

1 AND 2 SAMUEL.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE TWO BOOKS* AS A WHOLE.

THE WHOLE.

Click to follow links.

1 Sam. 1:1—7:17	RULE UNDER THE JUDGES.
1 Sam. 8:1—2 Sam. 24:25.	RULE UNDER THE KINGS.
1 Sam. 8:1—2 Sam. 24:25.	(Above) RULE UNDER THE KINGS.
1 Sam. 8:1—2 Sam. 1:27.	KING SAUL.
2 Sam. 2:1—24:25.	KING DAVID.
2 Sam. 2:1—24:25.	(Above) KING DAVID.
2 Sam. 2:1—4:12.	KINGDOM DIVIDED.
2 Sam. 5:1—24:25.	KINGDOM UNITED.

* It is necessary that the two books should be treated as one; because, in the Hebrew Canon (as given in the MSS. and early printed editions of the Hebrew text) the two are, and always have been, presented and reckoned as one book.

They were first divided, and treated as two, by the Septuagint Translators (cent. 3 B.C.). And this division has been followed in all subsequent versions.

Probably, scrolls were more or less equal in length; and, as Greek requires at least one-third more space than Hebrew, one scroll was filled before the translation of the one long book of fifty-five chapters was completed. Hence, the poor division. Of the thirty-four *Sedarim* (or cycles for public reading), the twentieth begins with 1 Sam. 30:25 and ends with 2 Sam. 2:6, showing no break in the texts.

The same applies to the so-called Books of Kings; for Kings also made a long book of forty-seven chapters, and came to be divided the same way, the four being numbered respectively the "First, Second, Third, and Fourth Book of the Kingdom" ¹; and, in the Vulgate, "of the Kings". In no Hebrew Manuscript or early printed edition is the book found divided into two. The thirty-five divisions, called *Sedarim*, are numbered throughout without regard to any division: the nineteenth beginning with 1 Kings 22:43 and ending with 2 Kings 2:14. This division must have been governed by the exigencies of the parchment, or the break would not have been made in the midst of the reign of Ahaziah and the ministry of Elijah.

The one book, Chronicles, consisting of sixty-five chapters, came under the same treatment. There are twenty-five *Sedarim* (or cycles for public reading), of which the eleventh begins with 1 Chron. 28:10 and ends with 2 Chron. 2:2, showing no break in the text. For the division of the book Ezra-Nehemiah, see note on p. 616.

¹ The Structure of these four "BOOKS OF THE KINGDOMS" may be exhibited thus:

2 Sam. 2:1—4:12.	The Divided Kingdom.
2 Sam. 5:1—24:25.	The United Kingdom.
1 Kings 1:1—12:15.	The United Kingdom.
1 Kings 12:16—2 Kings 25:38.	The Divided Kingdom.

This is page 366 from The Companion Bible.

THE °FIRST BOOK OF °SAMUEL, °OTHERWISE CALLED, THE FIRST BOOK OF THE KINGS.

1 Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim, of *the hill country of Ephraim*, and his name was °Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephrathite:

2 And he had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah [*Grace*], and the name of the other Peninnah [*Pearl*]: and Peninnah had *offspring*, but Hannah had no *offspring*.

3 And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto °the LORD of hosts in Shiloh [*where the Tabernacle and Ark were*]. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, were there.

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

5 But unto Hannah he gave a *double* portion; for he loved Hannah: (but the LORD had shut up her womb.)

6 And her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret, because the LORD had shut up her womb.

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

8 Then said Elkanah her husband to her, Hannah, *why weepest thou? and *why eatest thou not? and *why is thy heart grieved? *am* not I °better to thee than ten sons?

9 So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon *the seat* by *a door post* of the °palace of the LORD.

10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.

11 And she *made a solemn vow*, and said, O LORD of hosts, if Thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of Thine handmaid, and *remember me, and not forget Thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.

12 And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth.

13 Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.

14 And Eli said unto her, *How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.

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.

16 Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto.

17 Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant *thee* thy petition that thou hast asked of Him.

18 And she said, Let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more *sad*.

19 And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned, and came to their house to °Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD *remembered her.

TITLE, First Book of Samuel.
See note p. 366.

Samuel. The books follow on Judges, and yet hold a peculiar place of their own, looking backward and forward. Heb. *Sh' mu' el* = Asked of God, or God-heard, and the impression of this is left on the books (chs. 8, 9, 16, and 2 Sam. 7). As to authorship, cp. 1 Chron. 29:29, which shows that the prophets kept up the national records, which account for such passages as 1 Sam. 27:6. In the Books of Samuel and Kings events are viewed from the human and exoteric standpoint, while in Chronicles the same events are viewed from the Divine and exoteric standpoint. Examples of these abound. (See Ap.56).
otherwise called. See note on p. 366.

1. 1 Elkanah. = Acquired by God, i.e. perhaps in exchange for firstborn (Num. 3:13, 450, a son of Korah. See Ex. 6:24.

3 the Lord of hosts. = Jehovah Sabaoth, one of the Jehovah-titles. The first of 281 occurrences. Denotes the God of Israel as the Lord of all the hosts of the heaven and earth. This title specially characterizes this book.

8 better...than ten sons. It is so to-day among the Arabs: such a woman being called *moonejeba* =ennobled.

9 palace. Heb. *heykal*. Seven mentioned in Scripture: (1) The Tabernacle, 1 Sam. 1:9; (2) Solomon's, 1 Kings 6:5, 17; (3) Zerubbabel's, Ezra 4:1, 2; (4) Herod's, John 2:20; (5) The future one of 2 Thess. 2:4; (6) The millennial temple of Ezek. 41:1; and (7) the heavenly temple of Rev. 21:3, 22. Also seven references to believers as a temple in N.T.: 1 Cor. 3:9-17; 6:19. 2 Cor. 6:16. Eph. 2:20, 21. Heb. 3:6. 1 Pet. 2:5; 4:17.

19 Ramah. Hence this was Samuel's residence.

20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she ^obare a son, and called his name Samuel, *saying*, Because I have asked him of the LORD.

21 And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to *sacrifice* unto the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and his vow.

22 But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, *I will not go up until the young child be weaned*, and *then* I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD, and there abide **for as long as he lives*.

23 And Elkanah her husband said unto her, Do what seemeth thee good; tarry until thou have weaned him; only the LORD establish **H**is word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck until she weaned him.

24 And when she had ^oweaned him, she took him up with her, with *a bullock of three years*, and one ephah of flour, and *a skin bottle* of wine, and brought him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: (**now the boy was a child.*)

25 And they slew *the* bullock, and brought the *young child* to Eli.

26 And she said, Oh my lord, *as thyself* liveth, my lord, I *am* the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

27 For this *young child* I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of **H**im:

28 Therefore also I have lent him *to Jehovah as long as he liveth* he shall be lent to ^o*Jehovah*. And he worshipped the LORD there.

2 And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, ^oMine horn is exalted in *My God*: My mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in **T**hy Salvation.

2 *There is* ^onone holy as the LORD: for *there is* none beside **T**hee: neither *is there* ^oany rock like our God.

3 Talk no more ^oso exceeding proudly; Let *not* arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD *is* a God of knowledge, and by **H**im actions are weighed.

4 The bows of the mighty men *are* broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength.

5 *They that were* full have hired out themselves for bread; and *they that were* hungry ceased: So that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many *sons* is waxed feeble.

6 The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: **H**e bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.

7 The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: **H**e bringeth low, and lifteth up.

8 **H**e raiseth up *the oppressed* out of the dust, *And* lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set *them* among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: For the ^opillars of the earth *are* the LORD's, and **H**e hath set the world upon them.

9 **H**e will keep the feet of **H**is saints, and the *lawless* shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

10 The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; ^oOut of heaven shall **H**e thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and **H**e shall give strength unto ^o**H**is king, and exalt the horn of ^o*His Messiah*.

11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the *youth* did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.

12 Now the sons of Eli *were* sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD.

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

20 bare a son. Thus Samuel was a descendant of Korah. See Ex. 6:24.

24 weaned. From Macc. 7:27 it has been inferred that the time of weaning included the periods of nourishment and up-bringing, which would bring Samuel to the age of at least twelve years. Cp. Isaac's weaning at the age of five years, and see Gen. 21:8.

28 Jehovah. Note the Fig. *Paronomasia* in vv. 27, 28. "Jehovah hath given me my petition which I asked of Him: therefore also I have lent him to Jehovah."

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2. 1 Mine horn. First occurrence. Part of head-dress over which the veil is thrown hanging over the shoulders; mothers making it more perpendicular. This is now fast becoming extinct. Cp. 2 Sam. 22:3. Ps. 75:4, &c.

2 none holy. This is the cry of all His saints. See note on Ex. 15:11.

any rock. Cp. Deut. 32:4. 2 Sam. 22:32.

8 pillars. = that which is set fast. Occurs only here and 14:5, where it is rendered "situate".

10 Out of heaven. See 7:10.

His king. First occurrence. Cp. Ps. 2:6. **His Messiah.** The first occurrence as used of Christ. So Sept. and Vulg.

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14 And he struck *it* into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the fleshhook brought up the priest took for himself [*robbing the offerers of their own portion*]. So they did in Shiloh unto all the Israelites that came thither.

15 Also before *the priest burnt* the fat, the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed, °Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have *boiled* flesh of thee, but raw.

16 And *if* any man said unto him, Let them not fail to *burn as incense* the fat °*immediately*, and *then* take *as much* as *thou* desireth; then he would answer *Nay*; but thou shalt give *it me* now: and if not, I will take *it* by force.

17 Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD: for men abhorred the offering of the LORD.

18 But Samuel ministered before the LORD, *being a youth*, girded with °*a simple linen robe of ordinary priests*.

19 Moreover 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 give thee seed of this woman for *the great gift* to the LORD. And they went unto their own home.

21 And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the *youth* Samuel grew before the LORD.

22 Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how they lay with the women that assembled *at the entrance* of *the tent of meeting* of the congregation.

23 And he said unto them, *Why do ye such things? for I hear of your evil dealings *from* all this People.

24 Nay, my sons; °for *it is* no good report that I hear: ye make the LORD's people to *cry out*.

25 If one man sin against another, *God* shall judge him: but if a man sin against the LORD, *who shall intreat for him? Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because the LORD would slay them.

26 And the *youth* Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men.

27 And there came *a prophet* of God unto Eli, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, *I did indeed reveal Myself* unto the house of thy father, when *Aaron as well as Moses were servants* in Egypt in Pharaoh's house?

28 And *I did indeed* choose him [*Aaron*] out of all the tribes of Israel *to be My* priest, to offer upon *Mine* altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before *Me*? and *I did indeed* give unto the house of *Aaron* all the offerings made by fire of the *sons* of Israel?

29 Wherefore °kick ye at *My* sacrifice and at *Mine gift offerings*, which *I* have commanded in *My* habitation; and honourest thy sons above *Me*, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the *gift offerings* of Israel *My* People?

30 Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, *I* said indeed *that* thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before *Me* for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from *Me*; for them that honour *Me* *I* will honour, and they that despise *Me* shall be lightly esteemed.

31 *Behold, the days come, that *I* will cut off thine *seed*, and the *seed* of thy father's house, that there shall not be an old man in thine house.

32 And thou shalt °see an enemy *in my* habitation, in all *the wealth* which *God* shall give Israel: and there shall not be an old man in thine house for ever.

33 And the man of thine, *whom* *I* shall not cut off from *Mine* altar, *shall be* to consume *his* eyes, and to grieve *his soul*: and all the increase of *his* house shall die °in the flower of their age.

15 Give flesh. This was contrary to Lev. 3:16; 7:23, 25, 30, 31.

16 immediately. without delay, at once. This English meaning is now obsolete.

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18 a simple linen robe. Not the High Priest's, but a simple linen robe of ordinary priests and Levites and others. 1 Sam. 22:18. 2 Sam. 6:14. Cp. Ex. 28:42. Lev. 6:10.

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24 for. Heb. has the disjunctive accent on this word (*Great T^elisha*), emphasizing the guilt of Hophni and Phinehas as (1) a public scandal (v. 23); (2) a cause of stumbling (v. 24); (3) a sin against Jehovah (v. 25).

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29 kick. Cp. Deut. 32:15; its only other occurrence.

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32 see an enemy. Cp. Ps. 78:60-64.

33 in the flower of their age. Sept. reads "with the sword of men".

34 And this *shall be* a sign unto thee, that shall come upon thy two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas; in one day they shall ^odie both of them.

35 And I will raise **Me** up a faithful priest, *that* shall do according to *that* which *is* in **Mine** heart and in **My soul**:

and **I** will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before **Mine** anointed for ever.

36 And it shall come to pass, *that* every one that is left in thine house shall come *and* crouch ^o*to the Anointed King* for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a piece of bread.

3 And the *youth* Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD *had come to be* ^oprecious in those days; *there was* no open vision.

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

3 And ere *the seven-branched candlestick* went out in *the tabernacle* of the LORD, where the ark of God *was*, and Samuel was laid down *to sleep*;

4 That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, *Behold me*.

5 And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here *am* I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

6 And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here *am* I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, *Behold me*; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the *youth*.

9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if **He** call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for **Thy** servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, *Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for **Thy** servant heareth.

11 And the LORD said to Samuel, *Behold, **I** will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall 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 For **I** have told him that **I** will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because ^o*his sons cursed God*, and he restrained them not.

14 And therefore **I** have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.

15 And Samuel lay until the ^omorning [*and rose early in the morning*], and opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision.

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

17 And he said, What *is* the thing that *the LORD* hath said unto thee? I pray thee hide *it* not from me: God do so to thee, and more also, if thou hide *any* thing from me of all the things that **He** said unto thee.

18 And Samuel told him *all the words*, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It is the LORD: let **Him** do what seemeth **Him** good.

19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

34 die both. See 4:11.

36 to the Anointed King. Of v. 10: already pointing to the High Priest as being no longer the judge, but subordinate to the king.

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3. 1 precious. Heb. *yakar* =heavy (in price). Note the five precious things in Old Testament: the word of God (3:1, its first occurrence); redemption (Ps. 49:8); the death of His saints (Ps. 72:14; 116:15); the lips of knowledge (Prov. 20:15); the thoughts of God (Ps. 139:17). See note on the five in New Testament (Matt. 26:7).

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13 his sons cursed God. This is one of the eighteen emendations of the *Sopherim*, on their own confession. See Ap.33. By omitting one letter they changed this, from a mistaken sense of reverence. The primitive text, preserved in the Sept., stood, "his sons cursed God".

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15 morning. The copyist's eye, in going back to this word, went to the word at the end of the next sentence, and thus omitted "and rose early in the morning". These words are preserved in the Sept.

20 And all Israel from Dan even to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel [◊]was established to be a prophet of the LORD.

21 And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for the LORD revealed **Himself** to Samuel in Shiloh *according to* the word of the LORD.

4 And the word of Samuel [◊]came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and pitched beside Eben-ezer: and the Philistines pitched in *Aphék, a Fortress*.

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

3 And when the People were come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, *Wherefore hath the LORD smitten us to day before the Philistines? Let us fetch the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of Shiloh unto us, that, when it cometh among us, it may save us out of the hand of our *enemy*.

4 So the People sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from thence the ark of the covenant of [◊]the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth *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 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 *is* the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews? And they understood that the ark of the LORD was come into the camp.

7 And the Philistines were afraid, for they said, God is come into the camp. And they said, *Woe unto us! for there hath not been such a thing heretofore.

8 *Woe unto us! *who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods? these *are the Gods themselves* that smote the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

9 Be strong, and [◊]*become yourselves* like men, O ye Philistines, that ye be not servants unto the Hebrews, *according as* they have been to you: [◊]*become yourselves* like men, and fight.

10 And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; for 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 slain.

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

13 And when he came, *lo, Eli sat upon *the* seat by the wayside watching: for his heart trembled for the ark of [◊]*the God*. And when the man came into the city, and told *it*, all the city cried out.

14 And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, What *meaneth* the *noise of this tumult? And the man came in hastily, and told Eli.

15 Now Eli was ninety and eight years old; and his eyes *were set*, that he [◊]could not see.

16 And the man said unto Eli, I *am* he that came out of the army, and I fled to day out of the army. And he said, What is there done, my son?

17 And the messenger answered and said, Israel is fled before the Philistines, [◊]and there hath been also a great slaughter among the People, and thy two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of *the God* is taken.

18 And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of *the God*, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck brake, and he died: for he was an old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

20 established, &c.

Samuel was the first of "the prophets" and last of the judges, preparing the way for the change of government.

4. 1 came. Cp. Acts 3:24. Heb. 11:32.

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4 the Lord of Hosts.

See note on 1:3.

God. = *Elohim*. Ap.4.I. Marking His relation to His creatures.

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9 *become yourselves*.

The Heb. verb *hayah*, to become; as "was" should be rendered in Gen. 1:2.

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13 *the God*. Heb. with Art = the God.

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15 *could not see*. One of the nine cases of blindness. See note on Gen. 19:11.

19 And his daughter in law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, *near* to be delivered: and when she heard the tidings that the ark of **the God** was taken, and that her father in law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and travailed; for her pains **came suddenly** upon her.

20 And **at** the time of her death the women that stood by her said unto her, Fear not; for thou hast born a son. But she answered not, neither did she regard *it*.

21 And she named the child ^oI-chabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of **the God** was taken, and ^obecause of [**the death of**] her father in law and her husband.

22 And she said, The glory is departed from Israel: for the ark of **the God** is taken.

5 And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Eben-ezer unto ^oAshdod.

2 When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought *it* into the house of Dagon [the great fish], and set *it* by Dagon.

3 And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow [**and entered into the house of Dagon, they looked and**], ^{*}behold, Dagon *was* fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of ^o**Jehovah**. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again.

4 And when they arose early on the morrow morning, ^{*}behold, Dagon *was* fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of **Jehovah**; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands *were* cut off upon the threshold; ^oonly *the stump of* Dagon was left to him.

5 Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day.

6 But the ^{*}hand [**of judgment**] of the LORD was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and **He** destroyed them, and smote them with ^o**hemorrhoids**, *even* Ashdod and the coasts thereof.

7 And when the men of Ashdod saw that *it was* so, they said, The ark of the God of Israel shall not abide with us: for **His** hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our god.

8 They sent therefore and gathered all the **princes** of the Philistines unto them, 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 about unto Gath. And they carried the ark of the God of Israel about *thither*.

9 And it was so, that, after they had carried it about, the hand of the LORD was against the city with a very great destruction: and he smote the men of the city, both small and great, and they had **hemorrhoids** in their secret parts.

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 slay us and our people.

11 So they sent and gathered together all the **princes** of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to his own place, that it slay us not, and our people: for there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand [**of judgment**] of God was very heavy there.

12 And the men that died not were smitten with the ^o**hemorrhoids**: and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

6 And the ark of **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? tell us wherewith we shall send it to his place.

3 And they said, If ye send away the ark of the God of Israel, send *it* not empty; but in any wise return **Him** a trespass offering: then ye shall be healed, and it shall be known to you why **His** hand is not removed from you.

4 Then said they, What *shall be* the trespass offering which we shall return to **Him**? They answered, Five golden ^o**hemorrhoids**, and five golden mice, *according to* the number of the **princes** of the Philistines : for one plague *was* on you all, and on your **princes**.

21 I-chabod. = Where is the glory? **because of.** Some codices add "the death of". Cp. v. 19.

5. 1 Ashdod.= fortified. Now Esdud. Cp. Josh. 13:3. See note on Gen. 10:14.

3 Jehovah. Jehovah in contrast with Dagon.

4 only...Dagon. The hands and feet being gone, only Dagon (the fish part) remained.

6 hemorrhoids. See note on Deut. 28:27.

☐ It is hard to read this verse and not see that there is "humor" in God, or, as we might say "a wink", even within seriousness. Cp. Isa. 20:4 ("young and old, naked and barefoot, even with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt").

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6. 1 Jehovah. The Ark now gets its own Divine title.

4 hemorrhoids. See note on 5:6: i.e. models of them in gold; of which, modern "votive offerings" are the lineal descendants. Cp. v. 5.

5 Wherefore ye shall make images of your *hemorrhoids*, and images of your mice that mar the land; and ye shall give glory unto the God of Israel: peradventure **He** will lighten **His** hand [*of judgment*] from off you, and from off your gods, and from off your land.

6 Wherefore then do ye harden your hearts, *according as* the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? when **He** had wrought wonderfully among them, did they not let the people go, and they departed?

7 Now therefore make ^oa new cart, and take two milch kine, on which there hath come no yoke, and tie the kine to the cart, and bring their calves home from them:

8 And take the ark of the LORD, and lay *it* upon the cart; and put the jewels of gold, which ye return **Him** *for* a trespass offering, in a coffer by the side thereof; and send it away, that it may go.

9 And see, if ^o*the Ark* goeth up by the way of his own *border* to Beth-shemesh, *then* **He** hath done us *all this* great evil: but if not, then we shall know that *it is* not **His** hand *that* smote us; *it was* a chance *that* happened to us.

10 And the men did so; and took two milch kine, and tied them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home:

11 And they laid the ark of the LORD upon the cart, and the coffer with the mice of gold and the images of their *hemorrhoids*.

12 And the kine took the straight way to the way of Beth-shemesh, *and* went along the highway, lowing as they went, and turned not aside *to* the right hand or *to* the left; and the *princes* of the Philistines went after them unto the border of Beth-shemesh.

13 And *they of* Beth-shemesh *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 Beth-shemite, and stood there, where *there was* a great stone: and they clave the wood of the cart, and *offered up* the kine a burnt offering unto the LORD.

15 And the Levites took down the ark of the LORD, and the coffer that *was* with it, wherein the jewels of gold *were*, and put *them* on the great stone: and the men of Beth-shemesh *offered up* burnt offerings and *made great sacrifices* the same day unto the LORD.

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

17 And these *are* the golden *hemorrhoids* which the Philistines returned *for* a trespass offering unto the LORD; for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Askelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one;

18 And the golden mice, *according to* the number of all the cities of the Philistines *belonging to* the five *princes*, *both* of fenced cities, and of country villages, even unto the great *stone of* Abel, whereon they set down the ark of the LORD: *which stone remaineth* unto this day in the field of Joshua, the Beth-shemite.

19 And **He** smote the men of Beth-shemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the LORD, even **He** smote of the People ^o*seventy men*: and the People lamented, because the LORD had smitten *many* of the People with a great **smiting*.

20 And the men of Beth-shemesh said, **Who is able to stand before this* ^oholy LORD God? and to whom shall *the Ark* go up from us?

21 And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kirjath-jearim, saying, The Philistines have brought again the ark of the LORD; come ye down, *and* fetch *it* up to you.

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7 a new cart. This was done in ignorance of God's requirement (Num. 4:15; 7:9; 10:21). They could not have complied with the Law, even if they had known it; hence, no judgment fell on them. But contrast David's "new cart", and see note on 2 Sam. 6:3.

9 the Ark. Which is masc.; not the "cart", which is fem.

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19 seventy men, &c. 50,070.

This number being out of all proportion to the size of Beth-shemesh, has led to various readings. Some codices omit 50,000. The Syr. and Arabic versions read "five" instead of fifty. *Josephus reads "seventy". The Heb. text reads "seventy men two fifties and one thousand"=70+100+1,000=1,170.

7 And the men of Kirjath-jearim came, and fetched up the ark of the LORD, and brought *it* into the house of °Abinadab [*which is*] in *Gibeah*, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD.

2 And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjath-jearim, that the °time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD.

3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, *then* put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve **Him** only: and **He** will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.

4 Then the *sons* of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.

5 And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the LORD.

6 And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured *it* out before the LORD, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have °sinned against the LORD. And Samuel judged the *sons* of Israel in Mizpeh.

7 And when the Philistines heard that the *sons* of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the *princes* of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the *sons* of Israel heard *it*, they were afraid of the Philistines.

8 And the *sons* of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the LORD our God for us, that **He** will save us out of the hand of the Philistines.

9 And °Samuel took a sucking lamb, and *offered up it for* a burnt offering wholly unto the LORD: and Samuel cried unto the LORD for Israel; and the LORD heard him.

10 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD *thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.

11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until *they came* under Beth-car.

12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set *it* between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Eben-ezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.

13 So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the *border* of Israel: and the hand of the LORD 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 unto Gath; and the *borders* thereof did Israel deliver 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; for there *was* his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an °altar unto the LORD.

8 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; and the name of his second, Abiah: *they were* judges in Beer-sheba.

3 And his sons walked not in his ways, but *stooped to extortion* after lucre, and °took bribes, and perverted judgment.

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

5 And said unto him, *Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now °make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

2 time was long. Ark remained with Philistines seven months (6:1); sent from Ekron to Kirjath-jearim in 1040, and remained there twenty years (ch. 7). From the capture (in 1040) to its entry into Zion (in 950) was eighty-nine years (2 Sam. 7:17).

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9 Samuel took. Samuel was a Levite, and according to 1 Chron. 23:27-32 could do this; though according to Num. 18:3 he could not have acted in the holy place.

17 altar. Shiloh forsaken, and Ark separated from Tabernacle. There was no chosen "place".

8. 1 old. From 28:3 he predeceased Saul by about two years. Consequently he acted for thirty-eight years after Saul's anointing (i.e. 1000-962 B.C.). When he anointed David he would be about eighty-six; and lived to about the age of Eli, ninety-eight years.

5 make us a king. Cp. Hos. 13:10, 11. Acts 13:20, 21. Note the words "gave judges" and "desired a king". The Hebrew monarchy thus began with choosing of Saul, and ended with choosing of Caesar.

6 But the thing ^o*was evil in the eyes of* Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD.

7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the People in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, 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 unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken **Me**, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee.

9 Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.

10 And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the People that asked of him a king.

11 And he said, ^oThis will be the manner of the king that 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 him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and *will set them to plough* 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* confectionaries, and *to be* cooks, and *to be* bakers.

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

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

16 And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest *oxen*, and your asses, and put *them* to his work.

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

18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not *answer* you in that day.

19 Nevertheless the People refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; 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.

22 And the LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king. And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city.

9 Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name *was* ^oKish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, ^oa Benjamite, a ^omighty man of power.

2 And he had a son, whose name *was* ^oSaul, a choice young man, and a goodly: and *there was* not among the *sons* of Israel a goodlier person than he: from his shoulders and upward *he was* higher than any of the people.

3 And the asses of Kish Saul's father were ^olost. And Kish said to Saul his son, Take now one of the *young men* with thee, and arise, go seek the asses.

4 And *they* passed through *the hill country of* Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalisha, but they found *them* not: then they passed through the land of Shalim, and *there they were* not: and *they* passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they found *them* not.

5 And when they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his *young man* that *was* with him, Come, and let us return; lest my father leave *caring* for the asses, and *be anxious* for us.

6 was evil, &c. i.e. evil, in not waiting for God's time and for God's king, as promised. Gen. 17:6, 16; 35:11; 49:10. Num. 24:17. Deut. 17:14-20.

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11 This will be, &c. Fulfilled, 14:52.

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15 your vineyards. Cp. 1 Kings 21:7.

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9.1 Kish. Cp. 14:51.

1 Chron. 8:33; 9:39. For the difficulties of the genealogy, see note on 1 Chron. 8:33.

a Benjamite. As was Saul of Tarsus (Phil. 3:5).

mighty man. Heb. *gibbor*. Ap.14.IV.

2 Saul. Many points of resemblance and contrasts with Saul (Paul) of Tarsus.

6 And he said unto him, *Behold now, *there is* in this city a ^o**God's man, a Prophet**, and *he is* an honourable man; all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; peradventure he can shew us our way that we should go.

7 Then said Saul to his servant, But, *behold, *if* we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and *there is* not a ^opresent to bring to the ^o**Prophet**: what have we?

8 And the servant answered Saul again, and said, *Behold, I have here at hand the fourth part of a ^oshekel of silver: **which thou canst give** to the ^o**Prophet**, to tell us our way.

9 (Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the **seer of visions**: for *he that is* now called a ^oProphet was beforetime called a ^o**Seer of visions**.)

10 Then said Saul to his servant, Well said; come, **and let us go**. So they went unto the city where the ^o**Prophet** was.

11 And as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said unto them, Is the **seer of visions** here?

12 And they answered them, and said, He is; *behold, *he is* before you: make haste now, for he came to day to the city; for *there is* a sacrifice **by** the People to day in ^othe high place:

13 As soon as ye be come into the city, ye shall straightway find him, before he go up to ¹²the high place to eat: for the People will not eat until he come, because he doth bless the sacrifice; **and** afterwards they eat that be bidden. Now therefore get you up; for about this time ye shall find him.

14 And they went up into the city: **and** when they were come into the city, *behold, Samuel came **opposite, so as to meet them**, for to go up to the high place.

15 Now the LORD had **opened the ear of Samuel one** day before Saul came, saying,

16 To morrow about this time **I** will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him **to be leader** over My People Israel, that he may save My People out of the hand of the Philistines: for **I** have looked upon **the oppression of My People**, because their cry is come unto Me.

17 And when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said unto him, *Behold the man whom **I** spake to thee of! this same shall **rule** over My People.

18 Then Saul drew near to Samuel **in the open place near the gate where judgment was given**, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, where the seer's house is.

19 And Samuel answered Saul, and said, **I am** the seer: go up before me unto the high place; for ye shall eat with me to day, and to morrow I will let thee go, and will tell thee all that *is* in thine heart.

20 And as for thine asses that were lost three days ago, **do not regard them**; for they are found. And on whom *is* all the desire of Israel? *Is it* not on thee, and on all thy father's house?

21 And Saul answered and said, *Am not I a Benjamite, of ^othe smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speakest thou **according to this word** ?

22 And Samuel took Saul and his servant, and brought them into the parlour, and made them sit in the chiefest place among them that were bidden, which *were* about thirty persons.

23 And Samuel said unto the cook, Bring the portion which I gave thee, of which I said unto thee, Set *it* by thee.

24 And the cook took up the shoulder, and *that* which *was* upon it, and set *it* before Saul. And Samuel said, *Behold that which is **reserved** ! set *it* before thee, **and** eat: for unto this time hath it been kept for thee since I said, I have invited the People. So Saul did eat with Samuel that day.

6 God's man. i.e. a prophet, because God's spokesman.

7 present. Heb.

^l*shurah*. Occurs only here. It is from *shur*, to behold. Hence, that which procures and secures an interview, or sight of the person sought.

9 Seer of visions.

Another name for seer was *chozeh*, which referred rather to spiritual apprehension of what was seen. In 1 Chron. 29:29 all three words occur in the same verse.

Prophet. Heb. *nab'I* = one who spoke for or was moved by God.

12 the high place. In Num. 21:19 = Bamoth-Baal. Shiloh was now forsaken. No "place" within the meaning of Deut. 12. Cp. 1 Sam. 7:10, 17.

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21 the smallest. Very true, since the events recorded in Judg. 20:35.

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25 And when they were 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 spring of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Up, that I may send thee away. And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad.

27 And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on,) but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee ^othe word of ^o*Elohim*.

10 Then Samuel took *a flask* of oil, and poured *it* upon his head, and kissed him, and said, *Is it not because* ^othe LORD [*and thou shalt rule among the People of Jehovah, and thou shalt save them out of the hand of their enemies, and this shall be a sign unto thee, that the Lord*] hath anointed thee *to be a captain* over His inheritance?

2 When thou art departed from me to day, then ^othou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulchre in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee, The asses which thou wentest to seek are found: and, ^{*}lo, thy father hath left the care of the asses, and sorroweth for you, saying, What shall I do for my son?

3 Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the *landmark oak* of Tabor, and there shall meet thee three men going up to God to ^oBethel, one ^ocarrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine:

4 And they will *ask after thy peace*, and give thee *two loaves* of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.

5 After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where *is* the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet ^oa company of prophets coming down from the high place with a *viol*, and a *drum*, and a *plain reed*, and a harp, before them; and they shall ^oprophesy:

6 And ^othe Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another ^oman.

7 And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, *that* thou do as *thy hand shall find*; for God *is* with thee.

8 And ^othou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, ^{*}behold, I will come down unto thee, to *offer up* burnt offerings, *and to slay* sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do.

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

10 And when they came thither to the hill, ^{*}behold, a company of prophets met him; and ^othe Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

11 And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, ^{*}behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, ^{*}What *is* this *that* is come unto the son of Kish? *Is* Saul also among the prophets?

12 And one *from thence* 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 unto him and to his servant, Whither went ye? And he said, To seek the asses: and when we saw that *they were* no where, we came to Samuel.

15 And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you.

16 And Saul said unto his uncle, He told us plainly that the asses were found. But of the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spake, he told him not.

27 the word of Elohim.

First occurrences of this expression. "Word of Jehovah" frequent from Gen. 15:1.

Elohim. Creation relationship.

10. 1 the Lord. Heb.

Jehovah. Ap.4. Note the Jehovah relationship. Here is another *Homoeoteleuton*, which is preserved in the Sept. and Vulg., "the Lord [*and thou...that the Lord*] hath", &c. The eye of some ancient scribe evidently went back to a latter of these two words "the Lord" and accidentally omitted the words between them.

2 thou shall find. Three signs given (cp. Mark 14:3) to indicate the coming change.

3 Bethel. = House of God. Evidently a place of worship, in the absence of any "place", according to Deut. 12:5, &c. Cp. Ex. 20:24.

carrying. Probably their firstfruits. Cp. 2 Kings 4:42.

5 a company of prophets. The first occurrence of this expression. Probably a school established by Samuel (cp. Acts 3:24; 13:20). The head of such school called "father" (cp. 10:12; 19:20), or "master" (2 Kings 2:3). Such communities found later at Beth-el, Jericho, Gilgal (2 Kings 2:3, 5; 4:38); and probably here at Gibeah and Ramah (cp. Naioth 19:18, 20).

prophesy. Not necessarily "foretell", but speak in the name of the Lord.

6 the Spirit. Heb. *ruach*. Ap.9.

8 thou shalt go down.

This was the beginning of organized rising against the Philistines. All directed by God through Samuel; not by Saul.

17 And Samuel called the People together unto the LORD to Mizpeh;

18 And said unto the *sons* of Israel, °Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, 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 them that oppressed you:

19 And ye have this day rejected your God, **Who Himself** saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto **Him, Nay**, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves *before Jehovah in Mizpeh* 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 was taken [*by lot, by Urim and Thummim*].

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

22 Therefore they °inquired [*by the High Priest*] of the LORD further, if the man should yet come thither. And the LORD answered, *Behold, he hath hid himself among the stuff.

23 And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the People, he was higher than any of the People from his shoulders and upward.

24 And Samuel said to all the People, *See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that *there is none like him among all the People?* And all the People shouted, and said, °*Let the king live.*

25 Then Samuel told the People the manner of the kingdom, and *wrote it in the book kept before the Lord; even the Scriptures of truth*, and laid *it up* before the LORD. 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 *moved*.

27 But the *sons* of Belial said, *How shall this man save us? And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But *he was as one that was deaf*.

11 Then Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabesh-gilead: and all °the men of Jabesh said unto Nahash, Make a covenant with us, and we will serve thee.

2 And Nahash the Ammonite answered them, On this *condition* will I 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 unto him, Give us °seven days' respite, that we may send messengers unto all the *borders* of Israel: and then, if *there be* no *saviour*, we will come out to thee.

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

5 And, *behold, Saul came after the herd out of the field; and Saul said, What *aiileth* the people that they weep? And they told him the tidings of the men of Jabesh.

6 And °the Spirit of *Jehovah came mightily* upon Saul when he heard those tidings, and his anger was kindled greatly.

7 And he took a yoke of oxen, and °hewed them in pieces, and sent *them* throughout all the coasts of Israel by the hands of *the messengers*, saying, Whosoever cometh not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen. And the fear of the LORD fell on the People, and they came out *as one man*.

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

18 Thus saith the Lord.

This rehearsal is to show that they had sinned, although He was giving a king. Their sin was not in asking, but in forestalling Jehovah's already expressed purpose to give them a king (see Deut. 17:15 and cp. Gen. 49:10).

22 enquired. i.e. by the High Priests. No priests mentioned between chapters 4 and 14, a period of forty years.

24 Let the king live. An idiom which includes the desire that he might have everything that makes life worth living, including also eternal life.

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11. 1 the men. Heb. *enosh*. Those who had not obeyed the summons of Judg. 21:8 were extinguished, and their daughters given to remnant of Benjamin. This gave them a claim on Saul, who was a Benjamite.

2 right eye. As the shield covered the left eye, the right eye was necessary for seeing. The loss of it incapacitated men from fighting.

3 seven days. A very short respite.

7 hewed. Always used of dividing what is already dead, and mostly of sacrifices.

9 And they said unto the messengers that came, Thus shall ye say unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, To morrow, by *that time* the sun be hot, ye shall have *salvation*. And the messengers came and shewed *it* to the men of Jabesh; and they were glad.

10 Therefore the men of Jabesh said, To morrow we will come out unto you, and ye shall do with us all that seemeth good unto you.

11 And it was *so* on the morrow, that Saul put the People in three companies; and they came into the midst of the *camp* in the morning watch, and slew the Ammonites until the heat of the day: and it came to pass, that they which remained were scattered, so that two of them were not left together.

12 And the People said unto Samuel, Who *is* he that said, Shall Saul reign over us? bring the men, that we may put them to death.

13 And Saul said, There shall not a man be put to death this day: for to day the LORD hath wrought salvation in Israel.

14 Then said Samuel 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 in Gilgal; and there they ^{*}sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

12 And Samuel said unto all Israel, ^{*}Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you.

2 And now, behold, the king walketh before you: and I am old and grayheaded; and, ^{*}behold, my sons *are* with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day.

3 Behold, here I *am*: witness against me before the LORD, and before **His** anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? ^{*}*or whom* have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received *any* bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.

4 And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any man's hand.

5 And he said unto them, The LORD is witness against you, and **His** anointed *is* witness this day, that ye have not found ought in my hand. And they answered, **He is** witness.

6 And Samuel said unto the People, *It is* the LORD That advanced Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt.

7 Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the LORD of all the righteous acts of the LORD, which **He** did to you and to your fathers.

8 When ^oJacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto the LORD, then the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, which brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and **He caused** them dwell in this place.

9 And when they forgat the LORD their God, **He** sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host *of Jabin king 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 unto the LORD, and said, We have ^osinned, because we have forsaken the LORD, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve **Thee**.

11 And the LORD sent Jerubbaal, *and Barak*, and Jephthah, ^oand Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and ye dwelled safe.

12 And when ^{*}ye saw that Nahash the king of the *sons* of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me, Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the LORD your God *was* your king.

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11 and Samuel.
The Peshito (or Revised Syr.) reads "and Samson". But, if "Samuel", these are not Samuel's words, but Jehovah's in Samuel's mouth.

13 Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, *for* whom ye have desired! and, behold, the LORD hath set a king over you.

14 If ye will fear the LORD, and serve **Him**, and obey **His** voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the LORD your God:

15 But if ye will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall the hand of the LORD be against you, *and against your king*.

16 Now therefore stand and see this great thing, which the LORD will do before your eyes.

17 *Is it* not wheat harvest to day? I will call unto the LORD, and **He** shall ^osend thunder and rain; that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness *is* great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

18 So Samuel called unto the LORD; and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day: and all the People greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.

19 And all the People said unto Samuel, ^oPray for thy servants unto the LORD thy God, that we die not: for we have added unto all our sins *this* ^oevil, to ask us a king.

20 And Samuel said unto the People, Fear not: ye have done all this ¹⁷wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart;

21 And turn ye not aside: for *then should ye go* after vain *things*, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain.

22 For the LORD ^owill not forsake **His** People for **His** great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you *a People for Himself*.

23 Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way:

24 Only fear the LORD, and serve **Him** in truth with all your heart: for consider how great *things* **He** hath done for you.

25 But if ye shall still do wickedly, ye shall be consumed, both ye and your king.

13 Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,

2 Saul chose him three thousand *men* of Israel; *whereof* two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in *the hill country of* Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin: and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent.

3 And ^oJonathan smote 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 say *that* Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and Israel also was had in abomination with the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to ^oGilgal.

5 And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, ^othirty thousand chariots, and ^osix thousand horsemen, and people ^{*}as the sand which *is* on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Beth-aven.

6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were *pressed into Saul's service*,) then the People did hide 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 tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel ^ohad appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the People were scattered from him.

9 And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he *offered up* the burnt offering.

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17 send. It had to be sent, for rain in harvest was most exceptional; and would be regarded as sent in judgment. Cp. Prov. 26:1.

19 Pray. Moses and Samuel specially named as intercessors. Ps. 99:6. Jer. 15:1.

evil. Same word as "wickedness" above.

22 will not forsake. Cp. Gen. 28:15. Josh. 1:5. Quoted in Rom. 11:1, 2.

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13.3 Jonathan. See note on 18:1.

4 Gilgal. In the plain of Jordan, east of Jericho, good for water, remote from Philistines, and connected with sacred memories.

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8 had appointed. Some codices, with three early printed editions, Aram., and Sept., read "said". Some codices read "appointed".

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

11 And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the People were scattered from me, *and *that* thou camest not within the days appointed, and *that* the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;

12 Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and *offered up the* burnt offering.

13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: °*because thou hast* not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which **H**e commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established °thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.

14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought **H**im a man after °**H**is *own pleasure*, and the LORD hath commanded him *to be leader* over **H**is People, because thou hast not kept *that* which the LORD commanded thee.

15 And Samuel arose, and gat him up from °Gilgal [*and the rest of the people went up after Saul to meet the army when they arrived from Gilgal*] of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the People *that were found* with him, about six hundred men.

16 And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the People *that were* present with them, abode 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 unto the way *that leadeth to* Ophrah, unto the land of Shual:

18 And another company turned the way *to* Beth-horon: and another company turned *to* the way of the border that looketh to the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.

19 Now there was °no smith found throughout all the *bounds* of Israel: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make *them* swords or spears:

20 But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his *plough-share*, and his axe, and his *broad end pickaxe*.

21 Yet they had a file for the *broad end pickaxes*, and for the *plough-shares*, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the goads.

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 that *were* with Saul and Jonathan: but *with those who were with Saul and Jonathan* his son was there found.

23 And the *post* of the Philistines went out to the *pass* of Michmash.

14 Now it came to pass upon *a certain day*, that Jonathan the son of Saul said unto the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that *is* on the other side. But he told not his father.

2 And Saul tarried in the uttermost part of Gibeah under *the well-known pomegranate tree* which *is* in °Migron: and the People that *were* with him *were* about six hundred men;

3 And °Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, I-chabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the LORD's priest in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone.

4 And between the passages, by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines' garrison, *there was* a °sharp rock on the one side and a sharp rock on the other side: ... the name of the one was *Shining*, and the name of the other *Sharp*.

5 The forefront of the one ⁴*sharp pillar* northward over against Michmash, and the other southward over against *Geba*.

13 *because thou hast.*

Some codices, with three early printed editions, and Vulg., read "and hast".

Some codices, with Sept., read "because thou hast".

thy kingdom. This possible only with God as sovereign.

14 *His own pleasure.* Cp. Ps. 89:20, 21.

15 *Gilgal.* The Sept. preserves a *Homooteleuton* here, adding after "Gilgal [and the rest of the people went up after Saul to meet the army when they arrived from] Gilgal"; the eye of the scribe going back to this last "Gilgal" instead of the one in v. 15.

19 *no smith.* This explains why Ehud had to make his own dagger (Judg. 3:16); why Shamgar had only an ox-goad (Judg. 3:31); why Samson "had nothing in his hand" (Judg. 14:5, 6); and why "not a shield or spear among 40, 000 in Israel" (Judg. 5:8). In other days we read of how many "drew sword".

14. 2 *Migron.*

North of Gilgal.

3 *Ahiah.* (=brother or friend of Jehovah).

As Ahimelech (brother or friend of the king) was also the son of Ahitub, therefore Ahiah and Ahimelech were brothers, and the latter succeeded the former (22:11).

4 *sharp rock.* = a crag. See note on Ex. 17:6. (a type of Christ).

6 And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that ^o*the LORD Jehovah will work* for us: for *there is* no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few.

7 And his armourbearer said unto him, Do all that *is* in thine heart: turn thee; *behold, I *am* with thee according to thy heart.

8 Then said Jonathan, *Behold, we will pass over unto *these* men, and we will discover ourselves unto them.

9 If they say thus unto us, *Keep quiet* until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them.

10 But if they say thus, Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the LORD hath delivered them into our *hands*: and this *shall be* a sign unto us.

11 And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines: and the Philistines said, *Behold, ^othe Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves.

12 And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armourbearer, and said, Come up to us, and we will *tell you something*. And Jonathan said unto his armourbearer, Come up after me: for the LORD hath delivered them into the hand of Israel.

13 And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armourbearer after him: and they fell before Jonathan; and his armourbearer slew after him.

14 And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armourbearer made, was about twenty men, within as it were an half ^oacre of land, *which a yoke of oxen might plow [in a day]*.

15 And there was trembling in the *camp*, in the field, and among all the people: the garrison, and the spoilers, they also *were panic-stricken*, and the earth quaked: so it was a *preternatural trembling from Elohim*.

16 And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked; and, *behold, the multitude melted away, and they *melted away hither and thither*.

17 Then said Saul unto the people that *were* with him, Number now, and see who is gone from us. And when they had numbered, *behold, Jonathan and his armourbearer *were* not *there*.

18 And Saul said unto Ahiah, Bring hither ^othe ark of God. For the ark of God was at that time with the *sons* of Israel.

19 And it came to pass, while Saul talked [*concerning the inquiry proposed*] unto the priest, that the noise that *was* in the *camp* of the Philistines went on and increased: and Saul said unto the priest, ^o*Stop* thine *hands*.

20 And Saul and all the People that *were* with him *were assembled by proclamation*, and they came to the battle: and, behold, every man's sword was against his fellow, *and there was* a very great discomfiture.

21 Moreover ^othe Hebrews *that were* with the Philistines before that time, which went up with them into the camp *from the country* round about, even they also *turned round* to be with the Israelites that *were* with Saul and Jonathan.

22 Likewise all the men of Israel which had hid themselves in *the hill country of Ephraim*, when they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle.

23 So ^othe LORD saved Israel that day: and the battle passed over *as far as* ^oBeth-aven [*and all the People with Saul were about 10,000 men: and the battle extended itself to every city in the mount Ephraim. And Saul committed a great trespass of ignorance on that day*].

24 And the men of Israel were distressed that day: for Saul had adjured the People, saying, Cursed *be* the man that eateth *any* food until evening, that I may be avenged on mine enemies. So none of the People tasted *any* food.

6 the Lord, &c. Note the language of faith. Cp. 2 Chron. 14:11.

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11 the Hebrews. Cp. v. 21.

14 acre. Heb.= furrow, or a furrow's length. The Fig. *Ellipsis* ([Ap.6](#)) is supplied, but the words "in a day" might be added for completeness at the end of verse. This is the standard measure throughout the Turkish empire, called a *deunum*=40 *arshuns*.

18 the ark of God. The word rendered "bring" (*nagash*) inappropriate for the Ark, which was at Kirjath-jearim (Judg. 20:27, and cp. 2 Sam. 11:11; 15:24). The Sept. reads "the ephod, for he bare the ephod at that time before Israel". Cp. v. 3. The context shows that inquiry of the Lord by Urim and Thummim was in Saul's mind. See v. 18 and note on Ex. 28:30, and cp. 1 Sam. 23:6, 9; 30:7, 8, where the same word is used for "bring".

19 Stop. Withdraw: i.e. from the ephod =Stop!

☐ The priest, invested with the ephod, prayed with raised and extended hands.

21 the Hebrews. Called so in distinction from the foreigners among whom they lived; referring to language rather than nationality. Cp. v. 11.

23 the Lord saved. According to Jonathan's faith.

Beth-aven. The Sept. adds the last clause of this verse.

25 And all *they of* the land came to a wood; and there was honey upon **the surface of the ground*.

26 And when the People were come into the wood, **behold*, the honey dropped; but no man put his hand to his mouth: for the People feared the oath.

27 But Jonathan heard not when his father charged the People with the oath: wherefore he put forth the end of the rod that *was* in his hand, and dipped *it* in *°a wood*, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes were enlightened.

28 Then answered one of the People, and said, Thy father *strictly* charged the People with an oath, saying, Cursed *be* the man that eateth *any* food this day. And the People were *weary*.

29 Then said Jonathan, My father hath troubled the *People*: see, I pray you, how mine eyes have been enlightened, because I tasted a little of this honey.

30 **How much more*, if haply the People had eaten freely to day of the spoil of their enemies which they found? for had there not been now a much greater slaughter among the Philistines?

31 And they smote 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 slew *them* on the ground: and the people did eat *them* with the blood.

33 Then they told Saul, saying, **Behold*, the People sin against the LORD, in that they eat with the blood. And he said, Ye have *dealt treacherously*: roll a great stone unto me *here*.

34 And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the people, and say unto them, Bring me hither every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay *them* here, and eat; and sin not against the LORD in eating with the blood. And all the People brought every man *what was in his hand* that night, and slew *them* there.

35 And Saul built an altar unto the LORD: the same was the first altar that he built unto the LORD.

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 whatsoever seemeth good unto thee. Then said the priest, Let us draw near hither unto God.

37 And Saul asked counsel of God, Shall I go down after the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into the hand of Israel? But **He** answered him not that day.

38 And Saul said, Draw ye near hither, all the chief of the People: and know and see wherein this sin hath been this day.

39 For, *as* the LORD liveth, **Which** saveth Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die. But *there was* not a man among all the People *that* answered him.

40 Then said he unto all Israel, Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side. And the People said unto Saul, Do what seemeth good unto thee.

41 Therefore *Saul said unto Jehovah: O God of Israel, °[Why hast Thou not answered Thy servant this day? Is the iniquity in me, or in Jonathan my son? Lord God of Israel, Give clear manifestation; and if the lot should declare this, give, I pray Thee, to Thy People Israel, give, I pray, 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 thou hast done. And Jonathan told him, and said, I did but taste a little honey with the end of the rod that *was* in mine hand, *and*, **lo*, I must die.

44 And Saul answered, God *do so [unto me]* and more also: for thou shalt surely die, Jonathan.

45 And the People said unto Saul, Shall Jonathan die, who hath wrought this great salvation in Israel? God forbid: *as* the LORD liveth, there shall **not* one hair of his head fall to the ground; for he hath wrought with God this day. So the People *°redeemed* Jonathan, that he died not.

27 a wood. The Heb. *ya'ar* never means honeycomb, but "a wood". It is rendered "forest" thirty-eight times, "wood" nineteen times, "honey-comb" only here and Song 5:1. It points to a dense growing wood or thicket; and it has been suggested that it was the *cannabis indica*, or hemp plant, producing the Eastern intoxicant *hashish*. This would produce an effect on the eyes, though it would *subsequently* dull the senses. Song 5:1 would read "I have eaten my cannabis with my honey". The Sept. and Vulg. did not understand either passage, and the latter misled with "honeycomb" (*favum*).

☐ Probably better said instead of "a wood", or "honeycomb", combine the two:="dipped it in a "bee-tree".

41 Why hast Thou, &c. There is evidently a *Homoeoteleuton* (Ap.6) here. The scribes, having written the word "Israel", went forward to the word "Israel" a line or two farther on, an omitted the words between, which are preserved in two ancient versions, older than any Heb. MS. extant. These omitted words are enclosed within brackets, in the translation given of the Sept. version.

45 redeemed. See note on Ex. 6:6 and 13:13. Perhaps a victim was offered in his stead.

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 *sons* of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines: and whithersoever he turned himself, **he put them to the worse**.

48 And **he wrought mightily**, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled them.

49 Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and °Ishui, and Melchi-shua: and the names of his two daughters *were these*; the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger Michal:

50 And the name of Saul's wife *was* Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz: and the name of the captain of his host *was* Abner, 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 sore war against the Philistines all the days of Saul: and when Saul saw any strong man, or any °valiant man, he took him unto him.

15 Samuel also said unto Saul, °The LORD sent me to anoint thee *to be* king over His People, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.

2 Thus saith °the LORD of hosts, *I remember *that* which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid *wait* for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

3 **Now therefore go** and smite °Amalek, and **devote to destruction** all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

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 unto the °Kenites, *Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the *sons* of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

7 And Saul smote the Amalekites [*that dwell*] from Havilah *until* thou comest to Shur, that *is* over against Egypt.

8 And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and **devoted to destruction** 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 fatlings, and the lambs, and all *that was* good, and would not utterly destroy them: but **all the stock that was worthless** and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

10 Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

11 *It repenteth Me that I have set up Saul *to be* king: for he is turned back from following Me, and hath not performed My commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.

12 And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, *behold, he set him up **a monument**, and is gone about, and passed **over**, and gone down to Gilgal.

13 And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed *be* thou of the LORD: °I have performed the commandment of the LORD.

14 And Samuel said, What *meaneth* then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

47 he put them, &c.
But Sept. reads "he was victorious".

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49 Ishui. Called Abinadab in 31:2.

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52 valiant man.
Heb. son of valour.

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15. 1 The Lord.

Heb. Jehovah.

2 the Lord of hosts.
See note on 1:3.

3 Amalek. Cp. Ex. 17:16. Num. 24:20.

4 Telaim. Probably Telem (Josh 15:24).

6 Kenites. Said to be the same as the Rechabites.

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12 a monument.
Heb. a hand. Either to mark his claim to the place, or a monument, as in 2 Sam. 18:18.

13 I have performed.
See v. 11.

15 And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have *devoted to destruction*.

16 Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

17 And Samuel said, When thou *wast* little in thine own sight, *wast* thou not *made* the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?

18 And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until *thou have consumed them*.

19 Wherefore then didst thou not *hearken to* the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst *the evil* in the sight of the LORD?

20 And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have *hearkened* the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

21 But the People took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.

22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? *Behold, *to hearken to* is better than sacrifice, *and to give heed* than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion *is as* the sin of ^o*necromancy*, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, **He** hath also rejected thee from *being* king.

24 And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the *commandment of the LORD, and thy *word*: because I feared the People, and *hearkened to* their voice.

25 Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD.

26 And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

27 And as Samuel turned about to go away, *Saul* laid hold upon the skirt of *Samuel's* mantle, and it rent.

28 And Samuel said unto him, The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, *that is* better than thou.

29 And also ^o*the Eternal One* of Israel will not lie nor ^orepent: for **He** is not a man, that **He** should ^orepent.

30 Then he said, I have sinned: *yet* honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my People, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God.

31 So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped the LORD.

32 Then said Samuel, Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came unto him ^o*in fetters*. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past.

33 And Samuel said, *According as* thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel ^ohewed ^oAgag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

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

35 And Samuel came ^ono more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless ^o*Samuel mourned as for one dead* for Saul: and the LORD repented that **He** had made Saul king over Israel.

16 And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing ^o**I** have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, **I** will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for ^o**I** have provided **Me** a king among his sons.

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23 *necromancy*. i.e. dealing with spirits.
29 *the Eternal One*. First occurrence .
Heb. *nezah*. A Divine title.

repent. i.e. as God, though He is said to do so by the Fig. *Anthropopatheia*.
Ap.6.

32 *in fetters*. Sept. has "trembling"; Vulg. has "sleek and trembling".

33 *hewed*. i.e. commanded him to be hewed or cut asunder after death. Verb occurs only here.

Agag. See note on Amalek (Ex. 17:16, and cp. v.3).

35 *Samuel mourned*. We do not read that Saul mourned for himself.

16.1 **I have rejected**. Note here Jehovah's sovereignty.

I have provided. Note Jehovah's sovereignty in this choice of the youngest. It is this choice that makes David the "man after Jehovah's heart (*pleasure*)"; not David's personal character or conduct.

2 And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear *it*, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an heifer *in thine hand*, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.

3 And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and **I** will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto **He** *him* whom **I** name unto thee.

4 And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to ^oBethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and *they said*, Comest thou peaceably?

5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified ^oJesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD's anointed *is* before **Him**.

7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because **I** have refused him: for ^othe LORD seeth not as man *looketh to*; for man *looketh to* the outward appearance, but the LORD *looketh to* the ^oheart.

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.

9 *And* Jesse made ^oShammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.

10 *So*, Jesse made ^oseven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, *Have the young men finished passing by* ? And he said, There remaineth yet the *least*, and, *behold, ^ohe keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit *round* till he come hither.

12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he *was* ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance *a stripling, with handsome eyes*, and ^ogoodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this *is* he.

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and ^oanointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon ^oDavid from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

14 ^oBut the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an ^oevil ^ospirit from the LORD *terrified* him.

15 And Saul's servants said unto him, *Behold now, an ¹⁴evil ¹⁴spirit from ^oGod troubleth thee.

16 Let our lord now command thy servants, *which are* before thee, to seek out a man, *who is a skilful* player on an ^o*kinnor*: and it shall come to pass, when the ¹⁴evil ¹⁴spirit from ¹⁵God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well.

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

18 Then answered one of the ^o*young men*, and said, *Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, *that is skilful* in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in *speech*, and a comely person, and the LORD *is* with him.

19 Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which *is* with the sheep.

20 And Jesse took an ass *laden* with bread, and a *skin-bottle* of wine, and a kid, and sent *them* by David his son unto Saul.

21 And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and *Saul* loved him greatly; and he became his armourbearer.

22 And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favour in my sight.

4 **Bethlehem.** =house of bread.

5 **Jesse and his sons.** He had eight sons and two daughters, Zeruah (mother of Amasa). David is the eighth here (vv. 10, 11), but called the seventh in 1 Chron. 2:15. One son must have died shortly after this, or been the son of a concubine, or died without issue and so not reckoned in the genealogy. Samuel is *history*, Chronicles is *genealogy*.

7 **the Lord seeth.** These words correctly supply the Ellipsis, from the Sept. **heart.** Cp. 1 Chron. 28:9. Ps. 7:9. Jer. 11:20; 17:10; 20:12.

10 **seven.** See note on v. 5.

11 **he keepeth.** Saul lost his father's asses (9:3, 4, 20).

12 **goodly to look to.** = with, or of, noble mien.

13 **anointed him.** Three anointings of David: (1) by Samuel, here; (2) by "men of Judah" (2 Sam. 2:4); and (3) by "the elders of Israel" (2 Sam. 5:3).

David. =beloved.

14 **But.** This marks and introduces the later episode, placed here in order to bring out and connect the contrast of the Spirit's departing from Saul and coming on David. See note on 17:1 and 18:12.

evil. always. Heb. *ra'a'* (Ap.44.viii) [injurious], in this connection.

spirit. Heb. *ruach.* Ap.9.

15 **God.** Heb. Elohim. (Ap.4.I). Saul's servants not in communion with Jehovah, the Covenant God.

16 **kinnor.** An instrument of many strings.

18 **young men.** Perhaps Saul's body-guard; possibly fellow-pupil of Samuel at Naioth.

23 And it came to pass, when the *evil* spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil ¹⁴spirit departed from him.

17 ^oNow the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which *belongeth* to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim.

2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched *in* the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines.

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 ^ochampion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was ^osix cubits and a span [*almost ten feet*].

5 And *he had* an helmet of brass upon his head, and he *was* armed with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass.

6 And *he had* greaves of brass upon his legs, and a *small 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: and one bearing a *large shield* went before him.

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

9 If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye 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 *feared exceedingly*.

12 Now David *was* the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehem Judah, whose name *was* Jesse; and he had ^oeight sons: and the man went among men *was old, advanced in years* 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 unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

14 And David *he 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 ^oforty days.

17 And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched *corn*, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to thy brethren;

18 And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of *their* thousand, and look how thy brethren fare, and take ^otheir pledge.

19 Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, *were* in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

20 And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, *according as* Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the *place of battle*, and shouted for the battle.

21 For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army.

22 And David left his ^o*baggage* in the hand of the keeper of the *baggage*, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

17.1 Now. Ch.

17:1 reads on chronologically from 16:13 (see note on 16:14). An author's right is claimed for placing the later episode here (16:14, 23), in order to connect and contrast the two spirits with Saul and David. The canonical order alternates David's call and Saul's. See notes on 16:14; 18:12.

4 *champion*. Heb. *ish-habbenayim* = "the man between the two [hosts]", or, the duelist. This accords with the subscription of Psalm 8 (see note there). *Muth-labben* = the death of the man between; i.e. the death of the champion (Goliath) which Ps. 8 celebrates. Ps. 144, which has the same words, "What is man", has for its title in Sept. "A Psalm of David concerning Goliath" (cp. Ps. 8:4 with 144:3). See v. 23.

six. Note this number "6" stamped like a "hall-mark" on this "man" (as Nebuchadnezzar, Dan. 3). Cp. the six pieces of armour, vv. 5-7.

12 *eight sons*.

David was now between sixteen and seventeen years old. See note on 16:5.

16 *forty*. The number significant of probation. Ap. 10.

18 *their pledge*. i.e. a token from them of their welfare—a message or letter, or a lock of hair. Cp. Gen. 37:13, 14, 32.

22 *baggage*. i.e. goods carried.

43 And the Philistine said unto David, *Am I a °dog*, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his °*god*.

44 And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the *earth*.

45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a *small shield*: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, Whom thou hast *reproached*.

46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will *give thy limbs and the carcasses* of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know *that Israel hath a God*.

47 And all this *assembled host* shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle *is* the LORD's, and **He** will give you into our *hands.

48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang *it*, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

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

51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and °*drew it out* of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their °*champion* was dead, they fled.

52 And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou come to the *entrance into Gath*, and to the gates of Ekron. And the *slain* of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron.

53 And the *sons* of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their *camps*.

54 And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to °*Jerusalem*; but he put his armour in his tent.

55 And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host, Abner, °*whose son is this youth?* And Abner said, *As thyself* liveth, O king, I cannot tell.

56 And the king said, Inquire thou whose son the stripling *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 *art* thou, *thou* young man? And David answered, *I am* the son of thy servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.

18 And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of °*Jonathan* was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

2 And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house.

3 Then Jonathan and David *solemnized* 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 garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.

5 And David went out whithersoever 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.

43 dog. No stronger term of contempt. 2 Kings 8:13. Matt. 15:26.

god. As in Judg. 16:23.

51 drew it out.

Showing that Goliath had not deigned to do so.

champion. Heb. *gibbor* =mighty man. Not the same word as in vv. 4 and 23.

54 Jerusalem. Jerusalem (west of Moriah) had been taken by Judah, who dwelt there. The Jebusites were still holding Jebus, or Zion, the mount immediately south of Moriah. Cp. Josh. 15:63. Judg. 1:7, 8. Zion was taken later by David. See 2 Sam. 5:7, and [Ap. 68](#).

55 whose son...? Though Saul had just had an interview with David, he did not know his father, whom he had promised (v. 25) to make free in Israel. Note in all these passages (vv. 55, 56, 58) Saul's inquiry is not about David, but about David's father.

18.1 Jonathan. At this time he was about forty; and about fifty-three or fifty-four when he died. He would be about twenty-four years older than David, and his love was maternal in character. Ish-bosheth, Saul's second son, was forty at his father's death (2 Sam. 2:10).

6 And it came to pass as they came, when David was 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 *drums*, with joy, and with instruments of musick.

7 And the women answered *one another* as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

8 And Saul was very wroth, and *this* saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto 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 on the morrow, that the °evil °spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played [the *kinnor*] with his hand, as at other times: and *there was* a javelin in Saul's hand.

11 And Saul °cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall *with it*. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

12 And Saul was *apprehensive* of David, because the LORD was with him, °and was departed from Saul.

13 Therefore Saul removed him from him, 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 *was* with him.

15 Wherefore when Saul saw that he behaved himself very wisely, he was *sore 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, *Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give thee to wife: only be thou valiant for me, and fight the LORD's battles. For Saul said, Let not mine hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.

18 And David said unto 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 °*had already been given* unto Adriel the Meholathite to 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. Wherefore Saul said to David, Thou shalt this day be my son in law in *the one of* the twain.

22 And Saul commanded his servants, *saying*, Commune with David secretly, and say, *Behold, the king hath delight in thee, and all his servants love thee: now therefore be the king's son in law.

23 And Saul's servants spake those words in the ears of David. And David said, Seemeth it to you *a light thing* to be a king's son in law, seeing that I *am* a poor man, and lightly esteemed?

24 And the servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spake David.

25 And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The king desireth not any dowry, but an 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 Wherefore David arose and went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and °*Saul's servants* gave them in full tale to the king, that he might be the king's son in law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife.

28 And Saul saw and knew that the LORD *was* with David, and *that* °Michal Saul's daughter loved him.

6 dancing. A great celebration. Twice referred to later (21:11; 29:5). Cp. subscription of Ps. 52, which is *mahalath* = "the great dancing".

10 evil. See note on 16:16.

spirit. Heb. *ruach*.

11 cast the javelin. Another attempt of Satan to thwart Jehovah's purpose in Gen. 3:15, and prevent the "seed of the woman" from coming into the world. See Ap. 23 and 25.

12 and was departed. Ch. 16:14-23 comes in here, chronologically. It is placed after 16:1-13 by Fig. *Hysterologia* in order to lay bare to us the secret workings underneath the history. See note on 16:14; 17:1.

19 had already, &c. This is the key to 20:30.

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27 Saul's servants. Sept. and Vulg. read "he".

28 Michal Saul's daughter. Sept. reads "all Israel", accounting for his greater fear (v. 19).

29 And Saul was yet the more *apprehensive* of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually.

30 Then the princes of the Philistines went forth: and it came to pass, *as often as* they went forth, *that* David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was much set by.

19 And Saul spake 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 seeketh to kill thee: now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself *in* the morning, and abide in a secret *place*, and hide thyself:

3 And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou *art*, and I will commune with my father of thee; and *I shall see what he replies and shall tell thee*.

4 And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works *have been* to thee-ward very good:

5 For he did put his *soul* in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?

6 And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As the LORD liveth, he shall not be slain.

7 And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan shewed 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 slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him.

9 And the ^oevil ^ospirit from the LORD was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played [the kinnor] with *his* hand.

10 And ^oSaul sought to smite David *even [to pin him]* to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

11 Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If thou *deliver not thyself* to night, to morrow thou shalt be slain.

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

13 And Michal took *a teraphim*, and laid *it* in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' *hair* for his bolster, 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 slay him.

16 And when the messengers were come in, behold, *there was a teraphim* in the bed, with a pillow of goats' *hair* for his bolster.

17 And Saul said unto Michal, Why hast thou deceived me so, and sent away mine enemy, that he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said unto me, Let me go; why should I kill thee?

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 dwelt in Naioth.

19 And it was told Saul, saying, ^{*}Behold, David *is* at Naioth in Ramah.

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

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19. 9 evil. See note on 16:16.

spirit. Heb. *ruach*.

10 Saul sought.

Note the nine attempts on David's life; three personally by Saul, and six by his messengers (nine being the number of judgment, Ap.10). See note on 18:11, and Ap.23 and 25.

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20 company. Cp. 10:5. 2 Kings 2:3-5; 5:22. College for instruction of prophets, priests having failed in their duty as teachers. Deut. 17:11; 33:10.

appointed over. Samuel the head here. Elisha in 2 Kings 2:15.

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 went he also to Ramah, and came to a great well that *is* in Sechu: and he asked and said, Where *are* Samuel and David? And ^oone said, *Behold, *they be* at Naioth in Ramah.

23 And he went *thence* 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 *robes and armour* also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down *stripped of outer garments* all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, **Is* Saul also among the prophets?

20 And David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said before Jonathan, What have I done? what *is* mine iniquity? and what is my sin before thy father, that he seeketh ^omy life?

2 And he said unto him, God forbid; thou shalt not die: *behold, my father will do nothing either great or small, but that he will shew it me: and why should my father hide this thing from me? *it is not so*.

3 And David sware moreover, and said, Thy father certainly knoweth that I have found grace in thine eyes; and he saith, Let not Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved: but truly *as* the LORD liveth, and *as thou* liveth, *there is* but a *stride* between me and death.

4 Then said Jonathan unto David, Whatsoever *thou* desireth, I will even do *it* for thee.

5 And David said unto Jonathan, *Behold, to morrow *is* the new moon, and I *shall not sit* with the king at meat: but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field ^ounto the third *day* at even.

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

7 If he say thus, *It is* well; thy servant shall have peace: but if he be very wroth, *then* be sure that evil is determined by him.

8 Therefore thou shalt deal kindly with thy servant; for thou hast brought thy servant into a covenant of the LORD with thee: notwithstanding, if there be in me iniquity, slay me thyself; for why shouldest thou bring me to thy father?

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

10 Then said David to Jonathan, Who shall tell me? or what *if* thy father answer thee roughly?

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

12 And Jonathan said unto David, *Jehovah, God of Israel, be witness that I will sound* my father about to morrow any time, or the third *day*, and, *behold, *if there be* good toward David, and I then send not unto thee, and shew it thee;

13 The LORD do so and much more to Jonathan: but if it please my father *to do* thee evil, then I will shew it thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace: and the LORD be with thee, *according as* He hath been with my father.

14 And thou shalt not only while yet I live shew me the kindness of the LORD, that I die not:

15 But *also* thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever: no, not when the LORD hath cut off the enemies of David every one from *the face of the earth.

16 So Jonathan *solemnized* a covenant with the house of David, *saying*, Let the LORD even require *it* at the hand of David's enemies.

17 *And again Jonathan sware unto David*, because he loved him: for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

18 Then Jonathan said to David, To morrow *is* the new moon: and thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty.

22 one. A special various reading (*Sevir*) reads "they".

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20. 1 my life. =my soul. Heb. *nephesh*. "Me" emphatic.

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5 unto the third day at even. Sept. reads "until the evening". Cp. v. 12.

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19 And *when* thou hast stayed three days, *then* thou shalt go down quickly, and come to the place where thou didst hide thyself ^owhen the business was *in hand*, and shalt remain by the *side of this mound*.

20 And I will shoot three arrows on the side *thereof*, as though I shot at a mark.

21 And, *behold, I will send a lad, *saying*, Go, find out the arrows. If I expressly say unto the lad, Behold, the arrows *are* on this side of thee, take them; then come thou: for *there is* peace to thee, and no hurt; *as* the LORD liveth.

22 But if I say thus unto the young man, Behold, the arrows *are* beyond thee; go thy way: for the LORD hath sent thee away.

23 And *as touching* the matter which thou and I have spoken of, *behold, the LORD *be* between thee and me for ever.

24 So David hid himself in the field: and when the new moon was come, the king sat him down to eat *food*.

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 spake *nothing concerning David's absence that day*: for he thought, Something hath befallen him, he is not clean; surely he *is* not clean.

27 And it came to pass on the morrow, *which was* the second *day* of the month, that David's place was empty: and Saul said unto Jonathan his son, Wherefore cometh not the son of Jesse to *the meal*, neither yesterday, nor to day?

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

29 And he said, Let me go, I pray thee; for our family hath a sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he hath commanded me *to be there*: and now, if I have found favour in thine eyes, let me get away, I pray thee, and see my brethren. Therefore he cometh not unto the king's table.

30 Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, ^oThou *a son of rebellious perversity*, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and unto the confusion of thy mother's nakedness?

31 For as long as the son of Jesse liveth upon the ground, thou shalt not be established, nor thy kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he *is doomed to die*.

32 And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said unto him, Wherefore shall he be slain? what hath he done?

33 And Saul cast a javelin at him to smite him: whereby Jonathan knew that *it* was determined of his father to slay David.

34 So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no meat the second day of the month: for he was grieved for David, because his father had done him shame.

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 unto his lad, Run, find out now the arrows which I shoot. *And* as the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.

37 And when the lad was come to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after the lad, and said, *Is* not the arrow beyond thee?

38 And Jonathan cried after the lad, Make speed, haste, stay not. And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master.

39 But the lad knew not any thing: only Jonathan and David knew the matter.

40 And Jonathan gave his ^o*weapons* unto his lad, and said unto him, Go, carry *them* to the city.

41 *And* as soon as the lad was gone, David arose *from beside the mound*, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed himself three times: and they kissed one another, and wept one with another, until David exceeded.

19 *when the business was at hand.* i.e. the day when Jonathan arranged for David to overhear Saul's murderous intention (19:2, 3), and when Jonathan devoted himself to the business of David's safety.

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30 *Thou son, &c.* i.e. a rebel like David. Cp. note on 18:19.

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40. *weapons.* Word extended from Latin *ars* =art. The oldest art was ploughing, but the chief weapon in the art of war has usurped to itself this word.

42 And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city.

21 Then came David to Nob to °Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, Why *art* thou alone, and no man with thee?

2 And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, The king hath commanded me a business, and hath said unto me, Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed *my* servants to such and such a place.

3 Now therefore what is under thine hand? give *me* five *loaves of* bread in mine hand, or what there is present.

4 And the priest answered David, and said, *There is* no *unhallowed* bread under mine hand, but there is °*holy* bread; if the young men have °kept themselves [*ceremonially clean*] at least from women.

5 And David answered the priest, and said unto him, Of a truth women *have been* kept from us about these three days, since I came out, and the °*wallets* of the young men are °*holy*, and *the bread is* in a manner *unhallowed, and the more so, when to-day there are other loaves to be hallowed in respect of their vessels*.

6 So the priest gave him *holy bread*: for there was no bread there but the shewbread, that was taken from before the LORD, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away.

7 Now a certain man of the servants of Saul *was* there that day, °detained before the LORD; and his name *was* Doeg, an Edomite, the chiefest of the herdmen that *belonged* to Saul.

8 And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.

9 And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the valley of Elah, °*behold, it is here* wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod: if thou wilt take that, take *it*: for *there is* no other save that here. And David said, *There is* none like that; give it me.

10 And David arose, and fled that day *from the face of Saul*, and went to Achish the king of Gath.

11 And the servants of Achish said unto him, *Is* not this David the king of the land? °*did* they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

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

13 And he changed his behaviour before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and *struck against* the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard.

14 Then said Achish unto his servants, °*Lo*, ye see the man is mad: °*wherefore* then have ye brought *the man* to me?

15 °*Have* I need of mad men, that ye have brought this *fellow* to play the mad man in my presence? °*shall* this *fellow* come into my house?

22 David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave °Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard *it*, they went down thither to him.

2 And every *man that was* in distress, and every *man that was* in debt, and every *man that was* °*bitter of soul*, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a *leader* over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

3 And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab: and he said unto the king of Moab, Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, *dwell* with you, till I know what God will do for me.

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21. 1 Ahimelech.

So called here and 22:9, 11, 14, 16, 20. See note on 14:3 and Mark 2:26.

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4 holy. See note on Ex. 3:5.

kept. And thus ceremonially clean, to eat such bread.

5 wallets. Cp. 17:40. Word not used in O.T. in the N.T. sense of 2 Tim. 2:21. 1 Thess. 4:4, &c.

7 detained, &c.

Probably from some ceremonial reason. Cp. "shut up" (Jer. 36:5), or a "vow" (Acts 21:23-27), or "uncleanness" (Lev. 13:4, 11, 21).

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22. 1 Adullam. See title of Ps. 57 (*Comp. Bible*).

2 bitter of soul. Cp. Judg. 18:25, "angry": i.e. embittered.

4 And he brought them before the king of Moab: and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the *fortified camp*.

5 And the prophet Gad said unto David, Abide not in the *fortified camp*; depart, and get thee into the land of Judah. Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hareth.

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

7 Then Saul said unto his servants that stood about him, Hear now, ye 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* none that sheweth me that my son hath made a league with the son of Jesse, and *there is* none of you that *taketh pity upon* me, or sheweth unto me that my son hath stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

9 ^oThen answered Doeg the Edomite, which was set over the servants of Saul, and said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.

10 And he inquired of the LORD for him, and gave him victuals, 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 that *were* in Nob: and they came all of them to the king.

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

13 And Saul said unto him, Why have ye conspired against me, thou and the son of Jesse, in that thou hast given him bread, and a sword, and hast 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 thy servants as David, which is the king's son in law, and ^o*cometh near for audience*, and is honourable in thine house?

15 ^{*}Did I then begin to inquire of God for him? be it far from me: let not the king impute *any* thing unto his servant, *nor* to all the house of my father: for thy servant knew nothing of all this, less or more.

16 And the king said, Thou shalt surely die, Ahimelech, thou, and all thy father's house.

17 And the king said unto the *runners* that stood about him, Turn, and slay the priests of the LORD; because their *helping hand* also *is* with David, and because they knew *that he was fleeing*, and did not shew it to me. But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of the LORD.

18 And the king said to Doeg, Turn thou, and fall upon the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and ^oslew on that day fourscore and five persons that did wear a linen ephod.

19 And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen, and asses, and sheep, with the edge of the sword.

20 And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named ^oAbiathar, escaped, and fled after David.

21 And Abiathar shewed David that Saul had slain the LORD's priests.

22 And David said unto Abiathar, I knew *it* that day, when Doeg the Edomite *was* there, that he would surely tell Saul: I have *involved the death of every soul* of thy father's house.

23 Abide thou with me, fear not: for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life: but with me thou *shalt be* in safeguard.

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9 **Then, &c.** Vv.

9—16, by Fig.

Hysteresis ([Ap.6](#)),

give details not contained in former narration (21:1—9).

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14 **cometh near, &c.** Sept. reads "is captain over thy bodyguard".

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18 **slew.** Thus partly fulfilling 2:31; 3:12, on Eli's house.

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20 **Abiathar, escaped.** Saul thus caused the transfer of the High Priest, with the Urim and Thummim, to David.

- 23** Then they told David, saying, *Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the threshingfloors.
- 2** Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the LORD said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.
- 3** And David's men said unto him, *Behold, we be 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 yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thine *hands*.
- 5** So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and smote them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of 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 in his hand.
- 7** And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said, God hath delivered him into mine hand; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath 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 *contrived* mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring hither the ephod.
- 10** Then said David, O LORD God of Israel, thy servant hath certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake.
- 11** Will the *lords* of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, *according as* thy servant hath heard? O LORD God of Israel, I beseech Thee, tell Thy servant. And the LORD said, He will come down.
- 12** Then said David, Will the *lords* of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul? And the LORD said, They will deliver *thee* up.
- 13** Then David and his men, *which were* about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbare to go forth.
- 14** And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a *hill country* in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand.
- 15** And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life: and David *was* in the wilderness of Ziph in a wood.
- 16** And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in God.
- 17** And he said unto him, Fear not: for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee; and that also Saul my father knoweth.
- 18** And they two made a covenant [*in a wood*] before the LORD: and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.
- 19** Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in strong holds in the wood, 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 thy ^osoul to come down; and our part *shall be* to deliver him into the king's hand.
- 21** And Saul said, Blessed *be* ye of the LORD; for ye have compassion on me.
- 22** Go, I pray you, *and prepare* yet, and know and see his place where his *trail* is, *and* who hath seen him there: for it is told me *that* he dealeth very subtilly.
- 23** See therefore, and *get to know* all the lurking places where he hideth himself, and come ye again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he be 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 a *wild forest* of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.
- 25** Saul also and his men went to *seek David*. And they told David: wherefore he came down *from the rock*, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.

26 And Saul [*and his men*] went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away *from the face of Saul*; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them.

27 But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land.

28 Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place ^oSela-hammahlekoth.

29 And David went up from thence, and dwelt in strong holds at En-gedi.

24 And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, *Behold, David *is* in the wilderness of En-gedi.

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

3 And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where *was* a cave; and Saul went in **to stoop down, causing his feet to be covered by his robe* [*relieve himself*]: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.

4 And the men of David said unto him, *Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, *Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him *according as* it shall seem good *in thine eyes*. Then David arose, and cut off the *corner* of Saul's robe privily.

5 And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off *the lappet of Saul's robe*.

6 And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my *lord*, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he *is* the anointed of the LORD.

7 So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not 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, Wherefore hearest thou ^omen's words, saying, *Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?

10 *Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and *some* bade *me* kill thee: but *mine* eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he *is* the LORD's anointed.

11 Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the *corner* of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe and killed thee not, know thou and see that *there is* neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it.

12 The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.

13 As saith the proverb of the ancients, *Lawlessness* *proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.

14 After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after *a dead dog, after *a single flea*.

15 The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and *justly deliver* me out of thine hand.

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

17 And he said to David, Thou *art* more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil.

28 Sela-hammahlekoth.
=the cliff of divisions or separations. Now *Wady Malaky*, where two forces could be inaccessible the one to the other, and yet within sight and hearing.

18 And thou hast shewed this day how that thou hast dealt well with me: forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me into thine hand, thou killedst me not.

19 For *if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day.

20 And now, *behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand.

21 Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house.

22 And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men gat them up unto the *stronghold*.

25 And Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and ^olamented him, and buried him *near* his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went ^odown to the wilderness of Paran.

2 And *there was* a man in Maon, whose *business was* 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* ^oNabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and *she was* a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man *was* churlish and evil in his doings; and he *was* ^oa *Calebite*.

4 And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal did shear his sheep.

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

6 And thus shall ye say to him that liveth *in prosperity*, Peace *be* both to thee, and peace *be* to thine house, and peace *be* unto all that thou hast.

7 And now I have heard that thou hast shearers: now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel.

8 Ask thy young men, and they will shew thee. Wherefore let the young men find favour in thine eyes: for we come in a good day: give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thine hand unto thy *servant*, and to thy son David.

9 And when David's young men came, they spake 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 be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master.

11 Shall I then take my bread, and my *wine*, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give *it* unto men, whom I know not whence they *be*?

12 So David's young men turned their way, and went again, and came and told him all those sayings.

13 And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the *baggage*.

14 But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, *Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he *stormed at them*.

15 But the men *were* very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we were conversant with them, when we were in the fields:

16 They were a wall unto us both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep.

25. 1 lamented.

As for a second Moses. Cp. Jer. 15:1.

down. Topography here is most exact.

It is a continuous descent to the *Negeb* for more than a day's journey.

3 Nabal. =foolish. a Calebite. But the Sept., Syr., and Arab. have translated the word "cynical".

17 Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he *is such* a son of Belial, that a *man* cannot speak to him.

18 Then Abigail made haste, ^oand took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched *corn*, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid *them* on asses.

19 And she said unto her servants, Go on before me; * behold, I come after you. But she told not her husband Nabal.

20 And it was *so, as* she rode on the ass, that she came down by the covert of the hill, and, * behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them.

21 Now David had said, Surely in vain have I kept all that this *fellow* hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that *pertained* unto him: and he hath requited me evil for good.

22 So and more also do God unto the enemies of David, if I leave of all that *pertain* to him by the morning light *any male*.

23 And when Abigail saw David, she hasted, and lighted off the ass, 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* ^oiniquity *be*: and let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak in thine audience, and hear the words of thine handmaid.

25 Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, *even* Nabal: for as his name *is*, so *is* he; Nabal *is* his name, and folly *is* with him: but I thine handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send.

26 Now therefore, my lord, *as* the LORD liveth, and *as* thy soul liveth, seeing the LORD hath withholden thee from *wading in blood*, and from *saving* thyself with thine own hand, now let thine enemies, and they that seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal.

27 And now this *present* which thine handmaid hath ^obrought unto my lord, let it even be given unto the young men that follow my lord.

28 I pray thee, forgive the ^otrespass of thine handmaid: for the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fighteth the battles of the LORD, and evil hath not been found in thee *all* thy days.

29 Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the *bag of the living* with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall **He** ^osling out, as out of the middle of a sling.

30 And it shall come to pass, when the LORD shall have done to my lord according to all the good that **He** hath spoken concerning thee, and shall have appointed thee ruler over Israel;

31 That this shall be no grief unto thee, nor offence of heart unto my lord, either that thou hast *shed innocent blood*, or that my lord hath *saved* himself: but when the LORD shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thine handmaid.

32 And David said to Abigail, Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel, **Which** sent thee this day to meet me:

33 And blessed *be* thy *good taste*, and blessed *be* thou, which hast kept me this day from *shedding innocent blood*, and from *saving* myself with mine own hand.

34 For in very deed, *as* the LORD God of Israel liveth, **Which** hath kept me back from hurting thee, except thou hadst hasted and come to meet me, surely there had not been left unto Nabal by the morning light *any male*.

35 So David received of her hand *that* which she had brought him, and said unto her, Go up in peace to thine house; see, I have hearkened to thy voice, and have *uplifted thy face*.

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

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18 and. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton*, emphasizing Abigail's thought and care, as well as rapidity.

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27 brought.

Verb is masc.; and is so when women act in masc. way, and fem, when men act in fem. way.

29 sling out. i.e. like the stones in David's sling.

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37 But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was 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 *after*, that the LORD smote Nabal, that he died.

39 And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, Blessed *be* the LORD, That hath pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and hath kept **H**is servant from evil: for the LORD hath returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head, And David sent and communed with Abigail, to take her to him to wife.

40 And when the servants of David were come to Abigail to Carmel, they spake unto her, saying, David sent us unto thee to take thee to him to wife.

41 And she arose, and bowed herself on *her* face to the earth, and said, ^{*}Behold, *let* thine handmaid *be* a servant to ^owash the feet of the servants of my lord.

42 And Abigail hasted, and arose, and rode upon an ass, with five damsels of hers that ^owent after her; and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife.

43 David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel; and they were also both of them his wives.

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

26 And the Ziphites came unto Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth 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 pitched in the hill of Hachilah, *which is* before Jeshimon, by the way. But David abode in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness.

4 David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was come in very deed.

5 And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had pitched: and David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his host: and Saul lay in the **barricade**, and the people pitched round about him.

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

7 So David and Abishai came to the People by night: and, behold, Saul lay sleeping within the **barricade**, and his ^ospear stuck in the ground at his **head**: but Abner and the People lay round about him.

8 Then said Abishai to David, God hath delivered thine enemy into thine hand this day: now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not *smite* him the second time.

9 And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD's anointed, and be guiltless?

10 David said furthermore, As the LORD liveth, the LORD shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish.

11 The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed: but, I pray thee, take thou now the spear that *is* at his **head**, and the **flask** of water, and let us go.

12 So David took the spear and the **flask** of water from Saul's bolster; and they gat them away, and **no one** saw *it*, nor knew *it*, neither awaked: for they *were* all asleep; because a deep sleep from the LORD was fallen upon them.

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

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41 wash the feet, &c. This was and is the most menial service.

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7 spear. This is still the mark of the chief's tent. Cp. 18:10.

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14 And David cried to the People, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, Answerest thou not, Abner? Then Abner answered and said, Who *art* thou *that* criest to the king?

15 And David said to Abner, *Art* not thou a *valiant* man? and who *is* like to thee in Israel? wherefore then hast thou ^onot kept thy lord the king? for there came one of the People in to destroy the king thy lord.

16 This thing *is* not good that thou hast done. *As* the LORD liveth, ye *are* worthy to die, because ye have not kept your master, the LORD's anointed. And now see where the king's spear *is*, and the *flask* of water that *was* at his *head*.

17 And Saul *recognized* David's voice, and said, *Is* this thy voice, my son David? And David said, *It is* my voice, my lord, O king.

18 And he said, Wherefore doth my lord thus pursue after his servant? for what have I done? or what evil *is* in mine hand?

19 Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let **Him** accept an offering: but if *they be* the *sons* of men, cursed be they before the LORD; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go, ^oserve other gods.

20 Now therefore, let not my blood fall to the earth before the face of the LORD: for the king of Israel is come out to seek *one flea*, as when one doth hunt a partridge in the mountains.

21 Then said Saul, I have sinned: return, my son David: for I will no more do thee harm, because my soul was precious in thine eyes this day: behold, I have played the fool, and have ^oerred exceedingly.

22 And David answered and said, ^{*}Behold the king's spear! and let one of the young men come over and fetch it.

23 ^{*}*Jehovah* render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness: for the LORD delivered thee into *my* hand to day, but I would not stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed.

24 And, ^{*}behold, as thy life was much set by this day in mine eyes, so let my life be much set by in the eyes of the LORD, and let him deliver me out of all tribulation.

25 Then Saul said to David, Blessed *be* thou, my son David: thou shalt both do great *things*, and also shalt still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

27 And David said *to himself*, ^oI 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 *border* of Israel: so shall I escape out of his hand.

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

3 And David dwelt 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 was fled to Gath: and he sought no more again for him.

5 And David said unto Achish, If I have now found grace in thine eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there: for why should thy servant dwell in the royal city with thee?

6 Then Achish gave him ^oZiklag that day: wherefore Ziklag pertaineth unto the kings of Judah unto this day.

7 And the time that David dwelt in the ^ocountry of the Philistines was a full year and four months.

8 And David and his men went up, and invaded the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites: for those *nations were* of old the inhabitants of the land, as thou goest to Shur, even unto the land of Egypt.

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19 *serve other gods.* David was being driven from God's altar.

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27. 1 *I shall now perish.* This lack of faith acted with disastrous results to David.

It put him in a false position; shook the Peoples confidence in him; delayed his own election; and led to divisions in the kingdom.

6 *Ziklag.* An outpost which protected Gath.

7 *country.* Heb. "field". Put by Fig. for country.

9 *And David smote the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the asses, and the camels, and the apparel, and returned, and came to Achish.

10 And Achish said, *against whom* have ye made a *raid* to day? 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 *tidings* to Gath, saying, Lest they should tell on us, saying, So did David, and so *will be* his manner all the while he dwelleth in the country of the Philistines.

12 And Achish believed David, saying, He hath made his *Israel's People* utterly to abhor him; therefore he shall be my servant for ever.

28 And it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said unto David, Know thou assuredly, that thou shalt go out with me to battle, thou and thy men.

2 And David said to Achish, *Therefore* thou shalt know what thy servant can do. And Achish said to David, Therefore will I make thee *captain of my bodyguard* for ever.

3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him *in his own city, Ramah*. And Saul had put away those that °had familiar spirits [*demons pretending to be dead persons*], and the °wizards, out of the land.

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

5 And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.

6 And when Saul *asked* of the LORD, the LORD °answered him not, neither by dreams nor by °Urim, nor by prophets.

7 Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me °a woman that °*possesses as mistress* a °familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and *seek out* of her. And his servants said to him, *Behold, *there is* a woman that hath a °familiar spirit at Endor.

8 And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit [*necromancy*], and bring me *him* up, whom I shall name unto thee.

9 And the woman said unto him, *Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have °familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?

10 And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.

11 Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring °up unto thee? And he said, Bring me °up Samuel.

12 And when the woman °saw Samuel, °she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for °thou *art* Saul.

13 And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw °gods ascending °out of the earth.

14 And he said unto her, What form *is* he of? And she said, An old °man cometh up; and he is covered with a °mantle. And Saul °*understood* that *it was* Samuel, and he *did obeisance* with *his* face to the ground, and bowed himself.

10 **south.** Heb. the *Negeb* or hill country south of Judah.

28.2 **Therefore.** Which Achish repeats in his reply.

3 **had familiar spirits.** Familiar spirits are demons pretending to be dead persons; hence the word "necromancy". See notes on Lev. 19:31 and Isa. 8:19. **wizards.** = wise, cunning, or knowing ones.

6 **answered hi not.** Not likely therefore to answer now by a way He had forbidden. Samuel had been dead two years.

Urim. See note on Ex. 28:30. Num. 26:55. It must have been an ephod of his own making, as Abiathar the High Priest was with David. Saul makes no mention of this in v. 15.

7 **a woman.** Answering to the modern "mediums".

possesses as, &c. See note on Lev. 19:31.

11 **up.** Note: not down, or forth. Cp. v. 13.

12 **saw Samuel.** Or the materialization of a deceiving spirit personating Samuel, as is done by "mediums" to-day.

she cried, &c. Evidently surprised, and getting more than she expected.

thou art Saul. How should she know this but by a communication from the spirit.

13 **gods.** Pl. of *Elohim*. Either "a god" or a spirit manifestation.

out of the earth. Not down, or forth, as in John 11:43, 44.

14 **man.** Heb. *ish*. Not a spirit.

mantle. If a spirit, why a mantle? Samuel's spirit was with God (Ecc. 1:7). And if Samuel's body, it would be with "grave-clothes" (John 11:44).

understood. i.e. from what the medium said. He *saw* nothing.

15 And ^oSamuel said to Saul, Why hast thou ^odisquieted ^ome, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me ^ono more, neither ^oby prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

16 ^oThen said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, ^o**and hath come to be with thy neighbour** ?

17 And the LORD hath done to him, **according as He spake by my hand**: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, *even* to David:

18 Because thou **hearkenedst not to** the voice of the LORD, nor executedst **His fierce** **judgment* upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day.

19 Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow *shalt* thou and thy sons **be with the dead**: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

20 Then Saul **remained motionless** all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no **food** all the day, nor all the night.

21 And the woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore troubled, and said unto him, **Behold*, thine handmaid hath **hearkenedst to** thy voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened unto thy words which thou spakest unto me.

22 Now therefore, I pray thee, hearken thou also unto the voice of thine handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before thee; and eat, that thou mayest have strength, when thou goest on thy way.

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

24 And the woman had a fat calf in the **shed**; and she hasted, and killed it, and took flour, and kneaded *it*, and did bake unleavened bread thereof:

25 And she brought *it* before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

29 Now the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek: and the Israelites pitched by a fountain which *is* in Jezreel.

2 And the ^o**princes** of the Philistines passed on by hundreds, and by thousands: but David and his men passed on in the rereward with Achish.

3 Then said the princes of the Philistines, What *do* these Hebrews *here*? And Achish said unto the princes of the Philistines, *Is* not this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, which hath been with me these days, or these years, and I have found no fault in him since he **departed** ^o**unto me** unto this day?

4 And the princes of the Philistines were wroth with him; and the princes of the Philistines said unto him, Make this ^ofellow return, that he may go again to his place which thou hast appointed him, and let him not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he be an adversary to us: for wherewith should he reconcile himself unto 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 slew his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

6 Then Achish called David, and said unto him, Surely, *as* the LORD liveth, thou hast been upright, and thy going out and thy coming in with me in the host *is* good in my sight: for I have not found evil in thee since the day of thy coming unto me unto this day: nevertheless **thou art not good in the eyes of the princes**.

15 Samuel said.

i.e. the spirit personating Samuel said. Just as it is done in the present day by the medium: never directly.

disquieted. If Samuel, then it shows he was "quiet" before.

me. Not my spirit.

no more. Therefore certainly not by means which He had expressly forbidden. See Lev. 19:31; 20:6, 27. Deut. 18:10, 13, &c.

by prophets. Saul omits the reference to "Urim" because it would remind him of the murder of the priests (22:18, 19). See note on v. 6.

16 Then said Samuel.

Jehovah might have sent "a lying spirit", and given by it a true message, just as He did in 2 Chron. 18:19-22. Nothing was said but what was well known before.

and hath come, &c.

The Sept. reads "and hath come to be with thy neighbour". Cp. v. 17 and 15:28.

29. 2 princes. vv. 3, 4, &c. See note on Josh. 13:3.

3 unto me. These words are in the text of Sept. and Vulg.

4 fellow. Heb. *ish*.

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7 Wherefore now return, and go in peace, that thou displease not the *princes* of the Philistines.

8 And David said unto Achish, But what have I done? and what hast thou found in thy servant so long as I have been *before thee* unto 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 thou *art* good in my sight, as a *messenger* of God: notwithstanding the princes of the Philistines have said, He shall not go up with us to the battle.

10 Wherefore now rise up early in the morning *thou, and the servants of thy lord* that are come ^owith thee [*and depart unto the place where I appointed you, and entertain no evil thought in thy heart; for thou art good in my sight*]: and as soon as ye be 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.

30 And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded *the hill country south of Judah*, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and *burned up it* with fire;

2 And had taken *the women, and all who were therein*: they slew not 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, behold, *it was burning* with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives.

4 Then David and the People that *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 ^othe wife of Nabal the Carmelite.

6 And David was greatly distressed; for the People spake of stoning him, because the ^osoul of all the People was *embittered*, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David *strengthened* himself in the LORD his God.

7 And David said to ^oAbiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod. And ^oAbiathar brought thither the ephod to David.

8 And David inquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And **He** answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt 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 that were left behind stayed.

10 But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for two hundred abode behind, which 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 did eat; and they made him drink water;

12 And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his ^ospirit came again to him: for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk *any* water, ^{*} three days and three nights.

13 And David said unto him, To whom *belongest* thou? and whence *art* thou? 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 ^oCherethites, and upon *the coast* which *belongeth* to Judah, and upon the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

10 *thou, and the servants, &c.* Sept. reads "thou, and the servants of thy lord". Probably the Manassites named in 1 Chron. 12:19, 20, who deserted to David.
with thee. The Sept. adds this clause.

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5 *the wife.* The Fig. Ampliatio (Ap.6), by which Abigail is still called the wife of Nabal, though he was dead. Cp. 27:3; 2 Sam. 3:3. Those ignorant of Figures of Speech would call this a "discrepancy".
7 *Abiathar.* He had the ephod, with David. Zadok, who was with Saul, had it not.

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14 *Cherethites.* Probably a clan of Philistines, v. 16.

15 And David said to him, Canst thou bring me down to this *troop*? And he said, Swear unto me by God, that thou wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring thee down to this *troop*.

16 And when he had brought him down, *behold, *they were* spread abroad upon all the *surrounding land*, 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 smote them from *the morning* even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which 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 any *thing* that they had taken to them: David recovered all.

20 And David took all the flocks and the herds, *which they drave in triumph* before those *other spoils*, and said, This *is* David's spoil.

21 And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the People that *were* with him: and when David came near to the People, *they inquired of his welfare*.

22 Then answered all the wicked men and *men* of Belial, of those that went with David, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them *ought* of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his *sons*, that they may lead *them* away, and depart.

23 Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us, Who hath preserved us, and delivered the *troop* that came against us into our hand.

24 For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part *is* that goeth down to the battle, so *shall* his part *be* that tarrieth by the *baggage*: they shall part alike.

25 °And it was *so* from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day.

26 And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil unto the elders of Judah, *even* to his friends, saying, *Behold a °present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD;

27 To *them* which *were* in Bethel, and to *them* which *were* in south Ramoth, and to *them* which *were* in Jattir,

28 And to *them* which *were* in Aroer, and to *them* which *were* in Siphmoth, and to *them* which *were* in Eshtemoa,

29 And to *them* which *were* in Rachal, and to *them* which *were* in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to *them* which *were* in the cities of the Kenites,

30 And to *them* which *were* in Hormah, and to *them* which *were* in Chor-ashan, and to *them* which *were* in Athach,

31 And to *them* which *were* in °Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were wont to *frequent*.

31 Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa.

2 And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and °Abinadab, and Malchi-shua, Saul's sons.

3 And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was *in sore anguish* of the archers.

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25 And it was so. The 20th Seder begins here, and ends with 2 Sam. 2:6. See note on p. 366.

26 present. All these places south of Hebron were protected by David, and these presents were a return for their support.

31 Hebron. Caleb's lot: the Negeb. Cp. 27:10.

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31. 2 Abinadab. Called Ishui (14:49).

4 Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and *insult* me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.

5 And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him.

6 ^oSo Saul died, and his three sons, and his armourbearer, *yea, and* all his men, that same day together.

7 And when the men of Israel that *were* on the other side of the valley, and *they* that *were* on the other side Jordan, 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 dwelt in them.

8 And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa.

9 And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish *it in* the house of their idols, and among the people.

10 And they put his armour in the house of Ashtaroath: and they fastened ^ohis body to the wall of ^oBeth-shan.

11 And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard of that which the Philistines had done *about* Saul;

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 Beth-shan, 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.

6 So Saul died. Cp. 1 Chron. 10:13, 14. Here, history from human standpoint; in Chronicles, God's standpoint, and reasons of the history. See notes on 1 Chron. 10:13, and [Ap.55](#). If Saul was thirty years of age when anointed, he would now be seventy; and Jonathan fifty-three or fifty-four. See note on 13:1.

10 his body. This is additional to 1 Chron. 10:10; and "his head", there, is additional to 1 Sam. 31:10. The two books and accounts are independent, supplementary, and complementary by Fig. **Beth-shan.** It had remained Canaanite, and therefore friendly to Philistines (Judg. 1:27).