of the LORD {Jehovah} out of Shiloh to us, that, when it comes among us, it may save us out of the hand of our enemies.

3:14b – I Sam. 2:27-36

4:1a - Ebenezer {אֶבְנֵי־הַעֲזָרָה} - Stone of The Help – I Sam. 7:12

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(4) So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts {armies} from there, Who stays *between* the cherubims: and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, *were* there with the ark of the covenant of God.

(5) And when the ark of the covenant of the LORD {Jehovah} came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth rang again.

(6) And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, What does this noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews mean? And they understood that the ark of the LORD {Jehovah} had come into the camp.

(7) And the Philistines were afraid, because they said, God has come into the camp. And they said, Woe to us! because there has not been such a thing before now.

(8) Woe to us! who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods? these *are* the Gods Who struck the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

(9) Be strong, and be like men, O you Philistines, that you not be servants to the Hebrews, as they have been to you: be like men, and fight.

(10) And the Philistines fought, and Israel was struck, and every man fled into his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; because there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen.

(11) And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were killed

(12) And there ran a man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes torn, and with earth upon his head.

(13) And when he came, Eli was sitting upon a seat by the road side watching: because his heart trembled for the ark of God. And when the man came into the city, and told what had happened, all the city cried out.

(14) And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, What does the noise of this tumult mean? And the man came quickly, and told Eli.

(15) Now Eli was ninety-eight years old; and his eyes were dim, that he could not see.

(16) And the man said to Eli, I *am* the one who came out of the army, and I fled today out of the army. And he said, What has happened, my son?

(17) And the messenger answered and said, Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been also a great slaughter among the people, and your two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God has been taken.

(18) And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of God, that he {Eli} fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck broke, and he died {3003 A.H./C-1039 B.C.};<sup>b</sup> because he was an old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

4:18b - Eli age 98 dies after judging Israel for 40 years; Samuel's judgeship begins [\*3003 A.H./C-1039 B.C.] – see [Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History](#)

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(19) And his daughter-in-law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, *ready* to be delivered: and when she heard the news that the ark of God was taken, and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and went into labor; because her labor pains came upon her.

(20) And about the time of her death the women who stood by her said to her, Do not be afraid; because you have given birth to a son. But she did not answer, neither did she regard *it*.

(21) And she named the child Ichabod {glory has departed},<sup>c</sup> saying, The glory has departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father-in-law and her husband.

(22) And she said, The glory has departed from Israel: because the ark of God has been taken.

**Chapter 5**

(1) And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod.

(2) When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon {a pagan idol}, and set it by Dagon.

(3) And when those of Ashdod arose early in the morning, Dagon {the idol} *had* fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again.

(4) And when they arose early on the next morning, Dagon *had* fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD {Jehovah} again; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands *were* broke off upon the threshold; only *the stump of* Dagon was left.

(5) Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any who come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day.

(6) But the hand of the LORD {Jehovah} was heavy upon those of Ashdod, and He destroyed them, and struck them with tumors, *even* Ashdod and its coasts.

(7) And when the men of Ashdod realized what was happening, they said, The ark of the God of Israel shall not stay with us: because His hand is great upon us, and upon Dagon our god.

(8) They therefore sent and gathered all the lords of the Philistines to themselves, and said, What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel? And they answered, Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried to Gath. And they carried the ark of the God of Israel *there*.

(9) And it came about, that, after they had carried it, the hand of the LORD {Jehovah} was against the city with a very great destruction: and He struck the men of the city, both small and great, and they had tumors in their private parts.

4:21c - Ichabod {אי כבוד} - glory has departed



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(10) Therefore they sent the ark of God to Ekron. And it came to pass, as the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, They have brought about the ark of the God of Israel to us, to kill us and our people.

(11) So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to its own place, that it not kill us, and our people: because there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there.

(12) And the men who did not die were stricken with the tumors: and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

**Chapter 6**

(1) And the ark of the LORD {Jehovah} was in the country of the Philistines seven months.

(2) And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying, What shall we do to the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}? tell us how we shall send it to its place.

(3) And they said, If you send away the ark of the God of Israel, do not send it empty; but return to Him a sin offering: then you shall be healed, and it shall be known to you why His hand is not removed from you.

(4) Then they said, What *shall be* the sin offering which we shall return to Him? They answered, Five<sup>a</sup> golden tumors, and five golden mice, *according to* the number of the lords of the Philistines: because one plague *was* on you all, and on your lords.

(5) Therefore you shall make images of your tumors, and images of your mice that mar the land; and you shall give glory to the God of Israel: perhaps He will lighten His hand from off you, and from off your gods, and from off your land.

(6) Why then do you harden your hearts, as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? when He had done wonderfully among them, they did not let the people go, and they departed?

(7) Now therefore make a new cart, and take two milk cows, on which there has never come a yoke, and tie the cows to the cart, and bring their calves home from them:

(8) And take the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}, and lay it upon the cart; and put the jewels of gold, which you return to Him *for* a sin offering, in a box by its side; and send it away, that it may go.

(9) And watch, if it goes up by the way of its own coast to Bethshemesh, *then* He has done this great evil to us: but if not, then we shall know that *it is* not His hand *that* struck us: it *was* just by chance *that* it happened to us.

(10) And the men did so; and took two milk cows, and tied them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home:

(11) And they laid the ark of the LORD {Jehovah} upon the cart, and the box with the mice of gold and the images of their tumors.

6:4a - five - the number for grace throughout scripture – see “[Use of Numbers in Scripture](#)” at [www.TheWordNotes.com](http://www.TheWordNotes.com)

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(12) And the cows took the straight way to the way of Bethshemesh, *and* went along the highway, lowing as they went, and did not turn aside *to* the right hand or *to* the left; and the lords of the Philistines followed after them to the border of Bethshemesh.

(13) And *those of* Bethshemesh *were* reaping their wheat harvest in the valley: and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see *it*.

(14) And the cart came into the field of Joshua, a Bethshemite, and stood there, where *there was* a great stone: and they split the wood of the cart, and offered the cows as a burnt offering to the LORD {Jehovah}.

(15) And the Levites took down the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}, and the box that *was* with it, in which the jewels of gold *were*, and put *them* on the great stone: and the men of Bethshemesh offered burnt offerings and sacrificed sacrifices the same day to the LORD {Jehovah}.

(16) And when the five lords of the Philistines had seen *it*, they returned to Ekron the same day.

(17) And these *are* the golden tumors which the Philistines returned *for* a sin offering to the LORD {Jehovah}; one for Ashdod, one for Gaza, one for Askelon, one for Gath, one for Ekron;

(18) And the golden mice, *according to* the number of all the cities of the Philistines *belonging to* the five lords, *both of* fenced cities, and of country villages, even to the great *stone of* Abel, on which they set down the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}: *stone which remains* to this day in the field of Joshua, the Bethshemite.

(19) And He struck the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}, He struck of the people fifty thousand seventy men {50,070}: and the people cried out, because the LORD {Jehovah} had stricken *many* of the people with a great slaughter.

(20) And the men of Bethshemesh said, Who is able to stand before this holy LORD {Jehovah} God? and to whom shall He go up from us?

(21) And they sent messengers to those living in Kirjathjearim, saying, The Philistines have returned the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}; come down, *and* fetch it up to yourselves.

**Chapter 7**

(1) And the men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD {Jehovah}.

(2) And it came to pass, while the ark stayed in Kirjathjearim, that the time was long; because it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel cried after the LORD {Jehovah}.

(3) And Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, If you will return to the LORD {Jehovah} with all your hearts, *then* put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth {pagan idols} from among you, and prepare your hearts to the LORD {Jehovah}, and serve Him only: and He will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.

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(4) Then the children of Israel put away Baalim and Ashtaroth {their pagan idols}, and served the LORD {Jehovah} only.

(5) And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you to the LORD {Jehovah}.

(6) And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured *it* out before the LORD {Jehovah}, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against the LORD {Jehovah}. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh {3003 A.H./C-1039 B.C.}.<sup>a</sup>

(7) And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard *it*, they were afraid of the Philistines.

(8) And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Do not cease to cry to the LORD {Jehovah} our God for us, that He will save us out of the hand of the Philistines.

(9) And Samuel took a nursing lamb, and offered *it* completely *for* a burnt offering to the LORD {Jehovah}: and Samuel cried to the LORD {Jehovah} for Israel; and the LORD {Jehovah} heard him.

(10) And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD {Jehovah} thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and destroyed them; and they were stricken before Israel.

(11) And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and struck them, until *they came* under Bethcar.

(12) Then Samuel took a stone, and set *it* between Mizpeh and Shen,<sup>b</sup> and called the name of it Ebenezer {Stone of The Help},<sup>c</sup> saying, Here the LORD {Jehovah} has helped us.

(13) So the Philistines were subdued, and they did not come any more into the coast of Israel: and the hand of the LORD {Jehovah} was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. (14) And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even to Gath; and its coasts Israel delivered out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

(15) And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.

(16) And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places.

(17) And his return *was* to Ramah; because there *was* where his house was; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar to the LORD {Jehovah}.

7:6a – Samuel's judgeship begins – his sole judgeship will end when he anoints Saul as king 20 years later. - See [Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History](#)

7:12b – Same place as where the ark was taken – I Sam. 4:1

7:12c - Ebenezer {עֵבֶנֶז} - Stone of The Help – I Sam. 4:12

**{09} I Samuel**

**Chapter 8**

(1) And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel.

(2) Now the name of his firstborn was Joel {Jehovah is his God};<sup>a</sup> and the name of his second, Abiah {worshiper of Jehovah};<sup>b</sup> *they were* judges in Beersheba.<sup>c</sup>

(3) But his sons did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after wealth, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

(4) Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel to Ramah,

(5) And said to him, Indeed, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.<sup>d</sup>

(6) But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed to the LORD {Jehovah}.

(7) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to Samuel, *Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you: because they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.*

(8) *According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, they have forsaken Me, and served other gods, so they also do to you.*

(9) *Now therefore listen to their voice: however protest solemnly to them, and show them the manner of the king who shall reign over them.*

(10) And Samuel told all the words of the LORD {Jehovah} to the people who asked of him a king.

(11) And he said, This will be the manner of the king who shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint *them* for himself, for his chariots, and *to be* his horsemen; and *some* shall run before his chariots.

(12) And he will appoint for himself captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and *will set them* to plow his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots.

(13) And he will take your daughters *to be* perfume makers, and *to be* cooks, and *to be* bakers.

(14) And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive groves, *even the best of them*, and give *them* to his servants.

(15) And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants.

(16) And he will take your men servants, and your maid servants, and your best young men, and your donkeys, and put *them* to his work.

(17) He will take the tenth of your sheep: and you shall be his servants.

8:2a - Joel {יִיאֵל} - JAH is his God {JAH is a short form of Jehovah}

8:2b - Abiah {אֲבִיָּה} - father [worshiper] of JAH {JAH is a short form of Jehovah}

8:2c - Beersheba {בְּאֵר שֶׁבַע} - “well of an oath” - Gen. 21:31

8:5d - Deut. 17:14

**{09} I Samuel**

(18) And you shall cry out in that day because of your king which you have chosen for yourself; and the LORD {Jehovah} will not listen to you in that day.

(19) Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, No; but we will have a king over us;

(20) That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.

(21) And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the LORD {Jehovah}.

(22) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to Samuel, **Listen to their voice, and make them a king.** And Samuel said to the men of Israel, Let every man return to his city.

**Chapter 9**

(1) Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name *was* Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, a Benjamite, a mighty man of power.

(2) And he had a son, whose name *was* Saul, a choice young man, and handsome: and *there was* not among the children of Israel a more handsome person than he: from his shoulders and upward *he was* taller than any of the people.

(3) And the donkeys of Kish Saul's father were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, Take now one of the servants with you, and arise, go seek the donkeys.

(4) And he passed through mount Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalisha, but they did not find *them*: then they passed through the land of Shalim, and *they were* not *there*: and he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they did not find *them*.

(5) *And* when they had come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant who *was* with him, Come, and let us return; lest my father stop *caring* for the donkeys, and begin to worry about us.

(6) But he said to him, Indeed, *there is* in this city a man of God, and *he is* an honorable man; all that he says surely comes to pass: now let us go there; perhaps he can show us the way that we should go.

(7) Then Saul said to his servant, But, *if* we go, what shall we bring the man? because the bread is spent in our vessels, and *there is* not a present to bring to the man of God: what do we have?

(8) And the servant answered Saul again, and said, I have here at hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver {about 0.1 oz.; 2.9 g.}:<sup>a</sup> I will give *that* to the man of God, to tell us our way.

(9) (Previously in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he spoke in this manner, Come, and let us go to the seer: because *he who is* now *called* a Prophet was previously called a Seer.)

(10) Then Saul said to his servant, Well said; come, let us go. So they went to the city where the man of God *was*.

9:8a – shekel – 0.4 ounces or 11.4 grams – a fourth would be about 0.1 ounces or 2.9 grams - see [Appendix J: Bible Weights and Measures](#)

**{09} I Samuel**

(11) *And* as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and asked them, Is the seer here?

(12) And they answered them, and said, He is; indeed, *he is* before you: go quickly now, because he came today to the city; because today *there* is a sacrifice of the people in the high place:

(13) As soon as you have come into the city, you will find him, before he goes up to the high place to eat: because the people will not eat until he comes, because he blesses the sacrifice; *and* afterward those who are invited eat. Now therefore get yourself up; because about this time you shall find him.

(14) And they went up into the city: *and* when they had come into the city, Samuel came out in front of them, to go up to the high place.

(15) Now the LORD {Jehovah} had told Samuel in his ear a day before Saul came, saying,

(16) *Tomorrow about this time I will send to you a man out of the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be captain over My people Israel, that he may save My people out of the hand of the Philistines: because I have looked upon My people, because their cry has come to Me.*

(17) And when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD {Jehovah} said to him, *See the man whom I spoke to you of! this same man shall reign over My people.*

(18) Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate, and said, I ask you to tell me, where the seer's house is.

(19) And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I *am* the seer: come up before me to the high place; because you shall eat with me today, and tomorrow I will let you go, and will tell you all that *is* in your heart.

(20) And as for your donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not worry about them; because they have been found. And on whom *is* all the desire of Israel? *Is it* not on you, and on all your father's house?

(21) And Saul answered and said, *Am I* not a Benjamite,<sup>b</sup> of the smallest of the tribes of Israel?<sup>c</sup> and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? why then do you speak to me in this way?

(22) And Samuel took Saul and his servant, and brought them into the parlor, and made them sit in the best place among those who were invited, which *were* about thirty persons.

(23) And Samuel said to the cook, Bring the portion which I gave you, of which I said to you, Set it by you.

9:21b - Saul was of the tribe of Benjamin, yet Jacob had prophesied that kings would come from the tribe of Judah [Gen. 49:10] - Jacob had referred to the tribe of Benjamin as a ravenous wolf [Gen. 49:27] - Saul's reign as king was not designed from the beginning to be a lasting kingdom  
- perhaps as a sign to the people of the mistake that they were making.  
- see I Sam. 10:20

9:21c - the tribe of Benjamin was the smallest largely as a result of the war at Gibeah [Jg. 19:11-21:24]

**{09} I Samuel**

(24) And the cook took up the shoulder, and *that* which *was* upon it, and set *it* before Saul. And *Samuel* said, See that which is left! set *it* before you, *and* eat: because to this time it has been kept for you since I said, I have invited the people. So Saul ate with Samuel that day.

(25) And when they had come down from the high place into the city, *Samuel* communed with Saul upon the top of the house.

(26) And they arose early: and it came to pass about the dawning of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Get up, that I may send you away. And Saul arose, and the both of them, he and Samuel, went out abroad.

(27) *And* as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Tell the servant to go on ahead of us, (and he went on ahead,) but you stand still a while, that I may show you the word of God.

**Chapter 10**

(1) Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured *it* upon his head, and kissed him, and said, *Is it* not because the LORD {Jehovah} has anointed you *to be* captain over His inheritance?

(2) When you have departed from me today, then you shall find two men by Rachel's tomb<sup>a</sup> in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say to you, The donkeys which you sought after have been found: and, your father has ceased to worry about the donkeys, and sorrows for you, saying, What shall I do for my son?

(3) Then you shall go on from there, and you shall come to the plain of Tabor, and there three men shall meet you going up to God to Bethel, one carrying three kids {young goats}, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine:

(4) And they will greet you, and give you two *loaves* of bread; which you shall receive from their hands.

(5) After that you shall come to the hill of God, where the garrison of the Philistines *is*: and it shall come to pass, when you have come there to the city, that you shall meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a harp, and a tambourine, and a flute, and a stringed instrument, before them; and they shall prophesy:

(6) And the Spirit of the LORD {Jehovah} will come upon you, and you shall prophesy with them, and shall be turned into another man.

(7) And let it be, when these signs have come to you, *that* you do as the occasion serves you; because God *is* with you.

(8) And you shall go down before me to Gilgal; and, indeed, I will come down to you, to offer burnt offerings, *and* to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days you shall wait, until I come to you, and show you what you shall do.

(9) And it was, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.

(10) And when they came to the hill, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

10:2a - Gen. 35:19

**{09} I Samuel**

(11) And it came to pass, when all who knew him earlier saw that he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said to one another, What is this *that* has come to the son of Kish? *Is* Saul also among the prophets?

(12) And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, *Is* Saul also among the prophets?

(13) And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place.

(14) And Saul's uncle said to him and to his servant, Where did you go? And he said, To seek the donkeys: and when we saw that *they were* nowhere, we came to Samuel.

(15) And Saul's uncle said, I ask you to tell me, what Samuel said to you.

(16) And Saul said to his uncle, He told us plainly that the donkeys have been found. But of the matter of the kingdom, of which Samuel spoke, he {Saul} did not tell him.

(17) And Samuel called the people together to the LORD {Jehovah} to Mizpeh;

(18) And said to the children of Israel, This is what the LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel says, *I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of those who oppressed you:*

(19) *And you have this day rejected your God, Who Himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and you have said to Him, No, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD {Jehovah} by your tribes, and by your thousands.*

(20) And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin<sup>b</sup> was taken.

(21) When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken: and when they sought him, he could not be found.

(22) Therefore they inquired of the LORD {Jehovah} further, if the man should yet come here. And the LORD {Jehovah} answered, *He has hidden himself among the baggage.*

(23) And they ran and took him from there: and when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.

10:20b - Saul was of the tribe of Benjamin, yet Jacob had prophesied that kings would come from the tribe of Judah [Gen. 49:10] - Jacob had referred to the tribe of Benjamin as a ravenous wolf [Gen. 49:27] - Saul's reign as king was not designed from the beginning to be a lasting kingdom - perhaps as a sign to the people of the mistake that they were making. By casting lots, Samuel was showing the people that it was the Lord Who was making the selection, not Samuel



**{09} I Samuel**

(24) And Samuel said to all the people, Look upon him whom the LORD {Jehovah} has chosen, that *there is* no one like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king {3023 A.H./C-1019 B.C}.\*

(25) Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote *it* in a book, and laid *it* up before the LORD {Jehovah}. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house.

(26) And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched.

(27) But the children of Belial {wickedness} said, How shall this man save us? And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

**Chapter 11**

(1) Then Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabesh-gilead: and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, Make a covenant with us, and we will serve you.

(2) And Nahash the Ammonite answered them, On this *condition* I will make a *covenant* with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it *for* a reproach upon all Israel.

(3) And the elders of Jabesh said to him, Give us seven days' respite, that we may send messengers to all the coasts of Israel: and then, if *there is* no man to save us, we will come out to you.

(4) Then the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul, and told the news in the ears of the people: and all the people lifted up their voices, and wept.

(5) And, Saul came after the herd out of the field; and Saul said, What *is wrong with* the people that they weep? And they told him the news of the men of Jabesh.

(7) And he took a yoke of oxen, and cut them in pieces, and sent *them* throughout all the coasts of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, Whoever does not come forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done to his oxen. And the fear of the LORD {Jehovah} fell on the people, and they came out with one consent.

(8) And when he numbered them in Bezek, the children of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand.

(9) And they said to the messengers who came, This is what you shall say to the men of Jabesh-gilead, Tomorrow, by *the time* the sun is hot, you shall have help. And the messengers came and told *it* to the men of Jabesh; and they were glad.

(10) Therefore the men of Jabesh said, Tomorrow we will come out to you, and you shall do with us all that seems good to you.

(11) And it was *so* in the morning, that Saul put the people in three companies; and they came into the midst of the host {army} in the morning watch, and killed the Ammonites until the heat of the day: and it came to pass, that those who remained were scattered, so that two of them were not left together.

Saul becomes first king over Israel  
[\*3023 A.H./C-1019 B.C.]

**{09} I Samuel**

(12) And the people said to Samuel, Who is he who said, Shall Saul reign over us? bring the men, that we may put them to death.

(13) And Saul said, No man shall be put to death today: because today the LORD {Jehovah} has brought salvation in Israel.

(14) Then Samuel said to the people, Come, and let us go to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there.

(15) And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the LORD {Jehovah} in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD {Jehovah}; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

**Chapter 12**

(1) And Samuel said to all Israel, Indeed, I have listened to your voice in all that you have said to me, and have made a king over you.

(2) And now, indeed, the king walks before you: and I am old and gray headed; and, indeed, my sons *are* with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood to this day.

(3) Here I *am*: witness against me before the LORD {Jehovah}, and before His anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose donkey have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received *any* bribe to blind my eyes with? and I will restore it you.

(4) And they said, You have not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither have you taken anything of any man's hand.

(5) And he said to them, The LORD {Jehovah} is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand. And they answered, *He is* witness.

(6) And Samuel said to the people, *It is* the LORD {Jehovah} Who advanced Moses and Aaron, and Who brought your forefathers up out of the land of Egypt.

(7) Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the LORD {Jehovah} of all the righteous acts of the LORD {Jehovah}, which He did to you and to your forefathers.

(8) When Jacob had come into Egypt, and your forefathers cried to the LORD {Jehovah}, then the LORD {Jehovah} sent Moses and Aaron, who brought forth your forefathers out of Egypt, and caused them to live in this place.

(9) And when they forgot the LORD {Jehovah} their God, He sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host {army} of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

(10) And they cried to the LORD {Jehovah}, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD {Jehovah}, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth {pagan idols}: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve You.

(11) And the LORD {Jehovah} sent Jerubbaal {Gideon},<sup>a</sup> and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and you lived in safety.

12:11a – Jerubbaal – Gideon – Jg. 6:32

**{09} I Samuel**

(12) And when you saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, you said to me, No; but a king shall reign over us: when the LORD {Jehovah} your God *was* your king.

(13) Now therefore see the king whom you have chosen, *and* whom you have desired! and, see, the LORD {Jehovah} has set a king over you.

(15) But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD {Jehovah}, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD {Jehovah}, then the hand of the LORD {Jehovah} shall be against you, as *it was* against your forefathers.

(16) Now therefore stand and see this great thing, which the LORD {Jehovah} will do before your eyes.

(17) *Is it* not wheat harvest today?<sup>b</sup> I will call to the LORD {Jehovah}, and He shall send thunder and rain; that you may perceive and see that your wickedness *is* great, which you have done in the sight of the LORD {Jehovah}, in asking for yourselves a king.

(18) So Samuel called to the LORD {Jehovah}; and the LORD {Jehovah} sent thunder and rain that day: and all the people greatly feared the LORD {Jehovah} and Samuel.

(19) And all the people said to Samuel, Pray for your servants to the LORD {Jehovah} your God, that we not die: because we have added to all our sins *this* evil, to ask for ourselves a king.

(20) And Samuel said to the people, Do not be afraid: you have done all this wickedness: but do not turn aside from following the LORD {Jehovah}, but serve the LORD {Jehovah} with all your heart;

(21) And do not turn aside: because *then you would go* after vain *things*, which cannot profit nor deliver; because they *are* vain.

(22) Because the LORD {Jehovah} will not forsake His people because of His great Name's sake: because it has pleased the LORD {Jehovah} to make you His people.

(23) Furthermore as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD {Jehovah} in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way:

(24) Only fear the LORD {Jehovah}, and serve Him in truth with all your heart: because consider how great *things* He has done for you.

(25) But if you shall still do wickedly, you shall be consumed, both you and your king.

**Chapter 13**

(1) Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,

(2) Saul chose for himself three thousand *men* of Israel; *of which* two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in mount Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin: and the rest of the people he sent to their tents.

12:17b – wheat harvest – May/June – see [Appendix L: The Modern Jewish Calendar and Holy Days](#)

**{09} I Samuel**

(3) And Jonathan struck the garrison of the Philistines that *was* in Geba, and the Philistines heard *of it*. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews hear.

(4) And all Israel heard *that* Saul had destroyed a garrison of the Philistines, and *that* Israel also was despised by the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal. (5) And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and camped in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven.

(6) When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (because the people were distressed,) then the people hid themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits.

(7) And *some of* the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he *was* yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

(8) And he delayed seven days, according to the set time that Samuel *had appointed*: but Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

(9) And Saul said, Bring here a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering.

(10) And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might greet him.

(11) And Samuel said, What have you done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and *that* you did not come within the days appointed, and *that* the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;

(12) Therefore I said, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made request to the LORD {Jehovah}: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.

(13) And Samuel said to Saul, You have done foolishly: you have not kept the commandment of the LORD {Jehovah} your God, which He commanded you: because now the LORD {Jehovah} would have established your kingdom upon Israel forever.

(14) But now the kingdom shall not continue: the LORD {Jehovah} has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD {Jehovah} has commanded him *to be* captain over His people, because you have not kept *that* which the LORD {Jehovah} commanded you.<sup>a</sup>

(15) And Samuel arose, and got up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people who *were* present with him, about six hundred men.

13:14a - see note on I Sam. 10:20

**{09} I Samuel**

(16) And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people who *were* present with them, stayed in Gibeah of Benjamin: but the Philistines encamped in Michmash.

(17) And the spoilers came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies: one company turned to the way *that leads to* Ophrah, to the land of Shual:

(18) And another company turned the way *to* Bethhoron: and another company turned *to* the way of the border that faces the valley of Zeboim towards the wilderness.

(19) Now there was no metal smith found throughout all the land of Israel: because the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make for *themselves* swords or spears:

(20) But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, every man to sharpen his plowshare, and his hoe, and his ax, and his pick-ax.

(21) Yet they had a file for the pick-ax, and for the hoes, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the points.

(22) So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people who *were* with Saul and Jonathan: but Saul and Jonathan his son did have weapons.

(23) And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the passage of Michmash.

**Chapter 14**

(1) Now it came to pass upon a day, that Jonathan the son of Saul said to the young man who carried his armor, Come, and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that *is* on the other side. But he did not tell his father.

(2) And Saul waited at the far edge of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which *is* in Migron: and the people who *were* with him *were* about six hundred men;

(3) And Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the LORD's {Jehovah's} priest in Shiloh, was wearing an ephod {priestly robe}. And the people did not know that Jonathan was gone.

(4) And between the passages, by which Jonathan sought to go over to the Philistines' garrison, *there was* a sharp rock on the one side, and a sharp rock on the other side: and the name of the one *was* Bozez {shining},<sup>a</sup> and the name of the other Seneh {thorn}.<sup>b</sup>

(5) The forefront of one *was* situated northward opposite Michmash, and the other southward opposite Gibeah.

(6) And Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, Come, and let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD {Jehovah} will work for us: because *there is* no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few.

(7) And his armor bearer said to him, Do all that *is* in your heart: go ahead, I *am* with you according to your heart.

14:4a - Bozez {בוֹצֵז} - shining

14:4b - Seneh {סֵנֶה} - thorn

- I.e. - Jonathan and his armor bearer had to climb over both of these sharp rocks

**{09} I Samuel**

(8) Then Jonathan said, Indeed, we will pass over to *these* men, and we will show ourselves to them.

(9) If they say this to us, Wait until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up to them.

(10) But if they say this, Come up to us; then we will go up: because the LORD {Jehovah} has delivered them into our hand: and this *shall be* a sign to us.

(11) And both of them showed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines: and the Philistines said, Look, the Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hidden themselves.

(12) And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armor bearer, and said, Come up to us, and we will show you something. And Jonathan said to his armor bearer, Come up after me: because the LORD {Jehovah} has delivered them into the hand of Israel.

(13) And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armor bearer after him: and they fell before Jonathan; and his armor bearer killed after him.

(14) And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armor bearer made, was about twenty men, within a half acre of land, *which* a yoke of oxen might plow {in a day's time}.

(15) And there was trembling in the host {army}, in the field, and among all the people: the garrison, and the spoilers, they also trembled, and the earth quaked: so it was a very great trembling.

(16) And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked; and, saw, the multitude melted away, and they went on beating down *one another*.

(17) Then Saul said to the people who *were* with him, Number now, and see who has gone from us. And when they had numbered, Jonathan and his armor bearer *were* not *there*.

(18) And Saul said to Ahiah, Bring here the ark of God. Because the ark of God was at that time with the children of Israel.

(19) And it came to pass, while Saul talked to the priest, that the noise that *was* in the host of the Philistines continued and increased: and Saul said to the priest, Withdraw your hand.

(20) And Saul and all the people that *were* with him assembled themselves, and they came to the battle: and, every man's sword {of the Philistines} was against his fellow, *and there was* a very great slaughter.

(21) Furthermore the Hebrews *that* were with the Philistines before that time, which went up with them into the camp *from the country all around*, even they also *turned* to be with the Israelites who *were* with Saul and Jonathan.

(22) Likewise all the men of Israel who had hidden themselves in mount Ephraim, *when* they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle.

(23) So the LORD {Jehovah} saved Israel that day: and the battle passed over to Bethaven {house of vanity}.<sup>c</sup>

14:23c - Bethaven {בֵּית אֵוֶן} - house of vanity

**{09} I Samuel**

(24) And the men of Israel were distressed that day: because Saul had commanded the people, saying, Cursed *is* the man who eats *any* food until evening, that I may be avenged on my enemies. So none of the people tasted *any* food.

(25) And all *those of* the land came to a wooded area; and there was honey upon the ground.

(26) And when the people had come into the wooded area, the honey dropped; but no man put his hand to his mouth: because the people feared the oath.

(27) But Jonathan did not hear when his father charged the people with the oath: therefore he put forth the end of the rod that *was* in his hand, and dipped it in a honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes were enlightened.

(28) Then one of the people said, Your father strictly charged the people with an oath, saying, Cursed *is* the man who eats *any* food this day. And the people were faint.

(29) Then Jonathan said, My father has troubled the land: see how my eyes have been enlightened, because I tasted a little of this honey.

(30) How much more, if perhaps the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies which they found? because would there not have been now a much greater slaughter among the Philistines?

(31) And they struck the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon: and the people were very faint.

(32) And the people flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and killed *them* on the ground: and the people ate *them* with the blood.

(33) Then they told Saul, saying, Look, the people sin against the LORD {Jehovah}, in that they eat with the blood. And he said, You have sinned: roll a great stone to me this day.

(34) And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the people, and say to them, let every man bring me his ox, and every man his sheep, and kill *them* here, and eat; and do not sin against the LORD {Jehovah} in eating with the blood. And everyone of all the people brought his ox with him that night, and killed *them* there.

(35) And Saul built an altar to the LORD {Jehovah}: the same was the first altar that he built to the LORD {Jehovah}.

(36) And Saul said, Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and spoil them until the morning light, and let us not leave a man of them. And they said, Do whatever seems good to you. Then the priest said, Let us here draw near to God.

(37) And Saul asked counsel of God, Shall I go down after the Philistines? will You deliver them into the hand of Israel? But He did not answer him that day.

(38) And Saul said, Draw near here, all the chief of the people: and know and see where this sin has been this day.

**{09} I Samuel**

(39) Because, *as* the LORD {Jehovah} lives, Who saves Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die. But *there was* not a man among all the people *who* answered him.

(40) Then he said to all Israel, Be on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side. And the people said to Saul, Do what seems good to you.

(41) Therefore Saul said to the LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel, Give a perfect *lot*. And Saul and Jonathan were taken: but the people escaped.

(42) And Saul said, Cast *lots* between me and Jonathan my son. And Jonathan was taken.

(43) Then Saul said to Jonathan, Tell me what you have done. And Jonathan told him, and said, I tasted a little honey with the end of the rod that *was* in my hand, *and*, indeed, I must die.

(44) And Saul answered, God do so and more also: because you shall surely die, Jonathan.

(45) And the people said to Saul, Shall Jonathan die, who has brought this great salvation in Israel? God forbid: *as* the LORD {Jehovah} lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground; because he has worked with God this day. So the people rescued Jonathan, so that he did not die.

(46) Then Saul went up from following the Philistines: and the Philistines went to their own place.

(47) So Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines: and wherever he turned himself, he troubled *them*.

(48) And he gathered an army, and struck the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of those who had spoiled them.

(49) Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan {given by Jehovah},<sup>d</sup> and Ishui {level},<sup>e</sup> and Melchishua {king of wealth}:<sup>f</sup> and the names of his two daughters *were these*; the name of the firstborn Merab {increase},<sup>g</sup> and the name of the younger Michal {brook}:<sup>h</sup>

14:49d - Jonathan {יִיֹנָתָן} - given by Jehovah

14:49e - Ishui {יִשׁוּי} - level {also called Abinadab [I Sam. 31:2]}

14:49f - Melchishua {מֶלְכִישׁוּא} - king of wealth

14:49g - Merab {מֶרַב} - increase - originally promised to David for a wife but was instead given to Adriel the Meholathite [I Sam. 18:17-19]

14:49h - Michal {מִיכָל} - brook - would later be given to David for a wife [I Sam.18:10-21]



**{09} I Samuel**

(50) And the name of Saul's wife *was* Ahinoam {brother of pleasantness},<sup>i</sup> the daughter of Ahimaaz: and the name of the captain of his army *was* Abner {father of light},<sup>j</sup> the son of Ner, Saul's uncle.

(51) And Kish *was* the father of Saul; and Ner the father of Abner *was* the son of Abiel.

(52) And there was great war against the Philistines all the days of Saul: and when Saul saw any strong man, or any valiant man, he took him to himself.

**Chapter 15**

(1) Samuel also said to Saul, The LORD {Jehovah} sent me to anoint you *to be* king over His people, over Israel: now therefore listen to the voice of the words of the LORD {Jehovah}.

(2) This is what the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts {armies; multitudes} says, I remember *that* which Amalek did to Israel, how he *ambushed* him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.<sup>a</sup>

(3) Now go and strike Amalek, and completely destroy all that they have, and do not spare them; but kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.

(4) And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

(5) And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

(6) And Saul said to the Kenites, Go, depart from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: because you showed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt.<sup>b</sup> So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

(7) And Saul struck the Amalekites from Havilah *until* you come to Shur, that is opposite Egypt.

(8) And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and completely destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

(9) But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatted calves, and the lambs, and all *that was* good, and would not completely destroy them: but everything *that was* vile and refuse, that they destroyed completely.

(10) Then the word of the LORD {Jehovah} came to Samuel, saying,

(11) I regret that I have set up Saul *to be* king: because he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried to the LORD {Jehovah} all night.

(12) And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, he set himself up a place, and has gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

(13) And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said to him, Blessed *are* you of the LORD {Jehovah}: I have performed the commandment of the LORD {Jehovah}.

14:50i - Ahimaaz {אחימאז} - brother of pleasantness

14:50j - Abner {אבנר} - father of light – Saul's cousin

15:2a – Ex. 17:8-14

15:6b – Jg. 4:11

**{09} I Samuel**

(14) And Samuel said, What then does this bleating of the sheep in my ears *mean*, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?<sup>c</sup>

(15) And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: because the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD {Jehovah} your God; and the rest we have completely destroyed.

(16) Then Samuel said to Saul, Stay, and I will tell you what the LORD {Jehovah} has said to me this night. And he said to him, Say on. (17) And Samuel said, When you *were* little in your own sight, *were you not made* the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD {Jehovah} anointed you king over Israel?

(18) And the LORD {Jehovah} sent you on a journey, and said, **Go and completely destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.**<sup>c</sup>

(19) Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD {Jehovah}, but flew upon the spoil, and did evil in the sight of the LORD {Jehovah}?

(20) And Saul said to Samuel, Yes, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD {Jehovah}, and have gone the way which the LORD {Jehovah} sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have completely destroyed the Amalekites.

(21) But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been completely destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD {Jehovah} your God in Gilgal.

(22) And Samuel said, Has the LORD {Jehovah} *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD {Jehovah}? Indeed, to obey *is* better than sacrifice, *and* to listen more than the fat of rams.

(23) Because rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* sin and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD {Jehovah}, He has also rejected you from *being* king.

(24) And Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned: because I have turned against the commandment of the LORD {Jehovah}, and your words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

(25) Now I ask you therefore, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD {Jehovah}.

(26) And Samuel said to Saul, I will not return with you: because you have rejected the word of the LORD {Jehovah}, and the LORD {Jehovah} has rejected you from being king over Israel.

(27) And as Samuel turned about to go away, he {Saul} laid hold upon the skirt of his {Samuel's} mantle, and it tore.

(28) And Samuel said to him, The LORD {Jehovah} has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who *is* better than you.

(29) And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: because He *is* not a man, that He should repent.

15:14&18c – The Lord had specifically commanded Saul to kill all the sheep and cattle [I Sam. 15:3]

**{09} I Samuel**

(30) Then he {Saul} said, I have sinned: *yet* I ask you to honor me now before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD {Jehovah} your God.

(31) So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshiped the LORD {Jehovah}.

(32) Then Samuel said, Bring here to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came to him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past.

(33) And Samuel said, As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women. And Samuel cut Agag in pieces before the LORD {Jehovah} in Gilgal.

(34) Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.

(35) And Samuel did not come again to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the LORD {Jehovah} repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.

**Chapter 16**

(1) And the LORD {Jehovah} said to Samuel, *How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill your horn with oil, and go, I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite: because I have provided for Myself a king among his sons.*

(2) And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hears *it*, he will kill me. And the LORD {Jehovah} said, *Take a heifer with you, and say, I have come to sacrifice to the LORD {Jehovah}.*

(3) *And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do: and you shall anoint to Me *the one* whom I tell to you.*

(4) And Samuel did that which the LORD {Jehovah} spoke, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Do you come peaceably?

(5) And he said, Peaceably: I have come to sacrifice to the LORD {Jehovah}: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

(6) And it came to pass, when they had come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD's {Jehovah's} anointed *is* before him.

(7) But the LORD {Jehovah} said to Samuel, *Do not look on his appearance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: because *the LORD {Jehovah}* does not see as man sees; because man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD {Jehovah} looks on the heart.*

(8) Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither has the LORD {Jehovah} chosen this one.

(9) Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither has the LORD {Jehovah} chosen this one.

**{09} I Samuel**

(10) Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, The LORD {Jehovah} has not chosen these.

(11) And Samuel said to Jesse, Are these all of *your* children? And he said, There remains yet the youngest, and, he keeps the sheep. And Samuel said to Jesse, Send and fetch him: because we will not sit down until he comes here.

(12) And he sent, and brought him in. Now he *was* handsome, *and* beautiful in appearance, and pleasing to look at. And the LORD {Jehovah} said, **Arise, anoint him: because this is he.**

(13) Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brothers: and the Spirit of the LORD {Jehovah} came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose up, and went to Ramah.<sup>a</sup>

(14) But the Spirit of the LORD {Jehovah} departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD {Jehovah} troubled him.

(15) And Saul's servants said to him, Look now, an evil spirit from God troubles you.

(16) Let our lord now command your servants, *who are* before you, to seek out a man, *who is* a skillful player on a harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon you, that he shall play with his hand, and you shall be well.

(17) And Saul said to his servants, Provide me now a man who can play well, and bring *him* to me.

(18) Then one of the servants answered, and said, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, *who is* skillful in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a handsome person, and the LORD {Jehovah} *is* with him.

(19) Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, Send me David your son, *who is* with the sheep.

(20) And Jesse took a donkey *loaded* with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid {goat}, and sent *them* by David his son to Saul.

(21) And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and he loved him greatly; and he became his armor bearer.

(22) And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, I ask you to let David, stand before me; because he has found favor in my sight.

(23) And it came to pass, when the *evil* spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took a harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

**Chapter 17**

(1) Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which *belongs* to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim.

(2) And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and camped by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines.

16:13a – I Sam. 25:1

**{09} I Samuel**

(3) And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and *there was* a valley between them.

(4) And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height *was* six cubits and a span {about 9 ft. 9 in.; 2.99 m.}.<sup>a</sup>

(5) And *he had* a helmet of brass upon his head, and he *was* armed with a coat of mail;<sup>b</sup> and the weight of the coat *was* five thousand shekels of brass {about 125 lbs; 57.0 kg.}.<sup>c</sup>

(6) And *he had* brass plates upon his legs, and a shield of brass between his shoulders.

(7) And the staff of his spear *was* like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head *weighed* six hundred shekels of iron {about 15.0 lbs.; 6.84 kg.}: and one carrying a shield went before him.

(8) And he stood and cried to the armies of Israel, and said to them, Why have you come out to set *your* battle in array? *am* I not a Philistine, and you servants to Saul? choose for yourselves a man {to fight} for you, and let him come down to me.

(9) If he is able to fight with me, and to kill me, then we will be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then you shall be our servants, and serve us.

(10) And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

(11) When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

(12) Now David *was* the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehem-judah, whose name *was* Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man {Jesse} went among men *for* an old man in the days of Saul.

(13) And the three eldest sons of Jesse went *and* followed Saul to the battle: and the names of his three sons that went to the battle *were* Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

(14) And David *was* the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul.

(15) But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

(16) And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

(17) And Jesse said to David his son, Take now for your brothers an ephah of this parched *corn* {about 6 gallons; 22.2 L.}, and these ten loaves {of bread}, and run to the camp to your brothers;

(18) And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of *their* thousand, and see how your brothers are, and bring something back that shows they are alright.

(19) Now Saul, and they {Jesse's sons} and all the men of Israel, *were* in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

17:4a - 6 cubits and a span - a cubit is about 1.5 feet or 0.46 meters and a span is about 9 inches or about 0.23 meters, so six cubits and a span is about 9 foot 9 inches tall or 2.99 meters almost 3 meters tall.

17:5b - coat of mail - fine netting made of metal used for armor

17:5c - 5000 shekels - a shekel is about 0.4 ounces or 11.4 grams so 5000 shekels would be 2000 ounces or 125 lbs.; 57000 grams or 57.0 kilograms - see [Appendix J: Bible Weights and Measures](#)

**{09} I Samuel**

(20) And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host {army} was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle.

(21) Because Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army.

(22) And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and greeted his brothers.

(23) And as he talked with them, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spoke according to the same words: and David heard *them*.

(24) And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were greatly afraid.

(25) And the men of Israel said, Have you seen this man who has come up? surely to defy Israel he has come up: and it shall be, *that* the man who kills him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

(26) And David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man who kills this Philistine, and takes away the reproach from Israel? because who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

(27) And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man who kills him.

(28) And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why have you come here? and with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride, and the naughtiness of your heart; because you have come down that you might see the battle.

(29) And David said, What have I done now? *Is there* not a reason?

(30) And he turned from him towards another, and spoke after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.

(31) And when the words were heard which David spoke, they rehearsed *them* before Saul: and he sent for him.

(32) And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

(33) And Saul said to David, You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: because you *are but* a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.

(34) And David said to Saul, Your servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:

(35) And I went out after him, and struck him, and delivered *it* out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught *him* by his beard, and struck him, and killed him.

(36) Your servant killed both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God.

**{09} I Samuel**

(37) Furthermore David said, The LORD {Jehovah} Who delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Go, and the LORD {Jehovah} be with you.

(38) And Saul armed David with his armor, and he put a helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed himself with a coat of mail.

(39) And David tied his sword upon his armor, and he tried to go; because he had not tested the armor. And David said to Saul, I cannot go with these; because I have not tested *them*. And David took them off.

(40) And he took his staff in his hand, and chose for himself five smooth stones<sup>d</sup> out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a pouch; and his sling *was* in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

(41) And the Philistine came on and drew near to David; and the man who carried the shield {of Goliath} *went* before him.

(42) And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he despised him: because he was *but* a youth, and handsome, and of a fair appearance.

(43) And the Philistine said to David, *Am* I a dog, that you come to me with sticks? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

(44) And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

(45) Then David said to the Philistine, You come to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to you in the Name of the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts {armies}, the God of the armies of Israel, Whom you have defied.

(46) Today the LORD {Jehovah} will deliver you into my hand; and I will strike you, and remove your head from off of you; and I will give the dead bodies of the host {army} of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

(47) And all this assembly shall know that the LORD {Jehovah} saves not with sword and spear: because the battle *is* the LORD's {Jehovah's}, and He will give you into our hands.

(48) And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew near to meet David, that David ran quickly towards the army to meet the Philistine.

(49) And David put his hand into his bag, and took out a stone, and slung *it*, and struck the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

17:40d - 5 smooth stones - 5 is the number for grace - see "[Use of Numbers in Scripture](#)" at: [www.TheWordNotes.com](http://www.TheWordNotes.com) - Although David at this time probably did not know it, Goliath had three brothers and a father still living [II Sam. 21:22]. By inspiration of the Holy Spirit, David was prepared should he have to kill all five family members!

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(50) So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine, and killed him; but *there was* no sword in the hand of David.

(51) Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his own sword, and drew it out of its sheath, and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

(52) And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until you come to the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even to Gath, and to Ekron.

(53) And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their tents.

(54) And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armor in his tent.

(55) And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he asked Abner, the captain of the host {*army*}, Abner, whose son *is* this youth? And Abner said, As your soul lives, O king, I do not know.

(56) And the king said, Inquire whose son the youth *is*.

(57) And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand.

(58) And Saul said to him, Whose son *are* you, young man? And David answered, I *am* the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.

**Chapter 18**

(1) And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking to Saul, that the soul of Jonathan {Saul's son} was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

(3) Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.

(4) And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that *was* upon him, and gave it to David, and his clothes, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his belt.

(5) And David went out wherever Saul sent him, *and* behaved himself wisely: and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

(6) And it came to pass as they came, when David had returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tambourines, with joy, and with instruments of music.

(7) And the women answered *one another* as they played, and said, Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands.



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(8) And Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed *but* thousands: and *what* can he have more but the kingdom?

(9) And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.

(10) And it came to pass in the morning, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and *there was* a spear in Saul's hand. (11) And Saul cast the spear; because he said, I will strike David even to the wall *with it*. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

(12) And Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD {Jehovah} was with him, and had departed from Saul.

(13) Therefore Saul removed him from his presence, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people.

(14) And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the LORD {Jehovah} *was* with him.

(15) Therefore when Saul saw that he behaved himself very wisely, he was afraid of him.

(16) But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

(17) And Saul said to David, Look, my elder daughter Merab, I will give her to you to be your wife: only be valiant for me, and fight the LORD's {Jehovah's} battles. Because Saul said, Do not let not my hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.

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

(19) But it came to pass at the time when Merab Saul's daughter should have been given to David, that she was given to Adriel the Meholathite to be his wife.

(20) And Michal Saul's daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

(21) And Saul said, I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him. Therefore Saul said to David, You shall this day be my son-in-law in *the one of* the two.

(22) And Saul commanded his servants, *saying*, Commune with David secretly, and say, See, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you: now therefore be the king's son-in-law.

(23) And Saul's servants spoke those words in the ears of David. And David said, Does it seem to you *a light thing* to be a king's son-in-law, since I *am* but a poor man, and lightly esteemed?

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(24) And the servants of Saul told him, saying, This is what David said.

(25) And Saul said, This you shall say to David, The king does not desire any dowry, but one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies. But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

(26) And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son-in-law: and the days were not expired.

(27) Therefore David arose and went, he and his men, and killed of the Philistines two hundred men;<sup>a</sup> and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full amount to the king, that he might be the king's son-in-law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to be his wife.

(28) And Saul saw and knew that the LORD {Jehovah} *was* with David, and *that* Michal Saul's daughter loved him.

(29) And Saul was even more afraid of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually.

(30) Then the princes of the Philistines went forth: and it came to pass, after they went forth, *that* David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was highly admired.

**Chapter 19**

(1) And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David.

(2) But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeks to kill you: I ask you now therefore, take heed to yourself until the morning, and stay in a secret *place*, and hide yourself:

(3) And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you *are*, and I will commune with my father concerning you; and what I see, that I will tell you.

(4) And Jonathan spoke good of David to Saul his father, and said to him, Do not let the king sin against his servant, against David; because he has not sinned against you, and because his works *have been* very good towards you:

(5) Because he put his life in his hand, and killed the Philistine, and the LORD Jehovah} brought a great salvation for all Israel: you saw *it*, and rejoiced: why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?

(6) And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan: and Saul swore, *As* the LORD {Jehovah} lives, he shall not be killed.

(7) And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past.

(8) And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and killed them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him.

18:27a – 200 Philistines – twice as many as Saul had asked for [18:25]

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(9) And the evil spirit from the LORD {Jehovah} was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand: and David played {his harp} with *his* hand.<sup>a</sup>

(10) And Saul sought to strike David even to the wall with the spear; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he threw the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

(11) Saul also sent messengers to David's house, to watch him, and to kill him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you shall be killed.

(12) So Michal let David down through a window: and he went, and fled, and escaped.

(13) And Michal took an image, and laid *it* in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' *hair* for his head, and covered *it* with a cloth.

(14) And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He *is* sick.

(15) And Saul sent the messengers *again* to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him.

(16) And when the messengers had come in, *there was* an image in the bed, with a pillow of goats' *hair* for his head.

(17) And Saul said to Michal, Why have you deceived me so, and sent away my enemy, that he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said to me, Let me go; why should I kill you?

(18) So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and lived in Naioth.

(19) And it was told Saul, saying, Look, David *is* at Naioth in Ramah.

(20) And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing *as* appointed over them, the Spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.

(21) And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also.

(22) Then he also went to Ramah, and came to a great well that *is* in Sechu: and he asked and said, Where *are* Samuel and David? And *one* said, Look, *they are* at Naioth in Ramah.

(23) And he went there to Naioth in Ramah: and the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah.

(24) And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, *Is* Saul also among the prophets?

19:9a – I Sam. 16:16-23

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**Chapter 20**

(1) And David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said before Jonathan, What have I done? what is my sin? and what is my sin before your father, that he seeks my life?

(2) And he said to him, God forbid; you shall not die: look, my father will do nothing either great or small, but that he will tell it to me {first}: and why should my father hide this thing from me? it is not so.

(3) And David swore, and said, Your father certainly knows that I have found grace in your eyes; and he said, Do not let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved: but truly as the LORD {Jehovah} lives, and as your soul lives, *there is* but a step between me and death.

(4) Then Jonathan said to David, Whatever your soul desires, I will even do *it* for you.

(5) And David said to Jonathan, Look, tomorrow is the new moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king at meat: but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field to the third *day* at evening.

(6) If your father at all misses me, then say, David earnestly asked *leave* of me that he might run to Bethlehem his city: because *there is* a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.

(7) If he says, *It is well*; your servant shall have peace: but if he is very angry, *then* be sure that evil is determined by him.

(8) Therefore you shall deal kindly with your servant; because you have brought your servant into a covenant of the LORD {Jehovah} with you: nevertheless, if there is in me sin, then kill me yourself; because why should you bring me to your father?

(9) And Jonathan said, Far be it from you: because if I knew certainly that evil were determined by my father to come upon you, then would I not tell it to you?

(10) Then David said to Jonathan, Who shall tell me? or what *if* your father answers you roughly?

(11) And Jonathan said to David, Come, and let us go out into the field. And they went out both of them into the field.

(12) And Jonathan said to David, O LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel, when I have sounded out my father about tomorrow any time, *or* the third *day*, and, indeed, *if there is* good towards David, and I do not send to you, and reveal it to you;

(13) The LORD {Jehovah} do so and much more to Jonathan: but if it pleases my father *to do* you evil, then I will tell it to you, and send you away, that you may go in peace: and the LORD {Jehovah} be with you, as He has been with my father.

(14) And you shall show me the kindness of the LORD {Jehovah} not only while I yet live, that I not die:

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(15) But *also* you shall not cut off your kindness from my family forever: no, not when the LORD {Jehovah} has cut off the enemies of David everyone from the face of the earth.

(16) So Jonathan made *a covenant* with the house of David, *saying*, Let the LORD {Jehovah} even require *it* at the hand of David's enemies.

(17) And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him: because he loved him as he loved his own soul.

(18) Then Jonathan said to David, Tomorrow *is* the new moon: and you will be missed, because your seat will be empty.

(19) And *when* you have stayed three days, *then* you shall go down quickly, and come to the place where you hid yourself when the business was *in hand*, and shall remain by the stone Ezel {departure}.<sup>a</sup>

(20) And I will shoot three arrows beside it, as though I shot at a mark.

(21) And, I will send a lad, *saying*, Go, find the arrows. If I expressly say to the lad, See, the arrows *are* on this side of you, take them; then come: because *there is* peace to you, and no harm; *as* the LORD {Jehovah} lives.

(22) But if I say this to the young man, Look, the arrows *are* beyond you; go your way: because the LORD {Jehovah} has sent you away.

(23) And *concerning* the matter which you and I have spoken of, the LORD {Jehovah} *is* between you and me forever.

(24) So David hid himself in the field: and when the new moon had come, the king sat down to eat meat.

(25) And the king sat upon his seat, as at other times, *even* upon a seat by the wall: and Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul's side, and David's place was empty.

(26) Nevertheless Saul did not say anything that day: because he thought, Something has happened to him, that he *is* not clean; surely he *is* not clean.

(27) And it came to pass on the morning, *which was* the second *day* of the month, that David's place was empty: and Saul said to Jonathan his son, Why has the son of Jesse not come to eat meat, neither yesterday, nor today?

(28) And Jonathan answered Saul, David earnestly asked *leave* of me *to go* to Bethlehem:

(29) And he said, I ask you to let me go; because our family has a sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he has commanded me *to be there*: and now, if I have found favor in your eyes, I ask you to let me get away, and see my brothers. Therefore he is not coming to the king's table.

(30) Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said to him, You son of the perverse rebellious *woman*, do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own confusion, and to the confusion of your mother's nakedness?

20:19a – Ezel – departure – became a memorial to Jonathan's and David's friendship

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(31) Because as long as the son of Jesse lives upon the ground, you shall not be established, nor your kingdom. Therefore now send and fetch him to me, because he shall surely die. (32) And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said to him, Why shall he be killed? what has he done?

(33) And Saul cast a spear at him to strike him: by that Jonathan knew that his father had determined to kill David.

(34) So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and ate no meat the second day of the month: because he was grieved for David, because his father had shamed him.

(35) And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him.

(36) And he said to his lad, Run, find now the arrows which I shoot. *And* as the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.

(37) And when the lad had come to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after the lad, and said, *Is* not the arrow beyond you? (38) And Jonathan cried after the lad, Make speed, go quickly, do not delay. And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master.

(39) But the lad did not know anything: only Jonathan and David knew the matter.

(40) And Jonathan gave his bow and arrows to his lad, and said to him, Go, carry *them* to the city.

(41) *And* as soon as the lad was gone, David arose out of *a place* towards the south, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed himself three times: and they kissed one another, and wept with one another, until David exceeded.

(42) And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, since we have sworn both of us in the Name of the LORD {Jehovah}, saying, The LORD {Jehovah} is between me and you, and between my descendants and your descendants forever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan returned to the city.

**Chapter 21**

(1) Then David came to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said to him, Why *have* you come alone, and no man is with you?<sup>a</sup>

(2) And David said to Ahimelech the priest, The king has sent me on a secret business, and has said to me, Let no man know anything of the about the business of which I am sending you, and what I have commanded you: and I have appointed *my* servants to such and such a place.

(3) Now therefore what do you have? give *me* five *loaves* of bread, or whatever you have present.

(4) And the priest answered David, and said, *I have* no common bread, but there is holy bread; if the young men have at least kept themselves from women.

21:1a – no man with you – actually David had men with him (see 21:4-5) but there apparently were none of Saul's ranking men with David which Ahimelech was used to seeing with David

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(5) And David answered the priest, and said to him, Truly women *have been* kept from us these three days, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy, and *the bread is* in a common manner, yes, although it was sanctified today in the vessel.

(6) So the priest gave him holy *bread*:<sup>b</sup> because there was no bread there except the holy bread, that was taken from before the LORD {Jehovah}, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away.<sup>c</sup>

(7) Now a certain man of the servants of Saul *was* there that day, detained before the LORD {Jehovah}; and his name *was* Doeg, an Edomite, the head of the herdsmen who *belonged* to Saul. (8) And David said to Ahimelech, And is there not here under your hand spear or sword? because I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required that I go quickly.

(9) And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you killed in the valley of Elah, look, it *is here* wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod {priestly robe}: if you want to take that, take *it*: because *there is* no other except that here. And David said, *There is* none like that; give it to me.

(10) And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath.

(11) And the servants of Achish said to him, *Is* this David not the king of the land? did they not sing to one another of him in dances, saying, Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

(12) And David laid up these words in his heart, and was very afraid of Achish the king of Gath.

(13) And he changed his behavior before them, and pretended to be mad in their hands, and scribbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spit fall down upon his beard.

(14) Then Achish said to his servants, Look, see the man is mad: why *then* have you brought him to me?

(15) Do I have need of mad men, that you have brought this *fellow* to play the mad man in my presence? shall this *fellow* come into my house?

**Chapter 22**

(1) David therefore departed from there, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brothers and all his father's house heard *it*, they went down there to him.

(2) And everyone who *was* in distress, and everyone who *was* in debt, and everyone who *was* discontented, gathered themselves to him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

(3) And David went from there to Mizpeh of Moab: and he said to the king of Moab, I ask you to let my father and my mother, come forth, *and be* with you, until I know what God will do for me.

21:6b – Mat. 12:3

21:6c – old bread swapped out for fresh bread on sabbath – Lev. 24:7-8

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(4) And he brought them before the king of Moab: and they lived with him all the while that David was in the stronghold.

(5) And the prophet Gad said to David, Do not stay in the stronghold; depart, and get yourself into the land of Judah. Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hareth.

(6) When Saul heard that David was found, and the men who *were* with him, (now Saul stayed in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah, having his spear in his hand, and all his servants *were* standing about him;)

(7) Then Saul said to his servants who stood about him, Hear now, you Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, *and* make you all captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds;

(8) That all of you have conspired against me, and *there is* no one who has revealed to me that my son has made a league with the son of Jesse, and *there is* no one of you who is sorry for me, or revealed to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

(9) Then Doeg the Edomite who was set over the servants of Saul said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.

(10) And he inquired of the LORD {Jehovah} for him, and gave him food, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.

(11) Then the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests who *were* in Nob: and all of them came to the king.

(12) And Saul said, Hear now, you son of Ahitub. And he answered, Here I *am*, my lord.

(13) And Saul said to him, Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in that you have given him bread, and a sword, and have inquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

(14) Then Ahimelech answered the king, and said, And who *is* so faithful among all your servants as David, who is the king's son-in-law, and goes at your bidding, and is honorable in your house?

(15) Did I then begin to inquire of God for him? Far be it from me: do not let the king impute *anything* to his servant, *nor* to all the house of my father: because your servant did not know anything of all this, less or more.

(16) And the king said, You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you, and all your father's house.

(17) And the king said to the footmen who stood about him, Turn, and kill the priests of the LORD {Jehovah}; because their hand also *is* with David, and because they knew when he fled, and did not reveal it to me. But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of the LORD {Jehovah}.



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(18) And the king said to Doeg, You turn and fall upon the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and killed on that day eighty-five persons who wore a linen ephod {priestly robe}.

(19) And Nob, the city of the priests, he struck with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and nursing babies, and oxen, and donkeys, and sheep, with the edge of the sword.

(20) And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David.

(21) And Abiathar revealed to David that Saul had killed the LORD's {Jehovah's} priests.

(22) And David said to Abiathar, I knew *it* that day, when Doeg the Edomite *was* there, that he would surely tell Saul: I have caused *the death* of all the persons of your father's house.

(23) Stay with me, do not be afraid: because he who seeks my life seeks your life: but with me you *shall be* safeguarded.

**Chapter 23**

(1) Then they told David, saying, Look, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they are robbing the threshing floors.

(2) Therefore David inquired of the LORD {Jehovah}, saying, Shall I go and strike these Philistines? And the LORD {Jehovah} said to David, **Go, and strike the Philistines, and save Keilah.**

(3) And David's men said to him, Look, we are afraid here in Judah: how much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?

(4) Then David inquired of the LORD {Jehovah} yet again. And the LORD {Jehovah} answered him and said, **Arise, go down to Keilah; because I will deliver the Philistines into your hand.**

(5) So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and struck them with a great slaughter. So David saved those who lived in Keilah.

(6) And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, *that* he came down *with* an ephod {priestly robe} in his hand.

(7) And it was told Saul that David had come to Keilah. And Saul said, God has delivered him into my hand; because he is shut in, by entering into a town that has gates and bars.

(8) And Saul called all the people together to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men.

(9) And David knew that Saul secretly practiced mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring the ephod {priestly robe} here.

(10) Then David said, O LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel, your servant has certainly heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake.

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(11) Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as Your servant has heard? I ask You, O LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel, tell Your servant. And the LORD {Jehovah} said, **He will come down.**

(12) Then David asked, Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul? And the LORD {Jehovah} said, **They will deliver you up.**

(13) Then David and his men, *who were* about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went wherever they could go. And it was told Saul that David had escaped from Keilah; and he did not go forth.

(14) And David stayed in the wilderness in strongholds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand.

(15) And David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life: and David *was* in the wilderness of Ziph in a wooded area.

(16) And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the woods, and strengthened his hand in God.

(17) And he said to him, Do not be afraid: because the hand of Saul my father shall not find you; and you shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you; and that Saul my father also knows.

(18) And the two of them made a covenant before the LORD {Jehovah}: and David stayed in the wooded area, and Jonathan returned to his house.

(19) Then the Ziphites came up to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Does David not hide himself with us in strongholds in the woods, in the hill of Hachilah, which *is* on the south of Jeshimon?

(20) Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of your soul to come down; and our part *shall be* to deliver him into the king's hand.

(21) And Saul said, Blessed *are* you of the LORD {Jehovah}; because you have compassion on me.

(22) I ask you to go, and prepare, and know and see his place where he is hiding, *and* who has seen him there: because it is told me *that* he deals very subtly.

(23) See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hides himself, and come again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he is in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.

(24) And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul: but David and his men *were* in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.

(25) Saul also and his men went to seek *him*. And they told David: therefore he came down into a cave in the rock, and lived in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard *that*, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.

**{09} I Samuel**

(26) And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on the opposite side of the mountain: and David went quickly to get away for fear of Saul; because Saul and his men encircled David and his men to capture them.

(27) But there came a messenger to Saul, saying, Hurry, and come; because the Philistines have invaded the land.

(28) Therefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Selahammahlekoth {rock of the divisions}.<sup>a</sup>

(29) And David went up from there, and lived in strongholds at Engedi.

**Chapter 24**

(1) And it came to pass, when Saul had returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Indeed, David *is* in the wilderness of Engedi.

(2) Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.

(3) And he came to the flocks of sheep by the way, where there *was* a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself: and David and his men remained around the sides of the inside of the cave.

(4) And the men of David said to him, Indeed the day of which the LORD {Jehovah} said to you, **Indeed, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as it seems good to you.** Then David arose, and quietly cut off the edge of Saul's robe.

(5) And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart struck him, because he had cut off the edge of Saul's robe.

(6) And he said to his men, The LORD {Jehovah} forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the LORD's {Jehovah's} anointed, to stretch forth my hand against him, since he *is* the anointed of the LORD {Jehovah}.

(7) So David restrained his servants with these words, and would not allow them to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on *his* way.

(8) David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself.

(9) And David said to Saul, Why do you believe men's words, saying, Indeed, David seeks your harm?

(10) Look, this day your own eyes have seen how that the LORD {Jehovah} had delivered you today into my hand in the cave: and *some* encouraged *me* to kill you: but *my eye* spared you; and I said, I will not put forth my hand against my lord; because he *is* the LORD's {Jehovah's} anointed.

(11) Furthermore, my father, see, yes, see the edge of your robe in my hand: because I cut off the edge of your robe, and did not kill you, know and see that *there is* neither evil nor sin in my hand, and I have not sinned against you yet you hunt my soul to take it.

(12) The LORD {Jehovah} judge between me and you, and the LORD {Jehovah} avenge me of you: but my hand shall not be upon you

23:28a - Selahammahlekoth {סלע המחלקות} - rock of the divisions

**{09} I Samuel**

(13) As the proverb of the ancients says, Wickedness proceeds from the wicked: but my hand shall not be upon you.

(14) After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom do you pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea.

(15) The LORD {Jehovah} therefore be judge, and judge between me and you, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of your hand.

(16) And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, *Is this your voice, my son David?* And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.

(17) And he said to David, you *are* more righteous than I: because you have rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded you evil.

(18) And you have shown today how you have dealt well with me: because when the LORD {Jehovah} had delivered me into your hand, you did not kill me.

(19) Because if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go well away? therefore the LORD {Jehovah} reward you well for what you have done to me this day.

(20) And now, see, I know well that you shall surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your hand.

(21) Swear now therefore to me by the LORD {Jehovah}, that you will not cut off my offspring after me, and that you will not destroy my name out of my father's house.

(22) And David swore to Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

**Chapter 25**

(1) And Samuel died;<sup>a</sup> and all the Israelites were gathered together, and cried for him, and buried him in his house at Ramah.<sup>b</sup> And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran.

(2) And *there was* a man in Maon, whose possessions *were* in Carmel; and the man *was* very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.

(3) Now the name of the man *was* Nabal {fool};<sup>c</sup> and the name of his wife Abigail {source of joy};<sup>d</sup> and *she was* a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful appearance: but the man *was* cruel and evil in things he did; and he *was* of the house of Caleb.

(4) And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep.

(5) And David sent out ten young men, and David said to the young men, Get yourselves up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:

25:1a - 16:13a – We're not told how old Samuel was when he began to judge Israel or how old he was when he anointed Saul as king or David. According to Josephus, Samuel judged Israel 20 years before Saul became king and he died not long after anointing David to be the next king over Israel {I Sam. 16:3}. See [Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History](#).

25:1b – Samuel's home in Ramah – see I Sam. 16:13

25:3c - Nabal {נָבָל} - fool

25:3d - Abigail {אֲבִיגַיִל} - father (source) of joy

**{09} I Samuel**

(6) And so you shall say to him who lives *in prosperity*, May peace *be* both to you, and to your house, and peace *be* to all that you have.

(7) And now I have heard that you have shearers: now your shepherds who were with us, we have not harmed, neither was there anything missing from them, all the while they were in Carmel.

(8) Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let the young men find favor in your eyes: because we come in a good day: I ask you to give, whatever comes to your hand to your servants, and to your son David.

(9) And when David's young men came, they spoke to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased.

(10) And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who *is* David? and who *is* the son of Jesse? there are many servants now a days who break away from their master.

(11) Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my meat that I have killed for my shearers, and give *it* to men, whom I do not know where they *are* from?

(12) So David's young men returned, and came and told him all that he {Nabal} said.

(13) And David said to his men, Let every man put on his sword. And every man put on his sword; and David also put on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred stayed by their stuff.

(14) But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Indeed, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to greet our master; and he cursed at them.

(15) But the men *were* very good to us, and we were not hurt, neither have we missed anything, as long as we were friendly with them, when we were in the fields: (16) They were a wall to us both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep.

(17) Now therefore know and consider what you will do; because evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: because he *is such* a son of Belial {wickedness},<sup>e</sup> that *a man* cannot speak to him.

(18) Then Abigail rose up quickly, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched *corn*, and one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid *them* on donkeys.

(19) And she said to her servants, Go on before me; indeed, I am coming after you. But she did not tell her husband Nabal.

(20) And it was *so*, as she rode on the donkey, that she came down by the hidden path {ravine} of the hill, and, David and his men came down in front of her; and she met them.

(21) Now David had said, Surely in vain I have kept all that this *fellow* has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that *belonged* to him: and he has repaid me evil for good.

25:17e - Belial {בליעל} - worthlessness, wickedness

**{09} I Samuel**

(22) So and more also may God do to the enemies of David, if I leave any males of all that *belongs* to him by the morning light.

(23) And when Abigail saw David, she quickly climbed off the donkey, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the ground,

(24) And fell at his feet, and said, Upon me, my lord, *upon* me *let this sin be*: and I beg you let your handmaid speak in your hearing, and hear the words of your handmaid.

(25) I ask you, do not let not my lord, regard this man of Belial {wickedness}, *even* Nabal {fool}: because as his name *is*, so *is* he; Nabal {fool} *is* his name, and folly *is* with him: but I your handmaid did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent.

(26) Now therefore, my lord, *as* the LORD {Jehovah} lives, and *as* your soul lives, since the LORD {Jehovah} has withheld you from coming to *shed* blood, and from avenging yourself with your own hand, now let your enemies, and those who seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal.

(27) And now this blessing which your handmaid has brought to my lord, let it even be given to the young men who follow my lord.

(28) I beg you, forgive the sin of your handmaid: because the LORD {Jehovah} will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fights the battles of the LORD {Jehovah}, and evil has not been found in you *all* your days.

(29) Yet a man has risen to pursue you, and to seek your soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD {Jehovah} your God; and the souls of your enemies, these He shall sling out, *as out* of the middle of a sling.

(30) And it shall come to pass, when the LORD {Jehovah} shall have done to my lord according to all the good that He has spoken concerning you, and shall have appointed you ruler over Israel;

(31) That this shall be no grief to you, nor offense of heart to my lord, either that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself: but when the LORD {Jehovah} shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember your handmaid.

(32) And David said to Abigail, Blessed *is* the LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel, Who sent you this day to meet me:

(33) And blessed *is* your advice, and blessed *are* you, who have kept me this day from coming to *shed* blood, and from avenging myself with my own hand.

(34) Because as surely, *as* the LORD {Jehovah} God of Israel lives, Who has kept me back from hurting you, if you had not quickly come to meet me, surely there would not have been left to Nabal any male by the morning light.

(35) So David received of her hand *that* which she had brought to him, and said to her, Go up in peace to your house; I have listened to your voice, and have accepted your person.

**{09} I Samuel**

(36) And Abigail came to Nabal; and, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart *was* merry within him, because he *was* very drunken: therefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light.

(37) But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became *as* a stone.

(38) And it came to pass about ten days *later*, that the LORD {Jehovah} struck Nabal, that he died.

(39) And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, Blessed is the LORD {Jehovah}, Who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept his servant from evil: because the LORD {Jehovah} has returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head. And David sent and communed with Abigail, to take her to himself for a wife.

(40) And when the servants of David had come to Abigail to Carmel, they spoke to her, saying, David sent us to you, to take you to himself for a wife.

(41) And she arose, and bowed herself on *her* face to the earth, and said, Look, *let* your handmaid *be* a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.

(42) And Abigail quickly arose, and rode upon a donkey, with five young women of hers went with her; and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife.

(43) David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel; and both of them became his wives.

(44) But Saul had given Michal his daughter, David's wife, to Phalti the son of Laish, who *was* of Gallim.

**Chapter 26**

(1) And the Ziphites came to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Does not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, *which* is before Jeshimon?

(2) Then Saul arose, and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

(3) And Saul encamped in the hill of Hachilah, *which* is before Jeshimon, by the way. But David stayed in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness.

(4) David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul had indeed come.

(5) And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had camped: and David saw the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his host {army}: and Saul lay in the trench, and the people camped all around him.

(6) Then David answered and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the son of Zeruah, brother to Joab, saying, Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp? And Abishai said, I will go down with you.

**{09} I Samuel**

(7) So David and Abishai came to the people by night: and, Saul lay sleeping within the trench, and his spear stuck in the ground at his head: but Abner and the people lay all around him.

(8) Then Abishai said to David, God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day: now therefore, I ask you, let me strike him, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not *strike* him the second time.

(9) And David said to Abishai, Do not destroy him: because who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD's {Jehovah's} anointed, and be guiltless?

(10) David furthermore said, As the LORD {Jehovah} lives, the LORD {Jehovah} shall strike him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish.

(11) The LORD {Jehovah} forbid that I should stretch forth my hand against the LORD's {Jehovah's} anointed: but, I ask you, take now the spear that is at his head, and the bottle of water, and let us go.

(12) So David took the spear and the bottle of water from beside Saul's head; and they left, and no man saw *it*, nor knew *it*, neither awakened: because they *were* all asleep; because a deep sleep from the LORD {Jehovah} had fallen upon them.

(13) Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of a hill afar off; a great space *being* between them:

(14) And David cried to the people, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, Do you not answer, Abner? Then Abner answered and said, Who *are* you *who* cries out to the king?

(15) And David said to Abner, *Are* you not a *valiant* man? and who *is* like to you in Israel? why then have you not kept your lord the king? because there came one of the people in to destroy the king your lord.

(16) This thing *is* not good that you have done. As the LORD {Jehovah} lives, you *are* worthy to die, because you have not kept your master, the LORD's {Jehovah's} anointed. And now see where the king's spear *is*, and the bottle of water that *was* at his head.

(17) And Saul knew David's voice, and said, *Is* this your voice, my son David? And David said, *It is* my voice, my lord, O king.

(18) And he said, Why does my lord so pursue after his servant? what have I done? or what evil *is* in my hand?

(19) Now therefore, I ask you, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD {Jehovah} has stirred you up against me, let him accept an offering: but if *they are* the children of men, cursed *are* they before the LORD {Jehovah}; because they have driven me out this day from staying in the inheritance of the LORD {Jehovah}, saying, Go, serve other gods.



**{09} I Samuel**

(20) Now therefore, do not let my blood fall to the earth before the face of the LORD {Jehovah}: because the king of Israel has come out to seek a flea, as when one hunts a partridge in the mountains.

(21) Then Saul said, I have sinned: return, my son David: because I will no more do you harm, because my soul was precious in your eyes this day: indeed, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly.

(22) And David answered and said, Look the king's spear! and let one of the young men come over and fetch it.

(23) The LORD {Jehovah} render to every man His righteousness and His faithfulness: because the LORD {Jehovah} delivered you into *my* hand today, but I would not stretch forth my hand against the LORD's {Jehovah's} anointed.

(24) And, indeed, as your life was valued this day in my eyes, so let my life be valued in the eyes of the LORD {Jehovah}, and let Him deliver me out of all tribulation.

(25) Then Saul said to David, Blessed *are* you, my son David: you shall both do great *things*, and also shall still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

**Chapter 27**

(1) And David said in his heart, I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul: *there is* nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of me, to seek me any more in any coast of Israel: so I shall escape out of his hand.

(2) And David arose, and he passed over with the six hundred men who *were* with him to Achish, the son of Maoch, king of Gath.

(3) And David lived with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, *even* David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's wife.

(4) And it was told Saul that David had fled to Gath: and he did not seek him anymore.

(5) And David said to Achish, If I have now found grace in your eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may live there: because why should your servant live in the royal city with you?

(6) Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day: therefore Ziklag belongs to the kings of Judah to this day.

(7) And the time that David lived in the country of the Philistines was a full year and four months.

**{09} I Samuel**

(8) And David and his men went up, and invaded the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites: because those *nations were* of old those who lived in the land, as you go to Shur, even to the land of Egypt.

(9) And David struck the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the donkeys, and the camels, and the clothing, and returned, and came to Achish.

(10) And Achish said, Where have you made a road today? And David said, Against the south of Judah, and against the south of the Jerahmeelites, and against the south of the Kenites.

(11) And David saved neither man nor woman alive, to bring news to Gath, saying, Lest they should tell on us, saying, So did David, and so *will be* his manner all the while he lives in the country of the Philistines.

(12) And Achish believed David, saying, He has made his people Israel completely despise him; therefore he shall be my servant forever.

**Chapter 28**

(1) And it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said to David, Do you know assuredly, that you shall go out with me to battle, you and your men.

(2) And David said to Achish, Surely you shall know what your servant can do. And Achish said to David, Therefore I will make you keeper of my head forever.

(3) Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had cried for him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those who had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land.

(4) And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and camped in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they camped in Gilboa.

(5) And when Saul saw the host {army} of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.

(6) And when Saul inquired of the LORD {Jehovah}, the LORD {Jehovah} did not answer him, neither by dreams,<sup>a</sup> nor by Urim,<sup>a</sup> nor by prophets.

28:6a – Urim - see Ex. 28:30 - The Urim and Thummin represented the perfect light or truth of God - We have no description in scripture as to what these pieces actually looked like. According to Jewish tradition these pieces to be added to Aaron's breastplate were given to Moses by God Himself. In Num. 27:21 and I Sam. 28:6 they represent God's answer to questions asked of Him. Some believe they were tossed like dice to receive an answer. Lots were often cast in scripture to determine God's will, but the Urim and Thummin are never mentioned in those scriptures. Josephus and other Jewish writers state they were the twelve stones on the high priest's breastplate.

**{09} I Samuel**

(7) Then Saul said to his servants, Seek for me a woman who has a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Indeed, *there is* a woman who has a familiar spirit at Endor.

(8) And Saul disguised himself, and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I ask you, divine to me by the familiar spirit, and bring *him* up to me, whom I shall name to you.

(9) And the woman said to him, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off those who have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?

(10) And Saul swore to her by the LORD {Jehovah}, saying, As the LORD {Jehovah} lives, there shall no punishment happen to you for this thing.

(11) Then the woman said, Whom shall I bring up to you? And he said, Bring up for me Samuel.

(12) And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spoke to Saul, saying, Why have you deceived me? because you *are* Saul.

(13) And the king said to her, Do not be afraid: what did you see? And the woman said to Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth.

(14) And he said to her, What form *is* he of? And she said, An old man comes up; and he *is* covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it *was* Samuel, and he stooped with *his* face to the ground, and bowed himself.

(15) And Samuel said to Saul, Why have you troubled me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am greatly distressed; because the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me, and does not answer me, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called you, that you may make known to me what I shall do.

(16) Then Samuel said, Why then do you ask of me, since the LORD {Jehovah} has departed from you, and has become your enemy?

(17) And the LORD {Jehovah} has done to him, as he spoke by me: because the LORD {Jehovah} has torn the kingdom out of your hand, and given it to your neighbor, *even* to David:

(18) Because you have not obeyed the voice of the LORD {Jehovah}, nor executed His fierce wrath {anger; judgment} upon Amalek, therefore the LORD {Jehovah} has done this thing to you this day.

(19) Furthermore the LORD {Jehovah} will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines: and tomorrow you and your sons *will be* with me:<sup>b</sup> the LORD {Jehovah} also shall deliver the host {army} of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

28:19b – tomorrow you and your sons will be with me

**{09} I Samuel**

(20) Then Saul fell face down on the earth, and was greatly afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; because he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night.

(21) And the woman came to Saul, and saw that he was greatly troubled, and said to him, Look, your handmaid has obeyed your voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have listened to your words which you spoke to me.

(22) Now therefore, I ask you, listen also to the voice of your handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength, when you go on your way.

(23) But he refused, and said, I will not eat. But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him; and he listened to their voice. So he arose from the earth, and sat upon the bed.

(24) And the woman had a fat calf in the house; and she quickly went and killed it, and took flour, and kneaded it, and baked unleavened bread with it:

(25) And she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they ate. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

**Chapter 29**

(1) Now the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek: and the Israelites camped by a fountain which is in Jezreel.

(2) And the lords of the Philistines passed on by hundreds, and by thousands: but David and his men passed on in the rear guard with Achish.

(3) Then the princes of the Philistines said, What are these Hebrews doing *here*? And Achish said to the princes of the Philistines, *Is* this not David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, who has been with me these days, or these years, and I have found no fault in him since he fell *to me* to this day?

(4) And the princes of the Philistines were angry with him; and the princes of the Philistines said to him, Make this fellow return, that he may return to his place which you have appointed him, and do not let him go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he be an adversary to us: because with what should he reconcile himself to his master? *should it not be* with the heads of these men?

(5) *Is* not this David, of whom they sang one to another in dances, saying, Saul killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

(6) Then Achish called David, and said to him, Surely, *as* the LORD {Jehovah} lives, you have been upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the host {army} *is* good in my sight: because I have not found evil in you since the day of your coming to me to this day: nevertheless the lords do not trust you.

**{09} I Samuel**

(7) Therefore now return, and go in peace, that you not displease the lords of the Philistines.

(8) And David said to Achish, But what have I done? and what have you found in your servant so long as I have been with you to this day, that I may not go fight against the enemies of my lord the king?

(9) And Achish answered and said to David, I know that you *are* good in my sight, as an angel of God: nevertheless the princes of the Philistines have said, He shall not go up with us to the battle.

(10) Therefore now rise up early in the morning with your master's servants who have come with you: and as soon as you are up early in the morning, and have light, depart.

(11) So David and his men rose up early to depart in the morning, to return into the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

**Chapter 30**

(1) And it came to pass, when David and his men had come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and struck Ziklag, and burned it with fire;

(2) And had taken the women captives, that *were* in it: they did not kill any, either great or small, but carried *them* away, and went on their way.

(3) So David and his men came to the city, and, saw, *it was* burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives.

(4) Then David and the people who *were* with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

(5) And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.

(6) And David was greatly distressed; because the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

(7) And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I ask you, bring to me the ephod {priestly robe}. And Abiathar brought the ephod {priestly robe} to David.

(8) And David inquired at the LORD {Jehovah}, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And He answered him, **Pursue: because you shall surely overtake *them*, and without fail recover *all*.**

(9) So David went, he and the six hundred men that *were* with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those who were left behind stayed.

(10) But David pursued, he and four hundred men: because two hundred stayed behind, who were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor.

(11) And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he ate; and they made him drink water;

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(12) And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him: because he had eaten no bread, nor drunk *any* water, three days and three nights.

(13) And David said to him, To whom do you *belong*? and where *are* you from? And he said, I *am* a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I fell sick.

(14) We made an invasion *upon* the south of the Cherethites, and upon *the coast* which *belong* to Judah, and upon the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

(15) And David said to him, Can you bring me down to this company? And he said, Swear to me by God, that you will neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring you down to this company.

(16) And when he had brought him down, *they were* spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah.

(17) And David struck them from the twilight even to the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, except four hundred young men, who rode upon camels, and fled.

(18) And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives.

(19) And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor *anything* that they had taken to themselves: David recovered all.

(20) And David took all the flocks and the herds, *which* they drove before those *other* cattle, and said, This *is* David's spoil.

(21) And David came to the two hundred men, who were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to stay at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people who *were* with him: and when David came near to the people, he greeted them.

(22) Then all the wicked men and *men* of Belial {wickedness}, of those who went with David said, Because they did not go with us, we will not give them *any* of the spoil that we have recovered, except to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead *them* away, and depart.

(23) Then David said, You shall not do so, my brothers, with that which the LORD {Jehovah} has given us, Who has preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand.

(24) Because who will listen to you in this matter? but as his part *is* who goes down to the battle, so *shall* his part *be* who waits by the baggage: they shall alike receive their part.

(25) And it was *so* from that day forward, that he made it a rule and a law for Israel to this day.

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(26) And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil to the elders of Judah, *even* to his friends, saying, Look a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD {Jehovah};

(27) To *those who were* in Bethel, and to *those who were* in south Ramoth, and to *those who were* in Jattir,

(28) And to *those who were* in Aroer, and to *those who were* in Siphmoth, and to *those who were* in Eshtemoa,

(29) And to *those who were* in Rachal, and to *those who were* in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to *those who were* in the cities of the Kenites,

(30) And to *those who were* in Hormah, and to *those who were* in Chorashan, and to *those who were* in Athach,

(31) And to *those who were* in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men had hidden themselves.

**Chapter 31**

(1) Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down dead in mount Gilboa.

(2) And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines killed Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchishua, Saul's sons.<sup>a</sup>

(3) And the battle went greatly against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was greatly wounded by the archers.<sup>b</sup>

(4) Then Saul said to his armor bearer, Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armor bearer would not; because he was greatly afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.

(5) And when his armor bearer saw that Saul was dead, he likewise fell upon his sword, and died with him.

(6) So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armor bearer, and all his men, that same day together.

(7) And when the men of Israel who *were* on the other side of the valley, and *those who were* on the other side {east} of the Jordan River, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and lived in them.

(8) And it came to pass in the morning, when the Philistines came to strip the dead, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa.

(9) And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armor, and sent into the land of the Philistines all around, to publish *it in* the house of their idols, and among the people.

(10) And they put his armor in the house of Ashtaroth {a pagan idol}:<sup>c</sup> and they fastened his body to the wall of Bethshan.

(11) And when those who lived in Jabeshgilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul;

31:2a – I Chr. 10:2  
31:3b – I Chr. 10:3f  
31:10c – I Chr. 10:10

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(12) All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Bethshan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there.

(13) And they took their bones, and buried *them* under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.<sup>d</sup>

31:13d – I Chr. 10:12f