

CHAPTER THREE
The 251-Year Era of the Exodus

Eventually, it became clear that the eras of the Hebrews should remain in their proper context and are not of any private interpretation or private ownership. They actually belong to the Bible as an integral, although sometimes hidden, part of the text. The pattern becomes obvious (once it comes to our attention) even though it has become mutilated and abused beyond recognition and needs to be restored.

This chapter covers the **251-years from God's covenant with Israel to His covenant with David**, that is, Moses' 40 years in the wilderness, the years of Joshua, the elders, the Judges, Samuel and Saul and ending with David's capture of Jerusalem, after his seventh year of reigning in Hebron.

Scholars debate whether this period should be **251 or 479 or 590 Years**, and we find examples of each belief in the first century. This period will indicate whether or not we are presently nearing the end of 6,000 years after Adam as suggested by Archbishop James Ussher.

FROM EXODUS TO THE ERA OF JERUSALEM

Introduction to Joshua:

As explained in Chapter 2, Joseph was born 251 years after Abraham. He was 39 when his family entered Egypt and would have been 251 if he had lived until the exodus, when they took his bones from Egypt. Strangely nothing is recorded after the second year until the 39th year in the wilderness.

In the 39th year, Moses' brother and sister died, and this is 251 years after Joseph's family had entered Egypt. In the 40th year, Moses conquered the east side of the Jordan River and died. Thus ends the story according to Moses, and Joshua takes over in crossing the Jordan.

This Chapter 3 will investigate to find the pattern continuing after the death of Moses.

294 Years (6 Jubilees) & 251 Years After the Exodus

Archbishop Ussher, in *The Annals of the World*, page 60, says David began ruling in a **jubilee year**. He says that in the next sabbatical year, "The ark of the covenant... was now brought from Kirjathjearim in this **sabbatical year**... David rejoiced before it, and sang a song."

Ussher continues on page 67, "In the eleventh year of Solomon's reign, in the eighth month, called Bul, the temple and its furnishings were completed. It had taken seven years and six months to build. The dedication of the temple of the temple was postponed until the autumn of the next year, because that was the beginning of the Jubilee year."

TABLE 25. 251 Years from the Exodus to Era of Jerusalem

BC	
1255 Exodus (Jubilee Year)	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin-right: 10px;"></div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>294 years (6 jubilees)</p> <p>251 yrs</p> <p>49 years</p> </div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin-left: 10px;"></div> </div>
1010 David's first year of reign (Jubilee Year)	
1004 David captures Jerusalem (Sabbatical Year)	
968 Temple founded	
961 Solomon Dedicated Temple (Jubilee Year)	

This table is based upon having six generations (251 years) from the exodus to David. Nashon was David's ancestor during the exodus (Num. 1:7; 7:11). Ussher preferred having 479 years from the exodus to Solomon.

Following Ussher's statement that the temple was dedicated in a jubilee year, we can extrapolate the jubilees back to the exodus. By choosing 251 instead of 479 years from exodus to David, we find there were 294 years (6 jubilees) from the exodus to the dedication of the temple. This is supported by the previous 122 sabbaticals (854 years) from the Flood to the exodus and 14 sabbaticals from Shem's birth to the Flood.

Ussher was off 43 years, and he dated the dedication of the temple as 1004 BC, instead of 961 BC. The mistake was the result of adding the reigns of the kings in a sequential manner not accounting for their 43 years of overlapping reigns.

TABLE 26. 251 Years in Egypt and in the Wilderness

<i>Israelites' History</i>	<i>Year of Joseph's Birth</i>	<i>Years After Entering Egypt</i>	<i>Year of Moses' Birth</i>
Entry Into Egypt (Jacob was 130)	39	0	0
Exodus from Egypt (Jubilee Year)	251	212	80
Time in the Wilderness	39	39	39
Last Year in Kadeshbarnea (the 39 th Year in the Wilderness ¹)	290	251	119
Moses Conquers East Side of Jordan (in the 40 th Year) and dies.	291	252	120
Joshua Conquers West Side of Jordan (in the 41 st Year)	292	253	

NOTE: The Israelites entered Egypt after Joseph turned 39. They left Egypt after 212 years and were in the wilderness until after 39 years, 251 years since entering Egypt. In the 40th year, Moses conquered the east side of the Jordan River.

¹ Deuteronomy 2:14: The Israelites were in Kadeshbarnea (in the wilderness) 38 years. They entered Kadeshbarnea in their second year in the wilderness (Numbers 1:1).

TABLE 27. The Days of the Weeks & Months When Jericho was Surrounded

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 41 ST yr. ² 1 st month 7 yrs. begin	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Circumcism next to Jericho	11	12	13 Passover	14 Israelites at Jericho
15 Wave Sheaf Jericho Surrounded	16	17 Seven Seven	18 days of days of	19 Unleavened Circling	20 Bread Jericho	21 Jericho Falls

TABLE 27 represents a tradition that the Israelites entered the promised land in the 41st year after the Exodus. Some claim they crossed the Jordan River in a jubilee year, but evidence shows the jubilee was in the year of the exodus. According to the story, the Israelites could not enter their promised land in their second year in the wilderness because, after scouting the land, the scouts returned from scouting the promised land with a false report (except for Joshua and Caleb) that the inhabitants were giants and too powerful for the Israelites and too powerful for their God.

40 years later, the Israelites crossed the Jordan river on the 10th day of the first month. They observed the Passover on the 14th, which tradition says fell on a Saturday in that year, and they would have eaten the Passover symbols after sundown, assuming they were available.

After sunrise, on Sunday, the 15th, they ate the barley and other grain, the “firstfruits” of the land, after the priests first made an offering of the first of the firstfruits. From then on the manna ceased which they had eaten for 40 years.

It ceased on Sunday, the same weekday in which they had crossed the Red sea before sunrise, when the Pharaoh drowned. The tradition implies they went around Jericho the first time on that Sunday, the 15th, and the walls of Jericho fell down on the seventh day, the 21st, when they blew the seven trumpets.

² *The Book of Jubilees*, Chapter 15, says, “And the cloud was lifted up on the first (day) of the first month, of the first year of the first period of seven years of the Jubil (Jubilee) even from the beginning of the entering in of the children of Israel...”

TABLE 28. Original Figures: 590, 479 & 251 Years (Exodus to Temple) Restored (Based upon 450-339-111 Years For the Judges and Oppressions)

	<i>590 Yrs. of Josephus</i>	<i>479 Yrs. of Eusebius</i>	<i>479 Yrs. of James Ussher</i>	<i>251 Yrs. to David</i>
AM, Anno Mundi, or year of the world			Year AM After Man	
Exodus to Moses' Death	40	40	2513	40
Moses' death to Joshua's Death	7	7	7	7
Joshua's Death to Elders' Deaths	36	36	36	36
	83	83	83	83
OPPRESSIONS				
Cushan	8	8	8	8
Moabites	18	18	18	18
Jabin	20	20	20	20
Midianites	7	7	7	7
Ammonites	18	18	18	18
Philistines	40	40	40	40
	111	111	111	111
JUDGES				
Othniel	40	40	40	40
Ehud	80	80	80	80
Shamgar	0 (1)	0	0	0
Deborah	40	40	40	40
Gideon	40	40	40	40
Abimelech	3	3	3	3
Tola (in some copies)	5.7.5 Omitted 23	22	23	23
Jair	22	22	22	22
Jephthah	6	6	6	6
Ibsan	7	7	7	7
Elon	10	Omitted? 10	10	10
Abdon (in some copies?)	5.7.15 Omitted 8	8	8	8
Samson	20	20	20	20
Eli	12 years with Samuel 40	40	40	40
	339	339	339	339
Total Years to Samuel (see Acts 13:20)	533	422		194
	57	57		57
David's 7th yr.? / Solomon's 4th yr.?	590	479	2992 AM 479	251

NOTE: For the period, from the exodus to the temple (Solomon's 4th year), Josephus preferred about 590 years; Eusebius and Ussher preferred 479 years. Josephus basically accepted both the 111 years of oppressions and the 339 years of judges (both totaling 450 years). Eusebius and Ussher basically preferred only 339 years of the original figures.

Introduction to Judges: To the First Year of Samuel; Three Versions of Chronology:

Ussher, in *The Annals of the World*, dates the exodus as 2513 AM (page 44) and the founding of the temple as 2992 AM (page 67) showing the period consisted of 479 years.

If we ignore his mutilation of the years of judges, oppressions and kings and restore the original figures, we can see that he accepted the 339 years of Judges and

rejected the 111 years of oppressions (as in I Kings 6:1). However, in his text, he merges the oppressions in with the years of the judges until the original figures are beyond recognition. It's that simple.

The 450-year system is supported by Acts 13:19-20 when it says, "... (God) divided their land by lot. And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of 450 years, until Samuel the prophet." This view regarding the 450 years of judges is preferred by Africanus, Josephus and Jewish scholars of ancient Alexandria. Even Josephus originally had 2510 years to the exodus plus 592 more years to the temple (*Antiquities* 8.3.1). (Later transcribers undoubtedly edited his figures to match the standard view of the Greek Septuagint text.)

The 339-year version of Acts 13:19-20 is based upon I Kings 6:1, which allows 479 years from the exodus to the era of Jerusalem. This version only allows for 339 years from when **"...(God) divided their land by lot" "until Samuel the prophet"**. This view regarding the 339 years of judges is preferred by Eusebius and Ussher.

The 111-year version of Acts 13:19-20 is based upon Matthew 1:17, which says there were 6 generations from the exodus to David. This version only allows 111 years from when **"...(God) divided their land by lot" "until Samuel the prophet"**. This view regarding about 111 years of judges is preferred by recent scholars such as Kenneth Kitchen and Jack Finegan.

Further evidence shows tampering with figures to extend the era of the exodus past David's 7th year (when David conquered Jerusalem), to make it end in Solomon's 4th year (when the temple was founded). Rabbinic tradition only allows 20 years from Eli to David's 7th year, but Josephus shows there were 57. Rabbinic tradition has these 57 years from Eli ending in Solomon's 4th year, when the temple was founded.

Another problem is that the book of Joshua does not say how long the elders ruled after Joshua's first 7 years. However, Josephus says Joshua and the elders ruled 43 years.

The period of the Judges is often criticized because there are 40 years of rest after the Cushan Oppression, 40 years of rest after the Canaanite Oppression, 40 years of rest after the Midianite Oppression and two periods of 40 years of rest after the Moabite Oppression. These are followed by 40 years of Philistine Oppression (in the time of Eli's 40 years), 40 years of Saul, 40 years of David and 40 years of Solomon. Prior to the Judges, Moses ruled for 40 years, until Joshua.

However, these are a distraction while searching for the original 251-year epoch from Moses to David. Many of these 40-year periods can be deleted by considering that the oppressions were in different parts of Canaan, and one followed another. Each Judge was chosen to fight an oppressor in only one part, and then they had rest for 40 years in that part of Canaan. Samuel and Saul replaced the Judges by fighting the oppressors on every side.

"And when they forgot the LORD their God, he sold them into the hands of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab... And the LORD sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and the LORD delivered you on every side" (I Sam. 12:9-11). Compare I Sam. 14:47.

A. The Book of Joshua:

From the Death of Moses to the Death of Joshua.

1. ¹:Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, ²:Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

³:Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. ⁴:From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

⁵:There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. ⁶:Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.

⁷:Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

⁸:This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. ⁹:Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

¹⁰:Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, ¹¹:Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it.

¹²:And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half the tribe of Manasseh, spake Joshua, saying, Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, The LORD your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land. ¹⁴:Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side Jordan; but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them; ¹⁵:Until the LORD have given your brethren rest, as he hath given you, and they also have possessed the land which the LORD your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the LORD's servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sunrising.

¹⁶:And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go. ¹⁷:According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses. ¹⁸:Whosoever he be that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only be strong and of a good courage.

2. ¹:And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.

B. The Book of Judges.

1. ^{1:}Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them?

^{2:}And the LORD said, Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand.

^{3:}And Judah said unto Simeon his brother, Come up with me into my lot, that we may fight against the Canaanites; and I likewise will go with thee into thy lot. So Simeon went with him.

^{4:}And Judah went up; and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand: and they slew of them in Bezek ten thousand men. ^{5:}And they found Adoni-bezek in Bezek: and they fought against him, and they slew the Canaanites and the Perizzites.

^{6:}But Adoni-bezek fled; and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes. ^{7:}And Adoni-bezek said, Threescore and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat under my table: as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died.

^{8:}Now the children of Judah had fought against Jerusalem, and had taken it, and smitten it with the edge of the sword, and set the city on fire. ^{9:}And afterward the children of Judah went down to fight against the Canaanites, that dwelt in the mountain, and in the south, and in the valley. ^{10:}And Judah went against the Canaanites that dwelt in Hebron: (now the name of Hebron before was Kirjath-arba:) and they slew Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai.

^{11:}And from thence he went against the inhabitants of Debir: and the name of Debir before was Kirjath-sepher: ^{12:}And Caleb said, He that smiteth Kirjath-sepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife.

^{13:}And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife.

NOTE: After Joshua 13 (when Caleb was 85), Joshua (at Gilgal) distributed land west of the Jordan to Judah (including Caleb), Joseph (Ephraim & Manasseh). Then Joshua moves to Shiloh and distributes land to Benjamin, Simeon & Dan. Judges, chapter 1, seems to revert back to the time of Joshua 15 and the battles of Caleb and Othniel (the first Judge) to capture Debir (Joshua 15:16-17 & Judges 1:12). These are included among the cities conquered in Joshua's first seven years west of the Jordan (Josh. 12:7-24). This view seems to omit the years of elders until Joshua's death.

^{14:}And it came to pass, when she came to him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted from off her ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wilt thou? ^{15:}And she said unto him, Give me a blessing: for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the nether springs.

^{16:}And the children of the Kenite, Moses' father in law, went up out of the city of palm trees with the children of Judah into the wilderness of Judah, which lieth in the south of Arad; and they went and dwelt among the people.

^{17:}And Judah went with Simeon his brother, and they slew the Canaanites that inhabited Zephath, and utterly destroyed it. And the name of the city was called Hormah. ^{18:}Also Judah took Gaza with the coast thereof, and Askelon with the coast thereof, and Ekron with the coast thereof.

^{19:}And the LORD was with Judah; and he drave out the inhabitants of the mountain; but could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley, because they had chariots of iron. ^{20:}And they gave Hebron unto Caleb, as Moses said: and he expelled thence the three sons of Anak.

^{21:}And the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem unto this day. ^{22:}And the house of Joseph, they also went up against Bethel: and the LORD was with them.

^{23:}And the house of Joseph sent to descry Bethel. (Now the name of the city before was Luz.) ^{24:}And the spies saw a man come forth out of the city, and they said unto him, Shew us, we pray thee, the entrance into the city, and we will shew thee mercy. ^{25:}And when he shewed

them the entrance into the city, they smote the city with the edge of the sword; but they let go the man and all his family. ^{26:}And the man went into the land of the Hittites, and built a city, and called the name thereof Luz: which is the name thereof unto this day.

^{27:}Neither did Manasseh drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shean and her towns, nor Taanach and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Dor and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Ibleam and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Megiddo and her towns: but the Canaanites would dwell in that land.

^{28:}And it came to pass, when Israel was strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute, and did not utterly drive them out.

^{29:}Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them. ^{30:}Neither did Zebulun drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol; but the Canaanites dwelt among them, and became tributaries.

^{31:}Neither did Asher drive out the inhabitants of Accho, nor the inhabitants of Zidon, nor of Ahlab, nor of Achzib, nor of Helbah, nor of Aphik, nor of Rehob: ^{32:}But the Asherites dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: for they did not drive them out.

^{33:}Neither did Naphtali drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh, nor the inhabitants of Beth-anath; but he dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: nevertheless the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh and of Beth-anath became tributaries unto them.

^{34:}And the Amorites forced the children of Dan into the mountain: for they would not suffer them to come down to the valley: ^{35:}But the Amorites would dwell in mount Heres in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim: yet the hand of the house of Joseph prevailed, so that they became tributaries.

^{36:}And the coast of the Amorites was from the going up to Akkrabbim, from the rock, and upward.

2. ^{1:}And an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I swore unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you. ^{2:}And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this? ^{3:}Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.

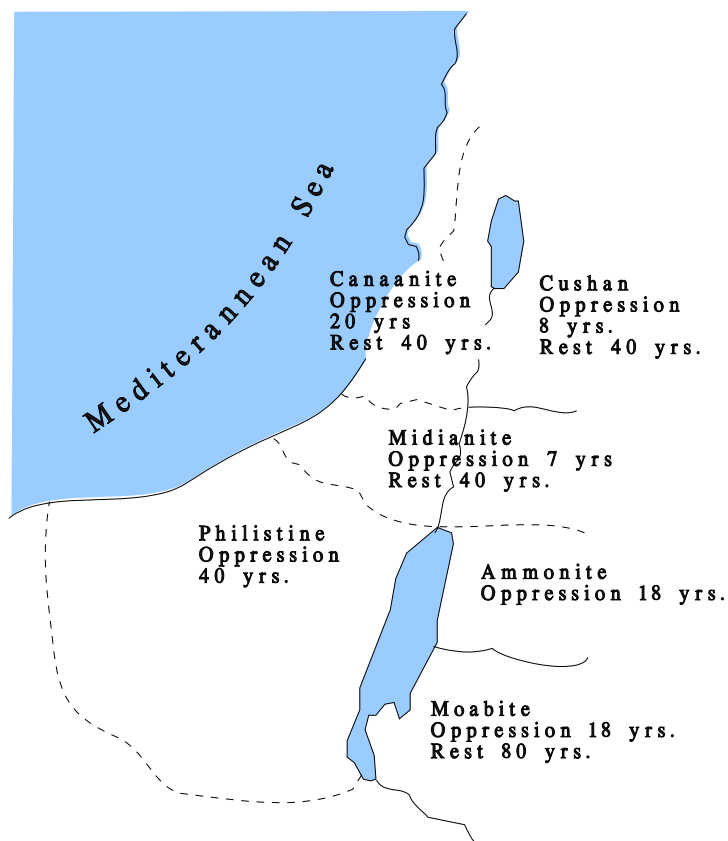
^{4:}And it came to pass, when the angel of the LORD spake these words unto all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept. ^{5:}And they called the name of that place Bochim: and they sacrificed there unto the LORD.

^{6:}And when Joshua had let the people go, the children of Israel went every man unto his inheritance to possess the land. ^{7:}And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD, that he did for Israel.

^{8:}And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being an hundred and ten years old. ^{9:}And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash. ^{10:}And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.

^{11:}And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim:

TABLE 29. Locations of the Six Oppressions



Oppressions ³	Yrs.
Cushan	8
Moabite	18
Canaanite	20
Midianite	7
Ammonite ⁴	18
Philistine ⁵	40
	<u>111</u>

^{12:} And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger.

^{13:} And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth. ^{14:} And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.

^{15:} Whithersoever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed.

^{16:} Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them. ^{18:} And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a

³ Kitchen and Finegan place the exodus in about 1250 to 1260 BC, about 40 years before Pharaoh Merneptah of Egypt's Dynasty XIX. This only allows about 111 years for the oppressions and judges. In this view, the reigns of Abimilech, Tola, Jair, Jephthah, Ibsan Elon and Abdon (79 years altogether) are included in years in which the land had rest (200 years total), and this may explain how Jair, Jephthah, Moses' grandson and Aaron's grandson are still living at the end of Judges.

⁴ The Ammonites were allied with the Philistines during the Ammonite Oppression (Judges 10:6). This may include Samson's 20 years (Judges 15:20).

⁵ The Philistine Oppression undoubtedly included Eli's 40 years (I Sam. 4:18).

whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the LORD; but they did not so.

^{18:}And when the LORD raised them up judges, then the LORD was with the judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for it repented the LORD because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them.

^{19:}And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way. ^{20:}And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and he said, Because that this people hath transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not hearkened unto my voice; ^{21:}I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died: ^{22:}That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the LORD to walk therein, as their fathers did keep it, or not. ^{23:}Therefore the LORD left those nations, without driving them out hastily; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua.

3. ^{1:}Now these are the nations which the LORD left, to prove Israel by them, even as many of Israel as had not known all the wars of Canaan; ^{2:}Only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing thereof; ^{3:}Namely, five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanon, from mount Baal-hermon unto the entering in of Hamath.

^{4:}And they were to prove Israel by them, to know whether they would hearken unto the commandments of the LORD, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses. ^{5:}And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites: ^{6:}And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods.

^{7:}And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgat the LORD their God, and served Baalim and the groves. ^{8:}Therefore the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Chushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia: and the children of Israel served Chushan-rishathaim eight years.

^{9:}And when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer to the children of Israel, who delivered them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother. ^{10:}And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel, and went out to war: and the LORD delivered Chushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed against Chushan-rishathaim. ^{11:}And the land had rest forty years.

And Othniel the son of Kenaz died. ^{12:}And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the LORD.

^{13:}And he gathered unto him the children of Ammon and Amalek, and went and smote Israel, and possessed the city of palm trees. ^{14:}So the children of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

^{15:}But when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised them up a deliverer, Ehud the son of Gera, a Benjamite, a man lefthanded: and by him the children of Israel sent a present unto Eglon the king of Moab. ^{16:}But Ehud made him a dagger which had two edges, of a cubit length; and he did gird it under his raiment upon his right thigh. ^{17:}And he brought the present unto Eglon king of Moab: and Eglon was a very fat man. ^{18:}And when he had made an end to offer the present, he sent away the people that bare the present. ^{19:}But

he himself turned again from the quarries that were by Gilgal, and said, I have a secret errand unto thee, O king: who said, Keep silence. And all that stood by him went out from him. ^{20:}And Ehud came unto him; and he was sitting in a summer parlour, which he had for himself alone. And Ehud said, I have a message from God unto thee. And he arose out of his seat. ^{21:}And Ehud put forth his left hand, and took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly: ^{22:}And the haft also went in after the blade; and the fat closed upon the blade, so that he could not draw the dagger out of his belly; and the dirt came out. ^{23:}Then Ehud went forth through the porch, and shut the doors of the parlour upon him, and locked them.

^{24:}When he was gone out, his servants came; and when they saw that, behold, the doors of the parlour were locked, they said, Surely he covereth his feet in his summer chamber. ^{25:}And they tarried till they were ashamed: and, behold, he opened not the doors of the parlour; therefore they took a key, and opened them: and, behold, their lord was fallen down dead on the earth. ^{26:}And Ehud escaped while they tarried, and passed beyond the quarries, and escaped unto Seirath. ^{27:}And it came to pass, when he was come, that he blew a trumpet in the mountain of Ephraim, and the children of Israel went down with him from the mount, and he before them. ^{28:}And he said unto them, Follow after me: for the LORD hath delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand. And they went down after him, and took the fords of Jordan toward Moab, and suffered not a man to pass over. ^{29:}And they slew of Moab at that time about ten thousand men, all lusty, and all men of valour; and there escaped not a man. ^{30:}So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel.

And the land had rest fourscore years. ^{31:}And after him was Shamgar the son of Anath, which slew of the Philistines six hundred men with an ox goad: and he also delivered Israel.

4. ^{1:}And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, when Ehud was dead. ^{2:}And the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, that reigned in Hazor; the captain of whose host was Sisera, which dwelt in Harosheth of the Gentiles.

^{3:}And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD: for he had nine hundred chariots of iron; and twenty years he mightily oppressed the children of Israel.

^{4:}And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time. ^{5:}And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in mount Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment.

^{6:}And she sent and called Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali, and said unto him, Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded, saying, Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun? ^{7:}And I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon Sisera, the captain of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thine hand.

^{8:}And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go: but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go. ^{9:}And she said, I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the LORD shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman.

And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh. ^{10:}And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; and he went up with ten thousand men at his feet: and Deborah went up with him.

^{11:}Now Heber the Kenite, which was of the children of Hobab the father in law of Moses, had severed himself from the Kenites, and pitched his tent unto the plain of Zaanaim, which is by Kedesh. ^{12:}And they shewed Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam was gone up to mount Tabor. ^{13:}And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron, and all the people that were with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon.

^{14:}And Deborah said unto Barak, Up; for this is the day in which the LORD hath delivered Sisera into thine hand: is not the LORD gone out before thee?

So Barak went down from mount Tabor, and ten thousand men after him. ^{15:}And the LORD discomfited Sisera, and all his chariots, and all his host, with the edge of the sword before Barak; so that Sisera lighted down off his chariot, and fled away on his feet. ^{16:}But Barak pursued after the chariots, and after the host, unto Harosheth of the Gentiles: and all the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword; and there was not a man left.

^{17:}Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite: for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite.

^{18:}And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him, Turn in, my lord, turn in to me; fear not. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle.

^{19:}And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water to drink; for I am thirsty. And she opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him. ^{20:}Again he said unto her, Stand in the door of the tent, and it shall be, when any man doth come and inquire of thee, and say, Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No.

^{21:}Then Jael Heber's wife took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died. ^{22:}And, behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her tent, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail was in his temples.

^{23:}So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel. ^{24:}And the hand of the children of Israel prospered, and prevailed against Jabin the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin king of Canaan.

5. ^{1:}Then sang Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam on that day, saying, ^{2:}Praise ye the LORD for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves.

^{3:}Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I, even I, will sing unto the LORD; I will sing praise to the LORD God of Israel. ^{4:}LORD, when thou wentest out of Seir, when thou marchedst out of the field of Edom, the earth trembled, and the heavens dropped, the clouds also dropped water.

^{5:}The mountains melted from before the LORD, even that Sinai from before the LORD God of Israel.

^{6:}In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath, in the days of Jael, the highways were unoccupied, and the travellers walked through byways.

^{7:}The inhabitants of the villages ceased, they ceased in Israel, until that I Deborah arose, that I arose a mother in Israel.

^{8:}They chose new gods; then was war in the gates: was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?

^{9:}My heart is toward the governors of Israel, that offered themselves willingly among the people. Bless ye the LORD.

^{10:}Speak, ye that ride on white asses, ye that sit in judgment, and walk by the way.

^{11:}They that are delivered from the noise of archers in the places of drawing water, there shall they rehearse the righteous acts of the LORD, even the righteous acts toward the inhabitants of his villages in Israel: then shall the people of the LORD go down to the gates.

^{12:}Awake, awake, Deborah: awake, awake, utter a song: arise, Barak, and lead thy captivity captive, thou son of Abinoam. ^{13:}Then he made him that remaineth have dominion over the nobles among the people: the LORD made me have dominion over the mighty.

^{14:}Out of Ephraim was there a root of them against Amalek; after thee, Benjamin, among thy

people; out of Machir came down governors, and out of Zebulun they that handle the pen of the writer.

^{15:}And the princes of Issachar were with Deborah; even Issachar, and also Barak: he was sent on foot into the valley.

For the divisions of Reuben there were great thoughts of heart. ^{16:}Why abodest thou among the sheepfolds, to hear the bleatings of the flocks?

For the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of heart.

^{17:}Gilead abode beyond Jordan: and why did Dan remain in ships?

Asher continued on the sea shore, and abode in his breaches.

^{18:}Zebulun and Naphtali were a people that jeopardized their lives unto the death in the high places of the field.

^{19:}The kings came and fought, then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo: they took no gain of money. ^{20:}They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera. ^{21:}The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon.

O my soul, thou hast trodden down strength. ^{22:}Then were the horsehoofs broken by the means of the pransings, the pransings of their mighty ones.

^{23:}Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the LORD, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the LORD, to the help of the LORD against the mighty.

^{24:}Blessed above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be, blessed shall she be above women in the tent. ^{25:}He asked water, and she gave him milk; she brought forth butter in a lordly dish. ^{26:}She put her hand to the nail, and her right hand to the workmen's hammer; and with the hammer she smote Sisera, she smote off his head, when she had pierced and stricken through his temples.

^{27:}At her feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down: at her feet he bowed, he fell: where he bowed, there he fell down dead.

^{28:}The mother of Sisera looked out at a window, and cried through the lattice, Why is his chariot so long in coming? why tarry the wheels of his chariots?

^{29:}Her wise ladies answered her, yea, she returned answer to herself, ^{30:}Have they not sped? have they not divided the prey; to every man a damsel or two; to Sisera a prey of divers colours, a prey of divers colours of needlework, of divers colours of needlework on both sides, meet for the necks of them that take the spoil?

^{31:}So let all thine enemies perish, O LORD: but let them that love him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might.

And the land had rest forty years.

7 Yrs.	6. ^{1:} And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian <u>seven years</u> .
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^{2:}And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds.

^{3:}And so it was, when Israel had sown, that the Midianites came up, and the Amalekites, and the children of the east, even they came up against them; ^{4:}And they encamped against them, and destroyed the increase of the earth, till thou come unto Gaza, and left no sustenance for Israel, neither sheep, nor ox, nor ass. ^{5:}For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; for both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.

^{6:}And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD. ^{7:}And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD because of the Midianites, ^{8:}That the LORD sent a prophet unto the children of Israel,

which said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage; ^{9:}And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land; ^{10:}And I said unto you, I am the LORD your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice.

^{11:}And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abi-ezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites. ^{12:}And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

^{13:}And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.

^{14:}And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee? ^{15:}And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house. ^{16:}And the LORD said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.

^{17:}And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then shew me a sign that thou talkest with me. ^{18:}Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again.

^{19:}And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and presented it. ^{20:}And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did so. ^{21:}Then the angel of the LORD put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the LORD departed out of his sight.

^{22:}And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the LORD, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord GOD! for because I have seen an angel of the LORD face to face. ^{23:}And the LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die. ^{24:}Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it Jehovah-shalom: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abi-ezrites.

^{25:}And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it: ^{26:}And build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down.

^{27:}Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him: and so it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night.

^{28:}And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar that was built. ^{29:}And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they inquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing. ^{30:}Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that was by it.

^{31:}And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst it is yet morning: if he be a god, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his altar.

^{32:}Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.

^{33:}Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel.

^{34:}But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abi-ezer was gathered after him. ^{35:}And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh; who also was gathered after him: and he sent messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali; and they came up to meet them.

^{36:}And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said, ^{37:}Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said. ^{38:}And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.

^{39:}And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew. ^{40:}And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

7. ^{1:}Then Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all the people that were with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of Harod: so that the host of the Midianites were on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

^{2:}And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me. ^{3:}Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.

^{4:}And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people are yet too many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

^{5:}So he brought down the people unto the water: and the LORD said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink. ^{6:}And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.

^{7:}And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the other people go every man unto his place. ^{8:}So the people took victuals in their hand, and their trumpets: and he sent all the rest of Israel every man unto his tent, and retained those three hundred men: and the host of Midian was beneath him in the valley.

^{9:}And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand. ^{10:}But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy servant down to the host: ^{11:}And thou shalt hear what they say; and afterward shall thine hands be strengthened to go down unto the host.

Then went he down with Phurah his servant unto the outside of the armed men that were in the host. ^{12:}And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along

in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the sea side for multitude.

^{13:}And when Gideon was come, behold, there was a man that told a dream unto his fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed a dream, and, lo, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the host of Midian, and came unto a tent, and smote it that it fell, and overturned it, that the tent lay along. ^{14:}And his fellow answered and said, This is nothing else save the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel: for into his hand hath God delivered Midian, and all the host.

^{15:}And it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian. ^{16:}And he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.

^{17:}And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be that, as I do, so shall ye do. ^{18:}When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that are with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

^{19:}So Gideon, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands. ^{20:}And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

^{21:}And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled. ^{22:}And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the LORD set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Beth-shittah in Zererath, and to the border of Abel-meholah, unto Tabbath.

^{23:}And the men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites.

^{24:}And Gideon sent messengers throughout all mount Ephraim, saying, Come down against the Midianites, and take before them the waters unto Beth-barah and Jordan. Then all the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and took the waters unto Beth-barah and Jordan.

^{25:}And they took two princes of the Midianites, Oreb and Zeeb; and they slew Oreb upon the rock Oreb, and Zeeb they slew at the winepress of Zeeb, and pursued Midian, and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon on the other side Jordan.

8. ^{1:}And the men of Ephraim said unto him, Why hast thou served us thus, that thou calledst us not, when thou wentest to fight with the Midianites? And they did chide with him sharply.

^{2:}And he said unto them, What have I done now in comparison of you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abi-ezer? ^{3:}God hath delivered into your hands the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb: and what was I able to do in comparison of you?

Then their anger was abated toward him, when he had said that. ^{4:}And Gideon came to Jordan, and passed over, he, and the three hundred men that were with him, faint, yet pursuing them.

^{5:} And he said unto the men of Succoth, Give, I pray you, loaves of bread unto the people that follow me; for they be faint, and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, kings of Midian.

^{6:} And the princes of Succoth said, Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thine army? ^{7:} And Gideon said, Therefore when the LORD hath delivered Zebah and Zalmunna into mine hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.

^{8:} And he went up thence to Penuel, and spake unto them likewise: and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered him. ^{9:} And he spake also unto the men of Penuel, saying, When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.

^{10:} Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their hosts with them, about fifteen thousand men, all that were left of all the hosts of the children of the east: for there fell an hundred and twenty thousand men that drew sword. ^{11:} And Gideon went up by the way of them that dwelt in tents on the east of Nobah and Jogbehah, and smote the host: for the host was secure. ^{12:} And when Zebah and Zalmunna fled, he pursued after them, and took the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and discomfited all the host.

^{13:} And Gideon the son of Joash returned from battle before the sun was up, ^{14:} And caught a young man of the men of Succoth, and inquired of him: and he described unto him the princes of Succoth, and the elders thereof, even threescore and seventeen men.

^{15:} And he came unto the men of Succoth, and said, Behold Zebah and Zalmunna, with whom ye did upbraid me, saying, Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thy men that are weary?

^{16:} And he took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taugth the men of Succoth. ^{17:} And he beat down the tower of Penuel, and slew the men of the city.

^{18:} Then said he unto Zebah and Zalmunna, What manner of men were they whom ye slew at Tabor? And they answered, As thou art, so were they; each one resembled the children of a king. ^{19:} And he said, They were my brethren, even the sons of my mother: as the LORD liveth, if ye had saved them alive, I would not slay you.

^{20:} And he said unto Jether his firstborn, Up, and slay them. But the youth drew not his sword: for he feared, because he was yet a youth. ^{21:} Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, Rise thou, and fall upon us: for as the man is, so is his strength. And Gideon arose, and slew Zebah and Zalmunna, and took away the ornaments that were on their camels' necks.

^{22:} Then the men of Israel said unto Gideon, Rule thou over us, both thou, and thy son, and thy son's son also: for thou hast delivered us from the hand of Midian. ^{23:} And Gideon said unto them, I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you: the LORD shall rule over you.

^{24:} And Gideon said unto them, I would desire a request of you, that ye would give me every man the earrings of his prey. (For they had golden earrings, because they were Ishmaelites.) ^{25:} And they answered, We will willingly give them. And they spread a garment, and did cast therein every man the earrings of his prey. ^{26:} And the weight of the golden earrings that he requested was a thousand and seven hundred shekels of gold; beside ornaments, and collars, and purple raiment that was on the kings of Midian, and beside the chains that were about their camels' necks.

^{27:} And Gideon made an ephod thereof, and put it in his city, even in Ophrah: and all Israel went thither a whoring after it: which thing became a snare unto Gideon, and to his house.

^{28:} Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.

^{29:}And Jerubbaal the son of Joash went and dwelt in his own house. ^{30:}And Gideon had threescore and ten sons of his body begotten: for he had many wives. ^{31:}And his concubine that was in Shechem, she also bare him a son, whose name he called Abimelech. ^{32:}And Gideon the son of Joash died in a good old age, and was buried in the sepulchre of Joash his father, in Ophrah of the Abi-ezrites.

^{33:}And it came to pass, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the children of Israel turned again, and went a whoring after Baalim, and made Baal-berith their god. ^{34:}And the children of Israel remembered not the LORD their God, who had delivered them out of the hands of all their enemies on every side: ^{35:}Neither shewed they kindness to the house of Jerubbaal, namely, Gideon, according to all the goodness which he had shewed unto Israel.

9. ^{1:}And Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem unto his mother's brethren, and communed with them, and with all the family of the house of his mother's father, saying, ^{10:}Speak, I pray you, in the ears of all the men of Shechem, Whether is better for you, either that all the sons of Jerubbaal, which are threescore and ten persons, reign over you, or that one reign over you? remember also that I am your bone and your flesh.

^{3:}And his mother's brethren spake of him in the ears of all the men of Shechem all these words: and their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech; for they said, He is our brother. ^{4:}And they gave him threescore and ten pieces of silver out of the house of Baal-berith, wherewith Abimelech hired vain and light persons, which followed him.

^{5:}And he went unto his father's house at Ophrah, and slew his brethren the sons of Jerubbaal, being threescore and ten persons, upon one stone: notwithstanding yet Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left; for he hid himself. ^{6:}And all the men of Shechem gathered together, and all the house of Millo, and went, and made Abimelech king, by the plain of the pillar that was in Shechem.

^{7:}And when they told it to Jotham, he went and stood in the top of mount Gerizim, and lifted up his voice, and cried, and said unto them, Hearken unto me, ye men of Shechem, that God may hearken unto you.

^{8:}The trees went forth on a time to anoint a king over them; and they said unto the olive tree, Reign thou over us. ^{9:}But the olive tree said unto them, Should I leave my fatness, wherewith by me they honour God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?

^{10:}And the trees said to the fig tree, Come thou, and reign over us. ^{11:}But the fig tree said unto them, Should I forsake my sweetness, and my good fruit, and go to be promoted over the trees?

^{12:}Then said the trees unto the vine, Come thou, and reign over us. ^{13:}And the vine said unto them, Should I leave my wine, which cheereth God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees?

^{14:}Then said all the trees unto the bramble, Come thou, and reign over us. ^{15:}And the bramble said unto the trees, If in truth ye anoint me king over you, then come and put your trust in my shadow: and if not, let fire come out of the bramble, and devour the cedars of Lebanon.

**TABLE 30. Three Basic Systems of Chronology
From Joshua to Samuel**

<i>Epoch</i>	<i>111-yr. System</i>	<i>339-yr. System</i>	<i>450-yr. System</i>	
OPPRESSIONS				
Cushan	8		8	
Moabites	18		18	
Jabin	20		20	
Midianites	7		7	
Ammonites	18		18	
Philistines	40		40	
	111		111	
JUDGES				
Othniel		40 rest	40	
Ehud		80 rest	80	
Shamgar		0 rest	0	
Deborah		40 rest	40	111
Gideon		40 rest	40	339
Abimelech		3 reign	3	450
Tola		23 reign	23	Acts 13:20
Jair		22 reign	22	
Jephthah		6 reign	6	
Ibsan		7 reign	7	
Elon		10 reign	10	
Abdon		8 reign	8	
Samson		20	20	Judges 16:31
Eli		40	40	I Sam. 4:18
	111	339	450	⁶

The 450 year system was supported by Acts 13:20 and by the Greek Jews of Alexandria. The 339-year system is supported by I Kings 6:1 and is found in the chronography of Archbishop Ussher. The 111-year system is more compatible with recent views that the exodus was about 40 years before Pharaoh Merneptah, son of Ramesses II. The 111-year system allows the judges to rule during the times of oppression and/or during the times of rest as in the 40 years of the Philistine oppression in the time of Samson and Eli.

⁶ The 450-year system is supported by Acts 13:19-20: "...he divided their land by lot. And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of 450 years, until Samuel the prophet." Africanus and Jewish scholars of Alexandria supported this view. They believed the exodus was when the Hyksos dynasty was ousted from Egypt in about 1558 BC.

The 339 years are supported by I. Kings 6:1. This view has been preserved by Ussher's chronology inserted in the early King James Version and by the Jewish rabbinic society.

The 111 years are supported by the 251-year pattern. Kenneth Kitchen and Jack Finegan believe the exodus was about 282 to 294 years before the temple was founded in Solomon's fourth year. This would be about 251 years before David brought the Ark into Jerusalem in 1004 BC. This is also supported by Ruth 4:20-22; I Chronicles 2:10-15, and Matthew 1:4-6, where Nashon is the Prince of Judah at the exodus, only six generations before David (Mat. 1:17). Furthermore, the grandsons of Aaron and Moses were alive at the end of the Book of Judges.

^{16:}Now therefore, if ye have done truly and sincerely, in that ye have made Abimelech king, and if ye have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house, and have done unto him according to the deserving of his hands; ^{17:}(For my father fought for you, and adventured his life far, and delivered you out of the hand of Midian: ^{18:}And ye are risen up against my father's house this day, and have slain his sons, threescore and ten persons, upon one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his maidservant, king over the men of Shechem, because he is your brother;

^{19:}If ye then have dealt truly and sincerely with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, then rejoice ye in Abimelech, and let him also rejoice in you: ^{20:}But if not, let fire come out from Abimelech, and devour the men of Shechem, and the house of Millo; and let fire come out from the men of Shechem, and from the house of Millo, and devour Abimelech.

^{21:}And Jotham ran away, and fled, and went to Beer, and dwelt there, for fear of Abimelech his brother. ^{22:}When Abimelech had reigned three years over Israel, ^{23:}Then God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the men of Shechem; and the men of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech: ^{24:}That the cruelty done to the threescore and ten sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood be laid upon Abimelech their brother, which slew them; and upon the men of Shechem, which aided him in the killing of his brethren.

^{25:}And the men of Shechem set liars in wait for him in the top of the mountains, and they robbed all that came along that way by them: and it was told Abimelech. ^{26:}And Gaal the son of Ebed came with his brethren, and went over to Shechem: and the men of Shechem put their confidence in him. ^{27:}And they went out into the fields, and gathered their vineyards, and trode the grapes, and made merry, and went into the house of their god, and did eat and drink, and cursed Abimelech.

^{28:}And Gaal the son of Ebed said, Who is Abimelech, and who is Shechem, that we should serve him? is not he the son of Jerubbaal? and Zebul his officer? serve the men of Hamor the father of Shechem: for why should we serve him? ^{29:}And would to God this people were under my hand! then would I remove Abimelech. And he said to Abimelech, Increase thine army, and come out.

^{30:}And when Zebul the ruler of the city heard the words of Gaal the son of Ebed, his anger was kindled. ^{31:}And he sent messengers unto Abimelech privily, saying, Behold, Gaal the son of Ebed and his brethren be come to Shechem; and, behold, they fortify the city against thee. ^{32:}Now therefore up by night, thou and the people that is with thee, and lie in wait in the field: ^{33:}And it shall be, that in the morning, as soon as the sun is up, thou shalt rise early, and set upon the city: and, behold, when he and the people that is with him come out against thee, then mayest thou do to them as thou shalt find occasion.

^{34:}And Abimelech rose up, and all the people that were with him, by night, and they laid wait against Shechem in four companies. ^{35:}And Gaal the son of Ebed went out, and stood in the entering of the gate of the city: and Abimelech rose up, and the people that were with him, from lying in wait. ^{36:}And when Gaal saw the people, he said to Zebul, Behold, there come people down from the top of the mountains. And Zebul said unto him, Thou seest the shadow of the mountains as if they were men. ^{37:}And Gaal spake again and said, See there come people down by the middle of the land, and another company come along by the plain of Meonenim.

^{38:}Then said Zebul unto him, Where is now thy mouth, wherewith thou saidst, Who is Abimelech, that we should serve him? is not this the people that thou hast despised? go out, I pray now, and fight with them. ^{39:}And Gaal went out before the men of Shechem, and fought with Abimelech. ^{40:}And Abimelech chased him, and he fled before him, and many were overthrown and wounded, even unto the entering of the gate. ^{41:}And Abimelech dwelt at Arumah: and Zebul thrust out Gaal and his brethren, that they should not dwell in Shechem.

^{42:}And it came to pass on the morrow, that the people went out into the field; and they told Abimelech. ^{43:}And he took the people, and divided them into three companies, and laid

wait in the field, and looked, and, behold, the people were come forth out of the city; and he rose up against them, and smote them. ^{44:}And Abimelech, and the company that was with him, rushed forward, and stood in the entering of the gate of the city: and the two other companies ran upon all the people that were in the fields, and slew them. ^{45:}And Abimelech fought against the city all that day; and he took the city, and slew the people that was therein, and beat down the city, and sowed it with salt.

^{46:}And when all the men of the tower of Shechem heard that, they entered into an hold of the house of the god Berith. ^{47:}And it was told Abimelech, that all the men of the tower of Shechem were gathered together.

^{48:}And Abimelech gat him up to mount Zalmon, he and all the people that were with him; and Abimelech took an axe in his hand, and cut down a bough from the trees, and took it, and laid it on his shoulder, and said unto the people that were with him, What ye have seen me do, make haste, and do as I have done.

^{49:}And all the people likewise cut down every man his bough, and followed Abimelech, and put them to the hold, and set the hold on fire upon them; so that all the men of the tower of Shechem died also, about a thousand men and women.

^{50:}Then went Abimelech to Thebez, and encamped against Thebez, and took it. ^{51:}But there was a strong tower within the city, and thither fled all the men and women, and all they of the city, and shut it to them, and gat them up to the top of the tower.

^{52:}And Abimelech came unto the tower, and fought against it, and went hard unto the door of the tower to burn it with fire. ^{53:}And a certain woman cast a piece of a millstone upon Abimelech's head, and all to brake his skull. ^{54:}Then he called hastily unto the young man his armourbearer, and said unto him, Draw thy sword, and slay me, that men say not of me, A woman slew him. And his young man thrust him through, and he died.

^{55:}And when the men of Israel saw that Abimelech was dead, they departed every man unto his place. ^{56:}Thus God rendered the wickedness of Abimelech, which he did unto his father, in slaying his seventy brethren: ^{57:}And all the evil of the men of Shechem did God render upon their heads: and upon them came the curse of Jotham the son of Jerubbaal.

10. ^{1:}And after Abimelech there arose to defend Israel Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar; and he dwelt in Shamir in mount Ephraim. ^{2:}And he judged Israel twenty and three years, and died, and was buried in Shamir.

^{3:}And after him arose Jair, a Gileadite, and judged Israel twenty and two years. ^{4:}And he had thirty sons that rode on thirty ass colts, and they had thirty cities, which are called Havoth-jair unto this day, which are in the land of Gilead. ^{5:}And Jair died, and was buried in Camon.

^{6:}And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim, and Ashtaroth, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Zidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines, and forsook the LORD, and served not him.

^{7:}And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the children of Ammon.

18 Yrs.	^{8:} And that year they vexed and oppressed the children of Israel: <u>eighteen years</u> , all the children of Israel that were on the other side Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead.
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^{9:}Moreover the children of Ammon passed over Jordan to fight also against Judah, and against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim; so that Israel was sore distressed.

^{10:}And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, saying, We have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim.

TABLE 31.
Six Generations from the Exodus to David⁷
14 Generations From Abraham

<p>NOTE: In Matthew 1:17, there were 14 generations from Abraham to David. Nashon, the ninth generation, was a prince of Judah at the Exodus. What is reasonable time from Nashon to David, 251, 479 or 590 years?</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abraham 2. Isaac 3. Jacob <li style="background-color: #e0e0e0;">4. Judah 5. Pherez 6. Hezron <i>I Chron. 2:18-22</i> 7. Ram <i>I Chron. 2:9, 18</i> 8. Amminadab </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Joseph</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Manasseh</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Machir</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> m:² dau of Machir Segub ↓ Jair <i>Numbers 1:7; I Chron. 2:10</i> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Gilead ↓ Jephthah <i>Ruth 4:13 Ruth 4:17</i> </div> </div> </td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abraham 2. Isaac 3. Jacob <li style="background-color: #e0e0e0;">4. Judah 5. Pherez 6. Hezron <i>I Chron. 2:18-22</i> 7. Ram <i>I Chron. 2:9, 18</i> 8. Amminadab 	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Joseph</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Manasseh</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Machir</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> m:² dau of Machir Segub ↓ Jair <i>Numbers 1:7; I Chron. 2:10</i> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Gilead ↓ Jephthah <i>Ruth 4:13 Ruth 4:17</i> </div> </div> </td> </tr> </table>	Joseph	Manasseh	Machir	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> m:² dau of Machir Segub ↓ Jair <i>Numbers 1:7; I Chron. 2:10</i> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Gilead ↓ Jephthah <i>Ruth 4:13 Ruth 4:17</i> </div> </div>								
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^{11:}And the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Did not I deliver you from the Egyptians, and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines? ^{12:}The Zidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites, did oppress you; and ye cried to me, and I delivered you out of their hand. ^{13:}Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other gods: wherefore I will deliver you no more. ^{14:}Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation.

^{15:}And the children of Israel said unto the LORD, We have sinned: do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee; deliver us only, we pray thee, this day. ^{16:}And they put away the strange gods from among them, and served the LORD: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.

^{17:}Then the children of Ammon were gathered together, and encamped in Gilead. And the children of Israel assembled themselves together, and encamped in Mizpeh. ^{18:}And the people and princes of Gilead said one to another, What man is he that will begin to fight against the children of Ammon? he shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.

11. ^{1:}Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valour, and he was the son of an harlot: and Gilead begat **Jephthah**.

^{2:}And Gilead's wife bare him sons; and his wife's sons grew up, and they thrust out Jephthah, and said unto him, Thou shalt not inherit in our father's house; for thou art the son of a strange woman.

⁷ If seven generations last 251 years, this is consistent with the 28 (7 x 4) generations from David to Christ lasting 1,004 years (251 x 4) as in Matthew 1:17.

^{3:}Then Jephthah fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of Tob: and there were gathered vain men to Jephthah, and went out with him. ^{4:}And it came to pass in process of time, that the children of Ammon made war against Israel.

^{5:}And it was so, that when the children of Ammon made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to fetch Jephthah out of the land of Tob: ^{6:}And they said unto Jephthah, Come, and be our captain, that we may fight with the children of Ammon.

^{7:}And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, Did not ye hate me, and expel me out of my father's house? and why are ye come unto me now when ye are in distress?

^{8:}And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, Therefore we turn again to thee now, that thou mayest go with us, and fight against the children of Ammon, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gilead. ^{9:}And Jephthah said unto the elders of Gilead, If ye bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the LORD deliver them before me, shall I be your head? ^{10:}And the elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, The LORD be witness between us, if we do not so according to thy words.

^{11:}Then Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and captain over them: and Jephthah uttered all his words before the LORD in Mizpeh.

^{12:}And Jephthah sent messengers unto the king of the children of Ammon, saying, What hast thou to do with me, that thou art come against me to fight in my land? ^{13:}And the king of the children of Ammon answered unto the messengers of Jephthah, Because Israel took away my land, when they came up out of Egypt⁸, from Arnon even unto Jabbok, and unto Jordan: now therefore restore those lands again peaceably.

^{14:}And Jephthah sent messengers again unto the king of the children of Ammon: ^{15:}And said unto him, Thus saith Jephthah, Israel took not away the land of Moab, nor the land of the children of Ammon: ^{16:}But when Israel came up from Egypt, and walked through the wilderness unto the Red sea, and came to Kadesh; ^{17:}Then Israel sent messengers unto the king of Edom, saying, Let me, I pray thee, pass through thy land: but the king of Edom would not hearken thereto. And in like manner they sent unto the king of Moab: but he would not consent: and Israel abode in Kadesh.

^{18:}Then they went along through the wilderness, and compassed the land of Edom, and the land of Moab, and came by the east side of the land of Moab, and pitched on the other side of Arnon, but came not within the border of Moab: for Arnon was the border of Moab.

^{19:}And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, the king of Heshbon; and Israel said unto him, Let us pass, we pray thee, through thy land into my place. ^{20:}But Sihon trusted not Israel to pass through his coast: but Sihon gathered all his people together, and pitched in Jahaz, and fought against Israel. ^{21:}And the LORD God of Israel delivered Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they smote them: so Israel possessed all the land of the Amorites, the inhabitants of that country. ^{22:}And they possessed all the coasts of the Amorites, from Arnon even unto Jabbok, and from the wilderness even unto Jordan.

^{23:}So now the LORD God of Israel hath dispossessed the Amorites from before his people Israel, and shouldst thou possess it? ^{24:}Wilt not thou possess that which Chemosh thy god giveth thee to possess? So whomsoever the LORD our God shall drive out from before us, them will we possess.

^{25:}And now art thou any thing better than Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab? did he ever strive against Israel, or did he ever fight against them,

^{26:}While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and her towns, and in Aroer and her towns, and 300 Yrs. | in all the cities that be along by the coasts of Arnon, three hundred years? why

⁸ In the 40th year in the wilderness, not immediately after the exodus.

| therefore did ye not recover them within that time?

NOTE: This 300 years (since Moses defeated Moab) clashes with the fact that Moses and Aaron's grandsons were still living at the end of the Judges. It clashes with the fact there were only six generations from Nashon at the exodus until David, and his genealogy is in four places with no gaps. Evidently, this scribe agreed with the scribe who placed 479 years between the exodus and the founding of the temple (I Kings 6:1). It clashes with the idea revealed in the context that Jephthah was a son of Gilead (I Chron:2:19-22).

^{27:}Wherefore I have not sinned against thee, but thou doest me wrong to war against me: the LORD the Judge be judge this day between the children of Israel and the children of Ammon.

^{28:}Howbeit the king of the children of Ammon hearkened not unto the words of Jephthah which he sent him. ^{29:}Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed over Gilead, and Manasseh, and passed over Mizpeh of Gilead, and from Mizpeh of Gilead he passed over unto the children of Ammon.

^{30:}And Jephthah vowed a vow unto the LORD, and said, If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands, ^{31:}Then it shall be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD's, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.

^{32:}So Jephthah passed over unto the children of Ammon to fight against them; and the LORD delivered them into his hands. ^{33:}And he smote them from Aroer, even till thou come to Minnith, even twenty cities, and unto the plain of the vineyards, with a very great slaughter. Thus the children of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel.

^{34:}And Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances: and she was his only child; beside her he had neither son nor daughter. ^{35:}And it came to pass, when he saw her, that he rent his clothes, and said, Alas, my daughter! thou hast brought me very low, and thou art one of them that trouble me: for I have opened my mouth unto the LORD, and I cannot go back.

^{37:}And she said unto him, My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the LORD, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth; forasmuch as the LORD hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies, even of the children of Ammon. ^{38:}And she said unto her father, Let this thing be done for me: let me alone two months, that I may go up and down upon the mountains, and bewail my virginity, I and my fellows. And he said, Go. And he sent her away for two months: and she went with her companions, and bewailed her virginity upon the mountains. ^{39:}And it came to pass at the end of two months, that she returned unto her father, who did with her according to his vow which he had vowed: and she knew no man.

And it was a custom in Israel, ^{40:}That the daughters of Israel went yearly to lament the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite four days in a year.

12. ^{1:}And the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and went northward, and said unto Jephthah, Wherefore passedst thou over to fight against the children of Ammon, and didst not call us to go with thee? we will burn thine house upon thee with fire.

^{2:}And Jephthah said unto them, I and my people were at great strife with the children of Ammon; and when I called you, ye delivered me not out of their hands. ^{3:}And when I saw that ye delivered me not, I put my life in my hands, and passed over against the children of Ammon, and the LORD delivered them into my hand: wherefore then are ye come up unto me this day, to fight against me?

^{4:}Then Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead, and fought with Ephraim: and the men of Gilead smote Ephraim, because they said, Ye Gileadites are fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites, and among the Manassites.

^{5:}And the Gileadites took the passages of Jordan before the Ephraimites: and it was so, that when those Ephraimites which were escaped said, Let me go over; that the men of Gilead said unto him, Art thou an Ephraimite? If he said, Nay; ^{6:}Then said they unto him, Say now Shibboleth: and he said Sibboleth: for he could not frame to pronounce it right. Then they took him, and slew him at the passages of Jordan: and there fell at that time of the Ephraimites forty and two thousand.

^{7:}And Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then died Jephthah the Gileadite, and was buried in one of the cities of Gilead.

^{8:}And after him Ibzan of Bethlehem judged Israel. ^{9:}And he had thirty sons, and thirty daughters, whom he sent abroad, and took in thirty daughters from abroad for his sons. And he judged Israel seven years. ^{10:}Then died Ibzan, and was buried at Bethlehem.

^{11:}And after him Elon, a Zebulonite, judged Israel; and he judged Israel ten years. ^{12:}And Elon the Zebulonite died, and was buried in Aijalon in the country of Zebulun.

^{13:}And after him Abdon the son of Hillel, a Pirathonite, judged Israel. ^{14:}And he had forty sons and thirty nephews, that rode on threescore and ten ass colts: and he judged Israel eight years. ^{15:}And Abdon the son of Hillel the Pirathonite died, and was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the mount of the Amalekites.

40 Yrs. | 13. ^{1:}And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.

^{2:}And there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren, and bare not. ^{3:}And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son.

^{4:}Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing: ^{5:}For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.

^{6:}Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, A man of God came unto me, and his countenance was like the countenance of an angel of God, very terrible: but I asked him not whence he was, neither told he me his name:

^{7:}But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean thing: for the child shall be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death. ^{8:}Then Manoah intreated the LORD, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.

^{9:}And God hearkened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of God came again unto the woman as she sat in the field: but Manoah her husband was not with her. ^{10:}And the woman made haste, and ran, and shewed her husband, and said unto him, Behold, the man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me the other day. ^{11:}And Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said unto him, Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I am. ^{12:}And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?

NOTE: Six Oppressions of Israel:**1. CUSHAN**

(Judges 3:8) ...the people of Israel served Cushan-rishathaim **eight years**. (Judges 3:11) ...So the land had rest forty years. And Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

2. MOAB (Judges 3:14) ...Israel served Eglon the king of Moab **eighteen years**.

(Judges 3:30) So Moab was subdued... And the land had rest for eighty years.

3. JABIN (Judges 4:3) "...**twenty years** he mightily oppressed the children of Israel. Then the people of Israel cried to the LORD for help... (Judges 5:31) And the land had rest for forty years.

4. MIDIAN (Judges 6:1) ...the LORD gave them into the hand of Midian **seven years**.

(Judges 8:28) ...And the land had rest forty years in the days of Gideon. (Judges 9:22) Abimelech ruled over Israel three years. (Judges 10:2) Tola judged Israel twenty-three years. Then he died, and was buried at Shamir. (Judges 10:3) After him arose Jair the Gileadite, who judged Israel twenty-two years.

5. AMMON (Judges 10:8) ...crushed and oppressed the children of Israel that year. For **eighteen years** they oppressed all the people of Israel that were beyond the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gilead.

(Judges 11:26) While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and its villages, and in Aroer and its villages, and in all the cities that are on the banks of the Arnon, three hundred years, why did you not recover them within that time? (Judges 12:7) Jephthah judged Israel **six years**. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died, and was buried in his city in Gilead.

(Judges 12:9) Ibzan... judged Israel seven years. (Judges 12:11) After him Elon the Zebulunite judged Israel; and he judged Israel ten years. (Judges 12:14) Abdon (Bedan)... judged Israel eight years.

6. PHILISTINES (Judges 13:1) ...the LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines for **forty years**. (Judges 15:20) Samson... judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years. (1st Samuel 4:18) Eli... (when the ark was taken) died: for he was an old man (age 98) and heavy. And he had judged Israel **40 years**.

These six periods of oppression equal 111 years.

^{13:} And the angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Of all that I said unto the woman let her beware. ^{14:} She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing: all that I commanded her let her observe.

^{15:} And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, I pray thee, let us detain thee, until we shall have made ready a kid for thee. ^{16:} And the angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Though thou detain me, I will not eat of thy bread: and if thou wilt offer a burnt offering, thou must offer it unto the LORD. For Manoah knew not that he was an angel of the LORD. ^{17:} And Manoah said unto the angel of the LORD, What is thy name, that when thy sayings come to pass we may do thee honour?

^{18:} And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is secret? ^{19:} So Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered it upon a rock unto the LORD: and the angel did wondrously; and Manoah and his wife looked on.

^{20:} For it came to pass, when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar. And Manoah and his wife looked on it,

and fell on their faces to the ground. ^{21:}But the angel of the LORD did no more appear to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was an angel of the LORD.

^{22:}And Manoah said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen God. ^{23:}But his wife said unto him, If the LORD were pleased to kill us, he would not have received a burnt offering and a meat offering at our hands, neither would he have shewed us all these things, nor would as at this time have told us such things as these.

^{24:}And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him. ^{25:}And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

14. ^{1:}And Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines. ^{2:}And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife. ^{3:}Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines?

And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well. ^{4:}But his father and his mother knew not that it was of the LORD, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.

^{5:}Then went Samson down, and his father and his mother, to Timnath, and came to the vineyards of Timnath: and, behold, a young lion roared against him. ^{6:}And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and he had nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done.

^{7:}And he went down, and talked with the woman; and she pleased Samson well.

^{8:}And after a time he returned to take her, and he turned aside to see the carcase of the lion: and, behold, there was a swarm of bees and honey in the carcase of the lion. ^{9:}And he took thereof in his hands, and went on eating, and came to his father and mother, and he gave them, and they did eat: but he told not them that he had taken the honey out of the carcase of the lion.

^{10:}So his father went down unto the woman: and Samson made there a feast; for so used the young men to do. ^{11:}And it came to pass, when they saw him, that they brought thirty companions to be with him.

^{12:}And Samson said unto them, I will now put forth a riddle unto you: if ye can certainly declare it me within the seven days of the feast, and find it out, then I will give you thirty sheets and thirty change of garments: ^{13:}But if ye cannot declare it me, then shall ye give me thirty sheets and thirty change of garments.

^{14:}And they said unto him, Put forth thy riddle, that we may hear it. And he said unto them, Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness.

And they could not in three days expound the riddle. ^{15:}And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they said unto Samson's wife, Entice thy husband, that he may declare unto us the riddle, lest we burn thee and thy father's house with fire: have ye called us to take that we have? is it not so?

^{16:}And Samson's wife wept before him, and said, Thou dost but hate me, and lovest me not: thou hast put forth a riddle unto the children of my people, and hast not told it me. And he said unto her, Behold, I have not told it my father nor my mother, and shall I tell it thee? ^{17:}And she wept before him the seven days, while their feast lasted: and it came to pass on the seventh day, that he told her, because she lay sore upon him: and she told the riddle to the children of her people.

^{18:}And the men of the city said unto him on the seventh day before the sun went down, What is sweeter than honey? and what is stronger than a lion?

And he said unto them, If ye had not plowed with my heifer, ye had not found out my riddle. ^{19:}And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon, and slew thirty men of them, and took their spoil, and gave change of garments unto them which expounded the riddle.

And his anger was kindled, and he went up to his father's house. ^{20:}But Samson's wife was given to his companion, whom he had used as his friend.

15. ^{1:}But it came to pass within a while after, in the time of wheat harvest, that Samson visited his wife with a kid; and he said, I will go in to my wife into the chamber. But her father would not suffer him to go in. ^{2:}And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: is not her younger sister fairer than she? take her, I pray thee, instead of her.

^{3:}And Samson said concerning them, Now shall I be more blameless than the Philistines, though I do them a displeasure. ^{4:}And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails. ^{5:}And when he had set the brands on fire, he let them go into the standing corn of the Philistines, and burnt up both the shocks, and also the standing corn, with the vineyards and olives.

^{6:}Then the Philistines said, Who hath done this? And they answered, Samson, the son in law of the Timnite, because he had taken his wife, and given her to his companion. And the Philistines came up, and burnt her and her father with fire.

^{7:}And Samson said unto them, Though ye have done this, yet will I be avenged of you, and after that I will cease. ^{8:}And he smote them hip and thigh with a great slaughter: and he went down and dwelt in the top of the rock Etam.

^{9:}Then the Philistines went up, and pitched in Judah, and spread themselves in Lehi. ^{10:}And the men of Judah said, Why are ye come up against us? And they answered, To bind Samson are we come up, to do to him as he hath done to us.

^{11:}Then three thousand men of Judah went to the top of the rock Etam, and said to Samson, Knowest thou not that the Philistines are rulers over us? what is this that thou hast done unto us? And he said unto them, As they did unto me, so have I done unto them.

^{12:}And they said unto him, We are come down to bind thee, that we may deliver thee into the hand of the Philistines. And Samson said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye will not fall upon me yourselves. ^{13:}And they spake unto him, saying, No; but we will bind thee fast, and deliver thee into their hand: but surely we will not kill thee. And they bound him with two new cords, and brought him up from the rock.

^{14:}And when he came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him: and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and the cords that were upon his arms became as flax that was burnt with fire, and his bands loosed from off his hands. ^{15:}And he found a new jawbone of an ass, and put forth his hand, and took it, and slew a thousand men therewith. ^{16:}And Samson said, With the jawbone of an ass, heaps upon heaps, with the jaw of an ass have I slain a thousand men. ^{17:}And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking, that he cast away the jawbone out of his hand, and called that place Ramath-lehi.

^{18:}And he was sore athirst, and called on the LORD, and said, Thou hast given this great deliverance into the hand of thy servant: and now shall I die for thirst, and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised? ^{19:}But God clave an hollow place that was in the jaw, and there came water thereout; and when he had drunk, his spirit came again, and he revived: wherefore he called the name thereof En-hakkore, which is in Lehi unto this day.

^{20:}And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

16. ¹:Then went Samson to Gaza, and saw there an harlot, and went in unto her.

²:And it was told the Gazites, saying, Samson is come hither. And they compassed him in, and laid wait for him all night in the gate of the city, and were quiet all the night, saying, In the morning, when it is day, we shall kill him.

³:And Samson lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put them upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of an hill that is before Hebron.

⁴:And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. ⁵:And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver.

⁶:And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee. ⁷:And Samson said unto her, If they bind me with seven green withs that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

⁸:Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.

⁹:Now there were men lying in wait, abiding with her in the chamber. And she said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he brake the withs, as a thread of tow is broken when it toucheth the fire.

So his strength was not known. ¹⁰:And Delilah said unto Samson, Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: now tell me, I pray thee, wherewith thou mightest be bound. ¹¹:And he said unto her, If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

¹²:Delilah therefore took new ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And there were liers in wait abiding in the chamber. And he brake them from off his arms like a thread.

¹³:And Delilah said unto Samson, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said unto her, If thou weavest the seven locks of my head with the web.

¹⁴:And she fastened it with the pin, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.

¹⁵:And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine heart is not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength lieth. ¹⁶:And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death; ¹⁷:That he told her all his heart, and said unto her. There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.

¹⁸:And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand. ¹⁹:And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

^{20:}And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.

^{21:}But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.

^{22:}Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

^{23:}Then the lords of the Philistines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand. ^{24:}And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us.

^{25:}And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars.

^{26:}And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them. ^{27:}Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines were there; and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.

^{28:}And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

^{29:}And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left. ^{30:}And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with all his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life.

^{31:}Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the burying place of Manoah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

17. ^{14:}And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah. ^{2:}And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it.

And his mother said, Blessed be thou of the LORD, my son. ^{3:}And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee. ^{4:}Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred shekels of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven image and a molten image: and they were in the house of Micah.

^{5:}And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest.

^{6:}In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

^{7:}And there was a young man out of Bethlehemjudah of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there. ^{8:}And the man departed out of the city from Bethlehemjudah to sojourn where he could find a place: and he came to mount Ephraim to the house of Micah, as he journeyed.

^{9:}And Micah said unto him, Whence comest thou? And he said unto him, I am a Levite of Bethlehemjudah, and I go to sojourn where I may find a place. ^{10:}And Micah said unto him,

Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten shekels of silver by the year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals.

So the Levite went in. ^{11:}And the Levite was content to dwell with the man; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons. ^{12:}And Micah consecrated the Levite; and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah. ^{13:}Then said Micah, Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to my priest.

18. ^{1:}In those days there was no king in Israel: and in those days the tribe of the Danites sought them an inheritance to dwell in; for unto that day all their inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israel.

^{2:}And the children of Dan sent of their family five men from their coasts, men of valour, from Zorah, and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land, and to search it; and they said unto them, Go, search the land: who when they came to mount Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they lodged there.

^{3:}When they were by the house of Micah, they knew the voice of the young man the Levite: and they turned in thither, and said unto him, Who brought thee hither? and what makest thou in this place? and what hast thou here? ^{4:}And he said unto them, Thus and thus dealeth Micah with me, and hath hired me, and I am his priest.

^{5:}And they said unto him, Ask counsel, we pray thee, of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous. ^{6:}And the priest said unto them, Go in peace: before the LORD is your way wherein ye go.

^{7:}Then the five men departed, and came to Laish, and saw the people that were therein, how they dwelt careless, after the manner of the Zidonians, quiet and secure; and there was no magistrate in the land, that might put them to shame in any thing; and they were far from the Zidonians, and had no business with any man.

^{8:}And they came unto their brethren to Zorah and Eshtaol: and their brethren said unto them, What say ye? ^{9:}And they said, Arise, that we may go up against them: for we have seen the land, and, behold, it is very good: and are ye still? be not slothful to go, and to enter to possess the land. ^{10:}When ye go, ye shall come unto a people secure, and to a large land: for God hath given it into your hands; a place where there is no want of any thing that is in the earth.

^{11:}And there went from thence of the family of the Danites, out of Zorah and out of Eshtaol, six hundred men appointed with weapons of war. ^{12:}And they went up, and pitched in Kirjath-jearim, in Judah: wherefore they called that place Mahaneh-dan unto this day: behold, it is behind Kirjath-jearim.

^{13:}And they passed thence unto mount Ephraim, and came unto the house of Micah. ^{14:}Then answered the five men that went to spy out the country of Laish, and said unto their brethren, Do ye know that there is in these houses an ephod, and teraphim, and a graven image, and a molten image? now therefore consider what ye have to do.

^{15:}And they turned thitherward, and came to the house of the young man the Levite, even unto the house of Micah, and saluted him. ^{16:}And the six hundred men appointed with their weapons of war, which were of the children of Dan, stood by the entering of the gate. ^{17:}And the five men that went to spy out the land went up, and came in thither, and took the graven image, and the ephod, and the teraphim, and the molten image: and the priest stood in the entering of the gate with the six hundred men that were appointed with weapons of war. ^{18:}And these went into Micah's house, and fetched the carved image, the ephod, and the teraphim, and the molten image.

Then said the priest unto them, What do ye? ^{19:}And they said unto him, Hold thy peace, lay thine hand upon thy mouth, and go with us, and be to us a father and a priest: is it better

for thee to be a priest unto the house of one man, or that thou be a priest unto a tribe and a family in Israel?

^{20:}And the priest's heart was glad, and he took the ephod, and the teraphim, and the graven image, and went in the midst of the people. ^{21:}So they turned and departed, and put the little ones and the cattle and the carriage before them.

^{22:}And when they were a good way from the house of Micah, the men that were in the houses near to Micah's house were gathered together, and overtook the children of Dan.

^{23:}And they cried unto the children of Dan. And they turned their faces, and said unto Micah, What aileth thee, that thou comest with such a company? ^{24:}And he said, Ye have taken away my gods which I made, and the priest, and ye are gone away: and what have I more? and what is this that ye say unto me, What aileth thee?

^{25:}And the children of Dan said unto him, Let not thy voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows run upon thee, and thou lose thy life, with the lives of thy household. And the children of Dan went their way: and when Micah saw that they were too strong for him, he turned and went back unto his house.

^{27:}And they took the things which Micah had made, and the priest which he had, and came unto Laish, unto a people that were at quiet and secure: and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and burnt the city with fire. ^{28:}And there was no deliverer, because it was far from Zidon, and they had no business with any man; and it was in the valley that lieth by Beth-rehob.

And they built a city, and dwelt therein. ^{29:}And they called the name of the city Dan, after the name of Dan their father, who was born unto Israel: howbeit the name of the city was Laish at the first.

^{30:}And the children of Dan set up the graven image: and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh,⁹ he and his sons were priests to the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land.

(NOTE: Proper translation shows this Jonathan being a grandson of Moses, not Manasseh. This supports the shorter tradition of 251 years to David, instead of the 300 years to Jephthah.)

^{31:}And they set them up Micah's graven image, which he made, all the time that the house of God was in Shiloh.

19. ^{1:}And it came to pass in those days, when there was no king in Israel, that there was a certain Levite sojourning on the side of mount Ephraim, who took to him a concubine out of Bethlehemjudah.

^{2:}And his concubine played the whore against him, and went away from him unto her father's house to Bethlehemjudah, and was there four whole months. ^{3:}And her husband arose, and went after her, to speak friendly unto her, and to bring her again, having his servant with him, and a couple of asses: and she brought him into her father's house: and when the father of the damsel saw him, he rejoiced to meet him.

^{4:}And his father in law, the damsel's father, retained him; and he abode with him three days: so they did eat and drink, and lodged there.

^{5:}And it came to pass on the fourth day, when they arose early in the morning, that he rose up to depart: and the damsel's father said unto his son in law, Comfort thine heart with a morsel of bread, and afterward go your way. ^{6:}And they sat down, and did eat and drink both of them together: for the damsel's father had said unto the man, Be content, I pray thee, and

⁹ Proper translation should be "Moses", not Manasseh. Jonnathan was a grandson of Moses.

tarry all night, and let thine heart be merry. And when the man rose up to depart, his father in law urged him: therefore he lodged there again.

^{8:}And he arose early in the morning on the fifth day to depart: and the damsel's father said, Comfort thine heart, I pray thee. And they tarried until afternoon, and they did eat both of them. ^{9:}And when the man rose up to depart, he, and his concubine, and his servant, his father in law, the damsel's father, said unto him, Behold, now the day draweth toward evening, I pray you tarry all night: behold, the day groweth to an end, lodge here, that thine heart may be merry; and to morrow get you early on your way, that thou mayest go home.

^{10:}But the man would not tarry that night, but he rose up and departed, and came over against Jebus, which is Jerusalem; and there were with him two asses saddled, his concubine also was with him. ^{11:}And when they were by Jebus, the day was far spent; and the servant said unto his master, Come, I pray thee, and let us turn in into this city of the Jebusites, and lodge in it. ^{12:}And his master said unto him, We will not turn aside hither into the city of a stranger, that is not of the children of Israel; we will pass over to Gibeah. ^{13:}And he said unto his servant, Come, and let us draw near to one of these places to lodge all night, in Gibeah, or in Ramah.

^{14:}And they passed on and went their way; and the sun went down upon them when they were by Gibeah, which belongeth to Benjamin. ^{15:}And they turned aside thither, to go in and to lodge in Gibeah: and when he went in, he sat him down in a street of the city: for there was no man that took them into his house to lodging. ^{16:}And, behold, there came an old man from his work out of the field at even, which was also of mount Ephraim; and he sojourned in Gibeah: but the men of the place were Benjamites.

^{17:}And when he had lifted up his eyes, he saw a wayfaring man in the street of the city: and the old man said, Whither goest thou? and whence comest thou? ^{18:}And he said unto him, We are passing from Bethlehemjudah toward the side of mount Ephraim; from thence am I: and I went to Bethlehemjudah, but I am now going to the house of the LORD; and there is no man that receiveth me to house. ^{19:}Yet there is both straw and provender for our asses; and there is bread and wine also for me, and for thy handmaid, and for the young man which is with thy servants: there is no want of any thing.

^{20:}And the old man said, Peace be with thee; howsoever let all thy wants lie upon me; only lodge not in the street. ^{21:}So he brought him into his house, and gave provender unto the asses: and they washed their feet, and did eat and drink.

^{22:}Now as they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, certain sons of Belial, beset the house round about, and beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying, Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him.

^{23:}And the man, the master of the house, went out unto them, Nay, my brethren, nay, I pray you, do not so wickedly; seeing that this man is come into mine house, do not this folly.

^{24:}Behold, here is my daughter a maiden, and his concubine; them I will bring out now, and humble ye them, and do with them what seemeth good unto you: but unto this man do not so vile a thing. ^{25:}But the men would not hearken to him: so the man took his concubine, and brought her forth unto them; and they knew her, and abused her all the night until the morning: and when the day began to spring, they let her go.

^{26:}Then came the woman in the dawning of the day, and fell down at the door of the man's house where her lord was, till it was light.

^{27:}And her lord rose up in the morning, and opened the doors of the house, and went out to go his way: and, behold, the woman his concubine was fallen down at the door of the house, and her hands were upon the threshold. ^{28:}And he said unto her, Up, and let us be going. But none answered.

Then the man took her up upon an ass, and the man rose up, and gat him unto his place. ^{29:}And when he was come into his house, he took a knife, and laid hold on his concubine, and divided her, together with her bones, into twelve pieces, and sent her into all the coasts of Israel. ^{30:}And it was so, that all that saw it said, There was no such deed done nor seen from the day that the children of Israel came up out of the land of Egypt unto this day: consider of it, take advice, and speak your minds.

^{20:}Then all the children of Israel went out, and the congregation was gathered together as one man, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, with the land of Gilead, unto the LORD in Mizpeh. ^{2:}And the chief of all the people, even of all the tribes of Israel, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, four hundred thousand footmen that drew sword. ^{73:}(Now the children of Benjamin heard that the children of Israel were gone up to Mizpeh.)

Then said the children of Israel, Tell us, how was this wickedness?

^{4:}And the Levite, the husband of the woman that was slain, answered and said, I came into Gibeah that belongeth to Benjamin, I and my concubine, to lodge. ^{5:}And the men of Gibeah rose against me, and beset the house round about upon me by night, and thought to have slain me: and my concubine have they forced, that she is dead. ^{6:}And I took my concubine, and cut her in pieces, and sent her throughout all the country of the inheritance of Israel: for they have committed lewdness and folly in Israel. ^{7:}Behold, ye are all children of Israel; give here your advice and counsel.

^{8:}And all the people arose as one man, saying, We will not any of us go to his tent, neither will we any of us turn into his house. ^{9:}But now this shall be the thing which we will do to Gibeah; we will go up by lot against it; ^{10:}And we will take ten men of an hundred throughout all the tribes of Israel, and an hundred of a thousand, and a thousand out of ten thousand, to fetch victual for the people, that they may do, when they come to Gibeah of Benjamin, according to all the folly that they have wrought in Israel.

^{11:}So all the men of Israel were gathered against the city, knit together as one man.

^{12:}And the tribes of Israel sent men through all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, What wickedness is this that is done among you? ^{13:}Now therefore deliver us the men, the children of Belial, which are in Gibeah, that we may put them to death, and put away evil from Israel.

^{14:}But the children of Benjamin would not hearken to the voice of their brethren the children of Israel: But the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together out of the cities unto Gibeah, to go out to battle against the children of Israel.

^{15:}And the children of Benjamin were numbered at that time out of the cities twenty and six thousand men that drew sword, beside the inhabitants of Gibeah, which were numbered seven hundred chosen men. ^{16:}Among all this people there were seven hundred chosen men lefthanded; every one could sling stones at an hair breadth, and not miss.

^{17:}And the men of Israel, beside Benjamin, were numbered four hundred thousand men that drew sword: all these were men of war. ^{18:}And the children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of God, and asked counsel of God, and said, Which of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin?

And the LORD said, Judah shall go up first. ^{19:}And the children of Israel rose up in the morning, and encamped against Gibeah. ^{20:}And the men of Israel went out to battle against Benjamin; and the men of Israel put themselves in array to fight against them at Gibeah. ^{21:}And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground of the Israelites that day twenty and two thousand men.

^{22:}And the people the men of Israel encouraged themselves, and set their battle again in array in the place where they put themselves in array the first day. ^{23:}(And the children of Israel went up and wept before the LORD until even, and asked counsel of the LORD,

saying, Shall I go up again to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother? And the LORD said, Go up against him.)

^{24:}And the children of Israel came near against the children of Benjamin the second day.

^{25:}And Benjamin went forth against them out of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed down to the ground of the children of Israel again eighteen thousand men; all these drew the sword.

^{26:}Then all the children of Israel, and all the people, went up, and came unto the house of God, and wept, and sat there before the LORD, and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD. ^{27:}And the children of Israel inquired of the LORD, (for the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days,

^{28:}And Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron,¹⁰ stood before it in those days,) saying, Shall I yet again go out to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother, or shall I cease? And the LORD said, Go up; for to morrow I will deliver them into thine hand.

(NOTE: Phinehas was a grandson of Aaron, Moses' brother. This supports the shorter tradition of 251 years to David, instead of the 300 years to Jephthah.)

^{29:}And Israel set liers in wait round about Gibeah. ^{30:}And the children of Israel went up against the children of Benjamin on the third day, and put themselves in array against Gibeah, as at other times. ^{31:}And the children of Benjamin went out against the people, and were drawn away from the city; and they began to smite of the people, and kill, as at other times, in the highways, of which one goeth up to the house of God, and the other to Gibeah in the field, about thirty men of Israel. ^{32:}And the children of Benjamin said, They are smitten down before us, as at the first.

But the children of Israel said, Let us flee, and draw them from the city unto the highways. ^{33:}And all the men of Israel rose up out of their place, and put themselves in array at Baal-tamar: and the liers in wait of Israel came forth out of their places, even out of the meadows of Gibeah. ^{34:}And there came against Gibeah ten thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and the battle was sore: but they knew not that evil was near them.

^{35:}And the LORD smote Benjamin before Israel: and the children of Israel destroyed of the Benjamites that day twenty and five thousand and an hundred men:¹¹ all these drew the sword.

^{36:}So the children of Benjamin saw that they were smitten: for the men of Israel gave place to the Benjamites, because they trusted unto the liers in wait which they had set beside Gibeah. ^{37:}And the liers in wait hastened, and rushed upon Gibeah; and the liers in wait drew themselves along, and smote all the city with the edge of the sword.

^{38:}Now there was an appointed sign between the men of Israel and the liers in wait, that they should make a great flame with smoke rise up out of the city. ^{39:}And when the men of Israel retired in the battle, Benjamin began to smite and kill of the men of Israel about thirty persons: for they said, Surely they are smitten down before us, as in the first battle.

^{40:}But when the flame began to arise up out of the city with a pillar of smoke, the Benjamites looked behind them, and, behold, the flame of the city ascended up to heaven.

^{41:}And when the men of Israel turned again, the men of Benjamin were amazed: for they saw that evil was come upon them. ^{42:}Therefore they turned their backs before the men of Israel unto the way of the wilderness; but the battle overtook them; and them which came out of the cities they destroyed in the midst of them.

^{43:}Thus they inclosed the Benjamites round about, and chased them, and trode them down with ease over against Gibeah toward the sunrising. ^{44:}And there fell of Benjamin eighteen

¹⁰ Aaron's grandson was still living at the end of Judges.

¹¹ 25,100 of Benjamin slain = 251 x 10.

thousand men; all these were men of valour. ^{45:}And they turned and fled toward the wilderness unto the rock of Rimmon: and they gleaned of them in the highways five thousand men; and pursued hard after them unto Gidom, and slew two thousand men of them.

^{46:}So that all which fell that day of Benjamin were twenty and five thousand men that drew the sword; all these were men of valour. ^{47:}But six hundred men turned and fled to the wilderness unto the rock Rimmon, and abode in the rock Rimmon four months. ^{48:}And the men of Israel turned again upon the children of Benjamin, and smote them with the edge of the sword, as well the men of every city, as the beast, and all that came to hand: also they set on fire all the cities that they came to.

21. ^{1:}Now the men of Israel had sworn in Mizpeh, saying, There shall not any of us give his daughter unto Benjamin to wife.

^{2:}And the people came to the house of God, and abode there till even before God, and lifted up their voices, and wept sore; ^{3:}And said, O LORD God of Israel, why is this come to pass in Israel, that there should be to day one tribe lacking in Israel?

^{4:}And it came to pass on the morrow, that the people rose early, and built there an altar, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. ^{5:}And the children of Israel said, Who is there among all the tribes of Israel that came not up with the congregation unto the LORD? For they had made a great oath concerning him that came not up to the LORD to Mizpeh, saying, He shall surely be put to death.

^{6:}And the children of Israel repented them for Benjamin their brother, and said, There is one tribe cut off from Israel this day. ^{7:}How shall we do for wives for them that remain, seeing we have sworn by the LORD that we will not give them of our daughters to wives?

^{8:}And they said, What one is there of the tribes of Israel that came not up to Mizpeh to the LORD? And, behold, there came none to the camp from Jabesh-gilead to the assembly. ^{9:}For the people were numbered, and, behold, there were none of the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead there.

^{10:}And the congregation sent thither twelve thousand men of the valiantest, and commanded them, saying, Go and smite the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children. ^{11:}And this is the thing that ye shall do, Ye shall utterly destroy every male, and every woman that hath lain by man.

^{12:}And they found among the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead four hundred young virgins, that had known no man by lying with any male: and they brought them unto the camp to Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan. ^{13:}And the whole congregation sent some to speak to the children of Benjamin that were in the rock Rimmon, and to call peaceably unto them.

^{14:}And Benjamin came again at that time; and they gave them wives which they had saved alive of the women of Jabesh-gilead: and yet so they sufficed them not. ^{15:}And the people repented them for Benjamin, because that the LORD had made a breach in the tribes of Israel.

^{16:}Then the elders of the congregation said, How shall we do for wives for them that remain, seeing the women are destroyed out of Benjamin? ^{17:}And they said, There must be an inheritance for them that be escaped of Benjamin, that a tribe be not destroyed out of Israel.

^{18:}Howbeit we may not give them wives of our daughters: for the children of Israel have sworn, saying, Cursed be he that giveth a wife to Benjamin.

^{19:}Then they said, Behold, there is a feast of the LORD in Shiloh yearly in a place which is on the north side of Bethel, on the east side of the highway that goeth up from Bethel to Shechem, and on the south of Lebonah.

NOTE: The Ark was still at Shiloh until the 40th year of Eli when it was stolen by the Philistines (I Sam. 1:3; 5:17-18).

^{20:}Therefore they commanded the children of Benjamin, saying, Go and lie in wait in the vineyards; ^{21:}And see, and, behold, if the daughters of Shiloh come out to dance in dances,

then come ye out of the vineyards, and catch you every man his wife of the daughters of Shiloh, and go to the land of Benjamin.

^{22:}And it shall be, when their fathers or their brethren come unto us to complain, that we will say unto them, Be favourable unto them for our sakes: because we reserved not to each man his wife in the war: for ye did not give unto them at this time, that ye should be guilty.

^{23:}And the children of Benjamin did so, and took them wives, according to their number, of them that danced, whom they caught: and they went and returned unto their inheritance, and repaired the cities, and dwelt in them.

^{24:}And the children of Israel departed thence at that time, every man to his tribe and to his family, and they went out from thence every man to his inheritance.

^{25:}In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

C. The Book of Ruth During the Judges

1. ^{1:}Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehemjudah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons. ^{2:}And the name of the man was Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehemjudah. And they came into the country of Moab, and continued there.

(Skip to last chapter...)

^{12:}And let thy house be like the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bare unto Judah, of the seed which the LORD shall give thee of this young woman.

NOTE: Pharez was the great-great grandfather of Nashon (Boaz's grandfather).

^{13:}So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the LORD gave her conception, and she bare a son. ^{14:}And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the LORD, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel. ^{15:}And he shall be unto thee a restorer of thy life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter in law, which loveth thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath born him.

^{16:}And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it.

^{17:}And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

^{18:}Now these are the generations of Pharez: Pharez begat Hezron, ^{19:}And Hezron begat Ram, and Ram begat Amminadab, ^{20:}And Amminadab begat Nahshon, and Nahshon begat Salmon, ^{21:}And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed, ^{22:}And Obed begat Jesse, and Jesse begat David.

TABLE 32. Six Generations from the Exodus to David¹²

<i>6 Generations from Nashon to David: Ruth 4:20-22; 1 Chron. 2:11-15; Matthew 1:4-6; Luke 3:31-32</i>	<i>14 Generations from Abraham to David: Ruth 4:13-22; 1 Chron. 2:3-15; Matthew 1:2-6; Luke 3:31-34</i>
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¹² If 7 generations last about 251 years, this is consistent with 28 (7 x 4) generations from David to Christ lasting 1,004 years (251 x 4) as in Matthew 1:17.

Aaron		1.	9. Nashon (of the Exodus)¹³	<i>Numbers 1:7; I Chron. 2:10</i>
Ithmar	<i>Ex. 40:15</i>	2.	10. Salmon (of the Entry)¹⁴	<i>Matthew 1:5</i>
Eli	<i>I Sam. 2:27-28</i>	3.	11. Boaz (married Ruth)	<i>Ruth 4:13</i>
Phinehas	<i>I Sam. 4:19</i>	4.	12. Obed (Ruth's son)	<i>Ruth 4:17</i>
Ahitub	<i>I Sam. 4:21; 14:3</i>	5.	13. Jessee (Ruth's grandson)	
Ahimelech	<i>I Sam. 14:3; 22:11</i>	6.	14. David¹⁵ (Ruth's g-grandson)	

D. The First Book of Samuel

1. ¹Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim, of mount Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephrathite: ²And he had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah: and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

³And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto the LORD of hosts in Shiloh.

And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, were there.

⁴And when the time was that Elkanah offered, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions: ⁵But unto Hannah he gave a worthy portion; for he loved Hannah: but the LORD had shut up her womb.

⁶And her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret, because the LORD had shut up her womb. ⁷And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, so she provoked her; therefore she wept, and did not eat.

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

TABLE 33. Samuel's Missing Years

	<i>Years</i>	<i>David's Age</i>	<i>Reference in I Samuel</i>
Eli judges Israel	40		4:18
Ark taken, Samuel rules alone	20		7:12-13
Philistines subdued until Samuel is old	18		8:1
Saul wars with Philistines until his death	12	18-30	13:1; 14:52
David rules in Hebron	7	30-37	28:3
David brings ark into Jerusalem in his 8 th yr.	57		

Josephus says Samuel reigned with Eli 12 years and 18 years with Saul. At first glance this seems to imply that Saul was king immediately after Eli. In Acts 13:21 Saul reined 40 years.

He was undoubtedly over the armies of all Israel for 18 years before he was king. Likewise, Abner was able to lead the armies of all Israel to follow Saul's son or to follow David. David was anointed to become king as a lad of about 18-20. The years of Saul's reign were probably glossed over because the 251-year epoch from the exodus to David was common knowledge in ancient times as has already been indicated.

Samuel defeated the Philistines and had peace until his sons were old enough to rule in his place,

¹³ Nashon was the Prince of Judah during the exodus from Egypt.

¹⁴ Salmon married Rehab, the harlot of Jericho (Matthew 1:5).

¹⁵ There were 14 generations from Abraham to David (Matthew 1:17).

but the Israelites preferred to have a king, and they were given Saul. Saul was rejected after he had reigned only two years, and David was anointed to become the next king about 12 years before he actually became the king.

Using these figures, David captured Jerusalem and brought in the ark 57 years after the end of the Judges, after the death of Eli. These figures, along with the period of Joshua and the 111 years of oppressions, gives us 251 years for the epoch from the exodus to David.

⁹: So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD. ¹⁰: And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.

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

¹²: And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth. ¹³: Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.

¹⁴: And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee. ¹⁵: And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD. ¹⁶: Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto.

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

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

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

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

²¹: And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and his vow. ²²: But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, I will not go up until the child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD, and there abide for ever.

²³: And Elkanah her husband said unto her, Do what seemeth thee good; tarry until thou have weaned him; only the LORD establish his word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck until she weaned him. ²⁴: And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.

²⁵: And they slew a bullock, and brought the child to Eli. ²⁶: And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

²⁷: For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

²⁸: Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

2. ¹: And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

^{2:}There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. ^{3:}Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. ^{4:}The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. ^{5:}They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble.

^{6:}The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. ^{7:}The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. ^{8:}He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and he hath set the world upon them.

^{9:}He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. ^{10:}The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

^{11:}And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.

^{12:}Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD. ^{13:}And the priests' custom with the people was, that, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the flesh was in seething, with a fleshhook of three teeth in his hand; ^{14:}And he struck it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the fleshhook brought up the priest took for himself. So they did in Shiloh unto all the Israelites that came thither.

^{15:}Also before they burnt the fat, the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed, Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw.

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

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

^{18:}But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, girded with a linen ephod. ^{19:}Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

^{20:}And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The LORD give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the LORD. And they went unto their own home. ^{21:}And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters.

And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

^{22:}Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how they lay with the women that assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. ^{23:}And he said unto them, Why do ye such things? for I hear of your evil dealings by all this people.

^{24:}Nay, my sons; for it is no good report that I hear: ye make the LORD's people to transgress.

^{25:}If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if a man sin against the LORD, who shall intreat for him?

Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because the LORD would slay them.

^{26:}And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men. ^{27:}And there came a man of God unto Eli, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Did I plainly appear unto the house of thy father, when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh's house?

^{28:}And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer upon mine altar,

to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? and did I give unto the house of thy father all the offerings made by fire of the children of Israel?

^{29:}Wherefore kick ye at my sacrifice and at mine offering, which I have commanded in my habitation; and honourest thy sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the offerings of Israel my people?

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

^{31:}Behold, the days come, that I will cut off thine arm, and the arm of thy father's house, that there shall not be an old man in thine house. ^{32:}And thou shalt see an enemy in my habitation, in all the wealth which God shall give Israel: and there shall not be an old man in thine house for ever. ^{33:}And the man of thine, whom I shall not cut off from mine altar, shall be to consume thine eyes, and to grieve thine heart: and all the increase of thine house shall die in the flower of their age.

^{34:}And this shall be a sign unto thee, that shall come upon thy two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas; in one day they shall die both of them. ^{35:}And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed for ever.

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

3. ^{1:}And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; there was no open vision.

^{2:}And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see; ^{3:}And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep; ^{4:}That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.

^{5:}And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down. ^{6:}And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

^{7:}Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him. ^{8:}And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me.

And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child. ^{9:}Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth.

So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ^{10:}And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

^{11:}And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle. ^{12:}In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end. ^{13:}For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. ^{14:}And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.

^{15:}And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision. ^{16:}Then Eli called Samuel, and said, Samuel, my

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

^{18:} And Samuel told him every whit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It is the LORD: let him do what seemeth him good.

^{19:} And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. ^{20:} And all Israel from Dan even to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD.

^{21:} And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

4. ^{1:} And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and pitched beside Eben-ezer: and the Philistines pitched in Aphek. ^{2:} And the Philistines put themselves in array against Israel: and when they joined battle, Israel was smitten before the Philistines: and they slew of the army in the field about four thousand men.

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

^{4:} So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from thence the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth between the cherubims: and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God. ^{5:} And when the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth rang again.

^{6:} And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, What meaneth the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews? And they understood that the ark of the LORD was come into the camp. ^{7:} And the Philistines were afraid, for they said, God is come into the camp. And they said, Woe unto us! for there hath not been such a thing heretofore. ^{8:} Woe unto us! who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods? these are the Gods that smote the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness.

^{9:} Be strong, and quit yourselves like men, O ye Philistines, that ye be not servants unto the Hebrews, as they have been to you: quit yourselves like men, and fight. ^{10:} And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen.

^{11:} And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain. ^{12:} And there ran a man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes rent, and with earth upon his head. ^{13:} And when he came, lo, Eli sat upon a seat by the wayside watching: for his heart trembled for the ark of God.

And when the man came into the city, and told it, all the city cried out. ^{14:} And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, What meaneth the noise of this tumult? And the man came in hastily, and told Eli. ^{15:} Now Eli was ninety and eight years old; and his eyes were dim, that he could not see. ^{16:} And the man said unto Eli, I am he that came out of the army, and I fled to day out of the army. And he said, What is there done, my son?

^{17:} And the messenger answered and said, Israel is fled before the Philistines, and there hath been also a great slaughter among the people, and thy two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God is taken.

40 yrs.

^{18:} And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of God, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck brake, and he died: for

he was an old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

¹⁹:And his daughter in law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, near to be delivered: and when she heard the tidings that the ark of God was taken, and that her father in law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and travailed; for her pains came upon her. ²⁰:And about the time of her death the women that stood by her said unto her, Fear not; for thou hast born a son. But she answered not, neither did she regard it. ²¹:And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband. ²²:And she said, The glory is departed from Israel: for the ark of God is taken.

5. ¹:And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Eben-ezer unto Ashdod. ²:When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon.

³:And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of the LORD. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again.

⁴:And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off upon the threshold; only the stump of Dagon was left to him. ⁵:Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day.

⁶:But the hand of the LORD was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with emerods, even Ashdod and the coasts thereof. ⁷:And when the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, The ark of the God of Israel shall not abide with us: for his hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our god.

⁸:They sent therefore and gathered all the lords of the Philistines unto them, and said, What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel? And they answered, Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried about unto Gath. And they carried the ark of the God of Israel about thither.

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

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

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

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

6. ¹:And the ark of the LORD was in the country of the Philistines seven months. ²:And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying, What shall we do to the ark of the LORD? tell us wherewith we shall send it to his place.

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

^{4:}Then said they, What shall be the trespass offering which we shall return to him? They answered, Five golden emerods, and five golden mice, according to the number of the lords of the Philistines: for one plague was on you all, and on your lords. ^{5:}Wherefore ye shall make images of your emerods, and images of your mice that mar the land; and ye shall give glory unto the God of Israel: peradventure he will lighten his hand from off you, and from off your gods, and from off your land.

^{6:}Wherefore then do ye harden your hearts, as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? when he had wrought wonderfully among them, did they not let the people go, and they departed?

^{7:}Now therefore make a new cart, and take two milch kine, on which there hath come no yoke, and tie the kine to the cart, and bring their calves home from them: ^{8:}And take the ark of the LORD, and lay it upon the cart; and put the jewels of gold, which ye return him for a trespass offering, in a coffer by the side thereof; and send it away, that it may go. ^{9:}And see, if it goeth up by the way of his own coast to Beth-shemesh, then he hath done us this great evil: but if not, then we shall know that is not his hand that smote us; it was a chance that happened to us.

^{10:}And the men did so; and took two milch kine, and tied them to the cart, and shut up their calves at home: ^{11:}And they laid the ark of the LORD upon the cart, and the coffer with the mice of gold and the images of their emerods.

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

^{13:}And they of Beth-shemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley: and they lifted up their eyes, and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see it. ^{14:}And the cart came into the field of Joshua, a Beth-shemite, and stood there, where there was a great stone: and they clave the wood of the cart, and offered the kine a burnt offering unto the LORD.

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

^{16:}And when the five lords of the Philistines had seen it, they returned to Ekron the same day. ^{17:}And these are the golden emerods which the Philistines returned for a trespass offering unto the LORD; for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Askelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one;

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

^{19:}And he smote the men of Beth-shemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the LORD, even he smote of the people fifty thousand and threescore and ten men: and the people lamented, because the LORD had smitten many of the people with a great slaughter.

^{20:}And the men of Beth-shemesh said, Who is able to stand before this holy LORD God? and to whom shall he go up from us?

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

7. ^{1:}And the men of Kirjath-jearim came, and fetched up the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD.

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

NOTE: Rabbinic tradition has 20 years from Eli to David' seventh year, when he brought the Ark from the house of Abinadab to Jerusalem. This overlooks the time Saul borrowed the Ark in I Sam. 14:18 and undoubtedly returned it before David's time.

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

^{4:}Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.

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

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

^{7:}And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines.

^{8:}And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the LORD our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines. ^{9:}And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the LORD: and Samuel cried unto the LORD for Israel; and the LORD heard him.

^{10:}And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel. ^{11:}And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Beth-car.

^{12:}Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Eben-ezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us. ^{12:}So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the coast of Israel: and the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.

^{14:}And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even unto Gath; and the coasts thereof did Israel deliver out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

^{15:}And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. ^{16:}And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. ^{18:}And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the LORD.

8. ^{1:}And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. ^{2:}Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beer-sheba. ^{3:}And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

^{4:}Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, ^{5:}And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

^{6:}But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. ^{7:}And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. ^{8:}According to all the works which they have done

since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee.

⁹:Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. ¹⁰:And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king. ¹¹:And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. ¹²:And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. ¹³:And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. ¹⁴:And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. ¹⁵:And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. ¹⁶:And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. ¹⁷:He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants.

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

¹⁹:Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; ²⁰:That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles. ²¹:And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the LORD. ²²:And the LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king. And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city.

9. ¹:Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, a Benjamite, a mighty man of power. ²:And he had a son, whose name was Saul, a choice young man, and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people.

³:And the asses of Kish Saul's father were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, Take now one of the servants with thee, and arise, go seek the asses. ⁴:And he passed through mount Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalisha, but they found them not: then they passed through the land of Shalim, and there they were not: and he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they found them not.

⁵:And when they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant that was with him, Come, and let us return; lest my father leave caring for the asses, and take thought for us.

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

⁷:Then said Saul to his servant, But, behold, if we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and there is not a present to bring to the man of God: what have we? ⁸:And the servant answered Saul again, and said, Behold, I have here at hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver: that will I give to the man of God, to tell us our way.

⁹:(Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the seer: for he that is now called a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer.) ¹⁰:Then said Saul to his servant, Well said; come, let us go.

So they went unto the city where the man of God was. ^{11:}And as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said unto them, Is the seer here? ^{12:}And they answered them, and said, He is; behold, he is before you: make haste now, for he came to day to the city; for there is a sacrifice of the people to day in the high place: ^{13:}As soon as ye be come into the city, ye shall straightway find him, before he go up to the high place to eat: for the people will not eat until he come, because he doth bless the sacrifice; and afterwards they eat that be bidden.

Now therefore get you up; for about this time ye shall find him. ^{14:}And they went up into the city: and when they were come into the city, behold, Samuel came out against them, for to go up to the high place.

^{15:}Now the LORD had told Samuel in his ear a day before Saul came, saying, ^{16:}To morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be captain over my people Israel, that he may save my people out of the hand of the Philistines: for I have looked upon my people, because their cry is come unto me.

^{17:}And when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said unto him, Behold the man whom I spake to thee of! this same shall reign over my people. ^{18:}Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, where the seer's house is. ^{19:}And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I am the seer: go up before me unto the high place; for ye shall eat with me to day, and to morrow I will let thee go, and will tell thee all that is in thine heart.

^{20:}And as for thine asses that were lost three days ago, set not thy mind on them; for they are found. And on whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not on thee, and on all thy father's house? ^{21:}And Saul answered and said, Am not I a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speakest thou so to me?

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

^{23:}And Samuel said unto the cook, Bring the portion which I gave thee, of which I said unto thee, Set it by thee. ^{24:}And the cook took up the shoulder, and that which was upon it, and set it before Saul.

And Samuel said, Behold that which is left! set it before thee, and eat: for unto this time hath it been kept for thee since I said, I have invited the people.

So Saul did eat with Samuel that day. ^{25:}And when they were come down from the high place into the city, Samuel communed with Saul upon the top of the house. ^{26:}And they arose early: and it came to pass about the spring of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Up, that I may send thee away. And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad. ^{27:}And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on,) but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee the word of God.

10. ^{1:}Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?

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

^{3:}Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the plain of Tabor, and there shall meet thee three men going up to God to Bethel, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine: ^{4:}And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.

^{5:}After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy:

^{6:}And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.

^{7:}And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee. ^{8:}And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do.

^{9:}And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day. ^{10:}And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them. ^{11:}And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?

^{12:}And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, Is Saul also among the prophets?

^{13:}And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place. ^{14:}And Saul's uncle said unto him and to his servant, Whither went ye? And he said, To seek the asses: and when we saw that they were no where, we came to Samuel.

^{15:}And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you. ^{16:}And Saul said unto his uncle, He told us plainly that the asses were found. But of the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spake, he told him not.

^{17:}And Samuel called the people together unto the LORD to Mizpeh; ^{18:}And said unto the children of Israel, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you: ^{19:}And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us.

Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes, and by your thousands. ^{20:}And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken.

^{21:}When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken: and when they sought him, he could not be found. ^{22:}Therefore they inquired of the LORD further, if the man should yet come thither. And the LORD answered, Behold, he hath hid himself among the stuff. ^{23:}And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward. ^{24:}And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people?

And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king. ^{25:}Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the LORD. ^{26:}And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched. ^{26:}But the children of Belial said, How shall this man save us? And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

11. ^{1:}Then Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabesh-gilead: and all the men of Jabesh said unto Nahash, Make a covenant with us, and we will serve thee. ^{2:}And

Nahash the Ammonite answered them, On this condition will I make a covenant with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it for a reproach upon all Israel. ^{3:}And the elders of Jabesh said unto him, Give us seven days' respite, that we may send messengers unto all the coasts of Israel: and then, if there be no man to save us, we will come out to thee.

^{4:}Then came the messengers to Gibeah of Saul, and told the tidings in the ears of the people: and all the people lifted up their voices, and wept. ^{5:}And, behold, Saul came after the herd out of the field; and Saul said, What aileth the people that they weep? And they told him the tidings of the men of Jabesh.

^{6:}And the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard those tidings, and his anger was kindled greatly. ^{7:}And he took a yoke of oxen, and hewed them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the coasts of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, Whosoever cometh not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen.

And the fear of the LORD fell on the people, and they came out with one consent. ^{8:}And when he numbered them in Bezek, the children of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand.

^{9:}And they said unto the messengers that came, Thus shall ye say unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, To morrow, by that time the sun be hot, ye shall have help. And the messengers came and shewed it to the men of Jabesh; and they were glad. ^{10:}Therefore the men of Jabesh said, To morrow we will come out unto you, and ye shall do with us all that seemeth good unto you.

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

^{12:}And the people said unto Samuel, Who is he that said, Shall Saul reign over us? bring the men, that we may put them to death. ^{13:}And Saul said, There shall not a man be put to death this day: for to day the LORD hath wrought salvation in Israel.

^{14:}Then said Samuel to the people, Come, and let us go to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there. ^{15:}And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

12. ^{1:}And Samuel said unto all Israel, Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you. ^{2:}And now, behold, the king walketh before you: and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons are with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day. ^{3:}Behold, here I am: witness against me before the LORD, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.

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

^{5:}And he said unto them, The LORD is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found ought in my hand. And they answered, He is witness. ^{6:}And Samuel said unto the people, It is the LORD that advanced Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt.

^{7:}Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the LORD of all the righteous acts of the LORD, which he did to you and to your fathers. ^{8:}When Jacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto the LORD, then the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, which brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place.

^{9:}And when they forgat the LORD their God, he sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

^{10:}And they cried unto the LORD, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve thee.

^{11:}And the LORD sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and ye dwelled safe.

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

^{13:}Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, and whom ye have desired! and, behold, the LORD hath set a king over you.

^{14:}If ye will fear the LORD, and serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the LORD your God: ^{15:}But if ye will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall the hand of the LORD be against you, as it was against your fathers.

^{16:}Now therefore stand and see this great thing, which the LORD will do before your eyes. ^{17:}Is it not wheat harvest to day? I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and rain; that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king. ^{18:}So Samuel called unto the LORD; and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day: and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.

^{19:}And all the people said unto Samuel, Pray for thy servants unto the LORD thy God, that we die not: for we have added unto all our sins this evil, to ask us a king. ^{20:}And Samuel said unto the people, Fear not: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart; ^{21:}And turn ye not aside: for then should ye go after vain things, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain.

^{22:}For the LORD will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people. ^{23:}Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way: ^{24:}Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.

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

13. ^{1:}Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel, ^{2:}Saul chose him three thousand men of Israel; whereof two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in mount Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin: and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent.

^{3:}And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews hear. ^{4:}And all Israel heard say that Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel also was had in abomination with the Philistines.

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

⁶:When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were distressed,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits. ⁷:And some of the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead.

As for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling. ⁸:And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

⁹:And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering. ¹⁰:And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him.

¹¹:And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash; ¹²:Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.

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

¹⁴:But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.

¹⁵:And Samuel arose, and gat him up from Gilgal unto Gibeah of Benjamin.

And Saul numbered the people that were present with him, about six hundred men.

¹⁶:And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people that were present with them, abode in Gibeah of Benjamin: but the Philistines encamped in Michmash.

¹⁷:And the spoilers came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies: one company turned unto the way that leadeth to Ophrah, unto the land of Shual: ¹⁸:And another company turned the way to Beth-horon: and another company turned to the way of the border that looketh to the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.

¹⁹:Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears: ²⁰:But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock.

²¹:Yet they had a file for the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the goads. ²²:So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan: but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found.

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

14. ¹:Now it came to pass upon a day, that Jonathan the son of Saul said unto the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that is on the other side. But he told not his father. ²:And Saul tarried in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which is in Migron: and the people that were with him were about six hundred men; ³:And Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, I-chabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the LORD's priest in Shiloh, wearing an ephod.

And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone. ⁴:And between the passages, by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines' garrison, there was a sharp rock on the one side and a sharp rock on the other side: and the name of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh. ⁵:The forefront of the one was situate northward over against Michmash, and the other southward over against Gibeah.

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

^{7:} And his armourbearer said unto him, Do all that is in thine heart: turn thee; behold, I am with thee according to thy heart. ^{8:} Then said Jonathan, Behold, we will pass over unto these men, and we will discover ourselves unto them.

^{9:} If they say thus unto us, Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them. ^{10:} But if they say thus, Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the LORD hath delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us.

^{11:} And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines: and the Philistines said, Behold, the Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves. ^{12:} And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armourbearer, and said, Come up to us, and we will shew you a thing.

And Jonathan said unto his armourbearer, Come up after me: for the LORD hath delivered them into the hand of Israel. ^{13:} And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armourbearer after him: and they fell before Jonathan; and his armourbearer slew after him.

^{14:} And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armourbearer made, was about twenty men, within as it were an half acre of land, which a yoke of oxen might plow. ^{15:} And there was trembling in the host, in the field, and among all the people: the garrison, and the spoilers, they also trembled, and the earth quaked: so it was a very great trembling.

^{16:} And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked; and, behold, the multitude melted away, and they went on beating down one another.

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

^{18:} And Saul said unto Ahiah, Bring hither the ark of God. For the ark of God was at that time with the children of Israel.

NOTE: The Ark was taken to the house of Abinadab when it was stolen from Eli, when Eli died in his 40th year. It was taken from the house of Abinadab to Jerusalem when David captured Jerusalem, in his eighth year. Perhaps Saul borrowed the Ark after it had been at the house of Abinadab 20 years (I Sam. 7:2). This supports the 251 years to the era of Jerusalem.

^{19:} And it came to pass, while Saul talked unto the priest, that the noise that was in the host of the Philistines went on and increased: and Saul said unto the priest, Withdraw thine hand.

^{20:} And Saul and all the people that were with him assembled themselves, and they came to the battle: and, behold, every man's sword was against his fellow, and there was a very great discomfiture. ^{21:} Moreover the Hebrews that were with the Philistines before that time, which went up with them into the camp from the country round about, even they also turned to be with the Israelites that were with Saul and Jonathan. ^{22:} Likewise all the men of Israel which had hid themselves in mount Ephraim, when they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle.

^{23:} So the LORD saved Israel that day: and the battle passed over unto Beth-aven. ^{24:} And the men of Israel were distressed that day: for Saul had adjured the people, saying, Cursed be the man that eateth any food until evening, that I may be avenged on mine enemies. So none of the people tasted any food. ^{25:} And all they of the land came to a wood; and there was

honey upon the ground. ^{26:}And when the people were come into the wood, behold, the honey dropped; but no man put his hand to his mouth: for the people feared the oath.

^{27:}But Jonathan heard not when his father charged the people with the oath: wherefore he put forth the end of the rod that was in his hand, and dipped it in an honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes were enlightened. ^{28:}Then answered one of the people, and said, Thy father straitly charged the people with an oath, saying, Cursed be the man that eateth any food this day. And the people were faint.

^{29:}Then said Jonathan, My father hath troubled the land: see, I pray you, how mine eyes have been enlightened, because I tasted a little of this honey. ^{30:}How much more, if haply the people had eaten freely to day of the spoil of their enemies which they found? for had there not been now a much greater slaughter among the Philistines? ^{31:}And they smote the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon: and the people were very faint.

^{32:}And the people flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and slew them on the ground: and the people did eat them with the blood. ^{33:}Then they told Saul, saying, Behold, the people sin against the LORD, in that they eat with the blood. And he said, Ye have transgressed: roll a great stone unto me this day. ^{34:}And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the people, and say unto them, Bring me hither every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay them here, and eat; and sin not against the LORD in eating with the blood. And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew them there.

^{35:}And Saul built an altar unto the LORD: the same was the first altar that he built unto the LORD. ^{36:}And Saul said, Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and spoil them until the morning light, and let us not leave a man of them. And they said, Do whatsoever seemeth good unto thee.

Then said the priest, Let us draw near hither unto God. ^{37:}And Saul asked counsel of God, Shall I go down after the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into the hand of Israel? But he answered him not that day. ^{38:}And Saul said, Draw ye near hither, all the chief of the people: and know and see wherein this sin hath been this day. ^{39:}For, as the LORD liveth, which saveth Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die. But there was not a man among all the people that answered him. ^{40:}Then said he unto all Israel, Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side. And the people said unto Saul, Do what seemeth good unto thee. ^{41:}Therefore Saul said unto the LORD God of Israel, Give a perfect lot.

^{42:}And Saul and Jonathan were taken: but the people escaped. And Saul said, Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son. And Jonathan was taken. ^{43:}Then Saul said to Jonathan, Tell me what thou hast done.

And Jonathan told him, and said, I did but taste a little honey with the end of the rod that was in mine hand, and, lo, I must die. ^{44:}And Saul answered, God do so and more also: for thou shalt surely die, Jonathan. ^{45:}And the people said unto Saul, Shall Jonathan die, who hath wrought this great salvation in Israel? God forbid: as the LORD liveth, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground; for he hath wrought with God this day. So the people rescued Jonathan, that he died not.

^{46:}Then Saul went up from following the Philistines: and the Philistines went to their own place.

^{47:}So Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines: and whithersoever he turned himself, he vexed them. ^{48:}And he gathered an host, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled them.

^{49:}Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Ishui, and Melchi-shua: and the names of his two daughters were these; the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger Michal: ^{50:}And the name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam, the daughter of Ahimaaz: and the name of the captain of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul's uncle. ^{51:}And Kish was the father of Saul; and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel.

^{52:}And there was sore war against the Philistines all the days of Saul: and when Saul saw any strong man, or any valiant man, he took him unto him.

15. ^{1:}Samuel also said unto Saul, The LORD sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.

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

^{3:}Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass. ^{4:}And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

^{5:}And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley. ^{6:}And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

^{7:}And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt. ^{8:}And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

^{9:}But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

^{10:}Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying, ^{11:}It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments.

And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night. ^{12:}And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

^{13:}And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD. ^{14:}And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear? ^{15:}And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

^{16:}Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on. ^{17:}And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?

^{18:}And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed. ^{19:}Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the LORD?

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

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

^{22:}And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. ^{23:}For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

^{24:}And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice. ^{25:}Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD.

^{26:}And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel. ^{27:}And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent. ^{28:}And Samuel said unto him, The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou.

^{29:}And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he is not a man, that he should repent. ^{30:}Then he said, I have sinned: yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God.

^{31:}So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped the LORD.

^{32:}Then said Samuel, Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came unto him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past. ^{33:}And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

^{34:}Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.

^{35:}And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the LORD repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.

16. ^{1:}And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

^{2:}And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD. ^{3:}And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee.

^{4:}And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably? ^{5:}And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.

And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice. ^{6:}And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.

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

^{8:}Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. ^{9:}Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. ^{10:}Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

^{11:}And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. ^{12:}And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to.

And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. ^{13:}Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward.

So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah. ^{14:}But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him. ^{15:}And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee. ^{16:}Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well.

^{17:}And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me. ^{18:}Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him.

^{19:}Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep. ^{20:}And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul. ^{21:}And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and he loved him greatly; and he became his armourbearer. ^{22:}And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favour in my sight.

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

17. ^{1:}Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim.

^{2:}And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines. ^{3:}And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and there was a valley between them.

^{4:}And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. ^{5:}And he had an helmet of brass upon his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass. ^{6:}And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a target of brass between his shoulders. ^{7:}And the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron: and one bearing a shield went before him.

^{8:}And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me. ^{9:}If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us. ^{10:}And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

^{11:}When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

^{12:}Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Beth-lehem-judah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man went among men for an old man in the days of

Saul. ^{13:} And the three eldest sons of Jesse went and followed Saul to the battle: and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. ^{14:} And David was the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul.

^{15:} But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem. ^{16:} And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

^{17:} And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to thy brethren; ^{18:} And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and look how thy brethren fare, and take their pledge.

^{19:} Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. ^{20:} And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle. ^{21:} For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army. ^{22:} And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

^{23:} And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them. ^{24:} And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

^{25:} And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

^{26:} And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God? ^{27:} And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.

^{28:} And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.

^{29:} And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause? ^{30:} And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.

^{31:} And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.

^{32:} And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. ^{33:} And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.

^{34:} And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: ^{35:} And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. ^{36:} Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. ^{37:} David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine.

^{38:} And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee. And Saul armed David with his armour, and he put an helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail. ^{39:} And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him.

^{40:}And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine. ^{41:}And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him.

^{42:}And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. ^{43:}And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. ^{44:}And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

^{45:}Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. ^{46:}This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. ^{47:}And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hands.

^{48:}And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. ^{49:}And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

^{50:}So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David. ^{51:}Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

^{52:}And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou come to the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron. ^{53:}And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their tents.

^{54:}And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.

^{55:}And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host, Abner, whose son is this youth? And Abner said, As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell. ^{56:}And the king said, Inquire thou whose son the stripling is. ^{57:}And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. ^{58:}And Saul said to him, Whose son art thou, thou young man? And David answered, I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.

18. ^{1:}And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. ^{2:}And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house. ^{3:}Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. ^{4:}And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.

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

^{6:} And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick. ^{7:} And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

^{8:} And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands: and what can he have more but the kingdom? ^{9:} And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.

^{10:} And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and there was a javelin in Saul's hand. ^{11:} And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice. ^{12:} And Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, and was departed from Saul.

^{13:} Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. ^{14:} And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the LORD was with him. ^{15:} Wherefore when Saul saw that he behaved himself very wisely, he was afraid of him.

^{16:} But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them. ^{17:} And Saul said to David, Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give thee to wife: only be thou valiant for me, and fight the LORD's battles. For Saul said, Let not mine hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.

^{18:} And David said unto Saul, Who am I? and what is my life, or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son in law to the king?

^{19:} But it came to pass at the time when Merab Saul's daughter should have been given to David, that she was given unto Adriel the Meholathite to wife. ^{20:} And Michal Saul's daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. ^{21:} And Saul said, I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him.

Wherefore Saul said to David, Thou shalt this day be my son in law in the one of the twain. ^{22:} And Saul commanded his servants, saying, Commune with David secretly, and say, Behold, the king hath delight in thee, and all his servants love thee: now therefore be the king's son in law. ^{23:} And Saul's servants spake those words in the ears of David. And David said, Seemeth it to you a light thing to be a king's son in law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?

^{24:} And the servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spake David. ^{25:} And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The king desireth not any dowry, but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies. But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

^{26:} And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son in law: and the days were not expired. ^{27:} Wherefore David arose and went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full tale to the king, that he might be the king's son in law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife.

^{28:} And Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal Saul's daughter loved him. ^{29:} And Saul was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually.

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

19. ^{1:}And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David. ^{2:}But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee: now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself: ^{3:}And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee.

^{4:}And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to theeward very good: ^{5:}For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?

^{6:}And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As the LORD liveth, he shall not be slain. ^{7:}And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan shewed him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past.

^{8:}And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him.

^{9:}And the evil spirit from the LORD was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand. ^{10:}And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

^{11:}Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If thou save not thy life to night, to morrow thou shalt be slain. ^{12:}So Michal let David down through a window: and he went, and fled, and escaped. ^{13:}And Michal took an image, and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster, and covered it with a cloth. ^{14:}And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He is sick. ^{15:}And Saul sent the messengers again to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him. ^{16:}And when the messengers were come in, behold, there was an image in the bed, with a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster.

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

^{18:}So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth. ^{19:}And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah. ^{20:}And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the Spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.

^{21:}And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise.

And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also.

^{22:}Then went he also to Ramah, and came to a great well that is in Sechu: and he asked and said, Where are Samuel and David? And one said, Behold, they be at Naioth in Ramah. ^{23:}And he went thither to Naioth in Ramah: and the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah. ^{24:}And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets?

20. ^{1:}And David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said before Jonathan, What have I done? what is mine iniquity? and what is my sin before thy father, that he seeketh my life?

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

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

^{4:}Then said Jonathan unto David, Whatsoever thy soul desireth, I will even do it for thee.

^{5:}And David said unto Jonathan, Behold, to morrow is the new moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king at meat: but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field unto the third day at even. ^{6:}If thy father at all miss me, then say, David earnestly asked leave of me that he might run to Bethlehem his city: for there is a yearly sacrifice there for all the family. ^{7:}If he say thus, It is well; thy servant shall have peace: but if he be very wroth, then be sure that evil is determined by him.

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

^{9:}And Jonathan said, Far be it from thee: for if I knew certainly that evil were determined by my father to come upon thee, then would not I tell it thee? ^{10:}Then said David to Jonathan, Who shall tell me? or what if thy father answer thee roughly?

^{11:}And Jonathan said unto David, Come, and let us go out into the field. And they went out both of them into the field. ^{12:}And Jonathan said unto David, O LORD God of Israel, when I have sounded my father about to morrow any time, or the third day, and, behold, if there be good toward David, and I then send not unto thee, and shew it thee; ^{13:}The LORD do so and much more to Jonathan: but if it please my father to do thee evil, then I will shew it thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace: and the LORD be with thee, as he hath been with my father.

^{14:}And thou shalt not only while yet I live shew me the kindness of the LORD, that I die not: ^{15:}But also thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever: no, not when the LORD hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth. ^{16:}So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, Let the LORD even require it at the hand of David's enemies. ^{17:}And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him: for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

^{18:}Then Jonathan said to David, To morrow is the new moon: and thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty. ^{19:}And when thou hast stayed three days, then thou shalt go down quickly, and come to the place where thou didst hide thyself when the business was in hand, and shalt remain by the stone Ezel. ^{20:}And I will shoot three arrows on the side thereof, as though I shot at a mark. ^{21:}And, behold, I will send a lad, saying, Go, find out the arrows. If I expressly say unto the lad, Behold, the arrows are on this side of thee, take them; then come thou: for there is peace to thee, and no hurt; as the LORD liveth. ^{22:}But if I say thus unto the young man, Behold, the arrows are beyond thee; go thy way: for the LORD hath sent thee away.

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

^{24:}So David hid himself in the field: and when the new moon was come, the king sat him down to eat meat. ^{25:}And the king sat upon his seat, as at other times, even upon a seat by the wall: and Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul's side, and David's place was empty. ^{26:}Nevertheless Saul spake not any thing that day: for he thought, Something hath befallen him, he is not clean; surely he is not clean.

^{27:}And it came to pass on the morrow, which was the second day of the month, that David's place was empty: and Saul said unto Jonathan his son, Wherefore cometh not the son of Jesse to meat, neither yesterday, nor to day? ^{28:}And Jonathan answered Saul, David earnestly asked leave of me to go to Bethlehem: ^{29:}And he said, Let me go, I pray thee; for our family hath a sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he hath commanded me to be there: and now, if I have found favour in thine eyes, let me get away, I pray thee, and see my brethren. Therefore he cometh not unto the king's table.

^{30:}Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou son of the perverse rebellious woman, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and unto the confusion of thy mother's nakedness? ^{31:}For as long as the son of Jesse liveth upon the ground, thou shalt not be established, nor thy kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he shall surely die.

^{32:}And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said unto him, Wherefore shall he be slain? what hath he done? ^{33:}And Saul cast a javelin at him to smite him: whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to slay David. ^{34:}So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no meat the second day of the month: for he was grieved for David, because his father had done him shame.

^{35:}And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him. ^{36:}And he said unto his lad, Run, find out now the arrows which I shoot. And as the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. ^{37:}And when the lad was come to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after the lad, and said, Is not the arrow beyond thee? ^{38:}And Jonathan cried after the lad, Make speed, haste, stay not. And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master. ^{39:}But the lad knew not any thing: only Jonathan and David knew the matter. ^{40:}And Jonathan gave his artillery unto his lad, and said unto him, Go, carry them to the city.

^{41:}And as soon as the lad was gone, David arose out of a place toward the south, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed himself three times: and they kissed one another, and wept one with another, until David exceeded. ^{42:}And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city.

21. ^{1:}Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, Why art thou alone, and no man with thee?

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

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

^{4:}And the priest answered David, and said, There is no common bread under mine hand, but there is hallowed bread; if the young men have kept themselves at least from women.

^{5:}And David answered the priest, and said unto him, Of a truth women have been kept from us about these three days, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy, and the bread is in a manner common, yea, though it were sanctified this day in the vessel.

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

^{7:}Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before the LORD; and his name was Doeg, an Edomite, the chiefest of the herdmen that belonged to Saul. ^{8:}And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine hand spear or

sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.

⁹:And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod: if thou wilt take that, take it: for there is no other save that here.

And David said, There is none like that; give it me. ¹⁰:And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath.

¹¹:And the servants of Achish said unto him, Is not this David the king of the land? did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands? ¹²:And David laid up these words in his heart, and was sore afraid of Achish the king of Gath.

¹³:And he changed his behaviour before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard. ¹⁴:Then said Achish unto his servants, Lo, ye see the man is mad: wherefore then have ye brought him to me? ¹⁵:Have I need of mad men, that ye have brought this fellow to play the mad man in my presence? shall this fellow come into my house?

22. ¹:David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him. ²:And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

³:And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab: and he said unto the king of Moab, Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, come forth, and be with you, till I know what God will do for me. ⁴:And he brought them before the king of Moab: and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the hold.

⁵:And the prophet Gad said unto David, Abide not in the hold; depart, and get thee into the land of Judah. Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hareth. ⁶:When Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men that were with him, (now Saul abode in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah, having his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing about him;)

⁷:Then Saul said unto his servants that stood about him, Hear now, ye Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, and make you all captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds; ⁸:That all of you have conspired against me, and there is none that sheweth me that my son hath made a league with the son of Jesse, and there is none of you that is sorry for me, or sheweth unto me that my son hath stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

⁹:Then answered Doeg the Edomite, which was set over the servants of Saul, and said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. ¹⁰:And he inquired of the LORD for him, and gave him victuals, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.

¹¹:Then the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests that were in Nob: and they came all of them to the king. ¹²:And Saul said, Hear now, thou son of Ahitub. And he answered, Here I am, my lord. ¹³:And Saul said unto him, Why have ye conspired against me, thou and the son of Jesse, in that thou hast given him bread, and a sword, and hast inquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

¹⁴:Then Ahimelech answered the king, and said, And who is so faithful among all thy servants as David, which is the king's son in law, and goeth at thy bidding, and is honourable in thine house? ¹⁵:Did I then begin to inquire of God for him? be it far from me: let not the

king impute any thing unto his servant, nor to all the house of my father: for thy servant knew nothing of all this, less or more.

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

^{17:}And the king said unto the footmen that stood about him, Turn, and slay the priests of the LORD; because their hand also is with David, and because they knew when he fled, and did not shew it to me. But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of the LORD.

^{18:}And the king said to Doeg, Turn thou, and fall upon the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and slew on that day fourscore and five persons that did wear a linen ephod. ^{19:}And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen, and asses, and sheep, with the edge of the sword. ^{20:}And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David. ^{21:}And Abiathar shewed David that Saul had slain the LORD's priests.

^{22:}And David said unto Abiathar, I knew it that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul: I have occasioned the death of all the persons of thy father's house. ^{23:}Abide thou with me, fear not: for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life: but with me thou shalt be in safeguard.

^{23. 1:}Then they told David, saying, Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the threshingfloors. ^{2:}Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the LORD said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah. And ^{3:}David's men said unto him, Behold, we be afraid here in Judah: how much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines? ^{4:}Then David inquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

^{5:}So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and smote them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

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

^{7:}And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said, God hath delivered him into mine hand; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath gates and bars. ^{8:}And Saul called all the people together to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men.

^{9:}And David knew that Saul secretly practised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring hither the ephod. ^{10:}Then said David, O LORD God of Israel, thy servant hath certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake. ^{11:}Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard? O LORD God of Israel, I beseech thee, tell thy servant. And the LORD said, He will come down. ^{12:}Then said David, Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul? And the LORD said, They will deliver thee up.

^{13:}Then David and his men, which were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbore to go forth. ^{14:}And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph.

And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand. ^{15:}And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life: and David was in the wilderness of Ziph in a wood. ^{16:}And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened

his hand in God. ^{17:}And he said unto him, Fear not: for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee; and that also Saul my father knoweth.

^{18:}And they two made a covenant before the LORD: and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.

^{19:}Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in strong holds in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon?

^{20:}Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him into the king's hand. ^{21:}And Saul said, Blessed be ye of the LORD; for ye have compassion on me. ^{22:}Go, I pray you, prepare yet, and know and see his place where his haunt is, and who hath seen him there: for it is told me that he dealeth very subtilly. ^{23:}See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hideth himself, and come ye again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.

^{24:}And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul: but David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon. ^{25:}Saul also and his men went to seek him. And they told David: wherefore he came down into a rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon. ^{26:}And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them.

^{27:}But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land. ^{28:}Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Sela-hammahlekoth.

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

24. ^{2:}And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.

^{2:}Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. ^{3:}And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave. ^{4:}And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee.

Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. ^{5:}And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. ^{6:}And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD.

^{7:}So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way. ^{8:}David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself. ^{9:}And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?

^{10:}Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed. ^{11:}Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it. ^{12:}The LORD

judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. ^{13:}As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. ^{14:}After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea. ^{15:}The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand.

^{16:}And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept. ^{17:}And he said to David, Thou art more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil. ^{18:}And thou hast shewed this day how that thou hast dealt well with me: forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me into thine hand, thou killedst me not. ^{19:}For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day. ^{20:}And now, behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand. ^{21:}Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house.

^{22:}And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men gat them up unto the hold.

25. ^{1:}And Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran. ^{2:}And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.

^{3:}Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and she was a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he was of the house of Caleb. ^{4:}And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal did shear his sheep.

^{5:}And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name: ^{6:}And thus shall ye say to him that liveth in prosperity, Peace be both to thee, and peace be to thine house, and peace be unto all that thou hast. ^{7:}And now I have heard that thou hast shearers: now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel. ^{8:}Ask thy young men, and they will shew thee. Wherefore let the young men find favour in thine eyes: for we come in a good day: give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thine hand unto thy servants, and to thy son David.

^{9:}And when David's young men came, they spake to Nabal according to all those words in the name of David, and ceased. ^{10:}And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who is David? and who is the son of Jesse? there be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master. ^{11:}Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give it unto men, whom I know not whence they be?

^{12:}So David's young men turned their way, and went again, and came and told him all those sayings. ^{13:}And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the stuff.

^{14:}But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them. ^{15:}But the men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we were conversant with them, when we were in the fields: ^{16:}They were a wall unto us both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep. ^{17:}Now therefore know and

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

^{18:}Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched corn, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses. And she said unto her servants, Go on before me; behold, I come after you. But she told not her husband Nabal.

^{20:}And it was so, as she rode on the ass, that she came down by the covert of the hill, and, behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them. ^{21:}Now David had said, Surely in vain have I kept all that this fellow hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that pertained unto him: and he hath requited me evil for good. ^{22:}So and more also do God unto the enemies of David, if I leave of all that pertain to him by the morning light any that pisseth against the wall.

^{23:}And when Abigail saw David, she hastened, and lighted off the ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, ^{24:}And fell at his feet, and said, Upon me, my lord, upon me let this iniquity be: and let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak in thine audience, and hear the words of thine handmaid. ^{25:}Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, even Nabal: for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him: but I thine handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send.

^{26:}Now therefore, my lord, as the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, seeing the LORD hath withholden thee from coming to shed blood, and from avenging thyself with thine own hand, now let thine enemies, and they that seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal. ^{27:}And now this blessing which thine handmaid hath brought unto my lord, let it even be given unto the young men that follow my lord. ^{28:}I pray thee, forgive the trespass of thine handmaid: for the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fighteth the battles of the LORD, and evil hath not been found in thee all thy days. ^{29:}Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, as out of the middle of a sling.

^{30:}And it shall come to pass, when the LORD shall have done to my lord according to all the good that he hath spoken concerning thee, and shall have appointed thee ruler over Israel; ^{31:}That this shall be no grief unto thee, nor offence of heart unto my lord, either that thou hast shed blood causeless, or that my lord hath avenged himself: but when the LORD shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thine handmaid.

^{32:}And David said to Abigail, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, which sent thee this day to meet me: ^{33:}And blessed be thy advice, and blessed be thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to shed blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand. ^{34:}For in very deed, as the LORD God of Israel liveth, which hath kept me back from hurting thee, except thou hadst hastened and come to meet me, surely there had not been left unto Nabal by the morning light any that pisseth against the wall. ^{35:}So David received of her hand that which she had brought him, and said unto her, Go up in peace to thine house; see, I have hearkened to thy voice, and have accepted thy person.

^{36:}And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunken: wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light. ^{37:}But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. ^{38:}And it came to pass about ten days after, that the LORD smote Nabal, that he died.

^{39:}And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, Blessed be the LORD, that hath pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and hath kept his servant from evil: for the LORD hath returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head, And David sent and

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

^{41:} And she arose, and bowed herself on her face to the earth, and said, Behold, let thine handmaid be a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord. ^{42:} And Abigail hasted, and arose, and rode upon an ass, with five damsels of hers that went after her; and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife.

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

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

26. ^{2:} And the Ziphites came unto Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon? ^{2:} Then Saul arose, and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

^{3:} And Saul pitched in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon, by the way. But David abode in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness. ^{4:} David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was come in very deed. ^{5:} And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had pitched: and David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his host: and Saul lay in the trench, and the people pitched round about him.

^{6:} Then answered David and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the son of Zeruah, brother to Joab, saying, Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp? And Abishai said, I will go down with thee. ^{7:} So David and Abishai came to the people by night: and, behold, Saul lay sleeping within the trench, and his spear stuck in the ground at his bolster: but Abner and the people lay round about him.

^{8:} Then said Abishai to David, God hath delivered thine enemy into thine hand this day: now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not smite him the second time. ^{9:} And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD's anointed, and be guiltless?

^{10:} David said furthermore, As the LORD liveth, the LORD shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish. ^{11:} The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed: but, I pray thee, take thou now the spear that is at his bolster, and the cruse of water, and let us go. ^{12:} So David took the spear and the cruse of water from Saul's bolster; and they gat them away, and no man saw it, nor knew it, neither awaked: for they were all asleep; because a deep sleep from the LORD was fallen upon them.

^{13:} Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of an hill afar off; a great space being between them: ^{14:} And David cried to the people, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, Answerest thou not, Abner? Then Abner answered and said, Who art thou that criest to the king?

^{15:} And David said to Abner, Art not thou a valiant man? and who is like to thee in Israel? wherefore then hast thou not kept thy lord the king? for there came one of the people in to destroy the king thy lord. ^{16:} This thing is not good that thou hast done. As the LORD liveth, ye are worthy to die, because ye have not kept your master, the LORD's anointed. And now see where the king's spear is, and the cruse of water that was at his bolster.

^{17:} And Saul knew David's voice, and said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And David said, It is my voice, my lord, O king. ^{18:} And he said, Wherefore doth my lord thus pursue after his servant? for what have I done? or what evil is in mine hand? ^{19:} Now therefore, I pray

thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an offering: but if they be the children of men, cursed be they before the LORD; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go, serve other gods. ^{20:}Now therefore, let not my blood fall to the earth before the face of the LORD: for the king of Israel is come out to seek a flea, as when one doth hunt a partridge in the mountains.

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

^{22:}And David answered and said, Behold the king's spear! and let one of the young men come over and fetch it. ^{23:}The LORD render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness: for the LORD delivered thee into my hand to day, but I would not stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed. ^{24:}And, behold, as thy life was much set by this day in mine eyes, so let my life be much set by in the eyes of the LORD, and let him deliver me out of all tribulation.

^{25:}Then Saul said to David, Blessed be thou, my son David: thou shalt both do great things, and also shalt still prevail.

So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

27. ^{1:}And David said in his heart, I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul: there is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of me, to seek me any more in any coast of Israel: so shall I escape out of his hand.

^{2:}And David arose, and he passed over with the six hundred men that were with him unto Achish, the son of Maoch, king of Gath. ^{3:}And David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, even David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's wife.

^{4:}And it was told Saul that David was fled to Gath: and he sought no more again for him.

^{5:}And David said unto Achish, If I have now found grace in thine eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there: for why should thy servant dwell in the royal city with thee? ^{6:}Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day: wherefore Ziklag pertaineth unto the kings of Judah unto this day. ^{7:}And the time that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was a full year and four months.

^{8:}And David and his men went up, and invaded the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites: for those nations were of old the inhabitants of the land, as thou goest to Shur, even unto the land of Egypt. ^{9:}And David smote the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the asses, and the camels, and the apparel, and returned, and came to Achish.

^{10:}And Achish said, Whither have ye made a road to day? And David said, Against the south of Judah, and against the south of the Jerahmeelites, and against the south of the Kenites. ^{11:}And David saved neither man nor woman alive, to bring tidings to Gath, saying, Lest they should tell on us, saying, So did David, and so will be his manner all the while he dwelleth in the country of the Philistines. ^{12:}And Achish believed David, saying, He hath made his people Israel utterly to abhor him; therefore he shall be my servant for ever.

28. ^{1:}And it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said unto David, Know thou assuredly, that thou shalt go out with me to battle, thou and thy men. ^{2:}And David said to Achish, Surely thou

shalt know what thy servant can do. And Achish said to David, Therefore will I make thee keeper of mine head for ever.

^{3:}Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land. ^{4:}And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa. ^{5:}And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.

^{6:}And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams nor by Urim, nor by prophets. ^{7:}Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.

^{8:}And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee. ^{9:}And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?

^{10:}And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing. ^{11:}Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. ^{12:}And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul. ^{13:}And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? ^{14:}And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. And he said unto her, What form is he of?

And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.

^{15:}And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

^{16:}Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? ^{17:}And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David: ^{18:}Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day.

^{19:}Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

^{20:}Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night.

^{21:}And the woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore troubled, and said unto him, Behold, thine handmaid hath obeyed thy voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened unto thy words which thou spakest unto me. ^{22:}Now therefore, I pray thee, hearken thou also unto the voice of thine handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before thee; and eat, that thou mayest have strength, when thou goest on thy way. ^{23:}But he refused, and said, I will not eat. But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him; and he hearkened unto their voice.

So he arose from the earth, and sat upon the bed. ²⁴:And the woman had a fat calf in the house; and she hasted, and killed it, and took flour, and kneaded it, and did bake unleavened bread thereof: ²⁵:And she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

29. ¹:Now the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek: and the Israelites pitched by a fountain which is in Jezreel. ²:And the lords of the Philistines passed on by hundreds, and by thousands: but David and his men passed on in the rereward with Achish.

³:Then said the princes of the Philistines, What do these Hebrews here? And Achish said unto the princes of the Philistines, Is not this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, which hath been with me these days, or these years, and I have found no fault in him since he fell unto me unto this day?

⁴:And the princes of the Philistines were wroth with him; and the princes of the Philistines said unto him, Make this fellow return, that he may go again to his place which thou hast appointed him, and let him not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he be an adversary to us: for wherewith should he reconcile himself unto his master? should it not be with the heads of these men? ⁵:Is not this David, of whom they sang one to another in dances, saying, Saul slew his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

⁶:Then Achish called David, and said unto him, Surely, as the LORD liveth, thou hast been upright, and thy going out and thy coming in with me in the host is good in my sight: for I have not found evil in thee since the day of thy coming unto me unto this day: nevertheless the lords favour thee not. ⁷:Wherefore now return, and go in peace, that thou displease not the lords of the Philistines.

⁸:And David said unto Achish, But what have I done? and what hast thou found in thy servant so long as I have been with thee unto this day, that I may not go fight against the enemies of my lord the king? ⁹:And Achish answered and said to David, I know that thou art good in my sight, as an angel of God: notwithstanding the princes of the Philistines have said, He shall not go up with us to the battle. ¹⁰:Wherefore now rise up early in the morning with thy master's servants that are come with thee: and as soon as ye be up early in the morning, and have light, depart.

¹¹:So David and his men rose up early to depart in the morning, to return into the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

30. ¹:And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire; ²:And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way.

³:So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. ⁴:Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep. ⁵:And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. ⁶:And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

⁷:And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod. And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David. ⁸:And David inquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

^{9:}So David went, he and the six hundred men that were with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed. ^{10:}But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for two hundred abode behind, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor. ^{11:}And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat; and they made him drink water; ^{12:}And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him: for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk any water, three days and three nights.

^{13:}And David said unto him, To whom belondest thou? and whence art thou? And he said, I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I fell sick. ^{14:}We made an invasion upon the south of the Cherethites, and upon the coast which belongeth to Judah, and upon the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

^{15:}And David said to him, Canst thou bring me down to this company? And he said, Swear unto me by God, that thou wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring thee down to this company. ^{16:}And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah. ^{17:}And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled.

^{18:}And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives. ^{19:}And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them: David recovered all. And ^{20:}David took all the flocks and the herds, which they drave before those other cattle, and said, This is David's spoil.

^{21:}And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that were with him: and when David came near to the people, he saluted them.

^{22:}Then answered all the wicked men and men of Belial, of those that went with David, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them ought of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead them away, and depart. ^{23:}Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand. ^{24:}For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike.

^{25:}And it was so from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day.

^{26:}And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil unto the elders of Judah, even to his friends, saying, Behold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD; ^{27:}To them which were in Bethel, and to them which were in south Ramoth, and to them which were in Jattir, ^{28:}And to them which were in Aroer, and to them which were in Siphmoth, and to them which were in Eshtemoa, ^{29:}And to them which were in Rachal, and to them which were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to them which were in the cities of the Kenites, ^{30:}And to them which were in Hormah, and to them which were in Chor-ashan, and to them which were in Athach, ^{31:}And to them which were in Hebron, and to all the places where David himself and his men were wont to haunt.

31. ¹:Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa. ²:And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchi-shua, Saul's sons.

³:And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers. ⁴:Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.

⁵:And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him.

⁶:So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armourbearer, and all his men, that same day together.

NOTE: David had reigned contemporary with Saul five years (II Sam. 2:10-11) and with Ishbosheth (son of Saul) for two years (II Sam. 4:8; 5:3-6). Then David captured Jerusalem after his 7th year.

⁷:And when the men of Israel that were on the other side of the valley, and they that were on the other side Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

⁸:And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa. ⁹:And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the house of their idols, and among the people. ¹⁰:And they put his armour in the house of Ashtaroth: and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan.

¹¹:And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul; ¹²:All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-shan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there.

¹³:And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

E: Second Samuel: From Samuel to David.

1. ¹:Now it came to pass after the death of Saul, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had abode two days in Ziklag; ²:It came even to pass on the third day, that, behold, a man came out of the camp from Saul with his clothes rent, and earth upon his head: and so it was, when he came to David, that he fell to the earth, and did obeisance.

³:And David said unto him, From whence comest thou? And he said unto him, Out of the camp of Israel am I escaped. ⁴:And David said unto him, How went the matter? I pray thee, tell me. And he answered, That the people are fled from the battle, and many of the people also are fallen and dead; and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also.

⁵:And David said unto the young man that told him, How knowest thou that Saul and Jonathan his son be dead? ⁶:And the young man that told him said, As I happened by chance upon mount Gilboa, behold, Saul leaned upon his spear; and, lo, the chariots and horsemen followed hard after him. ⁷:And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called unto me. And I answered, Here am I. ⁸:And he said unto me, Who art thou? And I answered him, I am an Amalekite. ⁹:And he said unto me again, Stand, I pray thee, upon me, and slay me: for anguish is come upon me, because my life is yet whole in me. ¹⁰:So I stood upon him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after that he was fallen: and I took the

crown that was upon his head, and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them hither unto my lord.

^{11:}Then David took hold on his clothes, and rent them; and likewise all the men that were with him: ^{12:}And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel; because they were fallen by the sword.

^{13:}And David said unto the young man that told him, Whence art thou? And he answered, I am the son of a stranger, an Amalekite. ^{14:}And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the LORD's anointed? ^{15:}And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him. And he smote him that he died. ^{16:}And David said unto him, Thy blood be upon thy head; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying, I have slain the LORD's anointed.

^{17:}And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son ^{18:}(Also he bade them teach the children of Judah the use of the bow: behold, it is written in the book of Jasher.) ^{19:}The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen! ^{20:}Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.

^{21:}Ye mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings: for there the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, the shield of Saul, as though he had not been anointed with oil. ^{22:}From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan turned not back, and the sword of Saul returned not empty.

^{23:}Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided: they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

^{24:}Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel. ^{25:}How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, thou was slain in thine high places. ^{26:}I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.

^{27:}How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

2. ^{1:}And it came to pass after this, that David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah? And the LORD said unto him, Go up. And David said, Whither shall I go up? And he said, Unto Hebron.

^{2:}So David went up thither, and his two wives also, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail Nabal's wife the Carmelite. ^{3:}And his men that were with him did David bring up, every man with his household: and they dwelt in the cities of Hebron. ^{4:}And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.

And they told David, saying, That the men of Jabesh-gilead were they that buried Saul. ^{5:}And David sent messengers unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, and said unto them, Blessed be ye of the LORD, that ye have shewed this kindness unto your lord, even unto Saul, and have buried him. ^{6:}And now the LORD shew kindness and truth unto you: and I also will requite you this kindness, because ye have done this thing.

^{7:}Therefore now let your hands be strengthened, and be ye valiant: for your master Saul is dead, and also the house of Judah have anointed me king over them.

^{8:}But Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's host, took Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim; ^{9:}And made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel.

^{10:}Ish-bosheth Saul's son was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and reigned two years.

But the house of Judah followed David. ^{11:}And the time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

2 yrs.

7 ½ yrs.

^{12:}And Abner the son of Ner, and the servants of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon. ^{13:}And Joab the son of Zeruiah, and the servants of David, went out, and met together by the pool of Gibeon: and they sat down, the one on the one side of the pool, and the other on the other side of the pool. ^{14:}And Abner said to Joab, Let the young men now arise, and play before us. And Joab said, Let them arise.

^{15:}Then there arose and went over by number twelve of Benjamin, which pertained to Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of the servants of David.

^{16:}And they caught every one his fellow by the head, and thrust his sword in his fellow's side; so they fell down together: wherefore that place was called Helkath-hazzurim, which is in Gibeon. ^{17:}And there was a very sore battle that day; and Abner was beaten, and the men of Israel, before the servants of David.

^{18:}And there were three sons of Zeruiah there, Joab, and Abishai, and Asahel: and Asahel was as light of foot as a wild roe. ^{19:}And Asahel pursued after Abner; and in going he turned not to the right hand nor to the left from following Abner. ^{20:}Then Abner looked behind him, and said, Art thou Asahel? And he answered, I am. ^{21:}And Abner said to him, Turn thee aside to thy right hand or to thy left, and lay thee hold on one of the young men, and take thee his armour. But Asahel would not turn aside from following of him. ^{22:}And Abner said again to Asahel, Turn thee aside from following me: wherefore should I smite thee to the ground? how then should I hold up my face to Joab thy brother? ^{23:}Howbeit he refused to turn aside: wherefore Abner with the hinder end of the spear smote him under the fifth rib, that the spear came out behind him; and he fell down there, and died in the same place: and it came to pass, that as many as came to the place where Asahel fell down and died stood still.

^{24:}Joab also and Abishai pursued after Abner: and the sun went down when they were come to the hill of Ammah, that lieth before Giah by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon. ^{25:}And the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together after Abner, and became one troop, and stood on the top of an hill.

^{26:}Then Abner called to Joab, and said, Shall the sword devour for ever? knowest thou not that it will be bitterness in the latter end? how long shall it be then, ere thou bid the people return from following their brethren? ^{27:}And Joab said, As God liveth, unless thou hadst spoken, surely then in the morning the people had gone up every one from following his brother. ^{28:}So Joab blew a trumpet, and all the people stood still, and pursued after Israel no more, neither fought they any more.

^{29:}And Abner and his men walked all that night through the plain, and passed over Jordan, and went through all Bithron, and they came to Mahanaim. ^{30:}And Joab returned from following Abner: and when he had gathered all the people together, there lacked of David's servants nineteen men and Asahel. ^{31:}But the servants of David had smitten of Benjamin, and of Abner's men, so that three hundred and threescore men died. ^{32:}And they took up Asahel, and buried him in the sepulchre of his father, which was in Bethlehem.

And Joab and his men went all night, and they came to Hebron at break of day.

3. ^{1:}Now there was long war between the house of Saul and the house of David: but David waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker.

^{2:}And unto David were sons born in Hebron: and his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; ^{3:}And his second, Chileab, of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; ^{4:}And the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital; ^{5:}And the sixth, Ithream, by Eglah David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

^{6:}And it came to pass, while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, that Abner made himself strong for the house of Saul. ^{7:}And Saul had a concubine,

whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah: and Ish-bosheth said to Abner, Wherefore hast thou gone in unto my father's concubine?

^{8:}Then was Abner very wroth for the words of Ish-bosheth, and said, Am I a dog's head, which against Judah do shew kindness this day unto the house of Saul thy father, to his brethren, and to his friends, and have not delivered thee into the hand of David, that thou chargest me to day with a fault concerning this woman?

^{9:}So do God to Abner, and more also, except, as the LORD hath sworn to David, even so I do to him; ^{10:}To translate the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beer-sheba.

^{11:}And he could not answer Abner a word again, because he feared him.

^{12:}And Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf, saying, Whose is the land? saying also, Make thy league with me, and, behold, my hand shall be with thee, to bring about all Israel unto thee.

^{13:}And he said, Well; I will make a league with thee: but one thing I require of thee, that is, Thou shalt not see my face, except thou first bring Michal Saul's daughter, when thou comest to see my face. ^{14:}And David sent messengers to Ish-bosheth Saul's son, saying, Deliver me my wife Michal, which I espoused to me for an hundred foreskins of the Philistines.

^{15:}And Ish-bosheth sent, and took her from her husband, even from Phaltiel the son of Laish. ^{16:}And her husband went with her along weeping behind her to Bahurim. Then said Abner unto him, Go, return. And he returned.

^{17:}And Abner had communication with the elders of Israel, saying, Ye sought for David in times past to be king over you: ^{18:}Now then do it: for the LORD hath spoken of David, saying, By the hand of my servant David I will save my people Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, and out of the hand of all their enemies. ^{19:}And Abner also spake in the ears of Benjamin: and Abner went also to speak in the ears of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel, and that seemed good to the whole house of Benjamin.

^{20:}So Abner came to David to Hebron, and twenty men with him. And David made Abner and the men that were with him a feast. ^{21:}And Abner said unto David, I will arise and go, and will gather all Israel unto my lord the king, that they may make a league with thee, and that thou mayest reign over all that thine heart desireth. And David sent Abner away; and he went in peace.

^{22:}And, Behold, the servants of David and Joab came from pursuing a troop, and brought in a great spoil with them: but Abner was not with David in Hebron; for he had sent him away, and he was gone in peace. ^{23:}When Joab and all the host that was with him were come, they told Joab, saying, Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he hath sent him away, and he is gone in peace. ^{24:}Then Joab came to the king, and said, What hast thou done? behold, Abner came unto thee; why is it that thou hast sent him away, and he is quite gone? ^{25:}Thou knowest Abner the son of Ner, that he came to deceive thee, and to know thy going out and thy coming in, and to know all that thou doest.

^{26:}And when Joab was come out from David, he sent messengers after Abner, which brought him again from the well of Sirah: but David knew it not. ^{27:}And when Abner was returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak with him quietly, and smote him there under the fifth rib, that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.

^{28:}And afterward when David heard it, he said, I and my kingdom are guiltless before the LORD for ever from the blood of Abner the son of Ner: ^{29:}Let it rest on the head of Joab, and on all his father's house; and let there not fail from the house of Joab one that hath an issue, or that is a leper, or that leaneth on a staff, or that falleth on the sword, or that lacketh bread.

^{30:}So Joab and Abishai his brother slew Abner, because he had slain their brother Asahel at Gibeon in the battle.

^{31:}And David said to Joab, and to all the people that were with him, Rend your clothes, and gird you with sackcloth, and mourn before Abner. And king David himself followed the bier. ^{32:}And they buried Abner in Hebron: and the king lifted up his voice, and wept at the grave of Abner; and all the people wept. ^{33:}And the king lamented over Abner, and said, Died Abner as a fool dieth? ^{34:}Thy hands were not bound, nor thy feet put into fetters: as a man falleth before wicked men, so fellest thou. And all the people wept again over him. ^{35:}And when all the people came to cause David to eat meat while it was yet day, David sware, saying, So do God to me, and more also, if I taste bread, or ought else, till the sun be down.

^{36:}And all the people took notice of it, and it pleased them: as whatsoever the king did pleased all the people. ^{37:}For all the people and all Israel understood that day that it was not of the king to slay Abner the son of Ner. ^{38:}And the king said unto his servants, Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel? ^{39:}And I am this day weak, though anointed king; and these men the sons of Zeruah be too hard for me: the LORD shall reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness.

4. ^{1:}And when Saul's son heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands were feeble, and all the Israelites were troubled. ^{2:}And Saul's son had two men that were captains of bands: the name of the one was Baanah, and the name of the other Rechab, the sons of Rimmon a Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin: (for Beeroth also was reckoned to Benjamin: ^{3:}And the Beerothites fled to Gittaim, and were sojourners there until this day.) ^{4:}And Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled: and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.

^{5:}And the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, went, and came about the heat of the day to the house of Ish-bosheth, who lay on a bed at noon. ^{6:}And they came thither into the midst of the house, as though they would have fetched wheat; and they smote him under the fifth rib: and Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped. ^{7:}For when they came into the house, he lay on his bed in his bedchamber, and they smote him, and slew him, and beheaded him, and took his head, and gat them away through the plain all night. ^{8:}And they brought the head of Ish-bosheth unto David to Hebron, and said to the king, Behold the head of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, which sought thy life; and the LORD hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his seed.

^{9:}And David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said unto them, As the LORD liveth, who hath redeemed my soul out of all adversity, ^{10:}When one told me, saying, Behold, Saul is dead, thinking to have brought good tidings, I took hold of him, and slew him in Ziklag, who thought that I would have given him a reward for his tidings: ^{11:}How much more, when wicked men have slain a righteous person in his own house upon his bed? shall I not therefore now require his blood of your hand, and take you away from the earth?

^{12:}And David commanded his young men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hanged them up over the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-bosheth, and buried it in the sepulchre of Abner in Hebron.

5. ^{1:}Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh. ^{2:}Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captain over Israel.

^{3:}So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the LORD: and they anointed David king over Israel.

^{7½} <u>33</u> 40 yrs.	^{4:} David was <u>thirty years</u> old when he began to reign, and he reigned <u>forty years</u> . ^{5:} In Hebron he reigned over Judah <u>seven years and six months</u> : and in Jerusalem he reigned <u>thirty and three years</u> over all Israel and Judah.
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^{6:}And the king and his men went to Jerusalem unto the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land: which spake unto David, saying, Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking, David cannot come in hither. ^{7:}Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David.

^{8:}And David said on that day, Whosoever getteth up to the gutter, and smiteth the Jebusites, and the lame and the blind, that are hated of David's soul, he shall be chief and captain. Wherefore they said, The blind and the lame shall not come into the house. ^{9:}So David dwelt in the fort, and called it the city of David. And David built round about from Millo and inward.

^{10:}And David went on, and grew great, and the LORD God of hosts was with him.

^{11:}And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David an house. ^{12:}And David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake. ^{13:}And David took him more concubines and wives out of Jerusalem, after he was come from Hebron: and there were yet sons and daughters born to David.

^{14:}And these be the names of those that were born unto him in Jerusalem; Shammua, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Solomon, ^{15:}Ibhar also, and Elishua, and Nepheg, and Japhia, ^{16:}And Elishama, and Eliada, and Eliphalet.

^{17:}But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold. ^{18:}The Philistines also came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim.

^{19:}And David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand. ^{20:}And David came to Baal-perazim, and David smote them there, and said, The LORD hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breach of waters. Therefore he called the name of that place Baal-perazim. ^{21:}And there they left their images, and David and his men burned them.

^{22:}And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim. ^{23:}And when David inquired of the LORD, he said, Thou shalt not go up; but fetch a compass behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees. ^{24:}And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines. ^{25:}And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him; and smote the Philistines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.

6. ^{1:}Again, David gathered together all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand.

^{2:}And David arose, and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Judah, to bring up from thence the ark of God, whose name is called by the name of the LORD of hosts that dwelleth between the cherubims.

^{3:}And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drave the new cart.

^{4:}And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab which was at Gibeah, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark.

^{5:}And David and all the house of Israel played before the LORD on all manner of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals.

^{6:}And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. ^{7:}And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God.

^{8:}And David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon Uzzah: and he called the name of the place Perez-uzzah to this day. ^{9:}And David was afraid of the LORD that day, and said, How shall the ark of the LORD come to me?

^{10:}So David would not remove the ark of the LORD unto him into the city of David: but David carried it aside into the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. ^{11:}And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months: and the LORD blessed Obed-edom, and all his household.

^{12:}And it was told king David, saying, The LORD hath blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ark of God. So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom into the city of David with gladness.

^{13:}And it was so, that when they that bare the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed oxen and fatlings. ^{14:}And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod.

^{15:}So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet. ^{16:}And as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart. ^{17:}And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

^{18:}And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts. ^{19:}And he dealt among all the people, even among the whole multitude of Israel, as well to the women as men, to every one a cake of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine.

So all the people departed every one to his house.

^{20:}Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself to day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!

^{21:}And David said unto Michal, It was before the LORD, which chose me before thy father, and before all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel: therefore will I play before the LORD.

^{22:}And I will yet be more vile than thus, and will be base in mine own sight: and of the maidservants which thou hast spoken of, of them shall I be had in honour.

^{23:}Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death.

7. ^{1:}And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies;

^{2:}That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains. ^{3:}And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the LORD is with thee.

^{4:}And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying, ^{5:}Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in? ^{6:}Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle.

^{7:}In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an house of cedar?

^{8:}Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel: ^{9:}And I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth. ^{10:}Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime, ^{11:}And as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies.

Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house. ^{12:}And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. ^{13:}He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

NOTE: David built a temporary tabernacle (separate from the one built by Moses) and resided near it for 33 years. His son, Solomon, ruled three years and founded a permanent temple in his fourth year.

^{14:}I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: ^{15:}But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. ^{16:}And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

^{17:}According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David. ^{18:}Then went king David in, and sat before the LORD, and he said, Who am I, O Lord GOD? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?

^{19:}And this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord GOD; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD? ^{20:}And what can David say more unto thee? for thou, Lord GOD, knowest thy servant. ^{21:}For thy word's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all these great things, to make thy servant know them. ^{22:}Wherefore thou art great, O LORD God: for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

^{23:}And what one nation in the earth is like thy people, even like Israel, whom God went to redeem for a people to himself, and to make him a name, and to do for you great things and terrible, for thy land, before thy people, which thou redeemedst to thee from Egypt, from the nations and their gods?

^{24:}For thou hast confirmed to thyself thy people Israel to be a people unto thee for ever: and thou, LORD, art become their God. ^{25:}And now, O LORD God, the word that **thou hast spoken concerning thy servant, and concerning his house, establish it for ever**, and do as thou hast said. ^{26:}And let thy name be magnified for ever, saying, The LORD of hosts is the God over Israel: and let the house of thy servant David be established before thee. ^{27:}For thou, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, hast revealed to thy servant, saying, I will build thee an house: therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee. ^{28:}And now, O Lord GOD, thou art that God, and thy words be true, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy servant:

^{29:}Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee: for thou, O Lord GOD, hast spoken it: and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant be blessed for ever.

NOTE: II Samuel 8-24 covers the remainder of David's 33 years in Jerusalem while he buys a threshingfloor and gathers funds and materials for his son, Solomon, to build the temple after David's death. The story continues in I Chronicles 10:1.



APPENDIX TO ISSUE #3

TABLE 34. *Kings During the 16th, 18th and 19th Dynasties (Josephus Restored)*¹⁶

<i>Rameses 16th Dynasty of Avaris</i>	<u>Theban</u> <i>18th Dynasty of Thebes</i>	<i>Rameses 19th Dynasty of Avaris</i>
-----	(Ahmose) Exodus? -----	25 1594-69
↑	Tethmosis	
↑	Amenhotep I	0
↑	Thutmose I	13 1569-56
↑	Thutmose II	20 1556-36
↑	Hashepswe	21 1536-15
↑	Thutmose III	12 1515-03
↑	Amenhotpe II	25 1503-78
-----	Exodus? -----	1447
↑	Thutmose IV	9 1478-69
↑	Amenhotpe III	30 1469-39
↑	Amenhotpe IV	36 1439-03
↑	Acenchres	12 1403-91
↑	Rathotis	9 1391-82
↑	Achencheres	12 1382-70
↑	Acencheres	12 1370-58
-----	Armais	Armais 40 yrs 1358-18
↑	(Horemheb)	Rameses I 1 1317-16
↑	393 ¹⁷	Seti I 26 1316-90
↑	375	Rameses II 66 1290-24
↑	590	Rameses' marriage 1256
↑	339	Exodus? 1255
-----	-----	Merneptah's 5 th yr 1219
↑	251 years	Seti & Armais (Egyptus & Danaus) 1201
↑	-----	Ark brought into Jerusalem 1004
↑	479	

Scholars of Alexandria, Josephus, and Jewish Christians had confused the exodus as the time Dynasty 18 ousted the Hyksos rulers of Egypt 590 years before the temple. This would explain why Josephus said Tethmosis (Ahmose) ousted the Israelites from Egypt (*Against Apion* 1.15). The years of Armais (Horemheb) are not found in inscriptions or monuments, but Josephus gives him 4 years, whereas, 40 years fit much better. The difference is 36 years. David brought the ark into Jerusalem 36 years before Solomon founded the temple. Using 968 BC as the date of Solomon's temple, Ahmose would have begun to reign in 1558 BC. Using 1004 BC as the date of the beginning of David's temple, Ahmose would have begun to reign 36 years earlier, in 1594.

¹⁶ Years, but not the dates, are copied from Josephus' *Against Apion* 1.15. An exodus in 1255 (251x 5) supports the 251-year pattern as it is presented in Chapter One.

¹⁷ 393 yrs. are mentioned three times: *Against Apion* 1.16 (16), (231), 2.2 (16).

TABLE 35. Three Dates for Exodus During the 16th, 18th and 19th Dynasties

<i>Hyksos 16th Dynasty</i>	<i>18th Dynasty</i>	<i>19th Dynasty</i>
<i>of Avaris (Rameses)</i>	<i>of Thebes</i>	<i>of Avaris (Rameses)</i>
Apopi III (Exodus?)	Ahmoose	1558-33 ¹⁸ ----- 36 yrs after 1594
	Amenhotep I	1533-12
	Thothmes I	1512-00
	Thothmes II	1500-90
	Hatshepsut	1490-68
	Thothmes III	1490-36
	-----	1447 (Exodus?)
	Amenhotep II	1436-12
	Thothmes IV	1412-02
	Amenhotep III	1402-63
	Amenhotep IV	1363-47
	Smenkhare	1349-47
	Tutankhamun	1347-38
	Aye	1338-33
	Horemheb ¹⁹	1333- (Horemheb) 15 yrs. 1333-18
		Rameses I 1318-17
		Seti I 1317-90
		Rameses II 1290-24
		Rameses' marriage 1256
	(Rameses Miamun)	(Exodus?) ²⁰ 1255 ---▲
		Rameses' death 1224 36 yrs. ▼
		Merneptah's 5 th yr. 1220-19- ▼
		David's 7 th yr. 1004 ---▲
		36 yrs. ▼
	Era of Jerusalem	
	Era of the temple	Solomon's 4 th yr. 968 ---▼

590 yrs. 479 yrs.

111

251 yrs.

¹⁸ All of these BC dates in TABLE 32 are taken directly from **Wilbur Devereux Jones**, *Venus And Sothis, How the Ancient Near East Was Rediscovered*. pp x, xi. If the 111 years of oppressions are omitted, the exodus is 111 years after the Hyksos.

¹⁹ Horemheb (also known as Hermeus, Harmais, Armesis and Armais) passed the throne of Egypt from Aye to Rameses I of Avaris. Although Horemheb ruled from Memphis, his homeland was Avaris (Armesis or Raamses), which was first founded by his Ancestor, Seth, 400 years earlier.

²⁰ Merneptah, in his 5th year (1219) wrote saying "Israel is vanquished". This would be 251 years before the temple was founded in 968. Perhaps the Pharaoh who had pursued Moses (40 years before the exodus) was dead by 1219. If the exodus were in 1255, then "the armies of Pharaoh drowned in the sea", not the Pharaoh, not Rameses.

TABLE 36. Three Options: Template of Original Dates of Joseph and the Exodus Relative to the Era of Jerusalem

BC									
1845	Joseph born								
1809	39								
1806	Entry into Egypt	110							
1770	71								
1735	Death of Joseph								
1699									
251									
1734	Joseph born								
1698	39								
1695	Entry into Egypt	110							
1659	71								
1624	Death of Joseph								
1588									
251									
1506	Joseph born (251 x 6)								
1470	39								
1467	Entry into Egypt	110							
1431	71								
1396	Death of Joseph								
1360									
251									
1594	Exodus								
1558	111								
1483	Exodus	339							
1447	228					590			
1255	Exodus (251 x 5)				479				
1219									
251									
1004	Era of Jerusalem (251 x 4)								
968									

Pharaoh's Name
 Since Moses omitted the name of the **Pharaoh of the exodus**, these have contended for the title (first year of reign is on the left):
 1690 Dudimose
 1599 Amenemhat IV (Amenemes IV)
 1594 or 1558 Ahmose I
 1591Khaneferre (Chenephres) Sobekhotep
 1479 Tutmose III
 1448 Dudimose
 1427 Amenhotep II
 1352 Amenhotep IV (Akhenaton)
 1319 Horemheb
 1292 Ramesses I
 1279 Ramesses II
 1224-1213 Merneptah
 1203 Amenmesse
 1193 Ahmoses I
 1190-1186 Setnakhte

NOTE: Dates are based upon 1004 = David's 7th year & 968 = Solomon's 4th year.
 Dates for temple: Kitchen = 968; Ussher = 1012; Eusebius = 1032; Josephus = 1052.

The 450-year system is supported by Acts 13:19-20 when it says, "... (God) divided their land by lot. And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of 450 years, until Samuel the prophet." This view regarding the 450 years of judges is preferred by Africanus, Josephus and Jewish scholars of ancient Alexandria.

Even Josephus originally had 2510 years from Adam to the exodus plus 592 more years to the temple (*Antiquities* 8.3.1). (Later transcribers undoubtedly edited his figures to match the standard view of the Greek Septuagint text.)

The 339-year version of Acts 13:19-20 is based upon I Kings 6:1, which allows 479 years from the exodus to the era of Jerusalem. This version only allows for 339 years from when "**...(God) divided their land by lot**" "**until Samuel the prophet**". This view regarding the 339 years of judges is preferred by Eusebius and Ussher.

The 111-year version of Acts 13:19-20 is based upon Matthew 1:17, which says there were 6 generations from the exodus to David. This version only allows 111 years from when "**...(God) divided their land by lot**" "**until Samuel the prophet**". This view regarding about 111 years of judges is preferred by recent scholars such as Kenneth Kitchen and Jack Finegan.

Scholars of Alexandria, Josephus, and Jewish Christians had confused the exodus with the time Ahmose (the first ruler Dynasty 18) who ousted the Hyksos rulers of Egypt 339 years prior to the exodus 590 years prior to the temple. This would explain why Josephus said Tethmosis (Ahmose) ousted the Israelites (See Josephus, *Against Apion* 1.15, the 393 yrs.).

The years of Armais (Horemheb) are not found in inscriptions or monuments, but Josephus gives him 4 years, whereas 40 years fit much better. The 393 years are mentioned in Josephus three times: *Against Apion* 1.16 (16), (231), 2.2 (16). Josephus and Africanus (by associating the exodus with the ousting of the Hyksos) assumed that the 111 years of oppressions and 339 of judges (found in Judges) support the idea that the Hyksos were expelled from Ramesses (from Egypt) at the exodus, at the beginning of the 18th Dynasty. If 339 years of the judges are excluded, the exodus would then be 339 years after the Hyksos were ousted from Egypt. Josephus says they reached the Red Sea on the third day (not the seventh day) after the exodus and crossed over during the next night. Of course Passovers differ according to the year chosen for the exodus. Josephus says the Pharaoh of the exodus was Ahmose who drove out the Hyksos from Egypt (about 1594 BC, 590 years before the era of the temple).

In contrast to this, Ussher says they crossed the Red Sea that year on the 21st day, "on the last day of the feast of Unleavened Bread." On page 45, Ussher says Ramesses Miamun (who commanded the Hebrew infants to be drowned after Moses was born) was the father of Amenophis, the father of Egyptus (also called Ramesses) and Harmais (also called Danaus). "Amenophis was that Pharaoh who died in the Red Sea with his armies".

On page 39, Ussher says the exodus was in 1491 BC, 479 years before Solomon founded his temple in 1012 BC and dedicated it in 1004 BC, in a jubilee year.

NOTE: It is believed that Samson (20 years) and Eli (40 years) were during the Philistine oppression (of 40 years) west of the Jordan. The 40 years began after the 18-year Ammonite oppression east of the Jordan and was contemporary with the 32 years of Jephthah, Ibzan, Elon and Abdon. The Midianite oppression began north of the Philistines and Ammonites seven years before the Ammonite oppression, 25 years before the Philistine oppression.

TABLE 37. *Compared With the Rabbinic System*

251-yr. System		Rabbinic System (See Table 58b)		590-yr. System
PRIOR TO THE OPPRESSIONS				
Exodus & Wilderness	40	Book of Jasher: 40	40	1311 BC 40
Joshua Joshua 13:29	7	26	7	25
Elders rule	36	17	36	18
	83	83	83	1228 BC 83
OPPRESSIONS				
Cushan	8		0	8
Moabites	18		0	18
Jabin	20		0	20
Midianites	7		0	7
Ammonites	18		0	18
Philistines	40		0	40
	111		00	111
JUDGES				
Othniel		The 479-year system	40	1228 BC 40
Ehud		allows the oppressions	80	80
Shamgar		to be during the times	0	0
Deborah		of the judges as in the	40	40
Gideon	The 251-year system allows	31 years of Jephthah.	40	111 40
Abimelech	the judges to rule during the		3	339 3
Tola	times of oppression and/or		45	Acts 13:20-- 450 23
Jair	during the times of rest as in			22
Jephthah	the 40 years of Philistine		6 31	6
Ibsan	oppression in the time of		7	7
Elon	Samson and Eli.		10	10
Abdon			8	8
Samson			20	20
Eli			40	40
	00		339	889 BC 339
KINGS				
Samuel alone and fighting Philistines	20	I Sam. 7:2	10	889 BC 10
Samuel alone, peace with Philistines	18	I Sam. 7:13; 8:1		Acts 13:12 18
Saul wars with Philistines	12	I Sam. 14:52	2	22
David contemporary with Saul	5	II Sam. 2:10,11	6	5
David contemporary with Ishbosheth	2	II Sam. 4:8; 5:3-6	2	2
<u>Jerusalem conquered in David's 8th year</u>		I Chron. 11:3-4		I Sam. 7:2
	57		20	II Sam. 6:2-3 57
TOTALS to Era of Jerusalem	251		442	869 BC 590
David in Jerusalem			33	
<u>Solomon until temple is founded in his 4th year.</u>			4	
			37	
TOTALS from the exodus to the Era of Solomon's Temple			479	832 BC (Table 58b)

In TABLE 37, the rabbinic system has 20 yrs. From Eli to the temple based upon I Sam. 6:2. This view ignores I Sam. 14:18 when Saul borrowed the Ark from Abinadab (and undoubtedly returned it). This view allows 300 years from crossing the Jordan to the 2nd year of Jephthah and 140 years from Jephthah to the temple, Solomon’s 4th year. This only works if Joshua is given 14 years instead of 7. Rabbinic view gives Joshua 14 yrs. to enable 300 years from the Jordan to Jephthah’s 2nd yr. and 140 yrs from Jephthah’s 2nd yr to the temple, Solomon’s 4th yr. This becomes evidence the judges’ excluded the oppressions in the 479-year system.

The 251-year system allows the judges to rule during the times of oppression and/or during the times of rest as in the 40 years of Philistine oppression in the time of Samson and Eli.

Likewise in counting only the 339 years of judges (TABLE 37), the rabbinic chronology lists Jephthah as having 31 years and ignores Ibzan, Elon and Abdon. These altogether (along with Jephthah) add up to 31 years. This is evidence the 18-year Ammonite oppression has been absorbed by the years of these judges. In rabbinic chronology.

Jair is included in Tola’s 45 years, and the Midianite 7-year oppression is absorbed by the time of the judges.

TABLE 38. From the Exodus to Entering Jerusalem, 251 Years							
<i>Josh. 11-15 Jud. 1,2,3</i>	<i>Judg. 3</i>	<i>Josh. 11 Judg. 4,5</i>	<i>Josh. 18 Judg. 6-10</i>	<i>Judg. 10-12</i>	<i>Judg. 3:31; 13:21</i>	<i>Ruth 1:1 I Sam. 1-14</i>	BC
Exodus						Wilderness 40	1255-1215
						Conquering the land 25 ²¹	1215-1190
						Interim 18	1190-1172
Aram 8						8	1172-1164
Othniel	Moab 18					18	1164-1146
Rest 40	Ehud	Hazor 20			111 yrs.	20	1146-1126
Shamgar		Barak &	Midian 7			7	1126-1119
Rest 80		Deborah	Gideon 40			18	1119-1101
		Rest 40	Abimelech 3	Ammon 18			1101-1061
			Tola 23	Jephthah 6	Philistines 40		
			Jair 22	Ibzan 7	Eli 40		
				Elon 10			
				Abdon 8			
						Samuel alone 38	1061-1023
						Acts 13:20 Samuel & Saul 12	1023-1011
						David 7	1011- 1004
David’s 8th yr. Jerusalem captured						251	

²¹ The context of Joshua may imply there were seven years to the first oppression, and this would affect the of ending of the 590, 479, and 251-year systems 36 years after David’s 7th year, that is, to Solomon’s 4th year, when he founded the temple as in the next TABLE 36.

Note: There has been some confusion over David's 7th year (1004 BC) and Solomon's 12th year (also 1004 BC). Ussher has Solomon bringing the Ark into Jerusalem to his new temple in his 12th year, in **1004 BC**. Today's improved sources have David bringing the Ark into Jerusalem to his new tabernacle in **1004 BC**. Ussher's year 1004 was actually 43 years later, in 961 BC.

The confusion may stem from two sources: 1. The undefined period of Joshua and the elders after Joshua's death. Josephus allows 25 years for Joshua (Antiquities 5.1.29) and another 18 years prior to the 1st Oppression (6.5.4) making Joshua and elders consist of 43 years. This is equal to 7 yrs. of Joshua and 36 years of elders after Joshua.

2. Kings after Solomon should overlap by 43 years.

TABLE 39. From the Exodus to the Temple in Solomon's 4th Yr.

	251-yr. System		479-yr. System		590-yr. System	
AFTER THE EXODUS						
Exodus & Wilderness 1255-1215	40	40	Joshua 13:29	40	40	40
Joshua (7 + 18)	25	7		25	7	25
Interim	18	36		18	36	18
	<u>83</u>	<u>83</u>		<u>83</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>83</u>
OPPRESSIONS						
Cushan		8				8
Moabites		18				18
Jabin	<u>Joshua still alive?</u>	20	<u>Joshua still alive?</u>		<u>Joshua still alive?</u>	20
Midianites		7				7
Ammonites		18				18
Philistines		40				40
		<u>111</u>		<u>000</u>		<u>111</u>
JUDGES						
Othniel				40		40
Ehud				80		80
Shamgar						
Deborah	The 251-year system allows the judges to rule during the times of oppression and/or during the times of rest as in the 40 years of Philistine oppression in the time of Samson and Eli.			40		40
Gideon				40		40
Abimelech				3		3
Tola				23		23
Jair				22		22
Jephthah				6		6
Ibsan				7		7
Elon				10		10
Abdon				8		8
Samson				20		20
Eli			40		40	
		<u>000</u>		<u>339</u>		<u>339</u>
KINGS						
Samuel alone 20,	20			20		20
peace with Philistines 18 yrs.	18			18		18
Samuel & Saul, war with Philistines	12			12		12
David rules in Hebron	7			7		7
Ark brought to Jerusalem 1004 BC	<u>57</u>			<u>57</u>		<u>57</u>
To Solomon's 4 th year 968 BC	36			36		36
TOTALS		<u>251</u>	+ 228 =	<u>479</u>	+ 111 =	<u>590</u>

²² Josephus allows 25 years for Joshua (*Antiquities* 5.1.29) and another 18 years prior to the 1st oppression (6.5.4) making the period of Joshua to consist of 43 years. The context of Joshua implies there were seven years.

²³ If the events in the book of Joshua take place in 7 years, the remainder of Joshua's life overlaps the events in the book of Judges. However, the Rabbinic view gives Joshua 14 yrs. to enable 300 years from the Jordan to Jephthah's 2nd yr. and 140 yrs from Jephthah's 2nd yr to the temple, Solomon's 4th yr. **No move of the 36 yrs is needed** since the 57 years from Eli to David are stretched on down to Solomon's 4th yr. in the rabbinic figures.

²⁴ The Judges ruled for an additional 339 years expanding the period of the judges from 111 years to 450 years as in Acts 13:19-21. There has been some confusion over David's 7th year in 1004 BC. Archbishop Ussher's chronology has Solomon bringing the ark into Jerusalem and dedicating his new temple in his 12th year, in 1004.

COMMENTARY
On the First Century

There is a remarkable parallel between the story of the Exodus and the life of Christ. Some of it was introduced in the previous Issue #2.

Old Covenant	New Covenant
1. Passover & the firstborn	— 1. Passover
2. Passing through Red Sea after third day.	— 2. Christ in the grave 3 days & nights (Matt. 12:40).
3. Baptism in the Red Sea (I Cor 10:4).	— 3. We are buried & raised with Christ (Col. 2:12; Rom. 6:4).
4. Pharaoh's armies drown at sunrise.	— 4. Christ risen at sunrise.
5. Serpent on a stake taking away sting of death.	— 5. Christ on cross taking away sting of death.
6. The rock in the wilderness producing water.	— 6. Christ the rock producing water (I Cor 10:4).
7. The Manna from heaven.	— 7. Christ, the True Bread from heaven.
8. Pentecost on the 50 th day after the Red Sea.	— 8. Pentecost on the 50 th day after the Resurrection.

The new covenant Christian era was defined by its parallels with the old covenant: the Pharaoh tried to have all newborn boys killed, including Moses. King Herod tried to kill all the children of Bethlehem under the age of 2, including Christ.

Christ fed multitudes by dividing and multiplying bread from the earth and spoke of the manna from heaven. On the 50th day after crossing the Red Sea (on Pentecost) the law was written on clay tablets. On the 50th day, in the New Testament, the law was again written, this time on the spiritual tablets of our hearts in the coming of the Holy Spirit.

That age of being in Egypt did not end until they had been in the wilderness 39 years, 251 years after they had entered Egypt. Likewise, the temple era did not end until 39 years after the Crucifixion, in 70 AD.

They crossed over the Jordan with Joshua in the 41st year. Joshua and his priests with their seven trumpets began to surround Jericho on the Passover, on the same month and weekday as when the Roman armies surrounded Jerusalem on the Passover, in 70 AD. It was the end of an age, the end of an era.

NOTE: It is likely that the next 251 years begins after **David's 7th year:**

1. II Samuel and I Chronicles both begin with David's 33-year reign in Jerusalem.
2. There were 36 years of Joshua and the elders prior to the 1st oppression.
3. David brought the Ark into Jerusalem in 1004 BC (251 x 4).
4. Rome was founded in 753 BC, in the 251st year of the era of Jerusalem.
5. Nehemiah completed the restoration of Jerusalem in 502 BC, 502 years after 1004.
6. Ussher says David conquered Jerusalem in a sabbatical year, and Solomon dedicated the temple 43 years later, in a Jubilee year, in 1004 BC, in his 12th year, when he transferred the Ark from the tabernacle to the temple.

NOTE: It is likely that **Solomon's 1st year** begins the next 251 years:

1. II Samuel ends and I Kings & II Chronicles begin with the 1st year of Solomon.
2. The Assyrian Captivity of Israel's 10 tribes happens 251 years after the 1st year of Solomon.

NOTE: It is likely that **Solomon's 4th year** begins the next 251 years:

1. According to the figures of Ussher and a clear statement by Eusebius, the 4th year of Solomon begins the next 502 years of the 1st temple.
2. This means the 2nd temple was built in the 2nd year of Darius, in 520 BC, 502 years after the 1st temple was founded.
3. Josephus, Eusebius and Ussher all end the period from the exodus in the 4th year of Solomon. Josephus loosely follows the 590-years rather than the 479-year tradition from the exodus to the temple.

NOTE: The 251-year eras, prior to the exodus, were based upon genealogy, not based upon dates of a future tabernacle or temple. The sabbaticals and jubilees associated with the dedication of the temple have been an obsession and diversion for many chronologists.

In the case of Moses' tabernacle lasting 480 years (I Kings 6:1), a rabbinic tradition also has the first temple lasting 480 years. Their method is to count Israel's kings prior to the captivity and count Judah's kings after the captivity, down to the destruction of Jerusalem in Zedekiah's 11th year, in 587 BC.

In contrast to this, Eusebius associated the first temple with a period of 502 years, and this is supported by the reigns of the kings found in Ussher's *Annals of the World*.

Rabbinic tradition also claims the first temple was destroyed in 421 BC, 490 years (10 jubilees) before the destruction of the second temple in 70 AD, but it had to ignore 166 years of Persian history between 587 (when the temple was actually destroyed) and 421 BC (when they falsely claim it was destroyed).

TABLE 40. *From the Exodus to the Era of Jerusalem in David's 7th Yr.*

	251-yr. System		479-yr. System		590-yr. System	
AFTER THE EXODUS						
Exodus & Wilderness 1255-1215	40	40	Joshua 13:29	40	40	40
Joshua (7 + 18)	25	7		25	7	25
Interim	18	36		18	36	18
	83	83		83	83	83
OPPRESSIONS						
Cushan	8					8
Moabites	18					18
Jabin	20					20
Midianites	7					7
Ammonites	18					18
Philistines	40					40
	111			000		111
JUDGES						
Othniel			The 479-year system allows the oppressions to be during the times of the judges as in the 31 years of Jephthah.	40		40
Ehud				80		80
Shamgar						
Deborah	The 251-year system allows the judges to rule during the times of oppressions and/or during the times of rest as in the 40 years of the Philistine oppression in the time of Samson and Eli.			40		40
Gideon				40		40
Abimelech				3		3
Tola				23	450 yrs. Acts 13:21	23
Jair				22		22
Jephthah				6		6
Ibsan				7		7
Elon			10		10	
Abdon			8		8	
Samson			20		20	
Eli		40		40		
	000			339		339
KINGS						
Samuel alone 20,	20			20		20
peace with Philistines 18 yrs.	18			18		18
Samuel & Saul war with Philistines	12		Acts 13:21	12	Acts 13:21	12
David rules in Hebron	7		I Kings 2:11	7	I Kings 2:11	7
Ark brought to Jerusalem 1004 BC	57			57		57
TOTALS	251		+ 228 =	479	+ 111 =	590
			-62 = 166 (tables 24 & 58)			

²⁵ Josephus allows 25 years for Joshua (*Antiquities* 5.1.29) and another 18 years prior to the 1st oppression (6.5.4) making the period of Joshua consist of 43 years. The context of Joshua implies there were seven years. If the events in the book of Joshua take place in 7 years, the remainder of Joshua's life may overlap the events in the book of Judges.

²⁶ The Judges ruled for 339 additional years thus expanding the period of the judges from 111 years to 450 years as in Acts 13:19-21. There has been some confusion over David's 7th year in 1004 BC. Archbishop Ussher's chronology has Solomon, not David, bringing the ark into Jerusalem and dedicating his new temple in his 12th year, in 1004 BC.