

[THE SECOND BOOK OF THE KINGS,  
COMMONLY CALLED,  
THE FOURTH BOOK OF THE KINGS.]

**1** Then <sup>o</sup>Moab rebelled against Israel <sup>o</sup>after the death of Ahab.

And Ahaziah fell down through a <sup>o</sup>lattice in his upper chamber that *was* in Samaria, and was sick: and he sent messengers, and said unto them, “Go, inquire of <sup>o</sup>Baal-zebub the god of <sup>o</sup>Ekron whether I shall recover of this disease.”

**3** But the Angel of the LORD said to <sup>o</sup>Elijah the Tishbite, “Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say unto them, ‘*Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to inquire of <sup>2</sup>Baal-zebub the god of Ekron?*’”

**4** Now therefore thus saith the LORD, ‘Thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but <sup>o</sup>shalt surely die.’ ’ ’ ” And Elijah departed.

**5** And when the messengers turned back unto him, he said unto them, “Why are ye now turned back?”

**6** And they said unto him, “There came a man up to meet us, and said unto us, ‘Go, turn again unto the king that sent you, and say unto him, ‘Thus saith the LORD, ‘*Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that thou sendest to inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron? therefore thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but <sup>4</sup>shalt surely die.*’ ’ ’ ”

**7** And he said unto them, “What manner of man *was he* which came up to meet you, and told you these words?”

**8** And they answered him, “*He was a man clad in a garment consisting of a skin*, and girt with a <sup>@</sup>girdle of leather about his loins.” And he said, “It *is* Elijah the Tishbite.”

**9** Then the king sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him: and, behold, he sat on the top of an hill. And he spake unto him, “Thou <sup>o</sup>man of God, the king hath said, ‘Come down.’ ”

**10** And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, “If I *be* a <sup>o</sup>man of God, then <sup>o</sup>let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty”. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

**1. 1 Moab rebelled.** Moab had been subdued by David (2 Sam. 8. 2; 23. 20); and when the kingdom was divided it passed to Israel. It was greatly oppressed by Omri and Ahab, and, on the death of the latter (cp. 3. 5), Mesha, king of Moab, rebelled. See the record of the event on “the Moabite stone”. Ap. 54.

The verse is introduced here to complete the symmetry of the introversion. **after.** The inscription on the Moabite stone leaves the exact date indefinite. Line five, “Israel perished”, may refer to the death of Ahab.

**2-16. AHAZIAH. PERSONAL EVILDOING.**

- 2. Mission to Baal-zebub.
- 3. Reproof of Elijah.
- 4. Assurance of death.
- 5. Messengers. Inquiry.
- 6-8. Messengers. Report.
- 9-15. Missions to Elijah.
- 16-. Reproof of Elijah.
- 16. Assurance of death.

**2 lattice** = network or balustrade, which protected the open window of the upper chamber. Cp. Judg. 3. 20; 5. 28. 1 Kings 17. 19. 2 Kings 4. 10.

**Baal-zebub** = Lord of flies. Later Jews polluted it by changing it to Beel-zebub (Lord of dung or dunghills), In Matt. 12. 24 it is in Greek Baal-zebul = lord of abominable idols; the prince of idols and idolatry; the worst and chief of all wickedness. Imagine the blasphemy.

**Ekron.** One of the five Philistine cities. Josh. 13. 3.

**3 Angel of the LORD.** See note on Ex. 3. 2. He who directed Moses directs Elijah. **the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**Elijah** = my GOD is JAH. See Ap. 4. III. **God.** Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I

**4 shalt surely die.** Same as Gen. 2. 17. **6 man.** Heb. *'ish.* Ap. 14. II.

**8 hairy** = clad in a garment consisting of a skin. Prophets wore coarse clothing (Zech. 13. 4. Matt. 3. 4).

**girdle of leather.** Worn by Palestine peasants to-day.

**8 behold.** Fig. *Asterismos.* Ap. 6.

**man of God.** The people's name for a prophet. See Ap. 49.

**10 let fire come down.** Quoted in Luke 9. 54.

**12 unto them.** Some codices, with Sept. and Syr., read “unto him”.

**fire of God.** Occurs only here and Job 1. 16. Some codices, with Aram., Sept., and Vulg., omit “of God”, as in v. 10.

**11** Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, “O <sup>o</sup>man of God, thus hath the king said, ‘Come down quickly.’ ”

**12** And Elijah answered and said *unto him*, “If I *be* a <sup>o</sup>man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty.” And the <sup>o</sup>fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

**13** And he sent again a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said unto him, “O <sup>o</sup>man of God, I pray thee, let my <sup>o</sup>life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be precious in thy sight.

**14** Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and **consumed** the two captains of the former fifties with their fifties: therefore let my life now be precious in thy sight.”

**15** And the Angel of the LORD said unto Elijah, “Go down with him: be not afraid of him.” And he arose, and went down with him unto the king.

**16** And he said unto him, “Thus saith the LORD, ‘Forasmuch as thou hast sent messengers to inquire of <sup>2</sup>Baal-zebub the god of Ekron, <sup>o</sup>is it not because *there is* no God in Israel to inquire of **His** word? therefore thou shalt not come down off that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.’ ”

**17** So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son.

**18** Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

**2** And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into <sup>o</sup>heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with <sup>o</sup>Elisha <sup>o</sup>from Gilgal.

**2** And Elijah said unto Elisha, “Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel.” And <sup>1</sup>Elisha said *unto him*, “As the LORD liveth, and *as thyself* liveth, I will not leave thee.” So they went <sup>o</sup>down to Bethel.

**3** And the sons of the prophets that *were* at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, “Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master **from over thee** to day?” And he said, “Yea, I know *it*; hold ye your peace.”

**4** And Elijah said unto him, “Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho.” And he said, “As the LORD liveth, and *as <sup>2</sup>thyself* liveth, I will not leave thee.” So they came to Jericho.

**5** And the sons of the prophets that *were* at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, “Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master **from over thee** to day?” And he answered, “Yea, I know *it*; hold ye your peace.”

**6** And Elijah said unto him, “Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan.” And he said, “As the LORD liveth, and *as <sup>2</sup>thyself* liveth, I will not leave thee.” And they two went on.

**7** And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan.

**8** And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped *it* together, and

**13** life = soul. Heb. *nepshesh*. Ap. 13.

**14** burnt up = consumed, as in vv. 10, 12.

**16** is it not . . . ? Fig. *Erotosis* (Ap. 6), or “was it because”, &c.

#### 2: 1-25. ELIJAH. TRANSLATION.

1-	Translation purposed.
-1.	Elisha accompanies Elijah from Gilgal.
2-24.	Translation effected.
25.	Elisha returns to Samaria.

**1** the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

heaven = heavens, and elsewhere.

Elisha = my God [is] salvation. See his call (1 Kings 19. 16) ten years before.

from Gilgal. The reverse route taken by Israel on entering the Land.

#### 2-24. TRANSLATION EFFECTED.

2, 3.	Beth-el.	} Journey.
4, 5.	Jericho.	
6-18.	Jordan.	} Translation.
19-22.	Jericho.	
23, 24.	Beth-el.	

**2** thy soul = thyself. Heb. *nepshesh*. Ap. 13.

down. Therefore Gilgal in v. 1 cannot be the well-known Gilgal near Jericho, but another between Tibneh and Shiloh. See 4. 38. Gilgal = circle; and there may have been several such.

**3** from thy head = from over thee: “head,” put by Fig. *Synecdoche* (of Part), Ap. 6, for himself”.

#### 6-18. JORDAN. TRANSLATION.

6.	Their journey thither.
7.	Sons of the prophets. Observation.
8.	Passage of Jordan. From Jericho.
9, 10.	Elisha. Request made.
11.	Translation of Elijah.
12.	Elisha. Request granted.
13, 14.	Repassage of Jordan. Observation.
16-18.	Their journey thither, and return.

**7** men. Heb. *ish*. Ap. 14. II.

**9** double portion. See note on v. 15.

spirit. Heb. *ruach*. Ap. 9. Put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Cause) for the gifts and operations of the Spirit of God.

**10** nevertheless. The verse needs no italics.

see = clearly see.

**11** a whirlwind. Not a fiery chariot, according to a certain hymn. Cp. v. 1.

smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground.

**9** And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, “Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee.” And Elisha said, “I pray thee, let a <sup>o</sup>double portion of thy **gifts and operations of the Spirit of God** be upon me.”

**10** And he said, “Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou **clearly see** me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so.”

**11** And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, *there appeared* a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by <sup>o</sup>a whirlwind into <sup>1</sup>heaven.

**12** And Elisha <sup>11</sup> *clearly saw it*, <sup>o</sup>and he cried, <sup>o</sup>“My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof.” And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces.

**13** He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan;

**14** And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, “Where *is* <sup>o</sup>the LORD God of Elijah?” and when he also had smitten the waters, <sup>o</sup>they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went <sup>o</sup>over.

**15** And when the sons of the prophets which *were* to view at Jericho saw him, they said, “The <sup>9</sup>*gifts and operations of the Spirit of God* of Elijah *hath rested* on Elisha.” And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

**16** And they said unto him, “Behold now, there be with thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master: lest peradventure the <sup>9</sup>Spirit of the LORD hath taken him up, and cast him upon some mountain, or into some valley.” And he said, Ye shall not send.

**17** And when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, “Send.” They sent therefore fifty men; and they sought three days, but found him not.

**18** And when they came again to him, (for he tarried at Jericho,) he said unto them, “Did I not say unto you, ‘Go not’?”

**19** And the men of the city said unto Elisha, “Behold, I pray thee, the situation of this city *is* pleasant, as my lord seeth: but the water *is* naught, and the ground barren.”

**20** And he said, “Bring me a new <sup>o</sup>cruse, and put salt therein.” And they brought *it* to him.

**21** And he went forth unto the spring of the waters, and <sup>o</sup>cast the salt in there, and said, “Thus saith the LORD, ‘I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any more death or barren *land*.’”

**22** So the waters were healed unto this day, according to the saying of Elisha which he spake.

**23** And he went up from thence unto <sup>o</sup>Bethel: and as he was going up by the way, there came forth *young men* out of the city, and mocked him, and said unto him, “Go up, thou <sup>o</sup>bald head; <sup>o</sup>go up, thou bald head.”

**24** And he turned back, and looked on them, and cursed them in the name of the LORD. And there came forth two she <sup>o</sup>bears out of the wood, and tare forty and two *progeny* of them.

**25** And he went from thence to mount Carmel, and from thence he returned to Samaria.

**3** Now Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.

**13 and.** Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6) in v. 12.

**My father.** Fig. *Epizeuxis*. Ap. 6. The repetition = my revered, or beloved father.

**14 the LORD God** = Jehovah Elohim; or. Where is Jehovah the God of Elijah? After this the Heb. text has ‘*aph hu* = “even he”. The Vulg. reads this as the end of the question. But the Massorites, by the accent (*athnach*), throw it on to the next sentence, “and when even he smote the waters”, &c.

**they parted.** The first of sixteen miracles. See note on v. 15.

**over.** The 19th *Seder* ends here. See note on p. 366.

**15 doth rest** = hath rested. Cp. 1 Pet. 4. 14. Rest in “double portion” according to v. 9. Seen in the fact that Elijah wrought eight miracles and Elisha sixteen, and all were parables in action.

#### *Elijah's eight Miracles* (1 and 2 Kings).

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Shutting heaven (17. 1).         | 5. Rain (18. 45).              |
| 2. Oil multiplied (17. 14).         | 6. Fire on 50 (2 Kings 1. 10). |
| 3. Widow's son raised (17. 22, 23). | 7. Fire on 50 (2 Kings 1. 12). |
| 4. Fire from heaven (18. 38).       | 8. Jordan (2 Kings 2. 8).      |

#### *Elisha's sixteen Miracles* (2 Kings).

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Jordan divided (2. 14).     | 9. Bread multiplied (4. 43).   |
| 2. Waters healed (2. 21).      | 10. Naaman healed (5. 10).     |
| 3. Bears from wood (2. 24).    | 11. Gehazi smitten (5. 27).    |
| 4. Water for kings (3. 20).    | 12. Iron to swim (6. 6).       |
| 5. Oil for widow (4. 1-6).     | 13. Sight to blind (6. 17).    |
| 6. Gift of son (4. 16, 17).    | 14. Smiting blindness (6. 18). |
| 7. Raising from dead (4. 35).  | 15. Restoring sight (6. 20).   |
| 8. Healing of pottage (4. 41). | 16. One after death (13. 21).  |

**20 cruse.** Occurs only here. **21 cast the salt.** Elisha's second miracle.

**23 Beth-el.** One of the seats of Israel's calf-worship (1 Kings 12. 26-30). **little children** = young men. Heb. *na'ar*. Used of Isaac (twenty-eight years old); Joseph (thirty-nine); Rehoboam (forty).

**Go up, &c.** An open insult, avenged by Elisha's God in a way suited for that dispensation, though not for this. “Go up” may have referred to Elijah's translation; and thus, a blasphemous insult outraging Jehovah's own act. **bald head.** Baldness premature. Elisha lived fifty years longer (13. 14). **go up, &c.** Fig. *Epizeuxis*. Ap. 6.

**24 bears.** See 1 Sam. 17. 34-36.

**children** = progeny. Not the same word as v. 23.

#### **3: 1--8: 15. JORAM.**

**3: 1-3.** Events. Personal.

**3: 4--8: 15.** Events. Political.

**2 evil** = the evil. Heb. *ra a*. Ap. 44. viii.

**his mother.** Jezebel, who lived through the whole of his reign (9. 30).

**image** = pillar, or statue (which Ahab had made. Cp. 10. 18). 1 Kings 19. 18. Others remained (10. 26, 27).

**3 made Israel to sin.** See note on 1 Kings 14.16.

**3. 4—8. 15 [For Structure see next page].**

**4 Meslia.** See Ap. 54 on “the Moabite stone”.

**2** And he wrought *the evil* in the sight of the LORD; but not like his father, and like his mother [*Jezebel*]: for he put away the *statue* of Baal that his father had made.

**3** Nevertheless he cleaved unto the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which <sup>o</sup>made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom.

**4** And <sup>o</sup>Mesha king of Moab was a sheeppmaster, and rendered unto the king of Israel an hundred thousand lambs, and an hundred thousand rams, with the wool.

**5** But it came to pass, when <sup>o</sup>Ahab was dead, that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.

**6** And king Jehoram went out of Samaria the same time, and numbered all Israel.

**7** And he went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying, "The king of Moab hath rebelled against me: wilt thou go with me against Moab to battle?" And he said, "I will go up:" <sup>o</sup>I *am* as thou *art*, my People as thy People, *and* my horses as thy horses.

**8** And *Jehoram* said, <sup>o</sup>"Which way shall we go up?" And *Jehoshaphat* answered, "The way through the wilderness of Edom."

**9** So the king of Israel went, and the king of Judah, and the king of Edom: and they *made a circuit* of seven days' journey: and there was no water for the host, and for the cattle that followed them.

**10** And the king of Israel said, "Alas! that the LORD hath called these three kings together, to deliver them into the hand of Moab!"

**11** But Jehoshaphat said, <sup>o</sup>"*Is there* not here a prophet of the LORD, that we may inquire of the LORD by him?" And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, "Here *is* Elisha the son of Shaphat, which *was an attendant with* Elijah."

**12** And Jehoshaphat said, "The word of the LORD is with him." So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat [*king of Judah*] and the king of Edom went down to him.

**13** And Elisha said unto the king of Israel, <sup>o</sup>"What have I to do with thee? get thee to the prophets of thy father, and to the prophets of thy mother." And the king of Israel said unto him, "*Say not so:*" for the LORD hath called these three kings together, to deliver them into the hand of Moab."

**14** And Elisha said, "As the LORD of hosts liveth, <sup>o</sup>before Whom I stand, surely, were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not look toward thee, nor see thee.

**15** But now bring me a *harper*." And it came to pass, when the *harper* played, that *the Spirit* of the LORD came upon him.

**16** And he said, "Thus saith the LORD, 'Make this *dry watercourse* full of <sup>o</sup>ditches.

**17** For thus saith the LORD, 'Ye shall not see <sup>o</sup>wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.'

**18** And this is *but* a light thing in the sight of the LORD: He will deliver the Moabites also into your hand.

**19** And ye shall smite every fenced city, and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop all wells of water, and *spoil* every good piece of land with stones."

**20** And it came to pass in the morning, when the *meal offering* was *offered up*, that, behold, <sup>o</sup>there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.

### 3: 4--8: 15. EVENTS. POLITICAL.

3: 4-27.	War with Moab. Mesha.
4: 1-7.	Elisha. Creditor and widow.
4: 8-37.	Shunammite.
4: 38-44.	Famine. Miraculous supplies.
5: 1-27.	Mission to Elisha (Naaman).
6: 1-7.	Elisha. Residence and axe head.
6: 8-23.	War with Syria.
6: 24--7: 20.	Famine. Miraculous supplies.
8: 1-6.	Shunammite.
8: 7-15.	Mission to Elisha. (Ben-hadad).

### 4-27. WAR WITH MOAB. MESHA.

4, 5.	Mesha's rebellion.
6-9-.	Allies advance.
-9.	Exigence.
10-25.	How met.
26-.	Mesha's defeat.
-26.	Exigence.
27-.	How met.
-27.	Allies retire.

**5 Ahab was dead.** Cp. 1. 1. He and his son Ahaziah both died in the same year (800 B. C). See Ap. 50. V, p. 58.

**7 I am, &c.** Cp. 1 Kings 22. 4. **8 he said:** i.e. Jehoram.

**Which way . . . ?** Either by crossing Jordan north of the Dead Sea and attacking Moab from the north ; or by Edom, which was under Judah (1 Kings 22. 47). **he answered:** i.e. Jehoshaphat answered.

**9 fetched a compass** = made a circuit. Cp. Acts 28. 13.

### 10-25. EXIGENCY. HOW MET.

10.	Trouble of the three kings.
11, 12.	Elisha. Help sought.
13-.	Reproof.
-13.	Trouble of the three kings.
14.	Reproof.
15-25.	Elisha. Help given.

**11 Is there not here ... ?** A similar question asked before by Jehoshaphat (1 Kings 22. 7). **poured water, &c.** Put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Adjunct), Ap. 6, for being an attendant.

**12 Jehoshaphat.** Some codices, with Sept., Syr., and Vulg., add "king of Judah". **13 What . . . ?** See note on 2 Sam. 16. 10. Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6. **Nay** = Say not so.

**14 before, &c.** Implying Elisha's priesthood.

**not look.** Jehoram was wicked in himself (v. 2), as well as being the son of Ahab. Elisha less austere later (ch. 6).

### 15-25. ELISHA. HELP GIVEN.

15, 16.	Means.
17-25.	Ends.

**15 minstrel** = harper. From Heb. *nagan*, to harp.

**hand.** Fig. *Prosopopoeia* (Ap. 6). But some codices, with Aram., read "the Spirit". **16 valley** = a dry watercourse.

**ditches** = trenches. Heb. *ditches* *ditches*. Fig. *Epizeuxis* (Ap. 6) = full of.

### 17-25. ENDS.

17.	Water.	} Prophecy.
18, 19.	Victory.	
20.	Water.	} Fulfillment.
21-25.	Victory.	

**17 wind.** Heb. *ruach*. Ap. 9.

**19 mar** = spoil. **20 meat offering** = meal offering. Heb. *minhah*.

See Ap. 43. II iii = gift offering.

**offered** = **offered up**.

**there came water.** Elisha's fourth miracle. See note on 2. 15.

**21** And when all the Moabites heard that the kings were come up to fight against them, they gathered all that were able to <sup>o</sup>put on armour, and upward, and stood in the border.

**22** And they rose up early in the morning, and the sun shone upon the water, and the Moabites saw the water on the other side *as* <sup>o</sup>red as blood:

**23** And they said, "This *is* blood: the kings are surely *destroyed*, and they have smitten one another: now therefore, Moab, to the spoil."

**24** And when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites, so that they fled before them: but they <sup>o</sup>*went forward still further and went on smiting* the Moabites, even in *their* country.

**25** And they beat down the cities, and on every good piece of land cast every man his stone, and filled it; and they stopped all the wells of water, and felled all the good trees: only in <sup>o</sup>Kir-haraseth left they the <sup>o</sup>stones [*in the wall*] thereof; *and till the slingers should surround and smite it*.

**26** And when the king of Moab saw that the battle was too sore for him, he took with him seven hundred men that drew swords, to break through *even* unto the king of Edom: but they could not.

**27** Then he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his stead, and *offered him up for* <sup>o</sup>a burnt offering upon *the higher of the two walls*. And there was great *wrath* against Israel: and <sup>o</sup>they departed *from the king of Moab*, and returned to *their own* land.

**4** Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, "Thy servant my <sup>o</sup>husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be <sup>o</sup>bondmen."

**2** And Elisha said unto her, "What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house?" And she said, "Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil."

**3** Then he said, "Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, *even* empty vessels; *scant not*."

**4** And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full."

**5** So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, *they bringing the vessels* to her; and <sup>o</sup>she poured out.

**6** And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, "Bring me yet a vessel." And he said unto her, "*There is not a vessel more*." And the oil stayed.

**7** Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil, and pay thy *creditor*, and live thou and

**21** put on armour. Heb. gird a girdle.

**22** red as blood. Implied as owing to the action of the sun. Equally a miracle. **23** slain = destroyed.

**24** went forward. Some codices, &c, add "still further", and connect this with entering. Other codices, with six early printed editions, Sept., Syr., and Vulg., connect these words with the *smiting*, and read "still further smote", or "went on smiting".

**25** Kir-haraseth = The city of the hill. The capital of Moab.

stones [in the wall] thereof. Supply Fig. *Ellipsis*. Ap. 6.

howbeit, &c. = and [till] the slingers should surround and smite it.

**27** offered him = offered him up. Ap. 43. I vi.

a burnt offering. Ap. 43. II. ii. Recording a fact on which Mesha is silent on the Moabite stone. Ap. 54.

the wall. i.e., the higher of the two. Heb. *homah* not *kir* as in vv. 4. 10.

indignation = wrath. This led probably to Moab's subsequent success.

they departed. This expresses the failure of Israel's expedition, while Mesha goes on to record his subsequent successes, which were great—all the cities taken by him (Ap. 54) being those belonging to Reuben and Gad.

from him : i.e. from the king of Moab.

their own. The Syr. and Vulg. have these words in the text.

**4. 1** husband = man. Heb. *'ish*. Ap. 14. II. **bondmen**. Cp. Lev. 25.

39 and Neh. 5. 5. 3

**borrow not a few** = scant not.

**5** who brought = they bringing.

**she poured out**. Elisha's fifth

miracle. See note on 2. 15.

**7** God. Heb. *Elohim*. Ap. 4. I.

debt = creditor.

**children** = sons.

#### 4: 8-37. THE SHUNAMMITE.

8-17.	Son given.
18-20.	Son's death.
21.	Elisha's bed. Placed on.
22-24.	Her mission to Elisha.
25-27.	Her Arrival.
28-31.	Her Converse with Elisha.
32, 33.	Elisha's bed. Found on.
34, 35.	Son raised.
36, 37.	Son restored.

#### 8-17. SON GIVEN.

8.	Resort of Elisha (general).
9, 10.	Accommodation.
11.	Resort of Elisha (particular).
12-17.	Compensation.

**8** Shunem. In the plain of Esdraelon. The native place of Abishag (1 Kings 1. 3). **great** = wealthy, or a person of position (2 Sam. 19. 32).

**9** holy. See note on Ex. 3. 5.

**10** chamber = upper chamber, or wall-chamber.

candlestick = lampstand. Very little furniture used in the East to-day.

thy *sons* of the rest."

**8** And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to <sup>o</sup>Shunem, where *was a wealthy* woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And *so* it was, *that* as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread.

**9** And she said unto her <sup>1</sup>husband, "Behold now, I perceive that this *is* an <sup>o</sup>holy man of God, which passeth by us continually.

**10** Let us make a little *wall-chamber*, I pray thee, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, <sup>o</sup>and a table, and a stool, and a *lampstand*: and it shall be, when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither."

**11** And it fell on a day, that he came thither, and he turned into the chamber, and lay there.

**12** And he said to Gehazi his *young man*, "Call this Shunammite." And when he had called her, she stood before him.

**13** And he said unto him, "Say now unto her, 'Behold, thou hast been *exceedingly careful* for us with all this care; what is to be done for thee? wouldest thou be <sup>o</sup>spoken for to the king, or to the captain of the host?' " And she answered, "I dwell among mine own people."

**14** And he said, "What then *is* to be done for her?" And Gehazi answered, "Verily she hath no <sup>7</sup>*son*, and her <sup>1</sup>husband is old."

**15** And he said, "Call her." And when he had called her, she stood in the *entrance*.

**16** And he said, "About this season, according to the time of life, thou shalt embrace a son." And she said, "Nay, my lord, *thou* man of God, do not lie unto thine handmaid."

**17** And the woman conceived, and bare a son at *that season about the time of spring of which Elisha had said unto her*.

**18** And when the <sup>o</sup>child was grown, it fell on a day, that he went out to his father to the reapers.

**19** And he said unto his father, "My head, my head." And he said to a lad, "Carry him to his mother."

**20** And when he had taken him, and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and *then* died.

**21** And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut *the door* upon him, and went out.

**22** And she called unto her <sup>1</sup>husband, and said, "Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again."

**23** And he said, "Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? *it is* neither new moon, nor sabbath." And she said, "*It shall be* well."

**24** Then she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, "Drive, and go forward; slack not *thy* riding for me, except I bid thee."

**25** So she went and came unto the man of God to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his <sup>12</sup>*young man*, "Behold, *yonder is* that Shunammite:

**26** Run *now therefore*, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, "*Is it* well with thee? *is it* well with thy <sup>7</sup>husband? *is it* well with the <sup>18</sup>*son*?" " And she answered, "*It is* well."

**27** And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, "Let her alone; for <sup>o</sup>her soul *is bitter* within her: and the LORD hath hid *it* from me, and hath not told me."

**28** Then she said, "Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not

**12** servant = young man. **13** careful . . . care. Fig. *Polyptoton* = exceedingly careful. **spoken for to the king**. This confidence in his influence with the king is accounted for by the miraculous aid recently given by Elisha in 3. 16-19. **15** door = entrance.

**17** of life, or of spring. Read "that season about the time of spring of which Klisha had said unto her". The sixth miracle. Cp. 2. 15.

**18** child = progeny. **26** now. Some codices, with two early printed editions, read "now therefore". **27** her soul = herself. Heb. *nephesh*. Ap. 13. vexed = bitter. **28** deceive = cajole.

**29** said. In what Elisha said the signs given are put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Adjunct), Ap. 6. for the things symbolized by them.

**salute him not**. Idiom. The salutation being ceremonial and taking time. **child**. Heb. *na'ar* = youth. **30** thy soul = thou.

**36** Take up thy son. The seventh miracle (2. 15).

4: 38-44.

FAMINE.

say, 'Do not *cajole* me?' "

**29** Then he <sup>o</sup>said to Gehazi, "Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any man, *do not waste time saluting him*; and if a *man* salute thee, answer him not again: and lay my staff upon the face of the *youth*."

**30** And the mother of the <sup>29</sup>*youth* said, "As the LORD liveth, and *as thou* liveth, I will not leave thee." And he arose, and followed her.

**31** And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the <sup>29</sup>*youth*; but *there was* neither voice, nor hearing. Wherefore he went again to meet him, and told him, saying, "The <sup>29</sup>*youth* is not awaked."

**32** And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the <sup>29</sup>*youth* was dead, *and* laid upon his bed.

**33** He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the LORD.

**34** And he went up, and lay upon the <sup>18</sup>child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands: and he stretched himself upon the <sup>18</sup>child; and the flesh of the <sup>18</sup>child waxed warm.

**35** Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the <sup>29</sup>*youth* sneezed seven times, and the <sup>29</sup>*youth* opened his eyes.

**36** And he called Gehazi, and said, "Call this Shunammite." So he called her. And when she was come in unto him, he said, <sup>o</sup>"Take up thy son."

**37** Then she went in, and fell at his feet, and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out.

**38** And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and *there was the dearth* in the land; and the sons of the prophets *were* sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, "Set on the great pot, and *boil* pottage for the sons of the prophets."

**39** And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a *plant with vine-like tendrils*, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred *them* into the pot of pottage: for they knew *them* not.

**40** So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, "O *thou* man of God, *there is poison* in the pot." And they could not eat *thereof*.

**41** But he said, "Then bring meal." And he cast *it* into the pot; and he said, "Pour out for the people, that they may eat." And there was *no evil thing* in the pot.

**42** And there came a man from Baal-shalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he said, "Give unto the people, that they may eat."

**43** And his *servant* said, "What, should I set this before <sup>o</sup>an hundred men?" He said again, "Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the LORD, 'They shall eat, and shall leave *thereof*.' "

**44** So he set *it* before them, and they did eat, and left *thereof*, according to the word of the LORD.

**5** Now <sup>o</sup>Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, *had come to be* a great man with his master, and honourable, because <sup>o</sup>by him the LORD had given <sup>o</sup>deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, but he was <sup>o</sup>a leper.

**2** And the Syrians had gone out by *marauding bands*, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.

**3** And she said unto her mistress, "<sup>o</sup>Would God my lord *were* with the prophet that *is* <sup>o</sup>in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy."

**4** And *one* went in, and told his lord, saying, "Thus and thus said the maid that *is* of the land of Israel."

**5** And the king of Syria said, "Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the <sup>o</sup>king of Israel." And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand *pieces* of gold, and ten <sup>o</sup>changes of raiment.

**6** And he brought the letter to the <sup>5</sup>king of Israel, saying, "Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have *therewith* sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest <sup>o</sup>recover him of his leprosy."

**7** And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, "*Am I Elohim the Creator*, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me."

**8** And it was *so*, when Elisha the <sup>o</sup>man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, "Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come

**39 wild vine:** i.e. a plant with vine-like tendrils. Not the grape, but probably the colocynth.

**40 death.** Put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Effect), for that which causes death.

**41 no harm** = no evil thing. Elisha's eighth miracle Cp. 2. 15.

**43 servitor** = attendant. Old English = one who serves.

**an hundred men.** Elisha's ninth miracle. See note on 2. 15. One of three (Ap. 10) miracles of feeding multitudes. Cp. Matt. 14. 20; 15. 34.

**5: 1-27.****MISSION TO ELISHA.**

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1.      | Leprosy of Naaman. Providential.             |
| 2-8.    | Negotiation. Naaman and the king of Israel.  |
| 9.      | Naaman's visit to Elisha.                    |
| 10.     | Elisha's direction. Given.                   |
| 11, 12. | Naaman. Resentment.                          |
| 13.     | Naaman. Compliance.                          |
| 14.     | Elisha's direction. Taken.                   |
| 15-     | Naaman's return to Elisha.                   |
| -15-26. | Negotiations. Naaman with Elisha and Gehazi. |
| 27.     | Leprosy of Gehazi. Judicial.                 |

**1 Naaman.** Note the five servants in this chapter :—

1. The King's servant (Naaman), v. 1.
2. Naaman's wife's servant (the maid), v. 2.
3. Jehovah's servant (Elisha), v. 8.
4. Naaman's servants (v. 13).
5. The Prophet's servant (Gehazi), v. 20.

**was** = had come to be.

**by him.** An unconscious instrument.

**the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**deliverance.** Probably from the Assyrians.

**but, &c.** Fig. *Anesis*. Ap. 6.

**a leper.** Cp. Lev. 13. Not regarded ceremonially by heathen. Not far gone (cp. v. 19). Probably only in initial stage. One of nine so afflicted. See note on Ex. 4. 6. The story of Naaman may be compared with the parallel in John 9.

**2 companies** = marauding bands. Cp. 6. 23.

**3 Would God, &c.** Fig. *Ejaculatio*. Ap. 6.

**in Samaria.** This is the girl's expression. Samaria was where she had heard of him.

**5 king of Israel.** Probably Jehoram. **talents.** See Ap. 51. II.

**changes of raiment.** See Gen. 45. 22.

**6 recover.** A *Homonym*, with another meaning, to snatch away or destroy, as in Ps. 26. 9 and Jer. 16. 5. See notes there.

**7 Am I God . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6.

**God.** Heb. Elohim (the Creator). Ap. 4. I.

**8 man of God.** See Ap. 49.

**9 door** = entrance.

**10 Go and wash.** Cp. John 9. 7, and other commands : "Go, call" (John 4. 16); "Go, sell" (Matt. 19. 21).

**wash** = bathe (ceremonially). See note on Lev. 14. 9.

now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel."

**9** So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the *entrance* of the house of Elisha.

**10** And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, "<sup>o</sup>"Go and *bathe ceremonially* in the Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean."

**11** But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, “Behold, °I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his <sup>7</sup>God, and *wave* his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

**12** °Are not °Abana and Pharpar, *ever-flowing streams* of °Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away °in a rage.

**13** And his °servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, °“My father, *if* the prophet had bid thee *do some* great thing, wouldest thou not have done *it?* how much rather then, when he saith to thee, ‘Wash, and be clean?’ ”

**14** Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the <sup>8</sup>man of God: and his flesh °came again like unto the flesh of a little *boy*, and he was clean.

**15** And he °returned to the <sup>8</sup>man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, “Behold, °now I know that *there is* no God in all earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, *accept a present* of thy servant.”

**16** But he said, “As the LORD liveth, °before **Whom** I stand, I will receive none.” And he urged him to take *it*; but he refused.

**17** And Naaman said, “Shall there not then, I pray thee, be given to thy servant two mules' burden of *soil* ? for thy servant will henceforth *prepare* neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the LORD.

**18** In this thing the LORD pardon thy servant, *that* when my master goeth into the house of [*the Assyrian storm-god*] Rimmon to *bow down himself* there, and he °leaneth on my hand, and I bow myself in the house of °Rimmon: when I bow down myself in the house of Rimmon, °the LORD pardon thy servant in this thing.”

**19** And he said unto him, °“Go in peace.” So he departed from him °a little way.

**20** But Gehazi, the *young man* of Elisha the <sup>8</sup>man of God, said, “Behold, my master hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought: but, *as* the LORD liveth, I will run after him, and take *a trifle* of him.”

**21** So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And when Naaman saw *him* running after him, he lighted down from the chariot to meet him, and said, “*Is all well?*”

**22** And he said, “All is well. My master hath sent me, saying, ‘Behold, even now there be come to me from °mount Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets: give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments.’ ”

**11 I thought.** Cp. v. 15, “Now I know”. Human thought and Divine certitude. **strike** = wave, move, or pass.

**12 Are not. . . ?** Fig. *Erotesis*. Ap. 6.

**Abana.** Some codices, and three early printed editions, read “Amana”. **rivers.** Heb. *nahar*, an ever-flowing stream. (Not *nahal*, a summer stream.) Rising in Mount Hermon and losing themselves in a lake near Damascus.

**Damascus.** Used of the district, or of the city near which they flowed and were known. **in a rage.** One of eleven rulers offended with God's servants for speaking the truth. See note on Ex. 10. 28.

**13 servants.** Again used by God. Cp. vv. 2-4.

**My father.** A title of honour and affection. **14 came again.** The tenth miracle of Elisha. See note on 2. 15.

**15 returned.** About thirty miles. **now I know.** Cp. “Behold, I thought”, v. 11. **take** = accept.  **blessing** = a present. Cp. Gen. 33. 11. Judg. 1. 15.

**16 before, &c.** A phrase referring to priesthood, for the sacrifices Naaman speaks of (v. 17).

**17 earth** = soil. Naaman may have heard of Ex. 20. 24.

**offer** = prepare. See Ap. 43. I. iii.

**18 Simmon.** The Assyrian storm-god Ramman.

**worship** = bow down himself. **leaneth.** Cp. 7. 2, 17.

**the LORD pardon** = Jehovah pardon. Some codices add “I pray thee”, but marked “to be cancelled”.

**19 Go in peace.** God's servants are not “directors of conscience”, but ministers of His Word. To have sanctioned it would have recognized idolatry. To have forbidden it would have put Naaman under a yoke to Elisha. It was for Naaman to decide whether he could do this thing, and be at “peace”.

**a little way.** A phrase found only here and Gen. 35. 16 and 48. 7. = a stone's throw. **20 servant** = young man. **somewhat** = a trifle.

**21 Is all well?** Heb. Is it peace?

**22 mount Ephraim.** There were two schools of the prophets there : Beth-el and Gilgal. Cp. 2. i, 3.

**23 take** = accept. Some codices, with one early printed edition, read “and accept”. **26 Went not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotesis*. = Did not my heart beat ?

**27 cleave.** Elisha's eleventh miracle. See note on 2. 15.

**a leper.** One of the nine afflicted with leprosy. See note on Ex. 4. 6.

**as snow.** i.e. completely a leper; but not clean ceremonially. See note on Lev. 13. 13.

**23** And Naaman said, “Be content, *and accept* two talents.” And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and laid *them* upon two of his servants; and they bare *them* before him.

**24** And when he came to the tower, he took *them* from their hand, and bestowed *them* in the house: and he let the men go, and they departed.

**25** But he went in, and stood before his master. And Elisha said unto him, “Whence comest *thou*, Gehazi?” And he said, “Thy servant went no whither.”

**26** And he said unto him, *Did not my heart beat with thee*, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? *Is it* a time to receive money, and to receive garments, and oliveyards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants?

**27** The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall °cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever.” And he went out from his presence °a leper *as white* °as snow.

**6** And the sons of the prophets said unto Elisha, “Behold now, the place where we dwell with thee is too *narrow* for us.

**2** Let us go, we pray thee, unto Jordan, and take thence every man a beam, and let us make us a place there, where we may dwell.” And he answered, “Go ye.”

**3** And *the one* said, “Be content, I pray thee, and go with thy servants.” And he answered, “I will go.”

**4** So he went with them. And when they came to Jordan, they <sup>o</sup>cut down *logs*.

**5** But as <sup>3</sup>*the one* was felling a beam, the <sup>o</sup>axe head fell into the water: and he cried, and said, “Alas, master! for *it* was borrowed.”

**6** And the <sup>o</sup>man of God said, “Where fell it?” And he shewed him the place. And he *shaped evenly* <sup>o</sup>a stick, and cast *it* in thither; and <sup>o</sup>the iron did swim.

**7** Therefore said he, “Take *it* up to thee.” And he put out his hand, and took it.

**8** Then the <sup>o</sup>king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, “In such and such a place *shall be* my camp.”

**9** And the <sup>o</sup>man of God sent unto the <sup>o</sup>king of Israel, saying, “Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down.”

**10** And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice.

**11** Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, “Will ye not shew me which of us *is* for the king of Israel?”

**12** And one of his servants said, “None, my lord, O king: *the fact is* Elisha, the prophet that *is* in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.”

**13** And he said, “Go and spy where he *is*, that I may send and fetch him.” And it was told him, saying, “Behold, *he is* in Dothan.”

**14** Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.

**15** And when the *attendant* of the <sup>o</sup>man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his *young man* said unto him, “Alas, my master! how shall we do?”

**16** And he answered, “Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them.”

**17** And Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD, I pray thee, <sup>o</sup>open his eyes, that he may <sup>o</sup>see.” And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he *saw clearly*:

#### 6: 1-7. ELISHA. RESIDENCE, &c.

- 1, 2. Sons of the prophets. Proposal.  
3, 4. Elisha. Consent.  
5. Sons of prophets. Accident.  
6, 7. Elisha. Miracle.

**1** *strait* = narrow. **3** *one* = the one : i.e. of v. 3.  
**4** *cut down*. Heb. *nazar*. Cp. v. 6. **wood** = logs.  
**5** *axe head*. Heb. “iron”, put by Fig; *Metonymy* (of Cause), Ap. 6, for the axe head made of iron. Cp. v. 6. where the Fig. is translated literally.  
**Alas**. Fig. *Ecphonesis*. Ap. 6. **6** *man of God*. See Ap. 49.  
**cut down**. Not same word as v. 3. Heb. *kazab* = to cut evenly: i.e. shape or size evenly. Occurs only here and Song 4. 2 (“even shorn”).  
**a stick** = a helve. **iron did swim** = made him see the iron : by causing it to rise to the surface. Elisha's twelfth miracle. See note on 2. 15. The spiritual application is thus put by John Newton :—

“Not one concern of ours is small  
If we belong to Him;  
To teach us this, the Lord of all  
Once made the iron to swim”.

#### 8-23. WAR WITH SYRIA.

**8** *king of Syria*. Probably Ben-hadad of v. 24. 1 Kings 20. 1.  
**9** *king of Israel*. Jehoram. **12** *but* = for: i.e. “[the fact is] that”.  
**15** *the servant* = attendant. **his servant** = young man. Heb. *na'ar*.  
**17** *open his eyes*. Elisha's thirteenth miracle. See note on 2. 15.  
**see . . . saw** = see . . . saw clearly. **18** *blindness*. Elisha's fourteenth miracle. See note on 2. 15. One of nine instances of persons so afflicted. See note on Gen. 19. 11. **19** *I will bring*. So he did. **But** = And; or. So. **he led them to Samaria**: where they found the man they sought : i.e. Elisha himself. **20** *open*. Elisha's fifteenth miracle. See note on 2. 15.  
**23** *bands* = marauding bands.

and, behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

**18** And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, “Smite this people, I pray Thee, with <sup>o</sup>blindness.” And He smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

**19** And Elisha said unto them, “This *is* not the way, neither *is* this the city: follow me, and <sup>o</sup>I will bring you to the man whom ye seek.” **So** <sup>o</sup>he led them to Samaria.

**20** And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, “LORD, <sup>o</sup>open the eyes of these *men*, that they may <sup>17</sup>*see clearly*.” And the LORD opened their eyes, and they <sup>17</sup>saw; and, behold, *they were* in the midst of Samaria.

**21** And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, “My father, shall I smite *them*? shall I smite *them*?”

**22** And he answered, “Thou shalt not smite *them*: <sup>o</sup>wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master.”

**23** And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the *marauding bands* of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.

**24** And it came to pass after this, that Ben-hadad king of Syria <sup>o</sup>gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

**25** And there was a great <sup>o</sup>famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an <sup>o</sup>ass's head was *sold* for fourscore *shekels* of silver, and the fourth part of a <sup>o</sup>cab of <sup>o</sup>dove's dung for five *shekels* of silver.

**26** And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman unto him, saying, "Help, my lord, O king."

**27** And he said, <sup>o</sup>"If the LORD do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barnfloor, or out of the winepress?"

**28** And the king said unto her, "What aileth thee?" And she answered, "This <sup>o</sup>woman said unto me, 'Give thy son, that we may eat him to day, and we will eat my son to morrow.'"

**29** So <sup>o</sup>we boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the next day, 'Give thy son, that we may eat him:' and she hath hid her son."

**30** And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; and he passed by upon the wall, and the People looked, and, behold, *he had* sackcloth within upon his flesh.

**31** Then he said, "God do so and more also to me, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat shall stand on him this day."

**32** But Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him; and *the king* sent a man from before him: but ere the messenger came to him, he said to the elders, "See ye how this son of a murderer hath sent to take away mine head? look, when the messenger cometh, shut the door, and **hold the door fast against him**: *is* not the sound of his master's feet behind him?"

**33** And while he yet talked with them, behold, the <sup>o</sup>messenger came down unto him: and he said, "Behold, this evil is of the LORD; *why* should I wait for the LORD any longer?"

**7** <sup>o</sup>Then Elisha said, "Hear ye the word of the LORD; Thus saith the LORD, 'To morrow about this time *shall* a measure of fine flour *be sold* for a shekel, and two *seahs* of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria.'"

**2** Then a lord on whose hand the king <sup>o</sup>leaned answered the <sup>o</sup>man of God, and said, "Behold, *if* the LORD would make windows in heaven, might this thing be?" And he said, "Behold, <sup>o</sup>thou shalt see *it* with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof."

**3** And there were four <sup>o</sup>leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, "Why sit we here until we die?"

**4** If we say, 'We will enter into the city,' then the <sup>o</sup>famine *is*

**6: 24--7: 20. FAMINE IN SAMARIA.**

<b>6: 24-35.</b>	Famine. Suffered.
<b>7: 1, 2.</b>	Prediction of supply.
<b>7: 3-15.</b>	Famine. Relieved.
<b>7: 16-20.</b>	Prediction. Supplies received.

**24-33. FAMINE. SUFFERED.**

<b>24, 25.</b>	Origin. Second cause.
<b>26-29.</b>	Effects. Experienced.
<b>30.</b>	King's mourning.
<b>31.</b>	Effects. Threatening.
<b>32, 33.</b>	Origin. First cause.

**24 gathered.** This was organized war, in contrast with the freebooting irregular bands of v. 23.

**25 famine.** One of the thirteen recorded in Scripture. See note on Gen. 12. 10. **ass's head.** This was unclean food.

**Pieces.** Supply Fig. *Ellipsis* (Ap. 6), "shekels" instead of "pieces".

**cab.** Only occurrence. See Ap. 51. III. 3.

**dove's dung.** A *Euphemism* (Ap. 6) is included in official Massoretic lists as being substituted for this indelicate expression, the word meaning "decayed leaves". Whichever is the meaning, it was always highly valuable as manure, especially to force growth during dearth.

**27 If the LORD do not help thee.** Heb. reads "Let not Jehovah help thee", as in A.V. marg. The R.V. "Nay, let Jehovah help thee", is contrary to the normal sense of this negative. Ginsburg suggests that '*al* (not) is an abbreviation for '*im lo*, which is the exact equivalent for the A. V. text.

**28 woman.** One of the ten deaths occasioned by women. See note on Judg. 4. 21.

**29 we boiled.** Cp. Deut. 28. 53.

**32 hold him fast at the door :** or, hold the door fast against him. Ap. 6.

**33 messenger.** Heb. *hammal'ak*, without the '*aleph* ('a), as in Sept. and Syr. In 1 Sam. 11. 4 the case is reversed. The *Massorah* informs us that the '*aleph* was wrongly inserted, making it read messengers instead of "kings". The king must have followed on his heels, for Elisha addresses him directly in 7. 1, 2. Cp. 7. 17. **what . . . ? = why ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6. These are the words of the king.

**7. 1 Then Elisha.** The Structure shows that verses 1, 2 should be read with 6. 33. **the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

measures = seahs. See Ap. 51. III. 3.

**2 leaned.** Cp. 5. 18.

**man of God.** See Ap. 49. **thou shalt see it.** Cp. vv. 19, 20.

**7: 3-15. FAMINE. RELIEVED.**

<b>3-11.</b>	Discovery by lepers.
<b>12-15.</b>	Confirmation by scouts.

**3-11. DISCOVERY BY LEPERS.**

<b>3, 4.</b>	Consultation.
<b>5-8.</b>	Discovery. Made.
<b>9.</b>	Consultation.
<b>10, 11.</b>	Discovery. Reported.

**3 leprous men.** One of the nine cases of affliction with leprosy. See note on Ex. 4. 6.

**4 famine.** Cp. 6. 25. **host = camp.**

in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the *camp* of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die."

**5** And they rose up in the *darkness*, to go unto the camp of the Syrians: and when they were come to the uttermost part of the camp of Syria, behold, *there was* no man there.

**6** For the Lord had made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, *and a noise* of a great host: and they said one to another, "Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against us the <sup>o</sup> kings of the Hittites, and the <sup>o</sup> kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us."

**7** Wherefore they arose and fled in the <sup>5</sup>*darkness*, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it *was*, and fled for their life.

**8** And when these lepers came to the *outermost* part of the camp, they went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and carried thence silver, and gold, and raiment, and went and hid *it*; and came again, and entered into another tent, and carried thence *also*, and went and hid *it*.

**9** Then they said one to another, <sup>o</sup>"We do not well: this day *is* a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some *punishment* will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household."

**10** So they came and called unto the porter of the city: and they told them, saying, "We came to the camp of the Syrians, and, behold, *there was* no man there, neither voice of man, but horses tied, and asses tied, and *their tents just as* they were.

**11** And <sup>o</sup>he called the porters; and they told *it* to the king's house within.

**12** And the king arose in the night, and said unto his servants, "I will now shew you what the Syrians have done to us. They know that *we be* hungry; therefore are they gone out of the camp to hide themselves in the field, saying, 'When they come out of the city, we shall catch them alive, and get into the city.'"

**13** And one of his servants answered and said, "Let *some* take, I pray thee, five of the horses that remain, which are left in the city, (behold, they *are* as all the multitude of Israel <sup>o</sup>that are left in it: behold, *I say*, they *are* even as all the multitude of the Israelites that are consumed:) and let us send and see."

**14** They took therefore two chariot horses; and the king sent after the host of the Syrians, saying, "Go and see."

**15** And they went after them unto Jordan: and, lo, all the way *was* full of garments and vessels, which the Syrians had cast away in their haste. And the messengers returned, and told the king.

**16** And the People went out, and spoiled the tents of the Syrians. So a measure of fine flour was *sold* for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the LORD.

**5 twilight** = darkness. See note on the *Homonym*, 1 Sam. 30. 1.

**6 even** = and. Some codices, with one early printed edition, Syr., and Vulg., read "and a noise", as in the two preceding clauses.

**kings of the Hittites.** The Hittites were divided into several tribes, each with its king or chief. Their empire extended from the Euphrates to Asia Minor.

**kings of the Egyptians.** The monuments of this date speak of a large number of names at this time. **8 uttermost** = outermost.

**9 We do not well.** The application of this is full of instruction to others in like circumstances, for all time. **mischief** = punishment.

**10 the tents** = their tents. So Sept. **as** = just as.

**11 he called the porters.** The Sept., and a special reading called *Sevir* (Ap. 34), read "the porters called".

**13 that are left . . . Israelites.** These words are repeated by *Homoeoteleuton* (instead of omitted, as is usually the case with *Homoeoteleuton*). They are not in many codices, or Sept., Syr., or Vulg. This accounts for the parenthesis in A.V.

**17 king came down.** See note on 6. 33. **18 might such a thing be ?** This is the reading of some codices, and four early printed editions, with Sept. and Syr. The current Heb. text reads "could it be according to this word ?"

**8. 1 whose son.** Cp. 4. 35. **famine** = the famine, which had already begun. Probably the same as 4. 38. Occasion is not determined by the text, but, v. 3 takes up the history at the end of the seven years.

**it shall also come** = it is come. **seven years:** i.e. "[to last] seven years".

**2 man of God.** See Ap. 49.

**17** And the king appointed the lord on whose hand he <sup>2</sup>leaned to have the charge of the gate: and the People trode upon him in the gate, and he died, as the <sup>2</sup>man of God had said, who spake when the <sup>o</sup>king came down to him.

**18** And it came to pass as the <sup>2</sup>man of God had spoken to the king, saying, "Two measures of barley for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, shall be to morrow about this time in the gate of Samaria:"

**19** And that lord answered the <sup>2</sup>man of God, and said, "Now, behold, *if* the LORD should make windows in heaven, <sup>o</sup>might such a thing be?" And he said, "Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof."

**20** And so it fell out unto him: for the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died.

**8** Then spake Elisha unto the woman, <sup>o</sup>whose son he had restored to life, saying, "Arise, and go thou and thine household, and sojourn wheresoever thou canst sojourn: for the LORD hath called for *the famine*; and *it is come* upon the land *to last seven years*."

**2** And the woman arose, and did after the saying of the <sup>o</sup>man of God: and she went with her household, and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years.

**3** And it came to pass at the seven years' end, that the woman returned out of the land of the Philistines: and she went forth to cry unto the king *for to recover her estate*.

**4** And the king talked with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me, I pray thee, <sup>o</sup>all the great things that Elisha hath done."

**5** And it came to pass, as he was telling the king how he had <sup>o</sup>restored a dead body to life, that, <sup>o</sup>behold, the woman, whose son he had restored to life, cried to the king for [*to call attention to*] her house and for [*to call attention to*] her land. And Gehazi said, "My lord, O king, this *is* the woman, and this *is* her son, whom Elisha restored to life."

**6** And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed unto her a certain officer, saying, "Restore all that *was* hers, and all the *produce* of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now."

**7** And Elisha came to Damascus; and Ben-hadad the king of Syria was sick; and it was told him, saying, "The man of God is come hither."

**8** And the king said unto <sup>o</sup>Hazael, "Take a <sup>o</sup>present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD by him, saying, 'Shall I recover of this disease?'"

**9** So Hazael went to meet him, and took a <sup>o</sup>present with him, even of *every kind of* thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, "Thy son Ben-hadad king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, 'Shall I recover of this disease?'"

**10** And Elisha said unto him, "Go, say unto him, 'Thou *so far as recovering goes, thou wilt recover. And yet Jehovah hath made me plainly see that he will <sup>o</sup>surely die.*'"

**11** And *Hazael* settled his countenance stedfastly, until <sup>o</sup>he was <sup>o</sup>ashamed: and the man of God wept.

**12** And Hazael said, "Why weepeth my lord?" And he answered, "Because I know <sup>o</sup>the evil that thou wilt do unto the *sons* of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash *little ones*, and rip up their women <sup>o</sup>with child."

**13** And Hazael said, "But what, *is* thy servant <sup>o</sup>a dog, that he should do this great thing?" And Elisha answered, "The LORD hath shewed me that thou *shalt be* king over Syria."

**14** So he departed from Elisha, and came to his master; who said to him, "What said Elisha to thee?" And he answered, "He told me *that* thou shouldst <sup>o</sup>surely recover."

**15** And <sup>o</sup>it came to pass on the morrow, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped *it* in water, and spread *it* on his face, so that he died: and Hazael reigned in his stead.

**16** And in the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, <sup>o</sup>Jehoshaphat *being* then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah <sup>o</sup>began to reign.

**17** Thirty and two years old was he when he <sup>16</sup>began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

**18** And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, *according*

**4 all the great things.** See note on 2. 15.

**5 restored a dead body.** Cp. 4. 35. **behold.** Fig. *Asterismos*. for . . . for. Heb. 'al = for [to call attention to].

**6 fruits** = produce.

**8 Hazael.** One of Ben-hadad's servants.

**present.** It does not say that Elisha accepted it.

**9 every good** = every kind of. Fig. *Synecdoche* (of Genus). Ap. 6.

**10 mayest certainly recover, &c.** = "so far as re-covering goes, thou wilt recover. And [yet] Jehovah hath made me plainly see that he will surely die." **surely die.** Fig. *Polyptoton*. See notes on Gen. 2. 17 and 26. 28. **11 he:** i.e. Hazael.

**ashamed.** The thought of murder came into his mind.

**12 the evil.** Described in 10. 32; 12. 17; 13. 3, 22. Hos. 10. 14. Amos 1 3, 4. Heb. *ra'a'*. Ap. 44. viii. **children** = sons.

**their children** = little ones. Heb. *ul*. **with child.** Heb. *harah*.

**13 a dog.** Cp. 1 Sam. 17. 43; 24. 14. 2 Sam. 9. 8.

**14 surely recover.** See note on v. 10. A false report.

**15 it came to pass.** The inscriptions of Shal-manezer II agree with this. The name of Jehu appears on them with Hazael's.

#### 8: 16--9: 29. JUDAH.

8: 16-24. Jehoram.

8: 25--9: 24. Ahaziah

#### 16-24. JEHORAM.

16, 17. Introduction.

18, 19. Evil-doing. Personal.

20-22. Evil events. Political.

23, 24. Conclusion.

**16 Jehoshaphat being then king.** Jehoram associated with him in Joram's fifth year, and reigned solely in Joram's sixth year. Cp. 9. 29. Joram (of Ahab) began in Jehoshaphat's eighteenth year (2 Kings 3. 1). His fifth year is therefore Jehoshaphat's twenty-third year, when Jehoram is associated with him as king, in the third year before his death. See Ap. 50. V, p. 58.

**16 began to reign :** i.e. in consort with his father.

**18 as** = according as. **daughter of Ahab.** Cp. v. 26. See Ap. 55. did evil. Cp. 2 Chron. 21. 2-4.

**19 as He promised.** Cp. 1 Sam. 7. 13. **light.** Cp. 1 Kings 11. 36. See note on Gen. 15. 17. Heb. *ner*. Found only four times, and always of David (2 Sam. 21. 17. 1 Kings 11. 36. 2 Kings 8. 19. 2 Chron. 21. 7).

**and to his children.** Many codices, and five early printed editions, read "for his children" : i.e. sons.

**20 Edom revolted.** Cp. 2 Chron. 21. 8 with 1 Kings 22. 47, and see above (3. 9).

**21 the people :** i.e. of Judah.

*as* did the house of Ahab: for the <sup>o</sup>daughter of Ahab was his wife: and he <sup>o</sup>did <sup>12</sup>evil in the sight of the LORD.

**19** Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah for David His servant's sake, <sup>o</sup>as He promised him to give him alway a <sup>o</sup>light, *for his sons*.

**20** In his days <sup>o</sup>Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves.

**21** So Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him: and he rose by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots: and the people [*of Judah*] fled into their tents.

**22** Yet Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time.

**23** And the rest of the acts of *Jehoram*, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**24** And Joram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and Ahaziah his [youngest] son reigned in his stead.

**25** In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel did Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah begin to reign.

**26** Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the *grand-daughter* of Omri king of Israel.

**27** And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the sight of the LORD, as *did* the house of Ahab: for he was the son in law of the house of Ahab.

**28** And he went with Joram [*his uncle*] the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael king of Syria in Ramoth-gilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram.

**29** And king Joram went back to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him at *Ramoth-gilead*, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

**9** And Elisha the prophet called one of the *sons* of the prophets, and said unto him, "Gird up thy loins, and take this *oil flask* in thine hand, and go to Ramoth-gilead:

**2** And when thou comest thither, look out there Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, and carry him to an inner chamber;

**3** Then take the *oil flask*, and pour it on his head, and say, 'Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee *to be king* over Israel.' Then open the door, and flee, and tarry not."

**4** So the young man, *even* the young man the prophet, went to Ramoth-gilead.

**5** And when he came, behold, the captains of the host were sitting; and he said, "I have an errand to thee, O captain." And Jehu said, "Unto which of all us?" And he said, "To thee, O captain."

**6** And *Jehu* arose, and went into the house; and *the prophet poured* the oil on his head, and said unto him, "Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, 'I have anointed thee *to be king* over the People of the LORD, *even* over Israel."

**7** And thou shalt smite the house of Ahab thy master, that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the LORD, at the hand of Jezebel.

**8** For the whole house of Ahab shall perish: and I will cut off

**22 Yet Edom, &c.** The success of Edom accounted for from the end of v. 21, and Gen. 27. 40.

**this day.** Written therefore before the captivity of Judah.

**Then Libnah revolted.** Cp. 2 Chron. 21. 10. Libnah was a city of the priests (Josh. 21. 13), and Jehoram with his wife and sons had "broken up" the Temple worship (2 Chron. 24. 7). The *priests* therefore, headed by Jehoiada (2 Chron. 23. 1), led this revolt, and were afterwards active in repairing the house of the Lord (2 Chron. 24. 1-14).

**23 the rest.** Cp. 2 Chron. 21.

**Joram** = Jehoram.

**are they not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6.

**24 slept with his fathers.** See note on Deut. 31. 16.

**Ahaziah his son :** i.e. his youngest son ; all the rest being slain. See 2 Chron. 21. 17; 22. 1; and Ap. 55.

**8: 25--9: 29.**

**AHAZIAH.**

**8: 25-27.**

Introduction.

**8: 28, 29.**

Joram, Ramoth-gilead, and Hazael.

**9: 1-14.**

Conspiracy of Jehu.

**9: -14, 15-**

Joram, Ramoth-gilead, and Hazael.

**9: 15-26.**

Conspiracy of Jehu.

**9: 27-29.**

Conclusion.

**26 Two and twenty years.** See note on 2 Chron. 22. 2.

**Ahaziah.** Note that Ahaziah, Joash, and Amaziah, omitted in Matt. 1. 8, all died violent deaths (9. 27; 12. 20; 14. 19).

**daughter.** Put by Fig. *Synecdoche* (of Genus), for grand-daughter; and even for successors not in descent by blood.

**28 he went with Joram.** His uncle. **Ramoth-gilead.** It was then in the hands of Israel, but threatened by Syria. Cp. 9. 14.

**29 Ramah** = Ramoth-gilead.

**9. 1 children** = sons.

**box of oil** = oil flask.

**oil.** For its use in consecration see 1 Sam. 10.1; 16. 13.

**Ramoth-gilead.** Israelite army on guard here. Cp. v. 14.

**2 Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat.** In the Assyrian inscriptions he is called the son of Omri.

**3 the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**king** = to be king.

**over,** or unto,

**5 behold.** Fig. *Asterismos*.

**6 he arose :** i.e. Jehu arose.

**he poured :** i.e. the prophet poured.

**God.** Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

**8 him that, &c.** = every male.

**9 like the house of Jeroboam, &c.** Both these houses had been exterminated (1 Kings 15. 29; 16. 11).

**11 one said.** A special various reading called *Sevir* (Ap. 34), some codices, with two early printed editions, Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "they said".

**Is all well ?** Heb. Is it peace ?

**Ye know, &c.** = Why, ye are in the secret, or ye know all about the man.

**man.** Heb. *'ish*. Ap. 14. II.

from Ahab *every male*, and him that is shut up and left in Israel:

**9** And I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah:

**10** And the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the portion of Jezreel, and *there shall be none to bury her.* And he opened the door, and fled.

**11** Then Jehu came forth to the servants of his lord: and *they said* unto him, "*Is it peace?* wherefore came this mad fellow to thee?" And he said unto them, *Ye know all about the man*, and his communication."

**12** And they said, “*It is false; tell us now.*” And he said, “Thus and thus spake he to me, saying, ‘Thus saith the LORD, ‘I have anointed thee <sup>3</sup>*to be king* over Israel.’ ”

**13** Then they hasted, and took <sup>11</sup>*every male* his garment, and put *it* under him on the top of the *steps*, and blew with trumpets, saying, “Jehu *reigneth.*”

**14** So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. (Now Joram *had been keeping* Ramoth-gilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria.

**15** But king Joram <sup>o</sup>was returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria.) And Jehu said, “If it be your *souls*, then let none go forth *nor* escape out of the city to go to tell *it* in Jezreel.”

**16** So Jehu rode in a chariot, and went to Jezreel; for Joram lay there. And Ahaziah king of Judah was come down to see Joram.

**17** And there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, “I see a company.” And Joram said, “Take *a charioteer*, and send to meet them, and let him say, ‘*Is it peace?*’ ”

**18** So there went one on horseback to meet him, and said, “Thus saith the king, ‘*Is it peace?*’ ” And Jehu said, <sup>o</sup>“What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me.” And the watchman told, saying, “The messenger came to them, but he cometh not again.”

**19** Then he sent out a second on horseback, which came to them, and said, “Thus saith the king, ‘*Is it peace?*’ ” And Jehu answered, <sup>18</sup>“What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me.”

**20** And the watchman told, saying, “He came even unto them, and cometh not again: and the driving *is* like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he driveth furiously.”

**21** And Joram said, “Make ready.” And his chariot was made ready. And Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot, and they went out against Jehu, and met him in the portion of Naboth the Jezreelite.

**22** And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, “*Is it peace, Jehu?*” And he answered, “What peace, so long as the *idolatry* of thy mother Jezebel and her *spiritisms* are so many?”

**23** And Joram turned his hands [*to wheel his chariot round*], and fled, and said to Ahaziah, “*There is* treachery, O Ahaziah.”

**24** And Jehu drew a bow with his full strength, and smote Jehoram *between his shoulders*, and the arrow went out at his heart, and he sunk down in his chariot.

**25** Then said *Jehu* to Bidkar his captain, “Take up, and cast him in the portion of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite: for

**13 stairs** = steps. Acts 21. 30, 40. **is king** = reigneth.  
**14 had kept** = had been keeping. **15 was returned.** Cp. 8. 29.  
**minds** = souls. Heb. *nephesh*. Ap. 13. The parenthesis in vv. 14, 15 is so placed by the Structure. See above. **17 an horseman**, or a charioteer.  
**18 What . . . ?** Fig. *Anteisagoge* (Ap. 6).  
**22 whoredoms** = idolatry. } Joined together. Cp.  
**witchcrafts** = spiritism. } Num. 24. 1; 25. 1; 31. 16.  
**23 turned his hands** : i.e. to wheel his chariot round.  
**24 between his arms**: i.e. between his shoulders.  
**25 laid, &c.** Cp. 1 Kings 21. 29. **burden** = a prophetic pronouncement of doom. Cp. Isa. 13. 1; 15. 1; 17. 1. Nah. 1. 1. Hab 1. 1.  
**26 the blood of his sons.** Additional information here given to that in 1 Kings 21. 13. **saith the LORD** = [is] Jehovah's oracle.  
**plat** = portion. Cp. v. 21. **27 And they did so.** Supply Fig. *Ellipsis* (Ap. 6) thus : "and they smote him".  
**28 to Jerusalem.** Sept. reads "and brought him to Jerusalem".

**9: 30--10: 36. JEHU.**

**9: 30--10: 28.** Events. Public.  
**10: 29-31.** Personal character.  
**10: 32, 33.** Events. Political.  
**10: 34-36.** Personal.

**9: 30--10: 28. EVENTS. PUBLIC.**

**9: 30-37.** End of Jezebel.  
**10: 1-11.** End of Ahab's house.  
**10: 12-14.** End of Ahaziah's brethren.  
**10: 15-17.** End of Ahab's seed in Samaria.  
**10: 18-28.** End of Baal-worship.

**9: 30-37. END OF JEZEBEL.**

**30-32.** Exclamation of Jezebel.  
**33.** Jezebel's death.  
**34, 35.** Jezebel's carcass.  
**36, 37.** Exclamation of Jehu.

**30 heard of it:** i.e. of the murder of her grandson. **face** = eyebrows and eyelids. **tired** = adorned. **a window** = the lattice.

remember how that, when I and thou rode together after Ahab his father, the LORD <sup>o</sup>laid this *prophetic pronouncement of doom* upon him;

**26** ‘Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and <sup>o</sup>the blood of his sons,’ <sup>o</sup>saith the LORD; ‘and I will requite thee in this *portion*,’ saith the LORD.

Now therefore take *and* cast him into the *portion of ground*, according to the word of the LORD.”

**27** But when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw *this*, he fled by the way of the garden house. And Jehu followed after him, and said, “Smite him also in the chariot.” *And they smote him* at the going up to Gur, which *is* by Ibleam. And he fled to Megiddo, and died there.

**28** And his servants carried him in a chariot *and brought him to Jerusalem*, and buried him in his sepulchre with his fathers in the city of David.

**29** And in the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab began Ahaziah to reign over Judah.

**30** And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard *of the murder of her grandson*; and she painted her *eyebrows and eyelids*, and *adorned* her head, and looked out at *the lattice*.

**31** And as Jehu entered in at the gate, she said, “*Had* Zimri peace, who slew his *lord* ?”

**32** And he lifted up his face to the window, and said, “Who is on my side? who?” And there looked out to him two *or* three eunuchs.

**33** And he said, “Throw her down.” So they threw her down: and *some* of her blood was sprinkled on the wall, and on the horses: and he trode her under foot.

**34** And when he was come in, he did eat and drink, and said, “Go, see now this cursed *woman*, and bury her: for she *is* <sup>o</sup>a king's daughter.”

**35** And they went to bury her: but they found no more of her than the skull, and the feet, and the palms of *her* hands.

**36** Wherefore they came again, and told him. And he said, “This *is* the word of the LORD, which <sup>o</sup>He spake by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, ‘In the portion of Jezreel shall dogs eat the flesh of Jezebel:’

**37** And the carcase of Jezebel shall be as dung upon the face of the *ground* in the portion of Jezreel; *something of which they shall not say*, ‘This is Jezebel.’ ”

**10** And Ahab had seventy *grandsons and great-grandsons* in Samaria. And Jehu wrote letters, and sent to Samaria, *and unto* the *elders* <sup>o</sup>of Jezreel, to the elders, and to them that brought up Ahab's *children*, saying,

**2** “Now as soon as this letter cometh to you, seeing your master's sons *are* with you, and *there are* with you chariots and horses, a fenced city also, and armour;

**3** Look even out the best and meetest of your master's sons, and set *him* on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house.”

**4** But they were exceedingly afraid, and said, “Behold, two kings stood not before him: how then shall we stand?”

**5** And he that *was* over the house, and he that *was* over the city, the elders also, and the bringers up *of the children*, sent to Jehu, saying, “We *are* thy servants, and will do all that thou shalt bid us; we will not make any king: do thou *that which is good* in thine eyes.”

**6** Then he wrote a letter the second time to them, saying, “If ye be *for me*, and if ye will hearken unto my voice, take ye the heads of <sup>o</sup>the men <sup>2</sup>your master's sons, and come to me to Jezreel by to morrow this time.” Now the king's sons, *being* seventy <sup>o</sup>persons, *were* with the great <sup>o</sup>men of the city, which brought them up.

**7** And it came to pass, when the letter came to them, that they took the king's sons, and slew seventy persons, and put their heads in *fruit baskets*, and sent him *them* to Jezreel.

**8** And there came a messenger, and told him, saying, “They have brought the heads of the king's sons.” And he said, “Lay ye them in two heaps at the entering in of the gate until the morning.”

**9** And it came to pass in the morning, that he went out,

**31** **Had Zimri peace . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6. See I Kings 16. 9-20. Suggesting the wisdom of coming to terms with her. **master** = lord.

**34** **a king's daughter.** A daughter of Eth-baal, king of Zidon (I Kings 16. 31).

**36** **He spake.** Cp. I Kings 21. 23.

**37** **field.** Some codices, with Sept. and Vulg, read "ground".

**so that, &c.** = [something] of which they shall not say, &c.

**10. 1** **sons.** Put by Fig. *Synecdoche* (of Part), for grandsons and great-grandsons. **unto.** Some codices, with Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "and unto". **rulers** = elders.

**of Jezreel.** Doubtless they had fled to Samaria, being in great fear (v. 4) from what Jehu had done in Jezreel.

**6** **mine** = for me.

**the men.** Heb. '*enosh*. Ap. 14. III.

**persons.** Heb. '*ish*.

**men.** Heb. '*ish*. Ap. 14. II.

**7** **baskets** = the baskets. Heb. *dud*, for carrying fruit. Still used for this purpose. Not *sal* (bread-basket), which Gideon (Judg. 6. 19), and Pharaoh's baker (Gen. 40. 17) used.

**9** **Ye be righteous.** Said by way of flattery and to allay disaffection.

**10** **the word of the LORD** = the word of Jehovah. Cp. I Kings 21. 19-29. **the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II. **by** = by the hand of.

**11** **kinsfolks** = acquaintance.

**13** **brethren.** Put by Fig. *Synecdoche* (of the Part) for near relatives. Cp. 2 Chron. 22. 8, where we have "sons of the brethren".

**children** = sons.

**the king** = Joram.

**the queen** = Jezebel, the queen-mother.

**15** **Jehonadab.** He was a Kenite (I Chron. 2. 55), descendants of the father-in-law of Moses (Num. 10. 29. Judg 1. 16; 4. 11. I Sam. 15. 6). See Jer. 35. **as** = according as.

and stood, and said to all the people, “*Ye be* righteous: behold, I conspired against my master, and slew him: but who slew all these?”

**10** Know now that there shall fall unto the earth nothing of the word of <sup>o</sup>the LORD, which the LORD spake concerning the house of Ahab: for the LORD hath done *that* which **He** spake *by the hand of* His servant Elijah.”

**11** So Jehu slew all that remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and his *acquaintance*, and his priests, until he left him none remaining.

**12** And he arose and departed, and came to Samaria. *And* as he *was* at the shearing house in the way,

**13** Jehu met with the *near relatives* of Ahaziah king of Judah, and said, “Who *are* ye?” And they answered, “We *are* the brethren of Ahaziah; and we go down to salute the *sons* of the king and the *sons* of **Jezebel, the queen-mother.**”

**14** And he said, “Take them alive.” And they took them alive, and slew them at the pit of the shearing house, *even* two and forty men; neither left he any of them.

**15** And when he was departed thence, he lighted on <sup>o</sup>Jehonadab the son of Rechab *coming* to meet him: and he saluted him, and said to him, “Is thine heart right, *according as* my heart *is* with thy heart?” And Jehonadab answered, “It is.” “If it be, give me thine hand.” And he gave him his hand; and he took him up to him into the chariot.

**16** And he said, “Come with me, and *by eyewitnesses of my* <sup>o</sup>zeal for the LORD.” So they made him ride in his chariot.

**17** And when he came to Samaria, he slew all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the LORD, which **He** spake to Elijah.

**18** And Jehu gathered all the People together, and said unto them, “Ahab served Baal a little; *but* Jehu shall serve him much.

**19** Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice *to do* to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live.” But Jehu did *it* in subtilty, to the intent that he might destroy the *servants* of Baal.

**20** And Jehu said, “*Sanctify* a solemn assembly for Baal.” And they proclaimed *it*.

**21** And Jehu sent through all Israel: and all the <sup>19</sup>*servants* of Baal came, so that there was not a man left that came not. And they came into the house of Baal; and the house of Baal was *so full that they stood mouth to mouth*.

**22** And he said unto him that *was* over the vestry, “Bring forth vestments for all the <sup>19</sup>*servants* of Baal.” And he brought them forth vestments.

**23** And Jehu went, and Jehonadab the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal, and said unto the worshippers of Baal, “Search, and look that there be here with you none of the servants of the LORD, but the worshippers of Baal only.”

**24** And when they went in to *prepare* sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore men without, and said, “*If* any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, *he that letteth him go*, his <sup>o</sup>life *shall be* for the life of him.”

**25** And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of <sup>24</sup>*preparing* the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, “Go in, *and* slay them; let none come forth.” And they smote them with the edge of the sword; and the guard and the captains cast *them* out, and went to *the most inaccessible part* of the house of Baal.

**26** And they brought forth the *statutes* out of the house of Baal, and burned them.

**27** And they brake down the image of Baal, and brake down the house of Baal, and made *it dunghill* unto this day.

**28** Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.

**29** Howbeit *from* the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who <sup>o</sup>made Israel to sin, Jehu departed not from after them, *namely*, the golden calves that *were* in Bethel, and that *were* <sup>o</sup>in Dan.

**30** And the LORD said unto Jehu, “Because thou hast done well in executing *that which is* right in **Mine** eyes, *and* hast done unto the house of Ahab according to all that *was* in **Mine** heart, thy *sons* of the <sup>o</sup>fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel.”

**16** see = be eyewitnesses of. **zeal for the LORD.** Not pure. See vv. 29-31.

**10: 18-28. END OF BAAL-WORSHIP.**

18, 19. Jehu's purpose formed.  
20, 21. Baal-worshippers. Assembled.  
22. Vestments brought out.  
23. Search made.  
24. Offerings brought in.  
25. Baal-worshippers. Slain.  
26-28. Jehu's purpose effected.

**19** worshippers = servants.

**20** Proclaim = Sanctify, Hallow, or Solemnise.

**31** full, &c. = so full [that they stood] mouth to mouth. *Ellipsis* to be thus supplied, as in A.V. margin.

**24** offer = prepare. See Ap. 43. I. iii. **life** = soul. Heb. *nepesh*.

**25** the city = Heb. 'Ir, the innermost or most inaccessible part, whether of a city (= the citadel) or a house (as here).

**26** images, or statues. **them** = each of them.

**27** draught house = dunghill, middens, *latrine*.

**29** made Israel to sin. See note on I Kings 14. 16. **to wit** = namely. **in Dan.** See I Kings 12. 29, 30, and cp. Gen. 49. 17.

**30** fourth generation. See 15. 12. These were Jehoahaz, Joash, Jeroboam II, and Zachariah. Jehu's dynasty was the longest in all Israel.

**31** God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

**the sins.** Heb. *chata'*. Ap. 44. i. Some codices read "all the sins".

**32** to cut Israel short: or, to cut off the outskirts, or make inroads into. **coasts** = borders.

**33** eastward = toward the sun-rising.

**34** the rest. An Assyrian inscription (now in the British Museum) records that Jehu paid tribute to Shalmaneser II, who in 842 B. C. defeated Hazael, king of Syria. Jehu bought Shalmaneser II off by giving him, as tribute, bars of silver and gold; a golden ladle and golden goblets and pitchers were among his gifts.

**are they not. . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6.

**35** slept with his fathers. See note on Deut. 31. 16.

**31** But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart: for he departed not from <sup>o</sup>the sins of Jeroboam, which <sup>29</sup>made Israel to sin.

**32** In those days the LORD began to *cut off the outskirts if Israel:* and Hazael smote them in all the *borders* of Israel;

**33** From Jordan *toward the sun-rising*, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which *is* by the river Arnon, even Gilead and Bashan.

**34** Now <sup>o</sup>the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, <sup>o</sup>are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

**35** And Jehu <sup>o</sup>slept with his fathers: and they buried him in Samaria. And Jehoahaz his son reigned in his stead.

**36** And the time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria *was* twenty and eight years.

**11** And when <sup>o</sup>Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, <sup>o</sup>she arose and <sup>o</sup>destroyed all the seed royal.

**2** But <sup>o</sup>Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah and stole him from among the king's sons *which were* slain; and they hid him, *even* him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.

**3** And he was with her <sup>o</sup>hid in the house of the LORD <sup>o</sup>six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land.

**4** And the seventh year <sup>o</sup>Jehoiada sent and fetched the <sup>o</sup>rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the LORD, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the LORD, and shewed them <sup>o</sup>the king's son.

**5** And he commanded them, saying, "This *is* the thing that ye shall do; A third part of you *must come inside* on the sabbath *and must be* keepers of the watch of the king's house;

**6** And a third part *must be* at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard: so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down.

**7** And two parts of all you that go forth on the sabbath, even they shall keep the watch of the house of the LORD about the king.

**8** And ye shall compass the king around about, every man with his weapons in his hand: and he that cometh within the ranges, let him be slain: and be ye with the king as he goeth out and as he cometh in."

**9** And the captains over the hundreds did according to all *things* that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that should go out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

**10** And to the captains over hundreds did the priest give <sup>o</sup>king David's spears and shields, that *were* in the temple of the LORD.

**11** And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, *along* by the altar and the temple.

**12** And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and <sup>o</sup>*gave him* the <sup>o</sup>testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, "God save the king."

**13** And when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard *and* of the People, she came to the People into the temple of the LORD.

**14** And when she looked, behold, the king stood by *the pillar*, as the manner *was*, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the People of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets:

## 11: 1--12: 21. JUDAH.

## 11: 1-6. ATHALIAH.

- |         |                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| 1.      | The slaying of the seed-royal.   |
| 2, 3-.  | Joash. Rescue of.                |
| -3.     | Athaliah. Reign.                 |
| 4-12.   | Manifestation of Joash.          |
| 13, 14. | Athaliah. Alarm.                 |
| 15.     | Joash. Capture of the murderess. |
| 16.     | The slaying of the usurper.      |

- 1 Athaliah.** For genealogy see Ap. 55. **she arose, &c.** Another of the ten occasions of deaths being caused by a woman. See note on Judg. 4. 21. **destroyed:** or thought she did. They were left for dead.
- 2 Jehosheba.** She was the wife of Jehoiada, the high priest (2 Chron. 22. 11); Jehoiada being brother-in-law to Ahaziah (2 Chron. 22. 11), and therefore uncle to Joash. **from among.** Expressive words, pointing to our Joash, raised from the dead and now hidden in the house of God on high; and we with Him (Col. 3. 1-3).
- 3 hid in the house of the LORD.** This was the safest possible place: for it had been broken up, and everything removed to the house of Baal (2 Chron. 24. 7) The Temple courts were deserted. Hence, Jehoiada and the priests were plotting for the restoration of the rightful heir. See note on Libnah, 8. 22. **six years.** The number of man's defiance and disorder. See Ap. 10. **4 Jehoiada.** See note on Jehosheba, v. 2.
- rulers.** For their names see 2 Chron. 23. 1. **the king's son.** Cp. 2 Chron. 23. 3. **5 that enter in** = must come inside.
- shall even be** = and must be.
- 6 shall be** = must be. **10 king David's.** All prepared by him against such a day as this (2 Sam. 8. 7).
- 12 gave him.** The Fig. *Zeugma* (Ap. 6), by which the second verb has to be thus supplied. **testimony.** See note on Ex. 17. 14, and Ap. 47.
- 14 a pillar** = the pillar. **Treason, Treason.** Fig. *Epizeuxis*, for great emphasis. **16 laid hands on her** = made way for her.

## 11: 17--12: 21. JOASH.

- |             |                                     |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 11: 17-21.  | Conspiracy of Athaliah. Defeated.   |
| 12: 1.      | Joash. Accession.                   |
| 12: 2, 3.   | Personal. Well-doing.               |
| 12: 4-16.   | Ecclesiastical. Reform.             |
| 12: 17, 18. | Political. Invasion.                |
| 12: 19.     | Joash. Record.                      |
| 12: 20, 21. | Conspiracy of servants. Successful. |

and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, "Treason, Treason."

**15** But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the host, and said unto them, "Have her forth without the ranges: and him that followeth her kill with the sword." For the priest had said, "Let her not be slain in the house of the LORD."

**16** And they *made way for her*; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain.

**17** And Jehoiada made a covenant between the LORD and the king and the People that they should be the LORD's People; between the king also and the People.

**18** And all the People of the land went into the house of Baal, and brake it down; his altars and his images brake they in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the LORD.

**19** And he took the rulers over hundreds, and the captains, and the guard, and all the People of the land; and they brought down the king from the house of the LORD, and came by the way of the gate of the guard to the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings.

**20** And all the People of the <sup>o</sup>land rejoiced, and the <sup>o</sup>city was in quiet: and they slew Athaliah with the sword *in the king's house*.

**21** Seven years old *was* Jehoash when he began to reign.

**12** In the seventh year of Jehu Jehoash began to reign; and forty years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Zibiah of Beer-sheba.

**2** And Jehoash did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD *all the days of Jehoiada* wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him.

**3** But the high places were not taken away: the People still sacrificed and burnt incense in <sup>o</sup>the high places.

**4** And Jehoash said to <sup>o</sup>the priests, "All the money of the *sacred* things that is brought into the house of the LORD, *even* the money of every one that passeth *the account*, the money *of the persons of the priest's valuation*, and all the money that cometh into any man's heart to bring into the house of the LORD,

**5** Let <sup>4</sup>the priests take *it* to them, every man of his acquaintance: and let them repair the breaches of the house, wheresoever any breach shall be found."

**6** But it was *so, that* in the three and twentieth year of king Jehoash the priests had not repaired the breaches of the house.

**7** Then king Jehoash called for Jehoiada the priest, and the *other* priests, and said unto them, "Why repair ye not the breaches of the house? now therefore receive no more money of your acquaintance, but deliver it for the breaches of the house."

**8** And <sup>4</sup>the priests *acquiesced* to receive no *more* money of the people, neither to repair the breaches of the house.

**9** But Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and <sup>o</sup>bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one cometh into the house of the LORD: and <sup>4</sup>the priests that kept the door put therein all the money *that was* brought into the house of the LORD.

**10** And it was *so*, when they saw that *there was* much money in the chest, that the king's scribe and the high priest came up, and they put up in bags, and *counted* the money that was found in the house of the LORD.

**11** And they gave the money, *being weighed*, into the hands of them that did the work, that had the oversight of the house of the LORD: and they laid it out to the carpenters and builders, that wrought upon the house of the LORD,

**12** And to masons, and hewers of stone, and to buy timber and hewed stone to repair the breaches of the house of

**20 land rejoiced.** } When? When the usurper had been cast out, and slain. So shall it be when judgment shall be executed on the "prince" and "god" of this world (Rev. 19. 1, 2, 7).  
**city was in quiet.** } **beside the king's house** = in the king's house.

**12. 2 all his days:** i.e. all the days of Jehoiada. Cp. 2 Chron. 24. 14-18. Jehoiada. His uncle. See note on Jehosheba, 11. 2.

**3 the high places.** They were first abolished by Hezekiah, and then (after their revival by Manasseh) by Josiah. Note the Fig. *Epanadiplosis*.

**12: 14-16. ECCLESIASTICAL REFORM.**

4, 5. Money. Command.

6. Neglect.

7-10. Money. Obedience.

11-16. Attention.

**4 the priests.** See note on Libnah, 8. 22.

**dedicated** = sacred. See note on Ex. 3. 5.

**the account.** These italics are not needed. Heb. '*abar* = to pass over.

**that every man, &c.** Heb. "of the souls (= persons. Heb. *nephesh*.

*Ap. 13*) of his [the priest's] valuation" (Lev. 27. 2-8).

**8 consented** = acquiesced. Heb. '*oth*, a rare word, occurring only here and Gen. 34. 15, 22, 23.

**9 bored a hole.** There were two chests made on account of the slackness of the priests. The first by Jehoiada named here (in Kings), beside the altar of burnt-offering in the court. The other at the king's commandment without a hole bored (in 2 Chron. 24. 8, 14), outside "at the gate". In the former there was not room enough for the vessels of the house; in the latter there was abundance for all.

**10 told** = counted.

**11 being told** = being weighed or balanced.

**16 trespass.** Heb. '*ashah*. *Ap. 44. ii.*

**17 Oath.** One of the five Philistine cities, to reach which Hazael must have passed through Israel. Probably connected, with his attacks on Jehu and Jehoahaz (10. 32; 13. 3, 4). **to** = against.

**18 hallowed** = set apart. Heb. *kodesh*. See note on Ex. 3. 5.

**treasures** = treasuries

the LORD, and for all that was laid out for the house to repair *it*.

**13** Howbeit there were not made for the house of the LORD bowls of silver, snuffers, basons, trumpets, any vessels of gold, or vessels of silver, of the money *that was* brought into the house of the LORD:

**14** But they gave that to the workmen, and repaired therewith the house of the LORD.

**15** Moreover they reckoned not with the men, into whose hand they delivered the money to be bestowed on workmen: for they dealt faithfully.

**16** The <sup>o</sup>trespass money and sin money was not brought into the house of the LORD: it was the priests'.

**17** Then Hazael king of Syria went up, and fought against <sup>o</sup>Gath, and took it: and Hazael set his face to go up *against* Jerusalem.

**18** And Jehoash king of Judah took all the *set apart* things that Jehoshaphat, and Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own hallowed things, and all the gold *that was* found in the *treasuries* of the house of the LORD, and in the king's house, and sent *it* to Hazael king of Syria: and he went away from Jerusalem.

**19** And <sup>o</sup>the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, <sup>o</sup>are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**20** And his servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and <sup>o</sup>slew Joash in the house of <sup>o</sup>Millo, which goeth down to Silla.

**21** For Jozachar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, smote him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.

**13** In the <sup>o</sup>three and twentieth year of Joash the son of Ahaziah king of Judah Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and *reigned* seventeen years.

**2** And he did *that which was* <sup>o</sup>evil in the sight of the LORD, and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which <sup>o</sup>made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom.

**3** And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and **He** delivered them into the hand of Hazael king of Syria, and into the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael, *all his days*.

**4** And Jehoahaz besought the LORD, and the LORD hearkened unto him: for **He** saw the oppression of Israel, because the king of Syria oppressed them.

**5** (<sup>o</sup>And the LORD gave Israel <sup>o</sup>a saviour, so that they went out from under the hand of the Syrians: and the *sons* of Israel dwelt in their tents, as beforetime.

**6** Nevertheless they departed not from the sins <sup>o</sup>of the house of Jeroboam, who <sup>2</sup>made Israel sin, *but Israel walked in them:* and there *stood the Asherah* also in Samaria.)

**7** Neither did **He** leave of the People to Jehoahaz but fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen; for the king of Syria had destroyed them, and had made them <sup>o</sup>like the dust by threshing.

**8** Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his might, <sup>o</sup>are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

**9** And Jehoahaz <sup>o</sup>slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria: and *Jehoash* his son reigned <sup>o</sup>in his stead.

**10** In the <sup>o</sup>thirty and seventh year of Joash king of Judah began Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz to reign <sup>o</sup>over Israel in Samaria, and *reigned* sixteen years.

**11** And he did *that which was* <sup>2</sup>evil in the sight of the LORD; he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who <sup>2</sup>made Israel sin: *but Israel walked in them.*

**12** And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, and his might wherewith he fought against Amaziah king of Judah,

*are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?*

**13** And Joash <sup>o</sup>slept with his fathers; and <sup>o</sup>Jeroboam sat upon his throne: and Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

**19 the rest of the acts of Joash.** His punishment is recorded in Kings; the causes of it are found in Chronicles. See note on "Kings" (p. 446). See the *esoteric* causes in 2 Chron. 24. 25.

**are they not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6.

**20 slew Joash.** See note on 8. 26.

**Millo.** See note on 1 Kings 9. 15. "The house" would be in connection with it.

#### 13: 1-25. ISRAEL.

1-9. Jehoahaz.  
10-25. Jehoash.

#### 1-9. JEHOAHAZ.

1. Introduction.  
2. Events. Personal.  
3-7. Events. Political.  
8, 9. Conclusion.

**1 three and twentieth year.** See note on v. 10.

**2 evil.** Heb. *ra'a'*. Ap. 44. viii. **the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II. **made Israel to sin.** See note on 1 Kings 14. 16.

**3 all their days.** Supply Fig. *Ellipsis*, by reading "all [his] days". Cp. vv. 22-25.

**5 And the LORD =** And Jehovah. Note the parenthesis of vv. 5 and 6. **a saviour.** Some think an angel; some, Elisha; some, a general of Jehoahaz. Cp. v. 25; 14. 27. **children =** sons.

**6 of the house of.** Some codices, with Aram, and Syr., omit these words. **walked.** Heb. "he [Israel] walked".

**therein.** Heb. in it: i.e. in Jeroboam's way; but some codices, with Aram., Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "in them". **remained =** stood.

**the grove =** the '*Asherah*'. See Ap. 42.

**like the dust, &c.** A powerful emblem, true to Eastern life.

**8 are they not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6.

**9 slept with his fathers.** See note on Deut. 31. 16. **Joash,** or Jehoash. **in his stead:** i.e. alone.

#### 10-25. JEHOASH.

10. Introduction.  
11. Events. Personal.  
12, 13. Conclusion.  
14-25. Events. Political.

**10 thirty and seventh.** Joash (of Israel) became king in the thirty-seventh year of Joash (of Judah). Amaziah, son of Joash (of Judah), became king in the second year of Joash (of Israel), 14. 1. Therefore Amaziah became associate king in the thirty-ninth year of Joash of Judah: i.e. one year before Joash died, for he "reigned forty years in Jerusalem" (1 Chron. 24. 1). The cause of Amaziah's kingship in Joash's lifetime is not named in Kings, but we see it in the "diseases" of 2 Chron. 24. 25. **over :** i.e. in consort with his father. Cp. 14. 1.

**13 Jeroboam.** Usually known as Jeroboam II.

#### 14-25. EVENTS. POLITICAL.

14-21. Domestic.  
22-25. Foreign.

**14 sick of his sickness.** Fig. *Polyptoton*. Ap. 6. Elisha's long ministry of sixty-six years was now drawing to a close, after forty-five years' silence. We hear of no sickness of Elijah.

**my father.** Fig *Epizeuxis*. **the chariot of Israel.** A memory of 2. 12, wondering whether his end would be like Elijah's.

**14** Now Elisha was fallen <sup>o</sup>sick of his sickness whereof he died. And Joash the king of Israel came down unto him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, <sup>o</sup>my father, <sup>o</sup>the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof.

**15** And Elisha said unto him, "Take bow and arrows." And he took unto him bow and arrows.

**16** And he said to the king of Israel, "Put thine hand upon the bow." And he put his hand *upon it*: and Elisha put his hands upon the king's hands.

**17** And he said, "Open the window eastward." And he opened *it*. Then Elisha said, "Shoot." And he shot. And he said, "The arrow of the LORD's deliverance, and the arrow of deliverance from Syria: for thou shalt smite the Syrians in Aphek, till thou have consumed *them*."

**18** And he said, "Take the arrows." And he took *them*. And he said unto the king of Israel, "Smite upon the ground." And he smote thrice, and stayed.

**19** And the <sup>o</sup>man of God was wroth with him, and said, "Thou shouldest have smitten five or six times; then hadst thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed *it*: whereas now thou shalt smite Syria *but* thrice."

**20** And Elisha <sup>o</sup>died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the *spring of the year*.

**21** And it came to pass, as <sup>o</sup>they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band *of men*; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, *he lived*, and stood up on his feet.

**22** But Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.

**23** *But* the LORD was gracious unto them, <sup>o</sup>and had compassion on them, and had respect unto them, because of **H**is covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither cast **H**e them from **H**is presence as yet.

**24** So Hazael king of Syria died; and <sup>o</sup>Ben-hadad his son reigned in his stead.

**25** And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again out of the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael the cities, which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father *in the war*.

<sup>o</sup>Three times did Joash beat him, and recovered the cities of Israel.

**14** In the <sup>o</sup>second year of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel reigned Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah.

**2** He was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.

**3** And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, yet not like David his father: he did according to all things <sup>o</sup>as Joash his father did.

**4** Howbeit <sup>o</sup>the high places were not taken away: as yet the People did sacrifice and burnt incense on the high places.

**5** And it came to pass, as soon as the kingdom was confirmed in his hand, that he slew his servants which had slain the king his father.

**17** **The arrow of the LORD's deliverance.** Fig. *Metonymy* (of Subject), Ap. 6. The arrow put for the deliverance Jehovah would give.

**19** **man of God.** See Ap. 49. **God.** Heb. Elohim with Art. Ap. 4. I.

**20** **died.** He was called in the days of Ahab (1 Kings 19. 19), and ministered fifty years.

**coming in of the year:** i.e. the spring. Cp. 2 Sam. 11. 1.

**21** **they :** prob. those who were evading the Moabite marauders.

**he revived** = he lived. The sixteenth miracle. See note on 2. 15.

**23** **And** = But. **and had.** Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton*.

**24** **Ben-hadad.** Probably the third of that name. Cp. 1 Kings 15. 18.

**25** **by war** = in the war. Three times. According to v. 18.

#### 14: 1-22. JUDAH.

1-20. Amaziah.  
21, 22. Uzziah, or Azariah.

#### 1-20. AMAZIAH.

1, 2. Introduction.  
3, 4. Events. Personal.  
5-14. Events. Political.  
15-20. Conclusion.

**1** **second year of Joash.** According to 13. 10, Joash (king of Israel) began to reign in the thirty-seventh year of Joash (king of Judah). If Arnaziah began in the second year of Joash (king of Israel), he would have reigned only thirty-nine years. But he reigned forty (12. l). All depends on mode of reckoning from Nisan, and counting parts of years for complete years. This would at once explain the difference. See Ap. 50. V, p. 58. Our difficulty, as usual, arises from our ignorance.

**3** **the LORD.** Heb Jehovah.

**as Joash his father.** He began well and ended badly.

**4** **the high places.** See 1 Kings 15. 14.

#### 5-14. EVENTS. POLITICAL.

5, 6. Domestic.  
7-14. Foreign.

**6** **children** = sons.

**written in the book of the law of Moses.** See note on Ex. 17. 14, and Ap. 47.

**every man.** Heb. 'ish. Ap. 14. II.

**sin.** Heb. *chata'*. Ap. 44. I.

#### 7-14. FOREIGN.

7. Victory over Edom.  
8. Jehoash. Message to.  
9, 10. Jehoash. Reply from.  
11-14. Defeat by Israel.

**7** **He slew.** The account in Chronicles supplies additional particulars. See 2 Chron. 25. 5-11.

**6** **But the sons** of the murderers he slew not: according unto that which is <sup>o</sup>written in the book of the law of Moses, wherein the LORD commanded, saying, "The fathers shall not be put to death for the **sons**, nor the **sons** be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall be put to death for his own <sup>o</sup>sin."

**7** <sup>o</sup>He slew of Edom in the valley of salt ten thousand, and took Selah by war, and called the name of it Joktheel unto this day.

**8** Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come, let us look one another in the face."

**9** And Jehoash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, "The *thorn* that was in Lebanon <sup>◊</sup>sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, 'Give thy daughter to my son to wife:' and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trode down the *thorn*."

**10** Thou hast indeed smitten Edom, and thine heart hath lifted thee up: glory of *this*, and tarry at home: for why shouldst thou meddle to *thy* hurt, that thou shouldst fall, *even* thou, and Judah with thee?"

**11** But Amaziah would not hear. Therefore Jehoash king of Israel went up; and he and Amaziah king of Judah <sup>8</sup>looked one another in the face at <sup>◊</sup>Beth-shemesh, which *belongeth* to Judah.

**12** And Judah was *smitten* before Israel; and they fled every man to their tents.

**13** And Jehoash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Jehoash the son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim unto the corner gate, four hundred <sup>◊</sup>cubits.

**14** And he took all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house, and <sup>◊</sup>hostages, and returned to Samaria.

**15** Now the rest of the acts of Jehoash *and all that he did*, and his might, and how he fought with Amaziah king of Judah, <sup>◊</sup>are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

**16** And Jehoash slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel; and Jeroboam his son reigned in his stead.

**17** And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel <sup>◊</sup>fifteen years.

**18** And the rest of the acts of Amaziah, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**19** Now they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem: and he fled to Lachish; but they sent after him to <sup>◊</sup>Lachish, and <sup>◊</sup>slew him there.

**20** And they brought him on horses: and he was buried at Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David.

**21** And all the people of Judah took <sup>◊</sup>Azariah, which was <sup>◊</sup>sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah.

**22** He *rebuilt* Elath, and restored it to Judah, after that the king <sup>◊</sup>slept with his fathers.

**23** In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah Jeroboam the son of Joash king *over* Israel began to reign in Samaria, *and reigned* <sup>◊</sup>forty and one years.

**8 look one another, &c.** Fig. *Tapeinosis* (Ap. 6), meaning very much more (vv. 11, 12). **9 The thistle**, or briar or thorn. Heb. *choch*, rendered *thistle* here, and in 2 Chron. 25. 18. Job 31. 40; *thorn* in 2 Chron. 33. 11. Job 41. 2. Prov. 26. 9. Song 2. 2. Hos. 9. 6; and *bramble* in Isa. 34. 13. **sent.** For a similar fable, see Judg. 9. 8. Fig. *Prosopopoeia*. **11 Beth-shernesh** = house of the sun, on frontier of Judah and Dan, fifteen miles west of Jerusalem (Josh. 15. 10). Now *Ain Shems*. A city of the priests (Josh. 21. 9. 13, 16). Afterward associated with idolatry, and now with defeat. **12 Put to the worse** = smitten. **13 cubits.** See Ap. 51. III. 2. **14 hostages.** Heb. sons of the securities. Occurs only here and in 2 Chron. 25. 24. **15 which he did.** Some codices, with Syr., read "and all that he did". **are they not. . . ?** Fig. *Erotesis*. **17 fifteen years:** i.e. from 729-714. See Ap. 50. V, p. 58. **19 Lachish.** On the Philistine border in Judah (Josh. 15. 39). Now *Tel-el-Hesi*, and recently excavated with important results. **slew him there.** See note on 8. 26.

**14: 21, 22. UZZIAH, OR AZARIAH.**

21. Introduction.  
22- Events.  
-22. Conclusion. Father's death.

**21 Azariah.** Called also Uzziah (15. 13, 30, 32. 2 Chron. 26. 1. Isa. 1. 1; 6. 1. Hos. 1. 1. Amos 1. 1. Zech. 14. 5). In Chronicles called Azariah (1 Chron. 3. 12). These different names are common, having the same or similar meanings. **sixteen years :** i.e. when "made" king. Only three years old at his father's death. See note on 15. 1.

**22 built** = rebuilt or fortified. This implies the subjugation of Edom.

**Elath.** On the Red Sea. Cp. 1 Kings 9. 26, and, for its eventual loss, 2 Kings 16. 6. **slept with his fathers.** See note on Deut. 31. 16.

**23-29. ISRAEL. JEROBOAM II.**

23. Introduction. Accession.  
24. Events. Personal.  
25-27. Events. Political.  
28, 29. Conclusion. Death.

**23 of Israel.** Some codices, with one early printed edition, and Sept., read "over Israel". **forty and one years.** See note on 15. 8.

**24 made Israel to sin.** See note on 1 Kings 14. 16.

**25 coast** = border, or boundary. **entering of Hamath.** The pass between Lebanon and Hermon. **the sea of the plain.** The Dead Sea.

**Jonah.** Named by the Lord Jesus (Matt. 12. 39, 40).

**26 not any shut up, nor any left** = not any [place] strengthened or fortified. See note on Ex. 23. 5. Deut. 32. 36. 1 Kings 14. 10.

**24** And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who <sup>◊</sup>made Israel to sin.

**25** He restored the *border* of Israel from the <sup>◊</sup>entering of Hamath unto *the Dead Sea*, according to the word of the LORD God of Israel, which **He** spake by the hand of his servant <sup>◊</sup>Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet, which *was* of Gath-hepher.

**26** For the LORD saw the affliction of Israel, *that it was* very bitter: for *there was not any place strengthened or fortified*, nor any helper for Israel.

**27** And the LORD said not that **He** would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven: but **He** saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

**28** Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his might, how he warred, and how he <sup>o</sup>recovered Damascus, and Hamath, *which belonged* to Judah, for Israel, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

**29** And Jeroboam <sup>22</sup>slept with his fathers, *even* with the kings of Israel; and Zachariah his son <sup>o</sup>reigned in his stead.

**15** In the <sup>o</sup>twenty and seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel began **Uzziah** son of Amaziah king of Judah to reign.

**2** Sixteen years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned two and fifty years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Jecholiah of Jerusalem.

**3** And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, <sup>o</sup>according to all that his father Amaziah had done;

**4** <sup>o</sup>Save that the high places were not removed: the People sacrificed and burnt incense still on the high places.

**5** And <sup>o</sup>the LORD smote the king, so that he was <sup>o</sup>a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a **lazar house**. And Jotham the king's son *was* over the **palace**, judging the people of the land.

**6** And <sup>o</sup>the rest of the acts of Azariah, and all that he did, <sup>o</sup>*are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**7** So <sup>o</sup>Azariah <sup>o</sup>slept with his fathers; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Jotham his son reigned <sup>o</sup>in his stead.

**8** In the <sup>o</sup>thirty and eighth year of Azariah king of Judah did Zachariah the son of Jeroboam reign over Israel in Samaria six months.

**9** And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, **according as** his fathers had done: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who <sup>o</sup>made Israel to sin.

**10** And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and <sup>o</sup>smote him before the People, and slew him, and reigned in his stead.

**11** And the rest of the acts of Zachariah, behold, they *are* written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

**12** This *was* the word of the LORD which <sup>o</sup>He spake unto Jehu, saying, "Thy sons shall sit on the throne of Israel unto the fourth *generation*." And so it came to pass.

**28 recovered Damascus, and Hamath.** Both were included in Solomon's kingdom (1 Kings 4. 21). Damascus lost to Rezin (1 Kings 11. 23-25). This recovery did not last long. See Amos 1. 3.

**29 reigned.** After an interregnum of eleven years. See 2 Kings 15. 8.

#### 15: 1-7. JUDAH. UZZIAH.

1, 2.	Introduction. Accession.
3, 4.	Events. Personal.
5.	Events. Political.
6, 7.	Conclusion. Death.

**1 twenty and seventh year.** So in 2 Chron. 26. 1-3. Azariah being then sixteen (v. 2), and therefore only three on the death of his father Amaziah. Hence, there were thirteen years interregnum (16 — 3 = 13). Amaziah died in the fourteenth year of Jeroboam. Therefore Azariah began to reign in the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam (13 + 14=27). This is the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam's partnership with his father on his going to the Syrian wars. Azariah = Uzziah. See note on 14. 21.

**3 the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**according to all:** i.e. he began well, but see 2 Chron. 26. 3-23.

**4 Save that.** Cp. 1 Kings 12. 31.

**5 the LORD smote** = Jehovah smote. Chronicles comes in here to explain why. See 2 Chron. 26. 16-21, and note on "Kings" in title of 1 Kings (p. 447).

**a leper.** One of nine afflicted with leprosy. See note on Ex. 4. 6. No reason is given here, but it is given in Chronicles according to the object of the latter book. See note above.

**several house** = a lazar house. See note on v. 7.

**over the house,** or palace : i.e. the king's house, as regent or co-regent.

**6 the rest of the acts.** For details see 2 Chron. 26. 1-15. The writings of HOSEA, JOEL, Amos, and JONAH belong to this period : from the latter days of Joash (king of Judah) to the end of Uzziah. See the notes on the events in these reigns in their respective prophecies. They foretell the doom of Judah.

**are they not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6.

**7 Azariah.** In the year of his death (649) Isaiah had his vision (Isa. 6. 1-9. John 12. 4)), when the "voice" from the Temple prophesied the Dispersion (see the Structure of Isaiah). Uzziah had been driven from the Temple to a lazar house, when Isaiah saw the vision of the Temple in heaven.

**slept with his fathers.** See note on Deut. 31. 16.

**Jotham.** The first-named of the four kings in whose reigns Isaiah prophesied (Isa. 1. 1). Micah also began to prophesy and mourn over the coming dispersion of Israel.

**in his stead.** There had been an interregnum of eleven or twelve years.

#### 8-31. ISRAEL.

8-12.	Zachariah.
13-16.	Shallum.
17-22.	Menahem.
23-26.	Pekahiah.
27-31.	Pekah.

#### 8-12. ZACHARIAH.

8.	Introduction. Accession.
9.	Events. Personal.
10.	Events. Political.
11, 12.	Conclusion. Record of death.

**8 thirty and eighth year.** Cp. with 14. 29. Jeroboam died in the fourteenth year of Azariah (or Uzziah). There must have been an interregnum of twenty-four years. See Ap. 50. V., p. 59, and note on 15. I. **9 evil.** Heb. *ra'a'*. Ap. 44. viii. **as** = according as. **made Israel to sin.** See note on 1 Kings 14. 16.

**10 smote him:** as prophesied (Amos 7. 9).

**11 behold.** Fig. *Asterismos*.

**12 He spake.** Cp. 10. 30 and Hos. 1. 4.

**13** Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the nine and thirtieth year of <sup>o</sup>Uzziah king of Judah; and he reigned a full month in Samaria.

**14** For Menahem the son of Gadi went up from <sup>o</sup>Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and smote Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, and slew him, and reigned in his stead.

**15** And the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he made, behold, they *are* written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

**16** Then Menahem smote Tiphseh, and all that *were* therein, and the coasts thereof from Tirzah: because they opened not *to him*, therefore he smote *it*; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up.

**17** In the nine and thirtieth year of <sup>o</sup>Azariah king of Judah began <sup>o</sup>Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel, and *reigned* ten years in Samaria.

**18** And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not all his days from *any of the sins* of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

**19** And <sup>o</sup>Pul the king of Assyria <sup>o</sup>came against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.

**20** And Menahem <sup>o</sup>exacted the money of Israel, *even* of all the mighty men of wealth, of each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back, and stayed not *then* in the land.

**21** And the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

**22** And Menahem <sup>7</sup>slept with his fathers; and Pekahiah his son reigned in his stead.

**23** In the <sup>o</sup>fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and *reigned* two years.

**24** And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who <sup>9</sup>made Israel to sin.

**25** But <sup>o</sup>Pekah the son of Remaliah, a captain of his, conspired against him, and smote him in Samaria, in the palace of the king's house, with Argob and Arieah, and with him fifty men of the Gileadites: and he killed him, and reigned in his room.

**26** And the rest of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, behold, they *are* written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

**27** In the two and fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and *reigned* <sup>o</sup>twenty years.

**28** And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

<b>15: 13-16.</b>	<b>SHALLUM.</b>
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- |     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|
| 13. | Introduction. Accession. |
| 14. | Events. Personal.        |
| 15. | Conclusion. Record.      |
| 16. | Events. Political.       |

**13 Uzziah.** See note on 14. 21.

**14 Tirzah.** The capital before Samaria (1 Kings 14.17; 15. 21; 16. 8). Now *Telluzah*, about nine miles north of Samaria.

<b>17-22.</b>	<b>MENAHM.</b>
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- |         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 17.     | Introduction. Accession.   |
| 18.     | Events. Personal.          |
| 19, 20. | Events. Political.         |
| 21, 22. | Conclusion. Record. Death. |

**17 Azariah.** See note on 14. 21.

**Menahem.** Their names are mentioned, together with Rezin (16. 9), in Tiglath-pileser's inscriptions.

**18 the sins.** Some codices, with Aram, and Sept., read "any of the sins". See note on 1 Kings 14. 16.

**19 Pul.** Thought to be the same as Tiglath-pileser (a throne name). But see 1 Chron. 5. 26.

**came against.** Probably at invitation of Menahem. Cp. Hos. 5. 13; 7. 11; 8. 9.

**talents.** See [Ap. 51. II. 6.](#)

**20 exacted.** Judah usually bought off foreign invaders (12. 18; 16. 8; 18. 15).

**there = then.** Heb. *sham*. Cp. Judg. 5. 11. Ps. 14. 5.

<b>23-26.</b>	<b>PEKAHIAH.</b>
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- |     |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|
| 23. | Introduction. Accession. |
| 24. | Events.                  |
| 25. | Events.                  |
| 26. | Conclusion. Record.      |

**23 fiftieth year.** From v. 17 there appears to be an interregnum of some months.

**25 Pekah.** Cp. Isa. 7. 1.

<b>27-31.</b>	<b>PEKAH.</b>
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- |         |                          |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 27.     | Introduction. Accession. |
| 28.     | Events. Personal.        |
| 29, 30. | Events. Political.       |
| 31.     | Conclusion. Record.      |

**27 twenty years.** See [Ap. 50. V.](#), p. 59. The Assyrian inscription shows only four years. But why is writing on stone always assumed to be correct, and on parchment, always wrong? There were two chronological mistakes on the Duke of Cambridge's monument erected in Whitehall, London, which were the subject of a correspondence in the London newspapers of that date. (The Duke died in March, 1904.) On the coffin-plate of King Edward VII, his death is put as occurring in the "ninth" instead of in the "tenth" year of his reign. In the inscription of DARIUS HYSTASPIS on the *Behistun* Rock (see [Ap. 57.](#)), no less than *fourteen* "mistakes" made by the graver (one of them actually corrected by himself) are noted as such by the authors of the exhaustive work on that subject issued by the Trustees of the British Museum.

**29 Tiglath pileser.** See note on "Pul", v. 19.

**Abel-beth-maachah . . . Gilead.** These names are mentioned in Tiglath's own inscriptions. **carried them captive.** This deportation took place in 734 B.C., and is referred to in Isa. 9. 1, 2.

**29** In the days of Pekah king of Israel came <sup>o</sup>Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and <sup>o</sup>Abel-beth-maachah, and Jonoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and <sup>o</sup>carried them captive to Assyria.

**30** And Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah, and smote him, and slew him, and reigned in his stead, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah.

**31** And the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, behold, they *are* written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

**32** In the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah king of Israel began <sup>7</sup>Jotham the son of Uzziah king of Judah to reign.

**33** Five and twenty years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned <sup>o</sup>sixteen years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Jerusha, the daughter of Zadok [*the high priest*].

**34** And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD: he did according to <sup>o</sup>all that his father Uzziah had done.

**35** Howbeit the high places were not removed: the People sacrificed and burned incense still in the high places. <sup>o</sup>He built the higher gate of the house of the LORD.

**36** Now <sup>o</sup>the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, <sup>o</sup>*are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**37** In those days the LORD began to send against Judah <sup>o</sup>Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah.

**38** And Jotham <sup>7</sup>slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.

**16** In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign.

**2** <sup>o</sup>Twenty years old *was* Ahaz when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem, and did not *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD his God, like David his father.

**3** But <sup>o</sup>he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, yea, and made his <sup>o</sup>son <sup>o</sup>to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the *nations*, whom the LORD cast out from before the *sons* of Israel.

**4** And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

**5** Then <sup>o</sup>Rezin king of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel <sup>o</sup>came up to Jerusalem to war: and they besieged Ahaz, but <sup>o</sup>could not overcome *him*.

**6** At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to <sup>o</sup>Syria, and drave the Jews from <sup>o</sup>Elath: and the <sup>o</sup>Syrians came to Elath, and dwelt there unto this day.

**7** So Ahaz <sup>o</sup>sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, saying, I *am* thy servant and thy son: come up, and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, which rise up against me.

**8** And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the <sup>o</sup>house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent *it for* <sup>o</sup>a present to the king of Assyria.

**15: 32--16: 20. JUDAH.**

**15: 32-38.** Jotham.  
**16: 1-20.** Ahaz.

**32-38. JOTHAM.**

**32, 33.** Introduction.  
**34.** Events. Personal.  
**35.** Events. Public.  
**36.** Events. Public.  
**37.** Event. Personal.  
**38.** Conclusion.

**33 sixteen years:** i.e. from his accession, on the death of Uzziah his father, for whom he reigned four years. See note on v.30 above.

**Zadok.** The high priest (1 Chron. 6. 12). Perhaps this was why he invaded the priests' office.

**34 all :** i.e. all [the good].

**35 He built.** Cp. 2 Chron. 27. 3.

**36 the rest.** Cp. 2 Chron. 27. 2-8.

**are they not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. Ap. 6.

**37 Rezin.** The war which broke out in the reign of Ahaz was already threatening. Cp. Isa. 7. 1-16.

**16: 1-20. AHAZ.**

**1, 2-.** Introduction. Accession.  
**-2-4.** Personal. Apostasy.  
**5-9.** Events. Political.  
**10-18.** Personal. Apostasy.  
**19, 20.** Conclusion. Record and death.

**1 Ahaz.** One of the four kings in whose reign Isaiah prophesied. Cp. 2 Chron. 28. 1. Isa. 1. 1.

**2 Twenty years old ... sixteen.** There is no reason for concluding that "there must be an error in one of the passages" (viz. 16. 2 and 18. 2), for Ahaz begins in 622 and reigns till 616. As he was twenty when he began, he was born in 652, and died when thirty-six. Hezekiah begins in 617, and reigns twenty-nine years, till 588. As he was twenty-five when he began he was therefore born in 642, and died when he was fifty-four. From this it is clear that Ahaz was between ten and eleven when his son Hezekiah was born. This sounds improbable only to Western ears. But, to Eastern ears and physiological phenomena, there is nothing unusual, and nothing to justify a conclusion that the text is corrupt—the usual excuse for ignorance of the facts.

**3 he walked.** Cp. 2 Chron. 28. 2.

**son.** See note on 2 Chron. 28. 3.

**to pass through the fire.** The first king of Judah to do this. Followed in it by Manasseh (21. 6; 23. 10). Cp. Jer. 7. 31. Ezek. 20. 26, and Lev. 18. 21.

**heathen** = nations.

**children** = sons.

**5 Rezin.** Cp. Isa. 7. He and Pekah are the two firebrands of Isa. 7. 4. The events in vv. 5-9 are said by some to contradict 2 Chron. 28. 5-20; but the event recorded in 2 Chron. happened the year before, directly after (2 Chron. 28. 5-20), in 631 (see Ap. 50. V., p. 59). Rezin and Pekah both attacked directly after his accession (successfully). But they confederated unsuccessfully, came up. Pekah's design to persuade Ahaz failed; and he tried to supersede him himself ("Tabeal" being a cipher for Remaliah). Cp. Isa. 7. 6.

**could not:** because of the promise to David. Cp. Isa. 7. 7, 16.

**6 Syria.** Probably Edom (for *Aram*). See note below.

**Elath.** It had belonged to Edom (14. 22).  
Isaiah (7. 17). Cp. Hos. 5. 13; 7. 11, 12; 8. 9; 11. 5. Tiglath-pileser is the "razor" of Isa. 7. 20.

and Sept., read "treasures of the house".

**a present.** Tiglath-pileser regarded it (in his inscriptions) as tribute.

**7 sent messengers.** This was opposed by

**8 house.** Some codices, with two early printed

**9** And the king of Assyria hearkened unto him: for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried *the people of it* captive to Kir, and slew Rezin.

**10** And king <sup>o</sup>Ahaz went to Damascus to meet [*and do honour to*] Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and saw an altar that *was* at Damascus: and king Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the *sketch* of the altar, and the *model* of it, according to all the workmanship thereof.

**11** And <sup>o</sup>Urijah the priest built an altar according to all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus: so Urijah the priest made *it* against king Ahaz came from Damascus.

**12** And when the king was come from Damascus, the king saw the altar: <sup>o</sup>and the king approached to the altar, and offered thereon.

**13** <sup>12</sup>And he *offered up* his burnt offering and his *meal offering*, and poured his drink offering, and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings, upon the altar.

**14** And he brought also the <sup>o</sup>brasen altar, which *was* before the LORD, from the forefront of the house, from between *the new altar* and the house of the LORD, and put *it* on the north side of *the new altar*.

**15** And king Ahaz commanded <sup>11</sup>Urijah the priest, saying, "Upon the great *new altar* burn the morning burnt offering, and the evening meat offering, and the king's burnt sacrifice, and his meat offering, with the burnt offering of all the People of the land, and their meat offering, and their drink offerings; and sprinkle upon it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice: and the brasen altar shall be for me *to consider further what shall be done with it.*"

**16** Thus <sup>o</sup>did Urijah the priest, according to all that king Ahaz commanded.

**17** And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed <sup>o</sup>the laver from off them; and took down <sup>o</sup>the sea from off the brasen oxen that *were* under it, and put *it* upon a pavement of stones.

**18** And the *covered way* for the sabbath that they had built in the house, and the king's entry without, turned he from the house of the LORD *because of* the king of Assyria.

**19** Now <sup>o</sup>the rest of the acts of Ahaz *and all that* he did, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**20** And Ahaz <sup>o</sup>slept with his fathers, and was <sup>o</sup>buried with his fathers in the city of David: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.

**17** In the <sup>o</sup>twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah began Hoshea the son of Elah to reign in Samaria over Israel <sup>o</sup>nine years.

**2** And he did *that which was* <sup>o</sup>evil in the sight of the LORD, but <sup>o</sup>not as the kings of Israel that were before him.

**3** Against him came up Shalmaneser king of Assyria; and

**16: 10-18. AHAZ. PERSONAL APOSTASY.**

10-13.	The Altar.
14.	Removal.
15, 16.	The Altar.
17, 18.	Alternations.

**10 Ahaz.** Called Jehoahaz in Tiglath-pileser's great triumphal inscriptions. The first syllable of his name dropped in Scripture, as he was unworthy of it.

**to meet:** and do him honour. Hence the solemn warnings of Isa. 8. 13, 14, 19. **fashion** = likeness, or sketch. **pattern**, or model.

**11 Urijah.** Perhaps the Uriah of Isa. 8. 2. His name does not occur in the list of high priests (1 Chron. 6.3-15). Note the emphatic repetition of "Ahaz the king" and "Urijah the priest".

**12 and.** Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6) in vv. 12-15.

**13 burnt** = offered up. Ap. 43. I. vi.

**burnt his burnt offering.** Fig *Polyptoton* for emphasis.

**meat offering** = meal offering. Ap. 48. II. iii.

**14 brasen altar.** Cp. 1 Kings 8. 64. **the altar:** i.e. the new altar.

**15 great altar :** i.e. the new altar.

**to enquire** = to consider further [what shall he done with it]. Fig *Ellipsis*. Heb. *bakar*. Occurs seven times (16. 15. Lev. 13. 36; 27. 33. Ps. 27. 4. Prov. 20. 25. Ezek. 34. 11, 12).

**16 did Urijah.** Unlike Azariah in 2 Chron. 26. 17, 18.

**17 the laver.** Cp. 1 Kings 7. 23-39. 2 Chron. 28. 24, 25.

**the Sea.** Cp. 1 Kings 7. 23-26.

**18 covert** = the covered way. **for** = because of.

**19 the rest.** Cp. 2 Chron. 28. 24, 25. He shut up the house of the Lord altogether. **which.** Some codices, with Aram. (MS.) and Syr., read "and all that". **are they not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotesis*.

**20 slept with his fathers.** See note on Deut. 31. 16.

**buried ... in the city of David.** But not in the tombs of the kings. Cp. 2 Chron. 28. 27, where observe the phrase "kings of Israel".

**17: 1-41. ISRAEL. HOSHEA.**

1.	Introduction.
2.	Events. Personal. Evil-doings.
3-6.	Event. Political. Captivity.
7-41.	Conclusion. Causes.

**1 twelfth year.** There was anarchy for nine years between Pekah and Hoshea. For, in 15. 30, Hoshea conspired against Pekah in the twentieth year of Jotham, which was the third year of Ahaz (20 — 12 = 8): for Ahaz began in Pekah's seventeenth year (16. 1), and Hoshea began in Ahaz's twelfth year. But Pekah's twenty years end in Ahaz's third year. (See Ap. 50. "V", p. 59.)

**nine years :** reckoned from twelfth of Ahaz. Hoshea kept under by the Assyrians till then. Cp. Hos. 10. 14, where Shalman[eser] spoiled Beth-arbel in his first expedition, and would spoil Beth-el at his second,

**2 evil.** Heb. *ra'a'*. Ap. 44. viii. **the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II. **not as the kings of Israel ... before him:** thus, we do not read that he opposed Hezekiah's invitation (2 Chron. 30. 5-11).

**4 So.** The Heb. drops the embarrassing "k" of *Sabako*, his Ethiopian name. Afterward vanquished by Tir-hakah. See note on 19. 9.

**5 the king of Aasyria.** Shalmaneser (v. 3), who commenced the siege, but died before Sargon, his successor, captured Samaria in 611 B.C.

**three years.** From 613-611.

Hoshea became his servant, and gave him presents.

**4** And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to <sup>o</sup>So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria, as *he had done* year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison.

**5** Then <sup>o</sup>the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it <sup>o</sup>three years.

**6** In the ninth year of Hoshea the <sup>o</sup>king of Assyria <sup>o</sup>took Samaria, and <sup>o</sup>carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in <sup>o</sup>Halah and in Habor *by* the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

**7** For *so* it was, that the *sons* of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, Which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods,

**8** And walked in the statutes of the <sup>o</sup>heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the <sup>7</sup>sons of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.

**9** And the <sup>7</sup>sons of Israel did secretly *those* things that *were* not right against the LORD their God, and they built them high places in all their cities, *in the whole country*.

**10** And they set them up *statutes* and <sup>o</sup>groves in every high hill, and under every green tree:

**11** And there they burnt incense in all the high places, as *did* the heathen whom the LORD carried away before them; and wrought wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger:

**12** For they served *manufactured idols*, whereof the LORD had said unto them, "Ye <sup>o</sup>shall not do this thing."

**13** Yet the LORD testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, *and by every one who had a vision*,

saying, "Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep **My** commandments *and My statutes*, according to all the law which **I** commanded your fathers, and which **I** sent to you *by the hand of My* servants <sup>o</sup>the prophets."

**14** Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, *as their fathers' neck was stiffened*, that did not believe in the LORD their God.

**15** And they rejected **His** statutes, and **His** covenant that **He** made with their fathers, and **His** testimonies which **He** testified against them; and they followed <sup>o</sup>vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that *were* round about them, *concerning* whom the LORD had charged them, that they should not do like them.

**16** And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, *even* two calves, and made a <sup>10</sup>grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.

**17** And they caused their sons and their daughters to <sup>o</sup>pass through the fire, and used *traffic with evil spirits and demons, and familiar spirits*, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke **Him** to anger.

**18** Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of <sup>o</sup>Judah only.

**19** Also Judah kept not the commandments of the LORD their God, <sup>o</sup>but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made.

**20** And the LORD rejected <sup>o</sup>all the seed of Israel, and

**6 king of Assyria** = Shalmaneser. See v. 3.

**took Samaria**. Here, in the days of Hoshea (king of Israel); and in ch. 18 as connected with the days of Hezekiah (king of Judah). Cp. 18. 9.

**carried Israel away**. Sargon's own inscription says 27,290.

**Halah**. Some codices, with four early printed editions, read "Halath".

**17: 7-41. CONCLUSION. CAPTIVITY.**

7-12. Provocation of Israel.

13. Remonstrance.

14-17. Obduracy of Israel.

18. Removal.

19. Disobedience of Judah.

20, 21. Rejection and rending.

22, 23-. Obduracy of Israel.

-23-33. Removal.

34-40. Transplanting of Israel; the sequel.

41. Replaced people.

**7 children** = sons.

**sinned**. Heb. *chata*. Ap. 44. i.

**God**. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

**8 heathen** = nations.

**9 from the tower ... to the fenced city**: from the remote watchtower in the country to the fortified city = the whole country.

**10 images** = statues

**groves** = *Asherah*. See note on Ex. 34. 13, and Ap. 42.

**12 idols** = filthy, or manufactured idols. **shall not do this thing**. Cp. Ex. 20. 3; 23. 13. Lev. 26.1. Deut. 12. 31, &c.

**13 all the seers** = every one who had a vision.

**and**. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton*. **and My statutes**. Some codices, with two early printed editions, Aram., Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "and My statutes" (the "and" being in the text).

**by** = by the hand of; and so generally. Cp. v. 23.

**the prophets**. Those in ISRAEL were Ahijah, Jehu (son of Hanani), Elijah, Elisha, Micaiah, Jonah, Oded, Amos, and Hosea. Those in JUDAH were Shemaiah, Iddo, Azariah, Hanani, Jehu, Zechariah (son of Jehoiada), Micah, and Isaiah.

**14 like to**. Supply Fig. *Ellipsis* (Ap. 6), "as their fathers' neck [was stiffened]".

**15 and**. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* in vv. 15-17. Sixteen "ands" emphasizing each detail. **vanity**. A term often applied to idols.

**17 pass through the fire**. Cp. Lev. 18. 21. Deut. 12. 31; 18. 10.

**divination and enchantments**: i.e. traffic with evil spirits and demons, and familiar spirits. Identical with modern spiritism. Cp. Deut. 18. 10, and see 1 Sam. 28. 8. Acts 16. 16. Rev. 9. 21.

**18 Judah only**. Fig. *Synecdoche* (of the Part), Levites and Benjamin and additions from Israel are of course included.

**19 but walked**. Cp. Athaliah (8. 18, 27; 16. 3, &c).

**20 all the seed**. A prophetic anticipation.

**21 made**. See note on 1 Kings 14. 16.

**sin a great sin**. Fig.

*Polyptoton* for emphasis. Heb. *chata'*. Ap. 44. i.

afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until **He** had cast them out of **His** sight.

**21** For **He** rent Israel from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drave Israel from following the LORD, and <sup>o</sup>made them <sup>o</sup>sin a great sin.

**22** For the <sup>7</sup>sons of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them;

**23** Until the LORD removed Israel out of His sight, *according as* He had said <sup>13</sup>*by the hand of* all His servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day.

**24** And the king of Assyria <sup>o</sup>brought men from Babylon, and from <sup>o</sup>Cuthah, and from <sup>o</sup>Ava, and from <sup>o</sup>Hamath, and from <sup>o</sup>Sepharvaim, and placed *them* in the cities of Samaria instead of the <sup>7</sup>*sons* of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof.

**25** And *so* it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, *that* they feared not the LORD: therefore the LORD sent <sup>o</sup>lions among them, which *kept on slaying* them.

**26** Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, “The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: therefore He hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land.”

**27** Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, “Carry thither <sup>o</sup>one of the priests whom ye brought from thence; and let them go and dwell there, and let him teach them the manner of the God of the land.”

**28** Then <sup>27</sup>one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear the LORD.

**29** Howbeit every nation made gods of their own, and put *them* in the houses of the high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities wherein they dwelt.

**30** And the men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, <sup>o</sup>and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,

**31** And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites *burnt up* their <sup>7</sup>*sons* in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.

**32** So they feared the LORD, and made unto themselves of the <sup>o</sup>lowest of them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places.

**33** They <sup>o</sup>feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations *whence the settlers had carried them away*.

**34** Unto this day <sup>o</sup>they do after the former manners: they fear not the LORD, neither do they after their <sup>o</sup>statutes, or after their ordinances, or after the law and commandment which the LORD commanded the <sup>7</sup>*sons* of Jacob, <sup>o</sup>whom He named Israel;

**35** With whom the LORD had made a covenant, and charged them saying, “Ye shall not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them:

**36** But the LORD, Who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, Him shall ye fear, and Him shall ye worship, and to Him shall ye do

## 17: -23-33.

## REMOVAL.

-23-25-

People exchanged. “No fear of God.”

-25.

Punishment. Lions.

26.

People. Report. Ignorance.

27, 28.

Remedy proposed : to fear Jehovah.

29-33.

People. Corrupt fear of Jehovah.

**23** as = according as.

**24** brought men. These were the substituted people forming the nucleus of the later Samaritans ; but subsequently intermixed with Israelites returning with Ezra and Nehemiah (Neh. 13. 3, 23-31). In N.T called “foreigners” (Luke 17. 18). Cp. Matt. 10. 5, 6. Sargon refers to this in his inscriptions. Only one figure remains (7) of the number he gives.

**Cuthah.** Ten miles north-east of Babylon. In the first year of Sargon there was war between Cuthah and Babylon, and the people of Cuthah were transported to Syria and Palestine. **Ava** = either the Ivah of 18. 34, or the Ahava of Ezra 8. 15.

**Hamath.** The one in Syria.

**Sepharvairn** (Dual). The two Sippars in Babylonia. *Sippar sa Samas* (the sun-god) and *Sippar sa Anunituv*.

**25** lions. For lions in Palestine see note on 1 Kings 13. 24. **slew** = kept on slaying. Omit “some”.

**27** one of the priests. An idolatrous Israelite priest from Samaria (v. 28).

**30** and. Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6)

emphasizing the five nations brought into Palestine. Cp. v. 24. Each brought its own gods. Thus (according to the language of the O.T.) Samaria committed adultery (idolatry) with five husbands (cp. Isa. 54. 5 with Isa. 23. 17. Jer. 22. 20. Hos. 2. 10-12). Repeated individually in John 4. 18. No wonder the woman worshipped she knew not what (John 4. 22).

**31** burnt = burnt up. See Ap. 43. I. viii.

**32** lowest. Cp. 1 Kings 12. 31. **33** feared. Cp. v. 41, whom they carried away from thence : or, whence they (the settlers) had carried them away.

**34** they. These, according to the Structure, are the Israelites. The member (34-40, p. 514) records their continued obduracy in their dispersion.

**statutes.** See note on Deut. 4. 1.

**whom, &c.** Render : “after the manner of the [several] nations ; [gods] which had caused them [i.e. the Israelites] to go captive thence [i.e. out of the Land]. Gen. 32. 28. 1 Kings 18. 31.

**37** which He wrote, &c. See note on Ex. 17. 14, and Ap. 47.

**41** as = according as.

**18. 1—24. 20** [For the Structure see next page.]

**1** third year of Hoshea. Hoshea began in the twelfth year of Ahaz. Therefore Hezekiah began in the fifteenth year of Ahaz. Ahaz reigned sixteen years, but was deposed by Shalmaneser (17. 3, 4), who set up Hezekiah. Hezekiah rebelled (v. 7), which shows he was under Assyria till then. See Ap. 50. V. p. 59.

sacrifice.

**37** And the <sup>34</sup>statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, <sup>o</sup>which He wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods.

**38** And the covenant that I have made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye fear other gods.

**39** But the LORD your God ye shall fear; and He shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.”

**40** Howbeit they did not hearken, but they did after their former manner.

**41** So these nations <sup>33</sup>feared the LORD, and served their graven images, both their <sup>7</sup>*sons*, and their *son's sons*: *according as* did their fathers, so do they unto this day.

**18** Now it came to pass in the <sup>o</sup>third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, *that* Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.

**2** Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was <sup>o</sup>Abi, the daughter of Zachariah.

**3** And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.

**4** He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the <sup>o</sup>groves, and brake in pieces the <sup>o</sup>braser serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the *sons* of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it *a brass thing*.

**5** He *confided* in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was <sup>o</sup>none like him [*for trust in Jehovah*] among all the kings of Judah, nor *any* that were before him.

**6** For he clave to the LORD, *and* departed not from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses.

**7** And the LORD was with him; *and* he prospered whithersoever he went forth: and he <sup>o</sup>rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not.

**8** He smote the <sup>o</sup>Philistines, *even* unto Gaza, and the borders thereof, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

**9** And <sup>o</sup>it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which *was* the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, *that* <sup>o</sup>Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it.

**10** And at <sup>o</sup>the end of three years *Sargon* took it: *even* in the sixth year of Hezekiah, that *is* the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.

**11** And the king of Assyria did carry away Israel unto Assyria, and put them in <sup>o</sup>Halath and in Habor *by* the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes:

**12** Because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed His covenant, *and* all that <sup>o</sup>Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, and would not hear *them*, nor do *them*.

**13** Now in the <sup>o</sup>fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria come up against <sup>o</sup>all the fenced cities of Judah, and took them.

**14** And Hezekiah king of Judah <sup>o</sup>sent to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying, <sup>o</sup>"I have offended; return from me: that which thou putttest on me will I bear." And the king of Assyria appointed unto Hezekiah king of Judah <sup>o</sup>three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.

**15** And Hezekiah gave *him* all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the *treasuries* of the king's house.

**16** At that time did Hezekiah cut off *the gold from* the doors of the temple of the LORD, and *from* the *supports* which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave *them* to the king of Assyria.

#### 18: 1--24: 20. JUDAH.

18: 1--20: 1	Hezekiah.
21: 1-18.	Manasseh.
21: 19-26.	Amon.
22: 1--23: 30.	Josiah.
23: 31-35.	Jehoahaz.
23: 36--24: 7.	Jehoiakim.
24: 8-16.	Jehoiachin.
24: 17-20.	Zedekiah.

#### 18: 1--20: 1. HEZEKIAH.

18: 1, 2.	Introduction. Accession.
18: 3-7.	Personal. Well-doing.
18: -7--19: 37.	Events. Political.
20: 1-19.	Personal. Sickness.
20: 20, 21.	Conclusion. Record and death.

**2 Abi.** In 2 Chron, 29. 1 it is " Abijah ", but " Abi " may be the abbreviation of " Abijah ", the " i " or " j " standing for " jah ".

**3 the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**4 groves** = *Asherah*, sing. See note on Ex. 34. 13, and Ap. 42. braser serpent. Cp. Num. 21. 9. Now 835 years old. (From 1452 to 617 = 835). **children** = sons.

**Nehushtan** = a brass thing.

**5 trusted** = confided. Heb. *batah*. Ap. 69. i.

**God.** Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

**none like him** : i.e. for trust in Jehovah. Same praise given of Josiah (23. 25), but in a different respect.

**6 and.** This "and" is contained in some codices, two early printed editions, Syr., and Vulg. The Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6) emphasizing the Fig. *Synonymies.*, by which the phrases are heaped up to express Hezekiah's goodness,

**9 it came to pass.** Cp. 17. 3-6.

**Shalmaneser.** Commenced the siege ; Sargon, his successor, completed it after three years. Cp. 17. 5, 6, where we have the same interval as here. In Saigon's own inscription he refers to the "tributes imposed upon them by the former king".

**10 the end of three years.** See note on 17. 5.

**they.** Sept. and Syr. read "he": i.e. Sargon. See note on 17. 5, 6. Sargon took it after Shalmaneser's death.

**11 Halah.** Some codices, with two early printed editions, read "Halath".

**12 Moses the servant of the LORD.** See note on Deut. 34. 5.

#### 18: 13--19: 37. INVASIONS OF JUDAH.

18: 13-16.	First invasion.
18: 17--19: 37.	Second invasion.

**13 the fourteenth year.** This was the first invasion of Judah which Sennacherib's inscription enlarges upon, but is only mentioned here. See note on v. 17. Cp. Isa. 36, 37, and 2 Chron. 32.

**all the fenced cities.** Forty-six are mentioned in the inscriptions (see Ap. 67. xi).

**14 sent.** Sennacherib had not approached Jerusalem yet.

**I have offended.** See v. 7.

**three hundred talents.** The Assyrian inscriptions say 800, the exact equivalent of 300 Hebrew (silver) talents. See note on "twenty" (15. 27).

**15 treasures** = treasuries. See note on Isa. 39. 2.

**16 pillars,** or supports. **it** = them.

**17** And the king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rabsaris and Rab-shakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah with a *heavy force* against Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they were come up, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is in the highway of the fuller's field.

**18** And when they had called to the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, which was over the palace, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder.

**19** And Rab-shakeh said unto them, "Speak ye now to Hezekiah, 'Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, 'What confidence is this wherein thou *confidest*?' "

**20** Thou sayest, (but they are but lip-words,) I have counsel and strength for the war. Now on whom dost thou *confide*, that thou rebellest against me?

**21** Now, behold, thou trustest upon the staff of this bruised reed, even upon Egypt, on which if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt unto all that trust on him.

**22** But if ye say unto me, 'We trust in the LORD our God:' is not that He, Whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and hath said to Judah and Jerusalem, 'Ye shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem?' "

**23** Now therefore, I pray thee, give pledges to my lord the king of Assyria, and I will deliver thee two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders upon them.

**24** How then wilt thou turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

**25** Am I now come up without the LORD against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, 'Go up against this land, and destroy it.' "

**26** Then said Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, and Shebna, and Joah, unto Rab-shakeh, "Speak, I pray thee, to thy servants in the Aramaic language; for we understand it: and talk not with us in the Jews' language in the ears of the people that are on the wall."

**27** But Rab-shakeh said unto them, "Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men which sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you."

**28** Then Rab-shakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and spake, saying, "Hear the message of the great king, the king of Assyria:

**29** Thus saith the king, 'Let not Hezekiah raise false hope in you: for he shall not be able to deliver you out of his hand:

**30** Neither let Hezekiah make you *confide* in the LORD, saying, 'The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.'

## 18: 17--19: 37.

## SECOND INVASION.

18: 17-36.

18: 37.

19: 1.

19: 2-5.

19: 6, 7.

19: 8-13.

19: 14-.

19: -14.

19: 15-19.

19: 20-34.

19: 35-37.

King of Assyria. Mission.

Report.

Conduct.

Message to Isaiah.

Answer to Isaiah.

King of Assyria. Letter.

Letter.

Conduct.

Prayer to Jehovah.

Answer of Jehovah.

King of Assyria. Destruction.

Hezekiah.

Hezekiah.

**17 king of Assyria.** Some suppose Sargon, and treat Sennacherib as a mistake here. But probably Sennacherib was the co-regent in the field. Cp. Jerusalem's being taken by Nebuchadnezzar, while Nabopolassar was king in Babylon. So Belshazzar was co-regent with Nabonnedus at the taking of Babylon.

**sent.** The gift of vv. 14-16 did not prevent a further assault. Compromise seldom does.

**Tartan.** A title = commander-in-chief.

**Rabsaris.** A title = chief of the heads.

**Rab-shakeh.** A title = chief of the captains; possibly a political officer.

**Lachish.** Ten miles south-east of Jerusalem, on Sennacherib's way to Egypt. See note on 19. 8. **great host** = heavy force.

**against Jerusalem.** See note on Judg. 1. 8.

**upper pool.** On east side of Jebus = Gihon.

**18 household** = palace.

**19 Rab-shakeh said.** See the references to this in Hezekiah's "Songs of the degrees". Pss. 120. 2, 3; 128. 3, 4, and cp. Isa. 37. 4. See Ap. 67. ii. **What confidence ... ?** Note the Fig. *Erotosis* (Ap. 6), which the Rab-shakeh constantly uses. See vv. 20, 22, 24, 25, 27, 33,

34, 35. Figure used for emphasis.

**20 vain words.** Heb. word of lips = lip-words.

**21 trustest, &c.** A policy opposed by Isaiah (Isa. 30. 2; 31. 4).

**bruised reed.** Cp. Ezek. 29. 6.

**king of Egypt.** Probably Shabako, the successor of So. See note on 19. 9, and cp. 17. 3, 4.

**22 if ye say.** Isa. 36. 7. If thou say. Spoken to one, but meant for all.

**35 without the LORD.** Either said in pretence, or from having heard Jehovah's prophecies (cp. 19. 25 with Isa. 10. 5).

**26 Syrian** = Aramaic.

**28 word** = message. Some codices, with two early printed editions, Sept., and Syr., read "words".

**29 deceived raise false hopes.** Note the  $\text{h}$  (*Lamed*) here, as in the first occurrence (Gen. 3. 13). **his hand** = his [i.e. Asshurs king's] hand.

Some codices, with one early printed edition, and Vulg., read "my hand". **31 Make [an agreement]** = Get a blessing out of my coming. Lit. Make with me a blessing. **come out** : i.e. capitulate.

**32 a land.** Note the Fig. *Anaphora* (Ap. 6) for emphasis.

**wine.** Heb. tirosh. see Ap. 27. II. **deliver** = rescue

**31** Hearken not to Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria, *Make with me a blessing* by a present, and come out to me, and then eat ye every man of his own vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his cistern:

**32** Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of oil olive and of honey, that ye may live, and not die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying, 'The LORD will deliver us.'

**33** Hath any of the gods of the nations <sup>32</sup>*rescued* at all his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

**34** Where *are* the gods of °Hamath, and of °Arpad? where *are* the gods of °Sepharvaim, °Hena, and °Ivah? have they <sup>32</sup>*rescued* Samaria out of mine hand?

**35** Who *are* they among all the gods of the countries, that have <sup>32</sup>*rescued* their country out of mine hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of mine hand? ”

**36** But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word: for the king's commandment was, saying, “Answer him not.”

**37** Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which *was* over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with *their* clothes rent, and told him the words of Rab-shakeh.

**19** And °it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard *it*, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.

**2** And he sent Eliakim, which *was* over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to °Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.

**3** And they said unto him, “Thus saith Hezekiah, ‘This day *is* a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and blasphemy: for the *sons* are come to the birth, and *there is* not strength to bring forth.

**4** It may be the LORD thy God will hear °all the words of Rab-shakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to *taunt* the living God; and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore °lift up *thy* prayer for the remnant that are left.’ ”

**5** So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

**6** And Isaiah said unto them, “Thus shall ye say to your master, ‘Thus saith the LORD, Be not afraid of the words which thou hast heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have *reviled Me*.

**7** Behold, **I** will send °a blast upon him, and he shall *hear a serious report*, and shall return to his own land; and **I** will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.’ ”

**8** So Rab-shakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah: for he had heard that he was °departed from Lachish.

**9** And when he heard say of °Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, “Behold, he is come out to fight against thee:” he sent messengers again unto Hezekiah, saying,

**10** “Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, ‘Let not thy God in Whom thou *confidest* deceive thee, saying, ‘Jerusalem shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.’

**11** Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: °and shalt thou be delivered?

**34 Hamath.** Cp. 17. 24. **Arpad.** A city of Syria, north-west of Aleppo. Now identified with *Tell Erfud*.

**Sepharvaim.** On the Euphrates, north of Babylon. See note on 17. 24. **Hena, and Ivah.** Probably the names of gods or goddesses.

**Samaria.** See note on 17. 5, 24. Hamath, Arpad, and Samaria are all mentioned in the inscriptions at Khorsabad. See note on 17. 21.

**19. 1 it came to pass.** Cp. Isa. 37. 1.

**the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**2 Isaiah.** The first occurrence in the historical books. Hezekiah was one of the four kings in whose reign he prophesied (Isa. 1. 1). The chapters in Isaiah which refer to these events are 10. 5—12. 6; 14. 21-27; 17. 12-14; 22 ; 29—33; 36, and 37. **3 children** = sons.

**4 God.** Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

**all.** Some codices, with Syr., omit "all".

**reproach** = disparage, taunt, or flout.

**lift up thy prayer.** Hezekiah's "Songs of the degrees" witness to this prayer in his distress. See Pss. 120. 1; 130. 1, 2. Ap. 67. iv.

**6 Isaiah.** In Greek (N.T.) = Esaias.

**blasphemed** = reviled, or vilified.

**7 Behold.** Fig. *Asterismos*. . . **a blast.** Heb. *ruach*. Ap. 9.

**hear a rumour.** Fig. *Polyptoton* (Ap. 6), "hear a hearing" = hear a serious report. See note on Gen. 26. 28.

**8 departed from Lachish.** Sennacherib had laid siege against it (2 Chron. 32. 9), but had found it difficult, as Joshua had (Josh. 10. 31, 32, "the second day"); and "left" it untaken (Jer. 34. 7).

**9 Tirhakah.** An Ethiopian by birth ; king of Egypt by conquest. Defeated later by Esarhaddon, son of Sennacherib, after fifteen days' battle. Esarhaddon is shown on a *stèle*, recently discovered, leading Tirhakah with cords.

**10 trustest** = confidest. Heb. *batah*. Ap. 69. i.

**11 and shalt thou be delivered ?** Note the Fig. *Erotosis* here, and in vv. 12, 13, and 25.

**13 Hamath, &c.** See note on 18. 34.

**14 the house of the LORD.** Hezekiah's zeal for the house of Jehovah is seen in his "Songs of the degrees". Cp. Pss. 122. 1, 9; 134. 1, 2. See Ap. 67. xiii.

**15 prayed.** When assaulted by the king of terrors he "turned his face to the wall and prayed" (Isa. 38. 2). But when the king of Babylon came with a present he did not pray, and fell into the snare (Isa. 39. 1, 2). Note the Structure of Isaiah, chs. 36—39, and see Ap. 67. iv.

**dwellest.** Cp. his prayer in Ps. 123. 1. Ap. 67. iv.

**art the God** = art Thyself the God.

**Thou hast made heaven and earth.** Cp. Gen. 1. 1. Hezekiah, in his "Songs of the degrees", repeats this phrase as witnessing to the power of God, as Creator, to defeat the enemy. See Pss. 121. 1, 2; 123. 1; 124. 8; 134. 3. See Ap. 67. v.

**12** Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed; *as* Gozan, and Haran, and Rezep, and the <sup>3</sup>*sons* of Eden which *were* in Thelasar?

**13** Where *is* the king of °Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of <sup>34</sup>Hena, and Ivah? ”

**14** And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into °the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

**15** And Hezekiah °prayed before the LORD, and said, “O LORD God of Israel, Which °dwellest *between* the cherubims, Thou art the God, even Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: °Thou hast made heaven and earth.

**16** LORD, bow down Thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, Thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to <sup>4</sup>*taunt* the <sup>o</sup>living God.

**17** Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,

**18** And have cast their gods into the fire: for they *were* no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

**19** Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save Thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou *art* the LORD God, *even* Thou only.”

**20** Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, “Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, ‘*That* which thou hast prayed to **Me** against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard.’

**21** This *is* the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning him; ‘The virgin the daughter of Zion hath despised thee, *and* laughed thee to scorn; The daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head *after thee*.

**22** Whom hast thou <sup>4</sup>*taunted* and <sup>6</sup>*reviled* ?  
And against **Whom** hast thou exalted *thy* voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? *Even* against the Holy **One** of Israel.

**23** By the messengers thou hast reproached <sup>o</sup>the Lord, and hast said, ‘With the multitude of my chariots I am come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and *have* cut down the tall cedar trees thereof, *And* the choice fir trees thereof: and I *have entered* into the lodgings of his borders, *And into* the forest of his Carmel.

**24** I have digged and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of besieged places.’

**25** Hast thou not heard long ago *how* I have *made the earth*, *And* of ancient times that I have formed it? Now have I brought it to pass, That thou shouldest be to lay waste fenced cities *into* ruinous heaps.

**26** Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, They were dismayed and confounded; They were <sup>o</sup>*as* the grass of the field, *And as* the green herb, *as* the grass on the housetops, *And as corn blighted* before it be grown up.

**27** But I know thy *downsitting*, *And thy outgoing*, and thy *incoming*, *And thy enraging thyself* against Me.

**28** Because <sup>27</sup>*thy enraging thyself* against Me and thy *arrogance* is come up into Mine ears, Therefore I will put My hook in thy nose, *And My bridle* in thy lips,  
And I will <sup>o</sup>turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.

**29** And this *shall be* a sign unto thee, Ye shall <sup>o</sup>eat this year such things as grow of themselves, and in the second year that which springeth of the same; and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruits thereof.

**30** And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

**16** living God. Always used in contrast with idols.

**18: 20-37. ANSWER OF JEHOVAH.**

20.	Jehovah. Prayer regarded.
21-28.	Defiance of the foe.
29-31.	Jehovah. Sign given.
32-34.	Defeat of the foe.

**21** at thee = after thee : i.e. after she hath seen thy back turned.

**23** the LORD\*. This is one of the 134 places where the *Sopherim* altered "Jehovah" to "Adonai" (Ap. 32).  
**will-have**, as in v. 24.

**25** done it = made it: i.e. the earth.

**26** as the grass, &c. Note Hezekiah's reference to this in his "Song of the degrees" (Ps. 129. 5-7). See Ap. 67. ii. **blasted** = blighted.

**27** abode, &c. = downsitting, and thy outgoing, and thy incoming.

**thy rage** = thy enraging thyself. Very emphatic. The Hithpael gerund occurs only here and Isa. 37. 28, 29.

**28** tumult = arrogance. **turn thee back.** See the reference to this in Hezekiah's "Song of the degrees" (Ps. 129. 4, 5). See Ap. 67. iii.

**29** eat this year, &c. See the reference to Jehovah's sign in Hezekiah's "Songs of the degrees" (Pss. 126. 5, 6; 128. 2). See Ap. 67. ix.

**31** out of Jerusalem . . . remnant : i.e. the country people who had retired into Jerusalem for safety. **remnant.** Cp. v. 4, and see Isa. 10. 20.

**the LORD of hosts** = Jehovah of hosts. Some codices, with three early printed editions, Aram., Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "of hosts" in the text.

**32** cast a bank : i.e. erect an earthwork.

**34** defend = spread, or be a shield over.

**for Mine own sake.** Man's sins cannot foil God's purpose. He does not go outside of His own will to explain His actions in grace.

**35** it came to pass. Cp. 37. 36.

**that night:** i.e. the night of the prophecy when the promise was fulfilled. Cp. "that day" (Luke 21. 34. 1 Thess. 5. 4).

**the Angel of the LORD:** i.e. the destroying Angel. Cp. 2 Sam. 24. 16.

**they:** i.e. the king and his people.

**dead corpses.** Fig. *Pleonasm*, for emphasis.

**31** For <sup>o</sup>out of Jerusalem shall go forth a <sup>o</sup>remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of <sup>o</sup>the LORD of hosts shall do this.

**32** Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, ‘He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor *erect an earthwork* against it.

**33** By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city,’ saith the LORD.

**34** ‘For I will *spread a shield over* this city, to save it, <sup>o</sup>for Mine own sake, and for My servant David's sake.’ ”

**35** And <sup>o</sup>it came to pass <sup>o</sup>that night, that <sup>o</sup>the Angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand [185, 000]: and when *the king and his people* arose early in the morning, behold, they *were* all <sup>o</sup>dead corpses.

**36** So Sennacherib king of Assyria <sup>o</sup>departed, <sup>o</sup>and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

**37** And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of <sup>o</sup>Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer <sup>o</sup>his sons <sup>o</sup>smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of <sup>o</sup>Armenia. And <sup>o</sup>Esar-haddon his son reigned in his stead.

**20** In <sup>o</sup>those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, "Thus saith the LORD, '*Give charge concerning thine house; for thou shalt <sup>o</sup>die, and not live.*' "

**2** Then *Hezekiah* turned his face to the wall, and <sup>o</sup>prayed unto the LORD, saying,

**3** "I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have *walked to and fro* before Thee in truth and with a *whole, undivided* heart, and have done *that which is good* in Thy sight." And Hezekiah *wept bitterly*.

**4** And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD <sup>o</sup>came to him, saying,

**5** "Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of My people, 'Thus saith the LORD, the <sup>o</sup>God of David thy father, 'I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt <sup>o</sup>go up unto the house of the LORD.

**6** And I will add unto thy days <sup>o</sup>fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will *be a shield to* this city for Mine own sake, and for <sup>o</sup>My servant David's sake.' "

**7** And Isaiah said, "Take a *cake* of figs." And they took and laid *it* on the boil, and he recovered.

**8** And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, "What *shall be* the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall <sup>o</sup>go up into the house of the LORD the third day?"

**9** And Isaiah said, "This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that **He** hath spoken: shall the shadow go forth ten <sup>o</sup>degrees, or go back ten degrees?"

**10** And Hezekiah answered, "It is a light thing for the shadow to go *forward* ten <sup>o</sup>degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten <sup>o</sup>degrees.

**11** And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and **He** brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the *degrees* of <sup>o</sup>Ahaz.

**12** At that time *Merodach*-baladan, the son of Baladan, <sup>o</sup>king of Babylon, <sup>o</sup>sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

**36 departed.** There is no mention of the capture of Jerusalem in Sennacherib's inscription. This omission is more remarkable than what Sennacherib says. Had he taken Jerusalem, the omission would be unaccountable. Cp. 2 Chron. 32. 21 and Ps. 129. 4, 5.

**and.** Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6) to greatly emphasize the fact of his defeat.

**37 Nisroch.** Mentioned in the inscriptions.

**his sons.** A cylinder recently acquired (1910) by, and now in the British Museum, states: "On the twentieth day of the month Tebet (Dec.), Sennacherib, king of Assyria, his son slew him in a rebellion." The rebellion (it says) lasted till the twenty-eighth of Sivan (June) of next year, "when Esarhaddon his son sat on the throne of Assyria."

The will, or rather deed of gift, of Sennacherib (2 inches by 1, containing eleven lines; in the Kouyoujik Gallery) gives all to Esarhaddon. This probably led to Esarhaddon having afterwards to fight his two brothers, Sennacherib's murderers.

**smote him.** Some years later; but mentioned here as the sequel to this history. **Armenia.** Heb. Ararat.

**Esarhaddon.** See note, above.

#### 20: 1-19. PERSONAL. SICKNESS.

1-11. Hezekiah's miraculous healing.

12-19. Berodach's embassy.

#### 1-11. HEZEKIAH'S HEALING.

1. Isaiah's warning.

2, 3. Hezekiah's prayer.

4-7. Isaiah's promise.

8-11. Hezekiah's sign.

**1 those days.** About the time of the second invasion (18. 13), but before the deliverance of 19. 35.

**the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**Set thine house in order** = Give charge concerning thine house. See the Structure of Isa. 36—39.

**die, and not live.** Fig. *Pleonasm* (Ap. 6), a double emphasis.

**2 he.** Some codices, with four early printed editions, Sept., and Syr., read "Hezekiah".

**prayed.** See note on v. 15. See his references to this in his "Songs of the degrees" (Pss. 120. 1; 123. 1-3; 130. 1, 2); and Ap. 67. iv. ..

**3 walked** = walked to and fro: i.e. habitually walked.

**a perfect** = whole, or undivided.

**wept sore.** Heb. "wept with a great weeping" = wept bitterly. Fig. *Polyptoton*. Ap. 6. See note on Gen. 26. 28.

**4 came.** The only occurrence of this in the case of Isaiah. Cp. Gen. 15. 1.

**5 God of David** (Heb. Elohim). This tells us the nature of Hezekiah's prayer. He had no heir to the throne, but remembered Jehovah's word to David in 2 Sam. 7. 12-16. Hence his anxiety, as manifested in his "Songs of the degrees". Cp. Pss. 127. 3-5; 128; and 132. See Ap. 67. xiv. (Manasseh not born till three years later, 600 B.C.)

**behold.** Fig. *Asterismos*. Introducing the fivefold (Ap. 10) promise and answer to his prayer in vv. 5 and 6.

**go up, &c.** This also must have been a subject of prayer.

**6 fifteen years.** 603-588 B. C.

**defend** = be a shield to. Cp. 19. 34.

**My servant David's sake.** See note on v. 5 and Ps. 132.

**7 lump** = cake, or plaister.

**8 What shall be the sign ... ?** Contrast Ahaz (Isa. 7. 11, 12).

**go up into the house of the LORD.** See note on 19. 14, and Ap. 67. xiii.

**9 degrees.** It is to these degrees that Hezekiah's fifteen Songs refer (Pss. 120—134). The word "degrees" is repeated here six times (in the history), but five times in Isaiah's gracious words (38. 8).

**10 down** = forward (v. 9).

**11 dial** = degrees. **Ahaz.** See note on v. 8.

#### 20. 12-19 [For the Structure see next page].

**12 Berodach.** Some codices, with Sept. and Syr., read "Merodach". Cp. Isa. 39. 1. Nineveh the two great cities competing henceforward for supremacy in Assyria. Finally settled by Nabopolassar and his son Nebuchadnezzar, "the head of gold" (Dan. 2. 37, 38).

**sent letters and a present.** These did what the king of Assyria and the king of terrors could not do.

**13** And Hezekiah <sup>o</sup>hearkened unto them, and shewed them ... the house of <sup>o</sup>his precious things, the silver, <sup>o</sup>and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and *all his armoury*, and all that was found in his *treasuries*: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

**14** <sup>o</sup>Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, <sup>o</sup>“What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee?” And Hezekiah said, “They are come *unto me*, even from Babylon.”

**15** And he said, <sup>14</sup>“What have they seen in thine house?” And Hezekiah answered, “All *the things* that *are* in mine house have they seen: there is nothing among my <sup>13</sup>*treasuries* that I have not shewed them.”

**16** And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the LORD.

**17** ‘Behold, the days come, that all that *is* in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried <sup>o</sup>into Babylon: nothing shall be left,’ saith the LORD.

**18** ‘And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall <sup>o</sup>they take away; and they shall be *chamberlains* in the palace of the king of Babylon.’ ”

**19** Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, <sup>o</sup>“Good *is* the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken.” And he said, “*Let there be good*, if peace and truth be in my days?”

**20** And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made *the pool*, and *the conduit*, and *brought the water* into the city, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**21** And Hezekiah <sup>o</sup>slept with his fathers: and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

**21** <sup>o</sup>Manasseh *was* <sup>o</sup>twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* <sup>o</sup>Hephzi-bah.

**2** And he *did the evil* in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the *nations*, whom the LORD cast out before the *sons* of Israel.

**3** For he built up again <sup>o</sup>the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made *an Asherah*, <sup>o</sup>as <sup>o</sup>did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all <sup>o</sup>the host of heaven, and served them.

**4** And he built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD said, “In Jerusalem will I put My name.”

happier time; even the "good" of 20. 19, and note.

**the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

destroyed (18. 4, 22).

1 Kings 16. 31, 32.

**heathen** = nations

**children** = sons.

**a grove** = an *Asherah*. See note on Ex. 34. 18. Ap. 42.

**as** = according as.

**the host of heaven.** Never before done in Judah. Cp. Deut. 4. 19; 17. 3.

**20: 12-19.**

**BERODACH'S EMBASSY.**

- |        |                          |
|--------|--------------------------|
| 12.    | Messengers from Babylon. |
| 13.    | Hezekiah. Ostentation.   |
| 14.    | Messengers from Babylon. |
| 15.    | Hezekiah. Ostentation.   |
| 16-18. | Messenger from Jehovah.  |
| 19.    | Hezekiah. Submission.    |

**13 hearkened.** He did not pray as in v. 2, or as in 19. 15. See the notes and Isa. 39. 2, "was glad".

**all.** Some codices, with Syr. and Vulg., omit this "all".

**his.** The depletion of 18. 15, 16 was not of "his" house, but of the house of Jehovah as well as "the king's house".

**and.** Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6) emphasizing each item.

**all the house of his armour** = all his armoury.

**treasures** = treasures.

**14 Then came Isaiah.** He was to Hezekiah what Nathan was to David (2 Sam. 12. 1).

**What said . . . ?** Fig. *Anthropopatheia* : for God knew who the men were, and what they had said.

**a far country.** Some codices, with three early printed editions, Aram., Sept., Syr., and Vulg., add "unto me".

**17 Behold.** Fig. *Asterismos*.

**into Babylon.** Cp. 2 Chron. 33. 11, and see note on v. 12. A remarkable prophecy, as Babylon was of little account as yet (cp. Isa. 39. 6). The return from Babylon was also foretold (Isa. 48, 49).

**18 they.** Heb. text reads "he". But some codices, with 3 early printed editions, read "they". Cp. Isa. 39. 7.

**eunuchs** : i.e. courtiers, chamberlains, &c. Cp. Gen. 37. 36 and Dan. 1. 3, 4.

**19 Good.** Hezekiah's submission was like Eli's. Cp. 1 Sam. 3. 18.

**Is it not good, if:** or, Is it not that, &c. Fig. *Erotesis*. Sept. reads "Let there be good".

**20 a pool** = the pool. Cp. 18. 17. The pool of Siloam fed by the conduit mentioned below.

**a Conduit** = the conduit. A long underground channel discovered by Sir Charles Warren (in 1867) running from Gihon (now the Virgin's Fount) down to Siloam. An inscription found in it describes the making of it. Cp. 2 Chron. 32. 30.

**brought water** = brought the water. This is referred to by Hezekiah in Psalm 46. 4, where it is contrasted with the raging waters of v. 3. Cp. this with Isa. 8. 6-8.

**21 slept with his fathers.** See note on Deut. 31. 16.

**21: 1-18.**

**MANASSEH.**

- |         |                               |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| 1.      | Introduction.                 |
| 2-9.    | Events. Personal. Evil-doing. |
| 10-15.  | Threatening of Jehovah.       |
| 16.     | Events. Personal. Evil-doing. |
| 17, 18. | Conclusion. Record and death. |

**1 Manasseh** = forgetting. So named because God had made Hezekiah forget his troubles (cp. Joseph, Gen. 41. 51). A sad name for him who became the worst of Judah's kings. His name appears second in a list of kings who brought gifts to Esar-haddon.

**twelve years.** Therefore not born till the third of Hezekiah's fifteen added years. See note on 20. 18.

**Hephzi-bah** = my delight is in her. Cp. reference to the marriage in Isa. 62. 4. A prophecy, given at the time of Hezekiah, foretelling a

**5** And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the <sup>o</sup>two courts of the house of the LORD.

**6** And he made *his sons* <sup>o</sup>pass through the fire, and <sup>o</sup>observed times, and used *spiritism*, and dealt with <sup>o</sup>familiar spirits and *mediums*: he wrought much <sup>o</sup>wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke *Him* to anger.

**7** And he set *a carved Asherah* that he had made in the house, of which the LORD said to David, and to Solomon his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which **I** have chosen out of all tribes of Israel, will **I** put **My** name for ever:

**8** Neither will **I** make <sup>o</sup>the feet of Israel *wander* any more out of the land which **I** gave their fathers; only if they will observe to do according to all that **I** have commanded them, and according to all the law that <sup>o</sup>**My** servant Moses commanded them."

**9** But they hearkened not: and Manasseh <sup>o</sup>seduced them to *do the evil more* than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the <sup>2</sup>sons of Israel.

**10** And the LORD spake *through* **His** servants the prophets, saying,

**11** "Because Manasseh king of Judah hath *made* these abominations, *and* hath done wickedly above all that the <sup>o</sup>Amorites did, which *were* before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his *manufactured idols*:

**12** Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel, <sup>o</sup>"Behold, **I** *am* bringing *such* evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, <sup>o</sup>both his ears shall tingle.

**13** And **I** will stretch over Jerusalem <sup>o</sup>the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab: and **I** will <sup>o</sup>wipe Jerusalem as *a man* wipeth a dish, wiping *it*, and turning *it* upside down.

**14** And **I** will forsake the <sup>o</sup>remnant of **Mine** inheritance, and deliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies;

**15** Because they have done *that which was* evil in **My** sight, and have provoked **Me** to anger, since the day their fathers came forth out of Egypt, even unto this day.' "

**16** Moreover Manasseh shed <sup>o</sup>innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD.

**17** Now <sup>o</sup>the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all that he did, and *his great sin*, *are* they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**18** And Manasseh <sup>o</sup>slept with his fathers, and was buried <sup>o</sup>in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza: and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

**19** Amon *was* twenty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Meshullemeth, the daughter of Haruz of <sup>o</sup>Jotbah.

**5 two courts.** See note on 1 Kings 7. 12.

**6 his son.** Son put by Fig. *Synecdoche* (of Part), Ap. 6, for his sons. Cp. 2 Chron. 33. 6. **pass through the fire.** As Ahaz had done (16. 3; cp. 23. 10. Deut. 18. 10). The name of Moloch was common at this time (Zeph. 1. 5).

**observed times.** Cp. Deut. 18. 10. **used enchantments.** The same as modern spiritism. Cp. Lev. 19. 31. Deut. 18. 10. **familiar spirits.** Heb. a familiar spirit. See note on Lev. 19. 31. **wizards** = mediums. **wickedness.** Heb. *ra'a'*. Ap. 44. viii. Same word as 'evil', v. 2.

**Him.** Some codices, with four early printed editions, Aram., Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "Him" in text.

**7 a graven image of the grove** = a carved *Asherah* (v. 3). Removed by Josiah (23. 6). See Ap. 42.

**8 the feet.** Fig. *Pleonasm*. **move** = wander.

**My servant Moses.** See note on Num. 12. 7.

**9 seduced.** Not said of any previous king. Cp. Jer. 15. 4.

**do more evil** = do the evil more.

**10 by** = through. Heb. by the hand of. Fig. *Metonymy* (of Cause).

**11 done** = made. **Amorites.** One of the seven nations of Canaan, descendants of the *Nephilim*. Ap. 23 and 25.

**idols** = filthy, or manufactured idols.

**12 God.** Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I. **Behold** Fig. *Asterismos*. Ap. 6.

**both his ears, &c.** Cp. 1 Sam. 3. 11.

**13 the line ... the plummet.** Put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of the Cause), for what is measured by them.

**wipe ... wipeth... wiping.** Fig. *Polyptoton*, emphasizing the completeness of the work.

**14 remnant.** Cp. 19. 30. Jerusalem survived the calamities of 18. 13, but would not survive those that were coming.

**16 innocent blood.** Tradition says that Isaiah was one who suffered martyrdom (Jos. *Ant.* x. 3. 1).

**17 the rest.** Cp. 2 Chron. 33. 12-19. His captivity in Babylon, &c. **sin that he sinned** = his great sin. Fig. *Polyptoton*.

**are they not written . . . ?** Fig. *Erotesis*.

**18 slept with his fathers.** His father was the best of Judah's kings, and he was the worst. See note on Deut. 31. 16.

**in the garden.** Not in the sepulchres of the kings.

**21: 19-26.**

**AMON.**

19.	Introduction. Accession.
20-22.	Events. Personal. Evil-doing.
23, 24.	Events. Political. Retribution.
25, 26.	Conclusion. Burial.

**19 Jotbah.** Cp. Num. 33. 33. Deut. 10. 7.

**20** And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh did.

**21** And he walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the <sup>11</sup>*manufactured idols* that his father served, and worshipped them:

**22** And he forsook the LORD God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of the LORD.

**23** And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and slew the king in his own house.

**24** And the People of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

**25** Now the rest of the acts of Amon *and all that which he did*, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**26** And *they buried him* in his *grave* <sup>18i</sup> in the garden of Uzza: and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

**22** Josiah was <sup>o</sup>eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of <sup>o</sup>Boscath.

**2** And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and <sup>o</sup>turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

**3** And it came to pass in <sup>o</sup>the eighteenth year of king Josiah, *that* the king sent <sup>o</sup>Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house of the LORD, saying,

**4** “Go up to <sup>o</sup>Hilkiah the high priest, that he may *pour out* the silver which is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the door have gathered of the People:

**5** And let them deliver it into the hand <sup>o</sup>of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD: and let them give it <sup>o</sup>to the doers of the work which *is* in the house of the LORD, to repair the breaches of the house,

**6** Unto carpenters, and builders, and masons, and to buy timber and hewn stone to repair <sup>o</sup>the house.”

**7** Howbeit there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

**8** And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, “I have found *the original copy of the Pentateuch* in the house of the LORD.” And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it.

**9** And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said, “Thy servants have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of them that do the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD.”

**10** And Shaphan the scribe shewed the king, saying, “Hilkiah the priest hath delivered me a book.” And Shaphan <sup>o</sup>read it before the king.

**11** And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the book of the law, that <sup>o</sup>he rent his clothes.

**12** And the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, and <sup>o</sup>Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and <sup>o</sup>Achbor the son of Michaiiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asahiah a servant of the king's, saying,

**13** “Go ye, inquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, <sup>o</sup>and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great *is* the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according unto all that which is written concerning us.”

**25 which he did.** Some codices, with Aram, and Syr., read "and all that which he did".

**26 he was buried** = one buried him. But some codices, with three early printed editions, Aram., Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read "and they buried him".

**sepulchre.** Heb. *keber*, a (not "the") grave, or tomb. Cp. 22. 20.

#### 22: 1--23: 30. JOISH.

22: 1.	Introduction.
22: 2.	Events. Personal well-doing.
22: 3--23: 24.	Josiah's reformation.
23: 25.	Event. Personal well-doing.
23: 26, 27.	Manasseh's provocation.
23: 28-30.	Conclusion.

**1 eight years.** Manasseh began at twelve, bred under godly Hezekiah. Josiah began at eight, bred by ungodly Amon. Contrast the two characters.

**Boscath.** In Judah. Cp. Josh. 15. 39.

**2 the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**turned not aside.** Josiah is the only king of whom this is said.

#### 22: 3--23: 24. JOISH'S REFORMATION.

22: 3-7.	Repairs of Temple.	
22: 8.	Book found.	
22: 9.	Repairs of Temple.	
22: 10, 11.	Book found.	
22: 12, 13.	Command.	} Inquiry.
22: 14.	Obedience.	
22: 15-17.	Threatening Judah.	} Answer.
22: 18-20.	Consolation. Josiah	
23: 1, 2-.	Assemblage of people.	
23: -2.	Book read.	
23: 3.	Josiah's well-doing. Covenant made.	
23: 4-20.	Evil removed.	
23: 21-23.	Josiah's well-doing. Pass-over.	
23: 24.	Evil removed.	

**3 the eighteenth year.** Marks the completion of the work (23. 23). Begun in the twelfth year (2 Chron. 34. 3, 8). Jeremiah was called in Josiah's thirteenth year (Jer. 1. 2; 25. 3), and was to Josiah what Isaiah had been to Hezekiah.

**Shaphan.** Eight relatives mentioned in 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles: (1) His grandfather, Meshullam (2 Kings 22. 3); (2) his father, Azaliah (v. 3); (3) his son, Ahikam (v. 12); (4) his son, Gemariah (Jer. 36. 10); (5) his son, Elasa (Jer. 29. 3); (6) his son, Jaazaniah (Ezek. 8. 11); (7) his grandson, Michaiiah (Jer. 36. 11, 13); (8) his grandson, Gedaliah (Jer. 39—43).

**4 Hilkiah.** The son of Shallum and father of Azariah (1 Chron. 6. 13). sum = pour out, or pay away.

**5 of the doers.** These were the overseers. to the doers. These were the labourers.

**6 the house.** Some codices, with two early printed editions, and Sept., read "the breaches of the house", as in v. 5.

**8 the book of the law.** i.e. the original copy of the Pentateuch, laid up by the side of the Ark (Deut. 31. 24-26). Probably secreted during the reigns of Manasseh (21. 16) and Amon (21. 21). See Ap. 47.

**10 read it.** Especially those parts applicable to the then circumstances, such as Lev. 26. Deut. 28. &c.

**11 he rent his clothes.** Not necessarily on account of his surprise, but on account of the solemnity of the words.

**12 Ahikara.** The friend of Jeremiah (Jer. 26. 24) and father of Gedaliah (cp. 25. 22. Jer. 39.14: 40. 5). See note on "Shaphan" (v. 3).

**Achbor.** Not the same person as Abdon, in 2 Chron. 34. 20.

**13 and for all Judah.** Some codices, with two early printed editions, read "and for the remnant in Israel and in Judah". Cp. 2 Chron. 34. 21.

**14** So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah <sup>◊</sup>the prophetess, <sup>◊</sup>the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the *vestments*; (<sup>◊</sup>now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college *part*;) and they communed with her.

**15** And she said unto them, "Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, 'Tell the man that sent you to me,

**16** 'Thus saith the LORD, 'Behold, **I** will bring <sup>◊</sup>evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, *even* all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read:

**17** Because they have <sup>◊</sup>forsaken **Me**, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke **Me** to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore **My** wrath shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.'"

**18** But to the king of Judah which sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus shall ye say to him, 'Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, *the words which thou has hearkened to shall surely come to pass*;

**19** *In that* thine heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself before the LORD, when thou heardest what **I** spake against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that they should become <sup>◊</sup>a desolation and a curse, and hast rent thy clothes, and wept before **Me**; *I also have heard thee*,' saith the LORD.

**20** 'Behold therefore, **I** will gather thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be <sup>◊</sup>gathered into <sup>◊</sup>thy grave <sup>◊</sup>in peace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which **I** will bring upon this place.'"" And they brought the king word again.

**23** And the king sent, and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.

**2** And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the <sup>◊</sup>prophets, and all the People, both small and great: and he *caused to be read* <sup>◊</sup>in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the LORD.

**3** And the king stood *on the platform*, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep **His** commandments and **His** testimonies and **His** statutes with all *their* heart and all *their* <sup>◊</sup>soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were <sup>◊</sup>written in this book. And all the People <sup>◊</sup>stood to the covenant.

**4** And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the *ordinary priests*, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for *the Asherah*, and for all the <sup>◊</sup>host of heaven: and he <sup>◊</sup>burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel.

**5** And he put down the <sup>◊</sup>idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the

**14 the prophetess.** Others mentioned are : Miriam (Ex. 15. 20. Mic. 6. 4); Deborah (Judg. 4. 4); Noadiah (Neh. 6. 14); Isaiah's wife (Isa. 8. 3); Anna (Luke 2. 36); and Philip's daughters (Acts 21. 9).

**the wife.** Cp. the usage (Judg. 4. 4). The employment of a woman as prophet shows the degeneracy of the times, deplored by Isaiah (9. 15), denounced by Jeremiah (5. 7, 8; 14. 14; 23. 14-30; 37. 19. Lam. 2. 14), and by Ezekiel (13. 2-23). Inferred also from Huldah's words (vv. 15-18), and Jer. 5. 31.

**wardrobe :** i.e. vestry, or vestments.

**now.** Note the Fig. *Parenthesis*.

**in the college.** Heb. in the second. Some supply "part", or "city". Probably = "second gate [of the city]". Cp. 2 Chron. 34, 22 and Zeph. 1. 10,

**16 Behold.** Fig. *Asterismos*. Ap. 6. **evil.** Heb. *ra'a'*. Ap. 44. viii.

**17 forsaken Me.** Huldah adopts the words of Deut. 29. 25-27.

**18 God.** Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

**As touching.** No Ellipsis here, but at end of verse. See below.

**heard, or hearkened to.** Supply Fig. *Ellipsis* thus : "Thus saith Jehovah Elohim : the words which thou hast hearkened to [shall surely come to pass]. In that thine heart was tender ... I also have heard thee".

**19 Because = In that.** **a desolation and a curse.** These words are from Deut. 11. 26; 28.15-19; 29. 19; 30. 1. Cp. Jer. 44. 22.

**20 gathered.** See note on Gen. 49. 33.

**thy grave.** Heb. *keber* (not Sheol). In 21. 26 rendered sepulchre.

**in peace.** Josiah died in war (23. 29); but why not "in peace" of mind and heart as well ? Cp. Isa. 57. 2,

**23. 2 the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**prophets.** Some codices read "Levites", as in 2 Chron. 34. 30.

**read.** Either himself; or, by Heb. idiom, "caused to be read".

**in their ears.** Cp. Neh. 8. 1-4, &c. The king did not keep it to himself. God's word is for all.

**3 by a pillar:** or, on the pillar, or, platform. Cp. 11. 14.

**soul.** Heb. *nepshesh*. Ap. 13.

**written.** See Ap. 47.

**stood.** But not for long. See Jer. 11. 2-20.

**4 priests of the second order** (or degree), i.e. ordinary priests.

**the grove = the 'Asherah.** See Ap. 42.

**host of heaven.** Cp. 21. 3.

**burned them.** As prescribed in Deut. 7. 25.

**unto Beth-el.** To defile the altar there, according to the prophecy in 1 Kings 13. 2.

**5 idolatrous priests = black-robed ; not kohen,** as appointed by God, but *k' marlm*, as appointed by man. Cp. Hos. 10. 5; Zeph. 1. 4.

**Planets = stations :** i.e. the twelve signs of the Zodiac. Heb. *mazzaloth*. Spelt *Mazzaroth* in Job 38. 32 = *stations*. The Babylonian name for the *divisions of the zodiac*. Called in the Assyrian inscriptions "Mauzalti". (See *Western Asiatic Inscriptions*.)

**6 graves.** Heb. *keber*. See note on 21. 26.

**of the children of the people = of the common people** in Jer. 26. 23. In 2 Chron. 35. 5 it = the laity as distinguished from Levites.

**children = sons.**

cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to *the twelve signs of the Zodiac*, and to all the host of heaven.

**6** And he brought out <sup>4</sup>*the Asherah* from the house of the LORD, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped *it* small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the <sup>◊</sup>graves <sup>◊</sup>of the children of the people.

**7** And he brake down the houses of the *male prostitutes*, that were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the <sup>4</sup>*Asherah*.

**8** And he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beer-sheba, and brake down the high places of the gates that were in the entering in of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's left hand at the gate of the city.

**9** Nevertheless the priests of the high places came not up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they did eat of the unleavened bread among their brethren.

**10** And he defiled *the Topheth*, which is in the valley of the sons of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech.

**11** And he took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entering in from the house of the LORD, to the chamber of Nathan-melech the officer, which was in the outskirts, and burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

**12** And the altars that were on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, did the king beat down, and hurried away with them from thence, and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron.

**13** And the high places that were on the right side of Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the Mount of Olives, which Solomon the king of Israel had builded for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Zidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the abomination of the sons of Ammon, did the king defile.

**14** And he brake in pieces the statutes, and cut down the groves, and filled their places with the bones of men.

**15** Moreover the altar that was at Bethel, and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he brake down, and burned the high place, and stamped it small to powder, and burned the <sup>4</sup>*Asherah*.

**16** And as Josiah turned himself, he spied the sepulchres that were there in the mount, and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of the LORD which the man of God proclaimed when Jeroboam stood by the altar at the feast, who proclaimed these words 369 years before.

**17** Then he said, "What monument is that that I see?" And the men of the city told him, "It is the sepulchre of the man of God, which came from Judah, and proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Bethel."

**18** And he said, "Let him alone; let no man move his bones." So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet that

**7 sodomites** = male prostitutes. Suppression directed in Deut. 23. 17, 18. See note on I Kings 14. 23, 24.

**hangings**. Heb. houses. Probably veils to cover the *'Asherah*, as it is covered in Romish processions to-day.

**8 the high places**. Seemingly (from v. 9) some were used for the worship of Jehovah. See notes on 18. 20; 19. 10, 14.

**Geba**. NOW *Jeba* (Josh. 18. 24).

**Beer-sheba**. Southern boundary (Gen. 21. 31. Judg. 20. 1). Cp. Amos 5. 5; 8. 14.

**9 priests of the high places**. Not idolatrous priests. See note on v. 8.

**10 Topheth** = the Topheth. First occurrence. Put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Adjunct), put for anything abhorrent.

**valley, &c.** The junction of the three valleys uniting south of Jerusalem. The continual fires burning there gave the Greek name *Gehenna* (from the Heb. *Ge Hinnom* = valley of Hinnom).

**Molech**. Cp. Jer. 7. 31, 32; 19. 2-6. Prohibited Deut. 18. 10. Cp. I Kings 11. 7.

**11 kings of Judah**. Presumably Manasseh and Amon. See 21. 3-5. of = from. by = to. chamberlain = eunuch, or officer. suburbs, or outskirts.

**12 top** = roof. "[the roof] of", &c. brake them down. The marg. of A.V. seems preferable here: "hurried away [with them] from thence".

**13 before Jerusalem**: i.e. the east side. See Zech. 16. 4.

**which, &c.** Fig. *Polyonymia*.

**mount of corruption**: i.e. the Mount of Olives. Thus called on account of the idolatries connected with it.

**Chemosh**. Cp. I Kings 11. 5, 7.

**14 images** = pillars, or statues.

**men**. Heb. *'adam*. Used collectively. Ap. 14. I.

**15 the altar**. Cp. I Kings 12. 32, 33.

**made Israel to sin**. See note on I Kings 14. 16.

**16 sepulchres**. Heb. pl. of *keber*. See note on 21, 26.

**the word**. See I Kings 13. 2.

**the man of God**. See note on Deut. 33. 1. Ap. 49.

**God**. Heb. *Elohim*. Ap. 4. I.

**proclaimed**. Supply Fig. *Ellipsis* thus: "proclaimed [when Jeroboam stood by the altar at the feast], who proclaimed these words" 369 years before. See I Kings 13. 1, 2.

**17 title** = monument.

**18 the LORD**. Sept., Syr., and Vulg. read "Jehovah" in the text.

**20 slew** = sacrificed. See Ap. 43. I. iv.

**21 Keep the passover**. See note on Ex. 12. 28.

**the book of this covenant** = this covenant-book.

A.V., 1611, reads "this book of the covenant".

came out of Samaria.

**19** And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke *Jehovah* to anger, Josiah took away, and did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Bethel.

**20** And he sacrificed all the priests of the high places that were there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem.

**21** And the king commanded all the people, saying, "Keep the passover unto the LORD your God, as it is written in *this covenant-book*."

**22** Surely there was <sup>o</sup>not holden such a passover from the days of the <sup>o</sup>judges that judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;

**23** But in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, *wherein* this passover was holden to the LORD in Jerusalem.

**24** Moreover the *workers with* <sup>o</sup>familiar spirits, and the *household gods*, and the *manufactured gods*, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah *clear* away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book that <sup>o</sup>Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.

**25** And <sup>o</sup>like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his <sup>o</sup>soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there *any* like him.

**26** Notwithstanding the LORD turned not from the fierceness of **His** great wrath, wherewith his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations that Manasseh had provoked **Him** withal.

**27** And the LORD said, “**I** will remove Judah also out of **My** sight, *according as* **I** have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which **I** *once chose*, and the house of which **I** said, ‘**My** Name shall be there.’ ”

**28** Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and all that he did, <sup>o</sup>are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**29** In his days <sup>o</sup>Pharaoh-nechoh king of Egypt went up against <sup>o</sup>the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates: and king Josiah <sup>o</sup>went against him; and *the king of Egypt* slew *Josiah* at <sup>o</sup>Megiddo, when he had <sup>o</sup>seen him.

**30** And his servants carried him in a chariot dead from Megiddo, and brought him to Jerusalem, and <sup>o</sup>buried him in his own <sup>16</sup>sepulchre. And the People of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's stead.

**31** <sup>o</sup>Jehoahaz *was* twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

**32** And he did *that which was* <sup>o</sup>evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

**33** And Pharaoh-nechoh put him in bands <sup>o</sup>at Riblah in the land of Hamath, <sup>o</sup>that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the land to a tribute of an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold.

**34** And Pharaoh-nechoh made <sup>o</sup>Eliakim the son of Josiah king <sup>o</sup>in the room of Josiah his father, and turned his name to Jehoiakim, and took Jehoahaz away: and he came to Egypt, and <sup>o</sup>died there.

**35** And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh;

**22 not holden such.** Cp. Hezekiah's passover, of which the same is said (2 Chron. 30. 26). Both statements true. Hezekiah's greater than any before it. Josiah's greater than Hezekiah's. See the details (2 Chron. 35. 1-19). There were larger numbers, and the law was more exactly followed. Hezekiah's passover kept just before the dispersion of Israel. Josiah's passover kept just before the captivity of Judah.

**judges that judged.** Fig. *Polyptoton*.

**24 familiar spirits.** See note on Lev. 19. 31. **images** = teraphim = household gods. **idols** = manufactured gods. **put** = clear.

**Hilkiah the priest found.** See 22, 8, &c.

**25 like unto.** Note the Fig. *Epanadiplosis*, by which (for emphasis) the statement begins and ends with the same words.

**soul.** Heb. *nephesh*. *Ap.* 13.

**27 as =** according as. **I have chosen** = I once, or erewhile, chose.

**28 are they not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*. *Ap.* 6.

**29 Pharaoh-nechoh:** i.e. Nechoh II, the sixth king of the twenty-sixth dynasty. His father was a tributary to Assyria, but had secured independence for Egypt. **the king of Assyria:** i.e. the king of Babylon, who had just conquered Nineveh, the rival capital.

**went against him.** His motive not known.

**he** = the king of Egypt. **him** = Josiah.

**Megiddo.** Southern margin of the plain of Esdraelon, celebrated for Syria's defeat by Barak (Judg. 5. 19).

**seen.** Fig. *Tapeinosis*, to emphasize the fact that he did much more than "see" him. Cp. 14. 8 and 2 Chron. 35. 21, 22.

**30 buried him.** For the sorrow attending this, see 2 Chron. 35. 25.

#### 23: 31-35. JEHOHAHAZ.

31. Appointment by People. (v. 30).

32. Personal character.

33-35. Appointment by Pharaoh-nechoh.

**31 Jehoahaz.** Also called Johanan (Jer. 22. 11. 1 Chron. 3. 15). He was the younger brother of Jehoiakim (v. 36).

**32 evil.** Heb. *raa'*. *Ap.* 44. viii.

**33 at Biblah.** After his defeat by Nebuchadrezzar at Carohemish. Eiblah was a centre from whence roads branched to the Euphrates and Nineveh, or by Palmyra to Babylon. The southern roads led to Palestine, Lebanon, and Egypt. Eiblah still bears this name, and is about twenty-five miles south-south-west of Ernesa.

**that he might not reign.** Heb. text reads "when he reigned". A.V. follows some codices, with Aram., Sept., and Vulg.

**34 Eliakim.** Name changed, to assert Pharaoh-nechoh's authority.

**in the room.** Refusing to recognize the People's appointment of v. 30.

**died there.** As Jeremiah (22. 11, 12) foretold.

**35 taxed** = assessed.

#### 23: 36-24: 7. JEHOIAKIM.

23: 36. Introduction.

23: 37. Events. Personal.

24: 1-4. Events. Political.

24: 5, 6. Conclusion.

24: 7-. Event. Non-invasion from Egypt.

24: -7. Event. Reason.

but he *assessed* the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh: he exacted the silver and the gold of the People of the land, of every one according to his taxation, to give *it* unto Pharaoh-nechoh.

**36** Jehoiakim *was* twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

**37** And he <sup>o</sup>did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

**24** In his days <sup>o</sup>Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon <sup>o</sup>came up, and Jehoiakim became his servant three years: then he turned and rebelled against him.

**2** And the LORD sent against him *marauding bands* of the Chaldees, and bands of the Syrians, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the *sons* of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD, which **He** spake *through His* servants the prophets.

**3** Surely at the <sup>o</sup>commandment of the LORD came *this* upon Judah, to remove *them* out of **His** sight, for the sins of Manasseh, *in all* that he did;

**4** And also for the innocent <sup>o</sup>blood that he shed: for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; which the LORD would not pardon.

**5** Now <sup>o</sup>the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, <sup>o</sup>are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

**6** So Jehoiakim <sup>o</sup>slept with his fathers: and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his stead.

**7** And the king of Egypt came not again any more out of his land: for the king of Babylon had taken from the river of Egypt unto the river Euphrates all that pertained to the king of Egypt.

**8** <sup>o</sup>Jehoiachin *was* <sup>o</sup>eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem *three months and ten days*. And his mother's name *was* Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

**9** And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father had done.

**10** At that time <sup>o</sup>the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.

**11** And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants *were besieging* it.

**12** And Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his *chamberlains*: and the king of Babylon took him in <sup>o</sup>the eighth year of his reign.

**13** And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the LORD, *according as* the LORD <sup>o</sup>had said.

**14** And he <sup>o</sup>carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valour, *even* ten thousand captives, and all the *artificers* and smiths: none remained, save the poorest sort of <sup>o</sup>the People of the land.

**15** And he carried away <sup>o</sup>Jehoiachin to Babylon, and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his <sup>12</sup>*chamberlains*, and <sup>o</sup>the mighty of the land, *those* carried he into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.

**37 did that which was evil.** See 2 Chron. 36. 5-8. Jer. 22. 17; 24. 8; 26. 22, 23. N.B. Jer. 13—20, and probably 22; 26; 35; 36; belong to this period.

**24. 1. Nebuchadnezzar.** Or Nebuchadrezzar (Jer. 21. 2, 7; 22. 25), or Nebuchadonosor in Josephus and Berosus, Sept., and Vulg. This is the first occurrence of his name in Scripture.

**came up.** In the fourth year of Jehoiakim (Jer. 25.1; 46. 2). Daniel says in third year (1. 1); but he writes from Babylon, whence Nebuchadnezzar set out, and here (cp. Jer. 46. 2), it refers to the actual coming. The Babylonian Servitude begins here (496 to 426 B.C.).

**2 the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**bands** = marauding bands. **children** = sons.

**by** = through. Heb. by the hand of "Hand" put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Cause), for what is effected by it.

**3 commandment.** Heb. mouth. Put by Fig. *Metonymy* (of Cause), for what is spoken by it. **according to all.** A special reading called *Sevir* (Ap. 34) reads "in all". So some codices.

**4 blood.** Put by Fig. *Synecdoche* (of Species), for murder, and the guilt of it.

**5 the rest.** See 2 Chron. 36. 6-8.

**are they not . . . ?** Fig. *Erotosis*.

**6 slept with his fathers.** Only the fact referred to here. Not the *manner* of his death and burial, for which see Jer. 22. 18, 19; 36. 29, 30. It was as foretold. The expression "slept with his fathers" is used even of Ahab; and every king of Judah whose *death* is recorded is said also to have been *buried*, except Jehoiakim. See note on Deut. 31. 16.

#### 24: 8-17. JEHOIACHIN.

8. Event. Internal. Accession.

9. Personal character.

10-17. Events. External. Supersession.

**8 Jehoiachin.** Called also Coniah and Jeconiah (Jer. 22. 24; 24. 1). **eighteen.** This was his age. In 2 Chron. 36. 9 he is said to be eight. See note there. **three months.** Is put by Fig. *Synecdoche* (of the Part), for three months and ten days. Cp. 2 Chron. 36. 9.

#### 10-17. EVENTS. EXTERNAL.

10, 11. Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem.

12-. Jehoiachin surrenders.

-12-16. Jehoiachin made captive.

17. Nebuchadnezzar makes Mattaniah king.

**10 the servants Of.** Some codices, with two early printed editions, Sept. and Syr., omit these words, and read "came up".

**11 and.** Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* (Ap. 6) in w. 11-16 to emphasize every detail.

**did besiege** = were besieging.

**12 officers:** i.e. eunuchs or chamberlains.

**the eighth year.** Computed from the time that his father entrusted him with regal authority. This was the 4th year of Jehoiakim (Jer. 25. 1, cp. 32. 1).

**13 as** = according as. **had said.** Cp. 20. 17.

**14 carried away.** This deportation was eleven years before that of Zedekiah (25. 18). Mordecai was in this deportation. See note on 2 Chron. 36. 6. The Captivity begun in 489.

**craftsmen** = artificers.

**the People of the land.** Cp. 23. 6.

**15 Jehoiachin to Babylon.** Where he was captive for thirty-seven years.

**the mighty of the land.** Princes and potentates, priests and prophets (Jer. 29. 1). Among them Ezekiel (1. 12), Daniel, and Nehemiah.

**16** And all the <sup>o</sup>men of might, *even* seven thousand, and <sup>14</sup>*artificers* and *armourers* a thousand, all *that were* strong and apt for war, even them the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

**17** And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his father's brother king in his stead, and <sup>o</sup>changed his name to Zedekiah.

**18** Zedekiah *was* twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* <sup>o</sup>Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

**19** And he <sup>o</sup>did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

**20** For through the anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, until **He** had cast them out from **His** presence, that Zedekiah <sup>o</sup>rebelled against the king of Babylon.

**25** <sup>o</sup>And it came to pass in the <sup>o</sup>ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth *day* of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about.

**2** And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah.

**3** And on the ninth *day* of the <sup>o</sup>fourth month <sup>o</sup>the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the People of the land.

**4** And the city was *breached*, and all *the men of war fled, and went forth by night* by the way of the gate between *the two* walls, which *is* by the king's garden: (<sup>o</sup>now the Chaldees *were* against the city round about:) and *the king* went the way toward the plain.

**5** And the army of the Chaldees pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho: and all his army were scattered from him.

**6** So they took the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon to <sup>o</sup>Riblah; and *he passed sentence* upon him.

**7** And they slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and <sup>o</sup>put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Babylon.

**8** And in the fifth month, on the <sup>o</sup>seventh *day* of the month, which *is* the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzar-adan, *chief of the royal executioners*, a servant of the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem:

**9** And he burnt the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every <sup>o</sup>great *man's* house burnt he with fire.

**10** And all the army of the Chaldees, that were *with* the <sup>s</sup>*chief of the royal executioners*, brake down the walls of Jerusalem round about.

**16 men.** Heb. 'enosh. Ap. 14. III. **smiths** = armourers.  
**17 changed his name.** See note on 23. 34.

**24: 18-20. ZEDEKIAH.**

18. Accession.  
19. Personal. Evil-doing.  
20. Rebellion.

**18 Hamutal.** Therefore only half-brother to Jehoiakim, but full brother to Jehoahaz.

**19 did that which was evil.** See 2 Chron. 36. 12-16. Jer. 24. 8; 37. 2; 38. 2, 5.

**20 rebelled.** Though bound by oath (2 Chron. 36. 13. Ezek. 17. 13).

**25: 1-30. THE KINGDOM ENDED.**

1-21. Nebuchadnezzar and Zedekiah.  
22-25. Remnant. In the land.  
26. Remnant. Migration to Egypt.  
27-30. Evil-Merodach and Jehoiachin.

**25: 1-21. NEBUCHADNEZZAR AND ZEDEKIAH.**

1-. Date. Ninth of Zedekiah (Jer. 39: 1).  
-1, 2. City besieged.  
3. Famine.  
4-. Flight.  
5-7-. Executions at Riblah.  
-7. Carrying away of Zedekiah.  
8. Date. Nineteenth of Nebuchadnezzar.  
9. Temple burned.  
10. City wall broken down.  
11, 12. City. Inhabitants. Flight.  
13-17. Temple spoiled.  
18-21-. Executions at Riblah.  
-21. Carrying away of Judah.

**1 And.** Note the Fig. *Polysyndeton* in vv. 1-7, to emphasize every detail. **it came to pass.** Cp. 2 Chron. 36. 11-13 and Jer. 52.

The prophecy of Jer. 39—44 is the Divine *comment* on the history. **ninth year, &c.** The day revealed to Ezekiel in exile (Ezek. 24. 1). Cp. Jer. 39. 1.

**3 fourth.** This numeral is supplied from Jer. 52. 6. **the famine.** The ninth recorded in Scripture. See note on Gen. 12. 10. Fulfilling Lev. 26. 29. Deut. 28. 53-57. Jer. 15. 2; 27. 13. Lam. 2. 20-22. Ezek. 4. 16. Sufferings described in Jer. 21. 7-9. Lam. 4. 9, 10; 5. 10, &c.

**4 broken up** = breached. Before this an Egyptian force approached and the Babylonians retired (Jer. 37. 5-11). The relief was only temporary, as predicted. **fled.** Some codices, with Syr., read "the men of war fled, and went forth by night". Cp. Jer. 39. 4; 62. 7. **two** = the two. **now.** Note Fig. *Parenthesis*.

**6 Riblah.** See note on 23. 33.

**they.** Some codices, with Sept., Syr., and Vulg. read "he". **gave judgments** = passed sentence. Cp. 24. 20.

**7 put out the eyes.** So that he did not "see" Babylon, though he was to die there (Ezek. 12. 13). But he did "see" the king of Babylon, according to Jer. 32. 4; 34. 3. See note on Gen. 19. 11.

**8 seventh day.** Jer. 52. 12 says tenth day. He may have set fire to it on the seventh day, and it burnt until the tenth.

**captain of the guard** = chief of the royal executioners.

**9 the LORD.** Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

**great man's house.** See note on Prov. 17. 19.

**11** Now the rest of the People *that were* left in the city, and the fugitives that fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzar-adan <sup>8</sup>*the chief of the royal executioners* carry away.

**12** But <sup>8</sup>*the chief of the royal executioners* left of the poor of the land *to be* vinedressers and <sup>o</sup>husbandmen.

**13** And the pillars of brass that *were* in the house of the LORD, and the bases, and the brasen sea that *was* in the house of the LORD, did the Chaldees break in pieces, and carried the brass of them to Babylon.

**14** And the pots, and the shovels, and the snuffers, and the spoons, and all the vessels of brass wherewith they ministered, took they away.

**15** And the firepans, *and* the bowls, and such things as *were* of gold, *in* gold, and of silver, *in* silver, the <sup>8</sup>*chief of the royal executioners* took away.

**16** The two pillars, one sea, and the bases which Solomon had made for the house of the LORD; the brass of all these vessels was without weight.

**17** <sup>o</sup>The height of the one pillar *was* eighteen cubits, and the chapter upon it *was* brass: and the height of the chapter three cubits; and the *network*, and pomegranates upon the chapter round about, all of brass: and like unto these had the second pillar with *network*.

**18** And the <sup>8</sup>*chief of the royal executioners* took <sup>o</sup>Seraiah the <sup>o</sup>chief priest, and Zephaniah the <sup>o</sup>second priest, and the three keepers of the *threshold*:

**19** And out of the city he took an officer that was set over the men of war, and five men of them that were in the king's presence, which were found in the city, and the <sup>o</sup>principal scribe of the host, which mustered the People of the land, and threescore men of the People of the land *that were* found in the city:

**20** And Nebuzar-adan <sup>8</sup>*chief of the royal executioners* took these, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah:

**21** And the king of Babylon smote them, and slew them at Riblah in the land of Hamath. <sup>o</sup>So Judah was carried away out of *his* land.

**22** And *as for* the people that remained in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left, even over them he made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, ruler.

**23** And <sup>o</sup>when all the captains of the armies, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah governor, there came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even <sup>o</sup>Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan the son of Careah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.

**24** And Gedaliah sware to them, and to their men, and said unto them, "Fear not to be the servants of the Chaldees: dwell in the

**12** husbandmen. Cp. Jer. 52. 16. **17** The height of the one pillar. See note on I Kings 7. 15. **wreathen work** = network.

**18** Seraiah. The grandfather or great-grandfather of Ezra (I Chron. 6. 14. Ezra 7. 1). **chief priest**. See note on Lev. 4. 3.

**second priest**. See note on 23. 4. Probably a deputy high priest. No provision for such in the Law. **door** = threshold.

**19** principal scribe = scribe of the captain of the host.

**21** So Judah was carried away. Thus ended the kingdom of Judah, as Jeremiah had predicted (Jer. 20. 4). **their** = his.

#### 25: 22-25. THE REMNANT. MIGRATION TO EGYPT.

**23** when all the captains, &c. For fuller account see Jer. 40. 7—43. 13. **Ishmael**. He was of the seed royal (v. 25), and laid claim to the throne. Cp. Jer. 40. 8; 41. 1-18. Josephus, *Ant.* X. 9. 2.

**24** it shall be well with you. So God designed it (Jer. 27. 5, 6, 11).

**25** seventh month. Afterward observed as a fast. Cp. Zech. 7. 5.

**26** came to Egypt. In defiance of the counsel of Jeremiah (whom they took with them). See Jer. 42 and 43, 8-13, who foretold that Egypt also would be given to the king of Babylon (Jer. 44. 29, 30).

**27** lift up the head. Heb. idiom = show favour to.

**out of prison**. Some codices, with Sept. and Syr., read "and brought him forth out of his prison". Cp. Jer. 52. 31.

**28** kindly = good words. **throne** = seat (Prov. 9. 14).

**29** did eat bread. He was a guest at the royal table, Cp. 2 Sam. 19. 33. I Kings 2. 7. This chapter, compared with the last chapter of Jeremiah, points to his authorship. The (one) book of Kings brings the history of Israel and Judah down to the Captivity, and ends there. See the Structure, p. 413. The (one) book of Chronicles begins from Adam, and leads on from the Captivity to the book of Ezra-Nehemiah.

land, and serve the king of Babylon; and <sup>o</sup>it shall be well with you."

**25** But it came to pass in the <sup>o</sup>seventh month, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the seed royal, came, and ten men with him, and smote Gedaliah, that he died, and the Jews and the Chaldees that were with him at Mizpah.

**26** And all the People, both small and great, and the captains of the armies, arose, and <sup>o</sup>came to Egypt: for they were afraid of the Chaldees.

**27** And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the seven and twentieth *day* of the month, *that* Evil-merodach king of Babylon in the year that he began to reign did *show favour to* Jehoiachin king of Judah *and brought him forth out of prison*;

**28** And he spake *good words* to him, and set his *seat* above the *seat* of the kings that *were* with him in Babylon;

**29** And changed his prison garments: and he <sup>o</sup>did eat bread continually before him all the days of his life.

**30** And his allowance *was* a continual allowance given him of the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life.