

4 KINGDOMS

CHAPTER 1

Then Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab. ²And Ahaziah fell down through the lattice in his upper chamber in Samaria, and was sick. And he sent messengers, and said unto them, Go, inquire of Baal the fly god of Ekron whether I shall recover of this my sickness: and they went to inquire of him. ³And an angel of the Lord called Elijah the Tishbite, saying, Arise, and go to meet the messengers of Ahaziah king of Samaria; and thou shalt say unto him, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to inquire of Baal the fly god of Ekron? And not so: ⁴for thus saith the Lord, Thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. And Elijah went, and said so unto them. ⁵And the messengers turned back unto him, and he said unto them, Why are ye turned back? ⁶And they said unto him, There came a man up to meet us, and said unto us, Go, turn again unto the king that sent you, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that thou goest to inquire of Baal fly god of Ekron? not so: the bed on which thou art gone up, thou shalt not come down from it; for thou shalt surely die. ⁷So they turned back, and told the king as Elijah said: and he said unto them, What was the manner of the man which went up to meet you, and spake unto you these words? ⁸And they said unto him, He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, This is Elijah the Tishbite. ⁹And he sent unto him a captain of fifty and his fifty; and he went up to him: and, behold, Elijah sat on the top of a mountain. And the captain of fifty spake unto him, and said, Thou man of God, the king hath called thee; come down. ¹⁰And Elijah answered and said unto the captain of fifty, And if I be a man of God, fire shall come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. ¹¹And the king sent a second time another captain of fifty and his fifty. And the captain of fifty spake unto him, and said, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly. ¹²And Elijah answered and spake unto him, If I be a man of God, fire shall come from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. ¹³And the king sent yet again a captain and his fifty. And the third captain of fifty came, and knelt on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and spake unto him, and said, O man of God, let my life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be precious in thy sight. ¹⁴Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and consumed the two first captains of fifty: and now, I pray, let my life be precious in thy sight. ¹⁵And the angel of the Lord said unto Elijah, Go down with him: be not afraid of him. And Elijah arose, and went down with him unto the king. ¹⁶And Elijah spake unto him, and said, Thus saith the Lord, Wherefore hast thou sent messengers to inquire of Baal fly god of

Ekron? *it shall not be* so: the bed on which thou art gone up, thou shalt not come down from it, for thou shalt surely die. ¹⁷So he died according to the word of the Lord which Elijah had spoken. ¹⁸And the rest of the acts of Ahaziah, which he did, behold, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

^{18a}And Jehoram the son of Ahab reigneth over Israel in Samaria twelve years the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah: and he wrought that which was evil in the sight of the Lord; only not like his brethren, nor like his mother: and he put away the pillars of Baal which his father made, and brake them in pieces: only he was joined to the sins of Jeroboam, which led Israel into sin; he departed not therefrom. And the Lord was exceeding angry with the house of Ahab.

CHAPTER 2

And it came to pass, when the Lord would take up Elijah as it were into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah and Elisha went from Gilgal. ²And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said, The Lord liveth, and thy soul liveth, if I will leave thee: and they came to Bethel. ³And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel drew near unto Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord is about to take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. ⁴And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the Lord hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, The Lord liveth, and thy soul liveth, if I will leave thee. And they came to Jericho. ⁵And the sons of the prophets that were in Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Lord is about to take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. ⁶And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan. And Elisha said, The Lord liveth, and thy soul liveth, if I will leave thee: and they two went on. ⁷And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood opposite afar off: and they two stood by Jordan. ⁸And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the water, and the water was divided hither and thither, and they two went over into a wilderness. ⁹And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken up from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let there be a double portion of thy spirit to be upon me. ¹⁰And Elijah said, Thou hast asked a hard thing for thyself: if thou see me when I am taken up from thee, then it shall be so unto thee; and if not, it shall not be so. ¹¹And it came to pass, as they went on, they walked and talked: and, behold, a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and they separated between both; and Elijah was taken up in a whirlwind as it were into heaven. ¹²And Elisha saw, and cried, Father, father, the chariot of Israel, and the horseman thereof! And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. ¹³And he took up the mantle of Elijah that fell from him upon Elisha: and

Elisha turned back, and stood upon the brink of Jordan, ¹⁴and took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the water, and said, Where is the Lord God of Elijah? and he smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, and Elisha went over. ¹⁵And the sons of the prophets which were in Jericho on the other side, saw him, and said, The spirit of Elijah hath rested on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and did obeisance to him unto the ground. ¹⁶And they said, Behold, there be with thy servants fifty sons of strength; let them go now, and seek thy lord: peradventure the Spirit of the Lord hath taken him up, and cast him into Jordan, or upon one of the mountains, or on to one of the hills. And Elisha said, Ye shall not send. ¹⁷And they urged him till he was ashamed; and he said, Send. And they sent fifty men; and they sought him three days, but found him not. ¹⁸And they came again to him, for he dwelt in Jericho: and Elisha said, Did I not say unto you, Go not? ¹⁹And the men of the city said unto Elisha, Behold, the situation of the city is good, and our lord seeth: but the waters are bad, and the ground barren. ²⁰And Elisha said, Bring me a new cruse, and put salt therein. And they took one, and brought it to him. ²¹And Elisha went forth unto the spring of the waters, and cast salt in there, and said, Thus saith the Lord, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any longer death or barren land. ²²And the waters were healed until this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spake. ²³And he went up from thence to Bethel: and as he was going by the way, there came forth little children out of the city, and mocked him, and said unto him, Go up, thou bald head, go up. ²⁴And he turned after them, and saw them, and cursed them in the name of the Lord. And, behold, there came forth two bears out of the wood, and tare forty and two children of them. ²⁵And he went from thence to mount Carmel, and turned back from thence to Samaria.

CHAPTER 3

Now Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years. ²And he wrought that which was evil in the sight of the Lord; only not as his father, nor as his mother: and he put away the pillars of Baal which his father had made. ³Only he cleaved unto the sin of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom. ⁴And Mesha king of Moab was a sheepmaster, and rendered unto the king of Israel in the beginning of the year an hundred thousand lambs, and an hundred thousand rams, with the wool. ⁵And it came to pass, after the death of Ahab, that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel. ⁶And king Joram went out of Samaria that day, and numbered Israel. ⁷And he went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying, The king of Moab hath rebelled against me: wilt thou go with me against Moab to war? And he said, I will go up: thou art as I am; as are my people, so are thy people; as are my horses, so are thy horses. ⁸And he said, Which way shall I go up? and he said, The way

of the wilderness of Edom. ⁹And the king of Israel went, and the king of Judah, and the king of Edom: and they fetched a compass of seven days journey: and there was no water for the host, and for the cattle that followed them. ¹⁰And the king of Israel said, Alas! that the Lord should have called the three kings on their way, to give them into the hand of Moab! ¹¹And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the Lord, that we may inquire of the Lord by him? And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, There is here Elisha the son of Shaphat, which poured water on the hands of Elijah. ¹²And Jehoshaphat said, He hath the word of the Lord. And the king of Israel, and Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and the king of Edom went down to him. ¹³And Elisha said unto the king of Israel, What have I to do with thee? get thee to the prophets of thy father, and the prophets of thy mother. And the king of Israel said unto him, Is it that the Lord hath called the three kings, to deliver them into the hands of Moab? ¹⁴And Elisha said, As the Lord of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, but that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not have looked upon thee, nor seen thee. ¹⁵And now, fetch me an harper. And it came to pass, as the harper played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him. ¹⁶And he said, Thus saith the Lord, Make this valley full of ditches. ¹⁷For thus saith the Lord, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet this valley shall be filled with water, and ye shall drink, and your flocks, and your cattle. ¹⁸And this is but a light thing in the eyes of the Lord: I will also deliver Moab into your hand. ¹⁹And ye shall smite every strong city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop all wells of water, and mar every good piece of *land* with stones. ²⁰And it came to pass in the morning, when the sacrifice was offered, that, behold, there came waters by the way of Edom, and the land was filled with water. ²¹And all Moab heard that the three kings were come up to fight against them; and they cried out on every side, even all that were girt with a girdle: and they said, Ho! and stood in the border. ²²And they rose up early in the morning, and the sun rose upon the waters, and Moab saw the waters of the other side as red as blood: ²³and they said, This is the blood of the sword: the kings also have fought, and each man hath smitten his neighbour: now then, Moab, to the spoils. ²⁴And they came into the camp of Israel: and Israel rose up and smote Moab, and they fled from before them: and they went onward, smiting Moab as they went. ²⁵And they beat down the cities, and on every good pieces of land cast every man his stone, and filled it; and they stopped every well, and felled every good tree, until they left the stones of the wall cast down; and the slingers compassed *the land*, and smote it. ²⁶And the king of Moab saw that the battle prevailed against him; and he took with him seven hundred men that drew sword, to cut through even to the king of Edom: but they could not. ²⁷And he took his eldest son that that should have reigned in his stead, and offered him for an whole burnt offering upon the walls. And there came to pass a great repentance upon Israel: and they departed from him, and returned to their own land.

CHAPTER 4

Now there cried one of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant feared the Lord: and the creditor is come to take my two sons to be his bondmen. ²And Elisha said, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save oil, wherewith I shall anoint myself. ³And he said unto her, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few. ⁴And thou shalt go in, and shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all these vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is filled. ⁵And she departed from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons: they brought the vessels near to her; and she poured in until the vessels were filled. ⁶And she said unto her sons, Bring me yet a vessel. And they said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. ⁷And she came and told the man of God: and Elisha said, Go, and sell the oil, and thou shalt pay thy debts, and thou and thy sons shall live by the oil that remaineth. ⁸And there came a day when Elisha passed over to Shunem, and *there was* a great lady there; and she constrained him to eat bread: and it was so, that as oft as he passed by, that he turned aside thither to eat. ⁹And the woman said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which cometh over unto us continually. ¹⁰Let us now make him an upper chamber, a little place; and let there set for him a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when he cometh in to us, that he shall turn in thither. ¹¹And a day came, and he went in thither, and he turned aside into the upper chamber, and lay there. ¹²And he said to Gehazi his servant, Call me this Shunammite. And he called her, and she stood before him. ¹³And he said unto him, Say now unto her, Behold, thou hast astonished us with all this astonishment; what is there that we must do for thee? Wouldest thou be spoken for to the king, or to the captain of the host?. And she said, I dwell among mine own people. ¹⁴And he said unto Gehazi, What must we do for her? and Gehazi his servant said, Verily she hath no son, and her husband is old. ¹⁵And he called her, and she stood in the door. ¹⁶And Elisha said unto her, At this time, when the season is, thou, being alive, shalt embrace a son. And she said, Nay, my lord, do not lie unto thine handmaid. ¹⁷And the woman conceived in the womb, and bare a son at the very time, as the season was, being alive, as Elisha had said unto her. ¹⁸And the child grew; and it came to pass, when he went out to his father to the reapers, ¹⁹that he said unto his father, My head, my head. And he said unto the servant, Carry him to his mother. ²⁰And he carried him to his mother, and he lay upon her knees till noon, and died. ²¹And she carried him up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out. ²²And she called her husband, and said, Send now for me one of the young men, and one of the asses, and I will ride quickly to the man of God, and come again. ²³And he said, Wherefore dost thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, Peace. ²⁴And she saddled the

ass, and said to her servant, Be quick, proceed; slack not thy riding for me, except I bid thee. Go; and thou shalt proceed, and come unto the man of God to mount Carmel. ²⁵And she went and came unto the man of God to the mount: and it came to pass, when Elisha saw her come, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold now, that Shunammite cometh. ²⁶Run now to meet her, and say unto her, Is it peace with thee? is it peace with thy husband? is it peace with the child? And she said, Peace. ²⁷And she came to Elisha on the mount, and caught him by the feet; and Gehazi drew near to thrust her away. And Elisha said, Let her alone, for her soul is vexed within her: and the Lord hath hid it from me, and hath not told me. ²⁸And she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? for did I not say, Do not deceive me? ²⁹And Elisha said to Gehazi, Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any man, bless him not; and if any man salute thee, answer him not: and lay my staff upon the face of the child. ³⁰And the mother of the child said, As the Lord liveth, and as my soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And Elisha arose, and followed her. ³¹And Gehazi passed on before her, and laid his staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice, nor any hearing. Wherefore he returned to meet him, and told him, saying, The child is not awaked. ³²And Elisha went into the house; and, behold, the dead child was laid upon his bed. ³³And Elisha went into the house, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the Lord. ³⁴And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his hand upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands: and he bowed himself upon him; and the flesh of the child waxed warm. ³⁵And he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and bowed himself upon the child seven times: and the child opened his eyes. ³⁶And Elisha cried out to Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. So he called her; and she came in unto him: and Elisha said, Take up thy son. ³⁷Then the woman went in, and fell at his feet, and did obeisance, and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out. ³⁸And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him. And Elisha said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets. ³⁹And he went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a vine in the field, and gathered thereof wild gourds his garment full, and cast it into the cauldron of pottage: for they knew them not. ⁴⁰And he poured it out for the men to eat; and it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is death in the pot: and they could not eat. ⁴¹And he said, Take meal, and cast it into the pot: and Elisha said unto Gehazi his servant, Pour out for the people, and let them eat. And there was no longer any hurtful thing in the pot. ⁴²And there came a man over from Baal-shalisha, and brought the man of God of the firstfruits twenty barley loaves, and cakes of figs. And he said, Give unto the people, and let them eat. ⁴³And his servant said, Why should I set this before an hundred men? And he said, Give unto the people, and let them eat: for thus saith the Lord, They shall eat, and shall leave *thereof*. ⁴⁴And they did eat, and left *thereof*, according to the word of the Lord.

CHAPTER 5

Now Naaman, the captain of the host of Syria, was a great man before his master, and *was* marvelled at in countenance, because by him the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria: the man also was mighty in strength, but *he was* a leper. ²And the Syrians went out by companies, and took captive out of the land of Israel a little maid: and she waited on Naaman's wife. ³And she said unto her mistress, Would that my lord were before the prophet of God in Samaria! then he would recover him of his leprosy. ⁴And she went in, and told her lord, and said, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel. ⁵And the king of Syria said unto Naaman, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took in his hand ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment. ⁶And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now then when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have sent Naaman my servant to thee, and thou shalt recover him of his leprosy. ⁷And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see that this man seeketh an occasion against me. ⁸And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? Let Naaman, I pray thee, come to me, and let him know that there is a prophet in Israel. ⁹So Naaman came with horse and chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. ¹⁰And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be cleansed. ¹¹And Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I said, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of his God, and lay his hand upon the place, and recover the leper. ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Shall I not wash in them, and be cleansed? And he turned, and went away in a rage. ¹³And his servants came near, and said unto him, If the prophet had spoken a great thing unto thee, wouldest thou not have performed it? yet he hath but said unto thee, Wash, and be cleansed. ¹⁴So Naaman went down, and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of Elisha: and his flesh came again to him like the flesh of a little child, and he was cleansed. ¹⁵And he returned to Elisha, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him, and said, Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth, but only in Israel: and now take a blessing of thy servant. ¹⁶And Elisha said, As the Lord liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he pressed him to take it: but he would not. ¹⁷And Naaman said, Well then, if not, let there be given to thy servant, I pray thee, the load of a yoke of mules; and thou shalt give me of the red earth: for thy servant will henceforth offer neither whole burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but only unto the Lord. ¹⁸And let the Lord be propitious to thy servant, when my master goeth into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leaneth on my hand, when he boweth down

in the house of Rimmon; even let the Lord, I pray thee, be merciful unto thy servant in this thing. ¹⁹And Elisha said unto Naaman, Go in peace. And he departed from him a little way. ²⁰And Gehazi the servant of Elisha said, Behold, my lord hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not taking of his hand that which he brought: as the Lord liveth, I will surely run after him, and take somewhat of him. ²¹So Gehazi followed after Naaman: and Naaman saw him running after him, and turned back from his chariot to meet him, and said, Is it peace? ²²And he said, It is peace: my master hath sent me, saying, Behold, even now there be come to me from mount Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets: give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments. ²³And he said, Take two talents of silver. And he took two talents of silver in two bags, and two changes of garments, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they bare them before him. ²⁴And he came to a privy place, and took them from their hands, and laid them up in the house, and dismissed the men. ²⁵And he went in, and stood before his master; and Elisha said unto him, ²⁶Whence comest thou, Gehazi? and Gehazi said, Thy servant went not hither and thither. And Elisha said unto him, Went not mine heart with thee, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? And now thou hast received garments, and oliveyards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants. ²⁷The leprosy also of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever. And he went out from his presence, leprous, like snow.

CHAPTER 6

And the sons of the prophets said unto Elisha, Behold now, the place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us. ²Let us go, we pray thee, unto Jordan, and thence take every man a beam, and make there for ourselves a place of habitation. ³And he said, Go. And one of them said gently, Come with thy servants. And he said, I will go. ⁴And he went with them; and they came to Jordan, and began to cut down wood. ⁵And, behold, one was felling a beam, and the axe head fell into the water: and he cried out, Alas, master! and it was hidden. ⁶And the man of God said, Where fell it? and he shewed him the place: and he broke off a stick, and cast it in thither; and the iron came to the surface. ⁷And he said, Take it up to thee: and he put out his hand, and took it. ⁸And the king of Syria was at war with Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place will I encamp. ⁹And Elisha sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not by that place; for the Syrians are hid there. ¹⁰And the king of Israel sent to the place which Elisha had told him, and saved himself thence, not once but twice. ¹¹And the mind of the king of Syria was sore disturbed for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not tell me who betrayeth me unto the king of Israel? ¹²And one of his servants said, Nay, my lord, O king: for Elisha the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel all the words whatsoever thou speakest in thy bedchamber. ¹³And he said,

Go, see where this man is, and I will send and take him. And they sent him word, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan. ¹⁴And he sent thither horses, and chariots, and a mighty host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about. ¹⁵And the servant of Elisha rose up early, and went out: and, behold, an host compassed the city, and horses and chariots; and the servant said unto him, O master, what shall we do? ¹⁶And Elisha said, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they which be with them. ¹⁷And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray Thee, open the eyes of the servant, and let him see. And the Lord opened his eyes, and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses, and there were chariots of fire round about Elisha. ¹⁸And they came down to him; and he prayed unto the Lord, and said, Smite this people, I pray Thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha. ¹⁹And Elisha said unto them, This is not the city, neither is this the way: follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom ye seek. And he led them away to Samaria. ²⁰And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, Lord, open their eyes, I pray Thee, and let them see. And the Lord opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. ²¹And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I not verily smite them? ²²And he said, Thou shalt not smite them, unless thou wouldest smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow. Set bread and water before them, and let them eat and drink, and depart to their master. ²³And he prepared a great feast for them, and they ate and drank; and he sent them away, and they departed to their master. And the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.

²⁴And it came to pass after this, that the son of Hadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria. ²⁵And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's head was at fifty pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of dove's dung at five pieces of silver. ²⁶And the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, and there cried a woman unto him, saying, Help, my lord, O king. ²⁷And he said unto her, Except the Lord help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the cornfloor, or out of the winepress? ²⁸And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And the woman said unto him, This woman said unto me, Give thy son, and we will eat him to day, and we will eat my son to morrow. ²⁹So we boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the second day, Give thy son, and let us eat him: and she hath hid her son. ³⁰And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; and he passed by on the wall, and the people saw sackcloth within upon his flesh. ³¹And he said, God do so and more also to me, if the head of Elisha shall stand on him this day. ³²And Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him; and the king sent a man before him: but ere the messenger came to him, he said to the elders, See ye that this son of a murderer hath sent to take away mine head? Look, as soon as the messenger cometh, shut the door, and hold him fast at the door: is not the sound of his master's feet behind him? ³³While he yet talked with them, behold, a messenger came unto him: and he

said, Behold, this evil is of the Lord; why should I wait for the Lord any longer?

CHAPTER 7

And Elisha said, Hear thou the word of the Lord; Thus saith the Lord, As at this time to morrow shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gates of Samaria. ²And the officer on whose hand the king leaned answered Elisha, and said, Behold, if the Lord would make floodgates in heaven, might this thing be? and Elisha said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof. ³And there were four leprous men at the gate of the city: and one said unto his neighbour, Why sit we here until we die? ⁴If we say, Let us go into the city, then there is famine in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit here, then we shall die. Now then come, and let us fall upon the camp of the Syrians: if they take us alive, then we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die. ⁵And they rose up in the dark, to go into the camp of Syria: and they came into a part of the camp of Syria; and, behold, there was no man there. ⁶For the Lord had made the host of Syria to hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, even the noise of a great host: and each man said to his fellow, Now the king of Israel hath hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of Egypt, to come against us. ⁷And they arose and fled while it was yet dark, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even in the camp as it was, and fled for their lives. ⁸And these lepers came a little way into the camp, and went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and took thence silver, and gold, and raiment; and they went and returned thence, and entered into another tent, and took thence, and went and hid it. ⁹And one said unto his neighbour, We do not well thus: this is a day of glad tidings, and we hold our peace: and we tarry till the morning light, and we shall find mischief: now then come, and let us go into the city, and tell the king's household. ¹⁰So they went in, and cried unto the gate of the city, and told them, saying, We went into the camp of Syria, and, behold, there is no man there, neither voice of man, but horses tied, and asses, and their tents as they were. ¹¹And the porter cried aloud, and told it to the king's house within. ¹²And the king arose in the night, and said unto his servants, I will now shew you what the Syrians have done to us. They knew that we be hungry; and they are gone out of the camp, and have hid themselves in the field, saying, They will come out of the city, and we will catch them alive, and get into the city. ¹³And one of his servants answered and said, Let them now take five of the horses that were left, which were left here, (behold, they are the number left to all the multitude of Israel), and we will send thither and see. ¹⁴They took therefore two horsemen; and the king of Israel sent after the king of Syria, saying, Go and see. ¹⁵And they went after them even unto Jordan: and, lo, all the way was full of garments and vessels, which the Syrians had cast away in their panic. And the messengers returned, and brought word unto the king. ¹⁶And

the people went out, and spoiled the camp of Syria: and a measure of fine flour was sold for a shekel, according to the word of the Lord, and two measures of barley for a shekel. ¹⁷And the king appointed the officer on whose hand the king leaned to have the charge of the gate: and the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died, as the man of God had said, who spake when the messenger came down to him. ¹⁸And it came to pass as Elisha had spoken to the king, saying, Two measures of barley for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel: and it shall be as at this time to morrow in the gate of Samaria. ¹⁹And the officer had answered Elisha, and said, Behold, if the Lord should make floodgates in heaven, might this thing be? and Elisha had said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof. ²⁰And it so fell out: for the people trode upon him in the gate, and he died.

CHAPTER 8

And Elisha spake unto the woman, whose son he had restored to life, saying, Arise, and go thou and thine household, and sojourn wheresoever thou canst sojourn: for the Lord hath called for a famine upon the land: indeed it is come upon the land seven years. ²And the woman arose, and did after the word of Elisha, both she and her household: and they sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years. ³And it came to pass at the seven years' end, that the woman returned out of the land of the Philistines unto the city: and she came to cry unto the king for her house and for her lands. ⁴And the king talked with Gehazi the servant of Elisha the man of God, saying, Tell me, I pray thee, all the great things that Elisha hath done. ⁵And it came to pass, as he was telling the king how he had restored the dead son to life, that, behold, the woman, whose son Elisha had restored to life, cried to the king for her house and her lands. And Gehazi said, My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha restored to life. ⁶And the king asked the woman, and she told him; and the king appointed unto her an eunuch, saying, Restore all that was hers, and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now.

⁷And Elisha came to Damascus; and the king of Syria, the son of Ader, was sick; and they brought him word, saying, The man of God is come hither. ⁸And the king said unto Hazael, Take a present in thine hand, and go to meet the man of God, and inquire of the Lord by him, saying, Shall I recover of this my disease? ⁹And Hazael went to meet him, and took a present in his hand, even all the good things of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said unto Elisha, Thy son the son of Ader, the king of Syria, hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover of this my disease? ¹⁰And Elisha said, Go, say, Thou shalt certainly live: howbeit the Lord hath shewed me that by death thou shalt die. ¹¹And he stood before him, and settled his countenance steadfastly, until he was ashamed: and the man of God wept. ¹²And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord? and he said, Because I know all

the evil that thou wilt do unto the sons of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou utterly destroy with fire, and their choice men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their little ones, and rip up their women with child. ¹³And Hazael said, Who is thy servant, a dead dog, that he should do this thing? ¹⁴And he departed from Elisha, and went in to his lord; and he said to him, What said Elisha to thee? and he said, He said to me, Thou shalt surely live. ¹⁵And it came to pass on the next day, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped it in water, and put it on his face, and he died: and Hazael reigned in his stead.

¹⁶In the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign. ¹⁷Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem. ¹⁸And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab: for the daughter of Ahab was his wife: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord. ¹⁹Yet the Lord would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he said that he would give him a light unto him, and to his children continually. ²⁰In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves. ²¹And Joram went up to Zair, and all the chariots that were with him: and it came to pass after he had risen, that he smote Edom, which compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots: and the people fled into their tents. ²²Yet Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. Then Libnah revolted at that time. ²³And the rest of the acts of Joram, and all that he did, behold, are not these written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ²⁴And Joram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead.

²⁵In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel did Ahaziah the son of Jehoram begin to reign. ²⁶Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel. ²⁷And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, as did the house of Ahab. ²⁸And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to war against Hazael king of the Syrians in Ramoth-gilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram. ²⁹And king Joram went back to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds wherewith they wounded him in Ramoth, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

CHAPTER 9

And Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said unto him, Gird up thy loins, and take this cruse of oil in thine hand, and go to Ramoth-gilead. ²And thou shalt enter there, and shalt there see Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and shalt go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, and bring him into a privy chamber. ³And thou

shalt take the cruse of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus saith the Lord, I have anointed thee king over Israel: and thou shalt open the door, and flee, and not tarry. ⁴And the young man, even the prophet, went to Ramoth-gilead. ⁵And he went in; and, behold, the captains of the host were sitting; and he said, I have a message for thee, O captain. And Jehu said, Unto which of all of us? And he said, Unto thee, O captain. ⁶And he arose, and went into the house; and he poured the oil on his head, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I have anointed thee to be king over the people of the Lord, even over Israel. ⁷And thou shalt utterly destroy the house of Ahab thy master from before Me, and shalt avenge the blood of My servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the Lord, at the hand of Jezebel, ⁸and at the hand of the whole house of Ahab: and thou shalt utterly cut off from the house of Ahab every one that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel. ⁹And I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah. ¹⁰And the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the portion of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her. And he opened the door, and fled. ¹¹And Jehu went forth to the servants of his Lord: and they said unto him, Is it peace? Wherefore came this mad fellow to thee? And he said unto them, Ye know this man, and his communication. ¹²And they said, Wrong; tell us now. And Jehu said unto them, Thus and thus spake he unto me, saying, Thus saith the Lord, I have anointed thee to be king over Israel. ¹³And when they heard it, they hasted, and took every man his garment, and put it under him on the top of the stairs, and blew with the trumpet, and said, Jehu is king. ¹⁴So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram: and Joram was defending Rammoth Gilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria. ¹⁵And king Joram was returned to be healed of the wounds which the Syrians had given him, in his war with Hazael king of Syria. And Jehu said, If your heart be with me, let there go not forth out of the city one that hath escaped to go to tell it to Jezreel. ¹⁶And Jehu rode and went forward, and came down to Jezreel; for Joram king of Israel was in Jezreel being healed of the arrow wounds wherewith the Syrians had wounded him in Ramoth in the war with Hazael king of Syria; for he was strong, and a mighty man: and Ahaziah king of Judah was come down to see Joram. ¹⁷And there went up a watchman on the tower of Jezreel, and saw the dust *that was made by* Jehu as he came, and said, I see dust. And Joram said, Take an horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say Peace. ¹⁸And there went an horseman to meet them, and said, Thus saith the king, Peace. And Jehu said, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me. ¹⁹And the watchman told, saying, The messenger came up to them, and hath not come again. ¹⁹And he sent another horseman, and he came unto him, and said, Thus saith the king, Peace. And Jehu said, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me. ²⁰And the watchman told, saying, He came even unto them, and hath not come again: and he that was driving was driving Jehu the son of Nimshi; for it happened in perturbation. ²¹And Joram said, Make ready. And one made ready the chariot: and Joram king of Israel went forth,

and Ahaziah king of Judah, each in his chariot; and they went out to meet Jehu, and found him in the portion of Naboth the Jezreelite. ²²And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, Is it peace, Jehu? And Jehu said, How can it be peace? when as yet the whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many. ²³And Joram turned his hands, and fled, and said to Ahaziah, *It is treachery, Ahaziah.* ²⁴And Jehu drew his bow with his full strength, and smote Joram between his arms; and his arrow went out at his heart, and he bowed upon his knees. ²⁵And Jehu said to Bidkar his captain, Cast him into the portion of ground of Naboth the Jezreelite: for I and thou do remember, when we rode together in chariots after Ahab his father, that the Lord took up this burden against him; ²⁶Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and the blood of his sons, saith the Lord; and I will requite him in this portion, saith the Lord. Now then, I pray thee, take him up, and cast him into the portion, according to the word of the Lord. ²⁷And Ahaziah king of Judah saw, and fled by the way of Beth-haggan. And Jehu followed after him, and said, Slay him also. And one smote him in the chariot at the going up of Gur, which is Ibleam: and he fled to Megiddo, and died there. ²⁸And his servants put him in a chariot, and brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his sepulchre in the city of David. ²⁹And in the eleventh year of Joram king of Israel, Ahaziah began to reign over Judah. ³⁰And Jehu came to Jezreel; and Jezebel heard of it, and painted her eyes, and adorned her head, and looked through the window. ³¹And Jehu entered into the city; and she said, Had Zimri peace, the murderer of his master? ³²And he lifted up his face to the window, and saw her, and said, Who art thou? come down with me. And there looked down to him two eunuchs. ³³And he said, Throw her down. And they threw her down: and some of her blood was sprinkled on the wall, and on the horses: and they trod her under foot. ³⁴And Jehu went in, and did eat and drink, and said, Look now after this cursed woman, and bury her: for she is a king's daughter. ³⁵And they went to bury her: but they found nothing of her but the skull, and the feet, and the palms of her hands. ³⁶And they came again, and told him. And he said, This is the word of the Lord, which He spake by the hand of His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, In the portion of Jezreel shall the dogs eat the flesh of Jezebel. ³⁷And the carcase of Jezebel shall be as dung upon the face of the field in the portion of Jezreel; so that they shall not say, This is Jezebel.

CHAPTER 10

And Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. And Jehu wrote a letter, and sent it to Samaria, unto the rulers of Samaria, and to the elders, and to them that brought up Ahab's children, saying, ²Now then as soon as this letter cometh to you, seeing your master's sons are with you, and there are with you chariots and horses, strong cities also, and weapons; ³look even out the best and meetest among your master's sons, and set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house. ⁴And they were exceedingly afraid, and

said, Behold, two kings stood not before him: and how then shall we stand? ⁵So they that were over the house, and they that were over the city, the elders also, and the bringers up *of the children*, sent to Jehu, saying, We also are thy servants, and we will do whatsoever thou shalt say to us; we will not make any man king: we will do that which is right in thine eyes. ⁶And Jehu wrote them a second letter, saying, If ye be for me, and if ye hearken unto my voice, take ye the heads of the men your master's sons, and bring them to me to Jezreel by to morrow this time. Now the king's sons were seventy men: these great men of the city brought them up. ⁷And it came to pass, when the letter came to them, that they took the king's sons, and slew them, even seventy men, and put their heads in baskets, and sent them him to Jezreel. ⁸And there came a messenger, and told him, saying, They have brought the heads of the king's sons. And he said, Lay ye them in two heaps by the door of the gate until the morning. ⁹And the morning came, and he went out, and stood, and said to all the people, Ye be righteous: behold, I conspired against my master, and slew him: but who slew all these? ¹⁰See now that there shall not fall unto the earth any thing of the word of the Lord which the Lord spake against the house of Ahab: for the Lord hath performed all that He spake of by the hand of his servant Elijah. ¹¹And Jehu smote all that remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and his acquaintance, and his priests, so no remnant of him was left.

¹²And he arose, and went to Samaria, and he was at the house of sheepshearing in the way. ¹³And Jehu found the brethren of Ahaziah king of Judah, and said, Who are ye? And they said, We are the brethren of Ahaziah; and we are come down to salute the sons of the king and the sons of the queen. ¹⁴And he said, Take them alive. And they slew them at the shearing house, even two and forty men; neither left he a man of them. ¹⁵And he went thence, and found Jehonadab the son of Rechab coming to meet him: and he saluted him, and Jehu said to him, Is thine heart right, as my heart is with thy heart? And Jehonadab said, It is. And Jehu said, If it is, give me thine hand. And he gave him his hand; and he took him up to him into the chariot. ¹⁶And he said unto him, Come with me, and see my zeal for the Lord. And he made him sit in his chariot. ¹⁷And he entered into Samaria, and smote all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had utterly destroyed him, according to the saying of the Lord, which He spake unto Elijah.

¹⁸And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said unto them, Ahab served Baal a little; *but* Jehu shall serve him much. ¹⁹Now then do all ye the prophets of Baal call unto me all his servants and his priests; let not a man be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice *to do* to Baal; every one that shall be wanting shall die. But Jehu did it in subtilty, *to the intent* that he might destroy the servants of Baal. ²⁰And Jehu said, Sanctify a solemn festival to Baal: and they made a proclamation. ²¹And Jehu sent through all Israel, saying, Now then let all Baal's servants, and all his priests, and all his prophets come; let none be wanting: for I am offering a great sacrifice: whosoever shall be missing shall not live. So all the servants of Baal came; and the house of Baal was filled from one end to the other. ²²And he said

unto the man that was over the house of the wardrobe, Bring forth a robe for all the servants of Baal. And the keeper of the robes brought forth to them. ²³And Jehu and Jehonadab the son of Rechab entered into the house of Baal, and said unto the servants of Baal, Search, and see whether there is among you any of the servants of the Lord, or the servants of Baal only, by themselves. ²⁴And he went in to offer sacrifices and whole burnt offerings; and Jehu appointed him fourscore men without, and said, Every man of the men whom I bring into your hand that shall escape, the life of him that spareth him shall go for his life. ²⁵And it came to pass, when he had made an end of offering the whole burnt offering, that Jehu said to the footmen and to the captains, Go in, and slay them; let not a man of them escape. So they smote them with the edge of the sword; and the footmen and the captains cast them out, and went to the city of the house of Baal. ²⁶And they brought forth the pillar of Baal, and burnt it. ²⁷And they tore down the pillars of Baal, and made the house of Baal a draught house unto this day.

²⁸Thus Jehu abolished Baal out of Israel. ²⁹Howbeit from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who led Israel to sin, Jehu departed not from following them, to wit, the golden heifers in Bethel, and in Dan. ³⁰And the Lord said unto Jehu, Because of all thy deeds wherein thou hast acted well in executing that which was right in Mine eyes, according to all things that thou hast done unto the house of Ahab, and all that was in My heart, thy sons unto the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel. ³¹But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God of Israel with all his heart: he departed not from following the sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin. ³²In those days the Lord began to cut Israel short: and Hazael smote them in every coast of Israel; ³³from Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead pertaining to the Gadites, that of Gad, and that of Reuben, and of Manasseh, from Aroer, which is on the brink of the brook of Arnon, and Gilead and Bashan. ³⁴Now the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, and all the wars wherein he was engaged, are not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? ³⁵And Jehu slept with his fathers: and they buried him in Samaria: and Jehoahaz his son reigned in his stead. ³⁶And the days that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty and eight years.

CHAPTER 11

And Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, and she destroyed all the seed *royal* of the kingdom. ²And Jehosheba the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of her brother, and stole him from among the king's sons which were slain, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber, and hid him from the face of Athaliah; and he was not slain. ³And he remained with her hid in the house of the Lord six years: and Athaliah did reign over the land. ⁴And in the seventh year Jehoiada sent and took the captains of hundreds of the Chorri, and of the Rasim, and brought them to him into the house of the Lord, and made a covenant of the

Lord with them, and adjured them; and Jehoiada shewed them the king's son.
⁵And he charged them, saying, This is the thing that ye shall do. ⁶Let a third part of you enter in on the sabbath day, and keep ye the watch of the king's house in the porch; and another third in the gate of the high way; and a third at the gate behind the footmen; and keep ye the watch of the house. ⁷And there shall be two parties among you, even every one that goeth forth on the sabbath, and they shall keep the watch of the Lord's house before the king. ⁸And do ye compass the king round about, every man with his weapon in his hand: and he that goeth into the ranges shall die: and they shall be with the king in his going in and in his coming in. ⁹And the captains of hundreds did all that the wise Jehoiada commanded: and they took each his men, both them that went in on the sabbath day, and them that went out on the sabbath day; and went in to Jehoiada the priest. ¹⁰And to the captains of hundreds did the priest give king David's swords and spears that were in the house of the Lord. ¹¹And the footmen stood each with his weapon in his hand, from the right hand of the house to the left hand of the house, along by the altar and the house round about the king. ¹²And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the Testimony; and he made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, Long live the king. ¹³And Athaliah heard the sound of the people running, and went in to the people to the house of the Lord. ¹⁴And she looked, and, behold, the king stood near a pillar, as the manner was, and the singers and the trumpeters were before the king, and all the people of the land rejoicing: and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Conspiracy, conspiracy! ¹⁵And Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of hundreds, who were over the host, and said them, Have her forth without the ranges: and he that goeth in after her, by death shall he be put to death by the sword. For the priest said, Let her not however be slain in the house of the Lord. ¹⁶And they laid hands on her; and went in by the way of the horses' entrance into the king's house: and there was she slain. ¹⁷And Jehoiada made a covenant between the Lord and the king and the people, that they should be the Lord's people; between the king also and the people. ¹⁸And all the people of the Lord went into the house of Baal, and brake it down; and his altars and his images brake they in pieces, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed overseers over the house of the Lord. ¹⁹And he took the captains of the hundreds, and the Chorri, and the Rasim, and all the people of the land; and they brought down the king from the house of the Lord, and went by the way of the gate of the footmen of the king's house, and seated him there on the throne of the kings. ²⁰And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was at rest: and they slew Athaliah with the sword in the king's house. ²¹Seven years old was Joash when he began to reign.

CHAPTER 12

In the seventh year of Jehu Joash began to reign; and forty years reigned he in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Zibiah of Beer-sheba. ²And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the Lord all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him. ³Only there were not any of the high places taken away: and the people still sacrificed there, and burnt incense in the high places. ⁴And Joash said to the priests, All the money of the holy things that is brought into the house of the Lord, even the money of valuation, as each man bringeth the money of valuation, even all the money that any man is disposed to bring into the house of the Lord, ⁵let the priests take it to them, every man of his sale: and they shall repair the breaches of the house, in all places wheresoever a breach shall be found. ⁶And it was so, that in the three and twentieth year of king Joash the priests had not repaired the breaches of the house. ⁷And king Joash called for Jehoiada the priest, and the other priests, and said unto them, Why have ye not repaired the breaches of the house? now then receive no more money of your sales; for ye shall give it to repair the breaches of the house. ⁸And the priests consented to receive no more money of the people, neither to repair the breaches of the house. ⁹And Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it by the altar in the house of a man of the house of the Lord: and the priests that kept the door put therein all the money that was found in the house of the Lord. ¹⁰And it was so, when they saw that there was much money in the chest, that the king's scribe and the high priest went up, and they tied up and told the money that was found in the house of the Lord. ¹¹And they gave the money, prepared, into the hands of them that did the works, the overseers of the house of the Lord: and they laid it out to the carpenters and builders, that wrought upon the house of the Lord, ¹²and to the masons, and hewers of stone, to buy timber and hewed stone to repair the breaches in the house of the Lord, for all that was laid out for the house of the Lord to repair it. ¹³Howbeit there were not to be made for the house of the Lord doors of silver, studs, basons, or trumpets, any vessel of gold, or vessel of silver, of the money that was brought into the house of the Lord: ¹⁴for they were to give it to the workmen; and they repaired therewith the house of the Lord. ¹⁵Moreover they reckoned not with the men, into whose hands they gave the money to be bestowed on the workmen: for they dealt faithfully. ¹⁶Money for a sin offering, and money for a trespass offering, whatsoever happened to be brought into the house of the Lord, went to the priests. ¹⁷Then Hazael king of Syria went up, and fought against Gath, and took it: and Hazael set his face to go against Jerusalem.

¹⁸And Joash king of Judah took all the holy things which Jehoshaphat, and Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had consecrated, and what he had himself dedicated, and all of the gold that was found in the treasures of the house of the Lord, and in the king's house, and sent them to Hazael king of Syria: and he went up from Jerusalem. ¹⁹And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, behold, are not these things written in the

book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ²⁰And his servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and smote Joash in the house of Mallo, that is in Sela. ²¹And Jozachar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad the son of Shomar, his servants, smote him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 13

In the three and twentieth year of Joash the son of Ahaziah king of Judah Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign in Samaria, *and reigned* seventeen years. ²And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked after the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which led Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom. ³And the Lord was very angry with Israel, and He delivered them into the hand of Hazael king of Syria, and into the hand of the son of Hada the son of Hazael, all their days. ⁴And Jehoahaz besought the Lord, and the Lord hearkened unto him: for He saw the oppression of Israel, because the king of Syria oppressed them. ⁵And the Lord gave deliverance unto Israel, and they escaped from under the hand of Syria: and the sons of Israel dwelt in their tents, as beforetime. ⁶Nevertheless they departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, which led Israel to sin: they walked therein; and there remained the grove also in Samaria. ⁷Whereas there was left no army to Jehoahaz but fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen: for the king of Syria had destroyed them, and made them like the dust for treading. ⁸And the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his mighty acts, behold, are not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? ⁹And Jehoahaz slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria: and Joash his son reigned in his stead.

¹⁰In the thirty and seventh year of Joash king of Judah began Joash the son of Jehoahaz to reign over Israel in Samaria sixteen years. ¹¹And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord; he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which led Israel to sin: he walked therein. ¹²And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, and his mighty acts which he performed together with Amaziah king of Judah, are not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? ¹³And Joash slept with his fathers; and Jeroboam sat upon his throne: and he was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

¹⁴Now Elisha was fallen sick of his sickness whereof he died: and Joash the king of Israel went down unto him, and wept over his face, and said, O my father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horseman thereof. ¹⁵And Elisha said unto him, Take bow and arrows. And he took unto him bow and arrows. ¹⁶And he said unto the king, Put thine hand upon the bow. And Joash put his hand upon it: and Elisha put his hands upon the king's hands. ¹⁷And he said, Open the window eastward. And he opened it. And Elisha said, Shoot. And he shot. And Elisha said, The arrow of the Lord's deliverance, and the arrow of deliverance from Syria: and thou shalt smite the

Syrians in Aphek, till thou have consumed them. ¹⁸And Elisha said unto him, Take bow and arrows. And he took them. And he said unto the king of Israel, Smite upon the ground. And the king smote thrice, and stayed. ¹⁹And the man of God was grieved at him, and said, Hadst thou smitten five or six times, then hadst thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed them: seeing now thou shalt smite Syria but thrice. ²⁰And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites came into the land at the coming in of the year. ²¹And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that they saw a band of men; and they cast the man into the grave of Elisha: and as soon as he touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet. ²²And Hazael greatly afflicted Israel all the days of Jehoahaz. ²³And the Lord had mercy and compassion upon them, and had respect unto them, because of His covenant with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob; and the Lord would not destroy them, neither did he cast them out from His presence. ²⁴And Hazael died; and the son of Hadad his son reigned in his stead. ²⁵And Joash the son of Jehoahaz returned, and took again out of the hand of the son of Hadad the son of Hazael the cities, which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father in the war: three times did Joash smite him, and recovered the cities of Israel.

CHAPTER 14

In the second year of Joash the son of Jehoahaz king of Israel began Amaziah also the son of Joash king of Judah to reign. ²He was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. ³And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, yet not like David his father: he did according to all things as Joash his father did. ⁴Howbeit he took not away the high places: as yet the people did sacrifice and burnt incense on the high places. ⁵And it came to pass, when the kingdom was confirmed in his hand, that he slew his servants which had slain the king his father. ⁶But the sons of them which had slain him he slew not: according as it is written in the book of the laws of Moses, as the Lord gave commandment, saying, The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, nor the children be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall die for his own sin. ⁷He smote of Edom in the valley of salt ten thousand, and took the Rock in the war, and called the name of it Joktheel unto this day. ⁸Then Amaziah sent messengers to Joash the son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Come, let us look one another in the face. ⁹And Joash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, Give thy daughter to my son to wife: and there passed by the wild beasts that were in Lebanon, and trode down the thistle. ¹⁰Thou hast smitten and wounded Edom, and thine heart hath lifted thee up: glorify thee, as thou sittest in thine house: for why art thou quarrelsome to thine hurt? so wilt thou fall, and Judah with thee. ¹¹But Amaziah hearkened

not: so Joash king of Israel went up, and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face in Beth-shemesh of Judah. ¹²And Judah fell before Israel, and he fled every man to his tent. ¹³And Joash king of Israel took Amaziah the son of Joash, the son of Ahaziah, in Beth-shemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem at the gate of Ephraim unto the corner gate, four hundred cubits. ¹⁴And he took the gold, and the silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the Lord, and in the treasures of the king's house, and hostages, and returned to Samaria. ¹⁵And the rest of the acts of Joash, all that he did in his might, how he warred with Amaziah king of Judah, are not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? ¹⁶And Joash slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel; and Jeroboam his son reigned in his stead. ¹⁷And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years. ¹⁸And the rest of the acts of Amaziah, and all that he did, are these not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ¹⁹And they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem: and he fled to Lachish; but they sent after him to Lachish, and slew him there. ²⁰And they brought him on horses: and he was buried in Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David. ²¹And all the people of Judah took Azariah; and he was fifteen years old; and made him king in the room of his father Amaziah. ²²He built Elath, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

²³In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned forty and one years. ²⁴And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which led Israel to sin. ²⁵He recovered the coast of Israel from the entering of Hamath to the sea of Arabah, according to the word of the Lord God of Israel, which he spake by the hand of His servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet of Gath-hepher. ²⁶For the Lord saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter, and that they were few in number, straitened, and in want, and destitute; and Israel had no helper. ²⁷And the Lord said not that He would blot out the seed of Israel from under heaven: so He delivered them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash. ²⁸And the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his mighty deeds, which he achieved in war, and how recovered Damascus and Hamath to Judah in Israel, are not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? ²⁹And Jeroboam slept with his fathers, even with the kings of Israel; and Zachariah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 15

In the twenty and seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel began Uzziah the son of Amaziah king of Judah to reign. ²Sixteen years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned two and fifty years in Jerusalem: and his

mother's name was Jeholiah of Jerusalem. ³And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all things that his father Amaziah had done. ⁴Only he removed not any of the high places: as yet the people sacrificed and burnt incense on the high places. ⁵And the Lord touched the king, and he was leprous unto the day of his death, and reigned in a several house. And Jotham the king's son was over the house, judging the people of the land. ⁶And the rest of the acts of Uzziah, and all that he did, are not these written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ⁷And Uzziah slept with his fathers: and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Jotham his son reigned in his stead.

⁸In the thirty and eighth year of Uzziah king of Judah began Zachariah the son of Jeroboam to reign over Israel in Samaria six months. ⁹And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, as his fathers had done: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin. ¹⁰And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and they smote him in Keblaam, and slew him; and he reigned in his stead. ¹¹And the rest of the acts of Zachariah, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel. ¹²*This was* the word of the Lord which He spake unto Jehu, saying, Thy sons of the fourth generation shall sit upon the throne of Israel: and so it came to pass.

¹³And Shallum the son of Jabesh reigned: and in the nine and thirtieth year of Uzziah king of Judah began Shallum to reign a full month in Samaria. ¹⁴And Menahem the son of Gadi went up out of Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and smote Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, and slew him. ¹⁵And the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy wherein he was engaged, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel. ¹⁶Then Menahem smote both Tirzah, and all that was therein, and the coasts thereof beyond Tirzah because they opened not to him: and he smote it, and the women with child he ripped up.

¹⁷In the nine and thirtieth year of Uzziah king of Judah began Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel ten years in Samaria. ¹⁸And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who led Israel to sin. ¹⁹In his days went Pul the king of the Assyrians against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, to aid him with his power. ²⁰And Menahem raised the silver by a tax upon Israel, even of every mighty man of wealth, to give to the king of the Assyrians, of each man fifty shekels: and the king of Assyria departed, and stayed not there in the land. ²¹And the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, behold, are not these written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? ²²And Menahem slept with his fathers; and Pekahiah his son reigned in his stead.

²³In the fiftieth year of Uzziah king of Judah Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria two years. ²⁴And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin. ²⁵And Pekah the son of Remeliah, a captain of his, conspired against him, and smote him in Samaria,

in the front of the king's house, with Argob and Arieah, and with him fifty men of the four hundred: and he killed him, and reigned in his room. ²⁶And the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

²⁷In the two and fiftieth year of Uzziah king of Judah Pekah the son of Remeliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned twenty years. ²⁸And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who led Israel to sin. ²⁹In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglath-pileser king of the Assyrians, and took Ijon, and Abel Beth Maachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them away to the Assyrians. ³⁰And Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remeliah, and smote him, and slew him, and reigned in his stead, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah. ³¹And the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

³²In the second year of Pekah the son of Remeliah king of Israel began Jotham the son of Uzziah king of Judah to reign. ³³Five and twenty years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jerusha the daughter of Zadok. ³⁴And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all things that his father Azariah had done. ³⁵Howbeit he took not away the high places: as yet the people sacrificed and burned incense in the high places. He built the upper gate of the Lord's house. ³⁶And the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, are not these written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ³⁷In those days the Lord began to send against Judah Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remeliah. ³⁸And Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 16

In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remeliah Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign. ²Twenty years old was he when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem; and he did not that which was right in the sight of the Lord his God faithfully, like David his father. ³And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, yea, he made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom the Lord cast out from before the sons of Israel. ⁴And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every tree of the grove. ⁵Then Rezin king of Syria and Pekah son of Remeliah king of Israel went up against Jerusalem to war: and they besieged Ahaz, but could not prevail *against him*. ⁶At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to Syria, and drove the Jews from Elath: and the Idumeans came to Elath, and dwelt there unto this day. ⁷And Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser king of the

Assyrians, saying, I am thy servant and thy son: come up, and deliver me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, which rise up against me. ⁸And Ahaz took the silver and the gold that was found in the treasures of the house of the Lord, and of the king's house, and sent presents to the king. ⁹And the king of the Assyrians hearkened unto him: and the king of the Assyrians went up to Damascus, and took it, and removed the people of it, and slew king Rezin. ¹⁰And king Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-pileser king of the Assyrians at Damascus, and saw an altar that was at Damascus. And the king sent to Urijah the priest the pattern of the altar, and the proportions of it, and all the workmanship thereof. ¹¹And Urijah the priest built the altar, according to all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus. ¹²And the king saw the altar, and went up to it, ¹³and offered his whole burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering, and poured out the blood of his peace offerings upon the brasen altar, which was before the Lord. ¹⁴And he brought forward *the altar, which was* before the house of the Lord, from between the altar and the house of the Lord, and set it openly by the side of the altar northward. ¹⁵And king Ahaz commanded Urijah the priest, saying, Upon the great altar offer the whole burnt offering in the morning, and the meat offering in the evening, and the whole burnt offering of the king, and his meat offering, and the whole burnt offering of all the people, and their meat offering, and their drink offering; and thou shalt pour upon it all the blood of the whole burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice: and the brasen altar shall be for me in the morning. ¹⁶And Urijah the priest did all that king Ahaz commanded him. ¹⁷And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed the laver from off them, and took down the sea from off the brasen oxen that were under it, and put it upon a base of stone. ¹⁸And he made it a base for the throne in the house of the Lord, and turned the king's entrance without in the house of the Lord, because of the king of the Assyrians. ¹⁹And the rest of the acts of Ahaz, even all that he did, are not these written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ²⁰And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 17

In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah began Hoshea the son of Elah to reign in Samaria over Israel nine years. ²And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, but not as the kings of Israel that were before him. ³Against him came up Shalmaneser king of the Assyrians; and Hoshea became his servant, and rendered him tribute. ⁴And the king of the Assyrians found iniquity in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no tribute to the king of the Assyrians in that year: and the king of the Assyrians besieged him, and bound him in the prison house. ⁵And the king of the Assyrians came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years. ⁶In the ninth year of Hosheah the king of the

Assyrians took Samaria, and carried Israel away to the Assyrians, and settled them in Halah and in Habor by the rivers of Gozan, and in the mountains of the Medes. ⁷For so it was, that the sons of Israel had transgressed against the Lord their God, which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods, ⁸and walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom the Lord cast out from the face of the sons of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, as many as did *such things*, ⁹and of the sons of Israel, as many as did secretly practise customs against the Lord their God: ¹⁰and they built them high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the strong city. And they made them pillars and groves in every high hill, and under every shady tree: ¹¹and there they burnt incense in all the high places, as did the heathen whom the Lord removed from before them; and dealt with familiar spirits, and carved *images* to provoke the Lord to anger. ¹²And they served the idols, whereof the Lord had said unto them, Ye shall not do this thing *against* the Lord. ¹³And the Lord testified against Israel, and against Judah, by the hand of all His prophets, and of every seer, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep My commandments and Mine ordinances, and all the law which I commanded your fathers, and all that I sent to them by the hand of My servants the prophets. ¹⁴Notwithstanding they hearkened not; and hardened their neck harder than the neck of their fathers. ¹⁵And they kept not any of His testimonies which He charged them; and they walked after vanities, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them, not to do accordingly. ¹⁶They left all the commandments of the Lord their God, and made them graven images, even two heifers, and made groves, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. ¹⁷And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divinations and auspices, and sold themselves to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger. ¹⁸And the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of His sight: and there was left only the tribe of Judah quite alone. ¹⁹Nay, even Judah kept not the commandments of the Lord their God, but walked according to the customs of Israel which they practised, and rejected the Lord. ²⁰And the Lord was angry with all the seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and gave them into the hand of them that spoiled them, until He had cast them out of His sight; ²¹forasmuch as Israel revolted from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drew off Israel from following the Lord, and led them to sin a great sin. ²²And the sons of Israel walked in all the sin of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not therefrom; ²³until the Lord removed Israel out of His sight, as the Lord spake by the hand of all His servants the prophets: and Israel was removed from off their land to the Assyrians unto this day.

²⁴And the king of Assyria brought from Babylon, the men out of Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and Sepharvaim; and they were settled in the cities of Samaria in the room of the sons of Israel: and they inherited Samaria, and were settled in the cities thereof. ²⁵And so it was at

the beginning of their placing there, that they feared not the Lord: and the Lord sent lions among them, and they slew some of them. ²⁶And they spake unto the king of the Assyrians, saying, The nations which thou hast removed, and substituted in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: and He hath sent the lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land. ²⁷And the king of the Assyrians commanded, saying, Bring some from thence, and let them go and dwell there; and let them teach them the manner of the God of the land. ²⁸And they brought one of the priests whom they had removed from Samaria, and he settled in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear the Lord. ²⁹Howbeit the nations made each their own gods, and put them in the houses of the high places which the Samaritans had made, each nation in the cities wherein they dwelt. ³⁰And the men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergel, and the men of Hamath made Ashima. ³¹And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and them of Sepharvaim burnt their children in the fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim. ³²And they feared the Lord, yet they established their abominations in the houses of the high places which they made in Samaria, each nation in the city wherein they dwelt, and unto themselves priests of the high places, and sacrificed for themselves in the house of the high places. ³³And they feared the Lord, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations from whence their lords had brought them. ³⁴Unto this day they did after their manner: they fear the Lord, and do according to their customs, and according to their manner, and according to the law, and according to the commandment which the Lord commanded the sons of Jacob, whose name He made Israel. ³⁵And the Lord made a covenant with them, and charged them, saying, Ye shall not fear other gods, neither shall ye worship them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them: ³⁶but only to the Lord, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and an high arm: Him shall ye fear, and Him shall ye worship; to Him shall ye do sacrifice. ³⁷The ordinances, and the judgments, and the law, and the commandments, which He wrote for you to do, ye shall observe continually; and ye shall not fear other gods. ³⁸And the covenant which He made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye fear other gods. ³⁹But the Lord your God ye shall fear: and He shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies. ⁴⁰Neither shall ye do after the practices of them. ⁴¹So these nations feared the Lord, and served their graven images: yea, their children, and their children's children do even as their fathers did unto this day.

CHAPTER 18

And it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. ²Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem: his mother's name also was Abi, the daughter of

Zachariah. ³And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that David his father did. ⁴He removed the high places, and brake in pieces the pillars, and utterly destroyed the groves, and the brazen serpent which Moses made: for unto those days the sons of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan. ⁵He hoped in the Lord God of Israel; and after him there was not any like him among the kings of Judah, nor among those that were before him. ⁶And he clave to the Lord, and departed not from following Him, and kept His commandments, as many as He commanded Moses. ⁷And the Lord was with him; and he was wise in all that he undertook: and he revolted from the king of the Assyrians, and served him not. ⁸He smote the Philistines, even unto Gaza, and to the border thereof, from the tower of the watchman to the strong city.

⁹And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, (this was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel,) that Shalmaneser king of the Assyrians came up against Samaria, and besieged it. ¹⁰And at end of three years he took it, even in the sixth year of Hezekiah: this is the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, when Samaria was taken. ¹¹And the king of the Assyrians did carry away Samaria to the Assyrians, and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the mountains of the Medes: ¹²because they hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord their God, and transgressed His covenant, even in all things that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded, and hearkened not to them, nor did them.

¹³And in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of the Assyrians come up against the strong cities of Judah, and took them. ¹⁴And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of the Assyrians to Lachish, saying, I have offended; depart from me: whatsoever thou layest upon me, I will bear. And the king of the Assyrians laid upon Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. ¹⁵And Hezekiah gave all the silver that was found in the house of the Lord, and in the treasures of the king's house. ¹⁶At that time did Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the temple, and from the pillars which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid with gold, and gave it to the king of the Assyrians. ¹⁷And the king of the Assyrians sent Tartan and Rabsaris and Rab-shakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah with a heavy force against Jerusalem. And they went and came to Jerusalem, and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is by the way of the fuller's field. ¹⁸And they cried to Hezekiah, and there came to him Eliakim the son of Hilkiah the steward, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder. ¹⁹And Rab-shakeh said unto them, Speak ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the king, the great king of the Assyrians, What confidence is this wherein thou trustest? ²⁰Thou hast said, (but they are but words,) I have counsel and strength for war. Now then on whom dost thou trust, that thou hast revolted from me? ²¹Now see, dost thou trust for thyself upon this broken staff of reed, even upon Egypt? whosoever stayest himself thereon, it will even go into his hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt unto all that trust on him. ²²And seeing thou hast said unto me, We trust in the Lord God: is not this He, whose high places and whose altars

Hezekiah hath taken away, and hath said to Judah and Jerusalem, Ye shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem? ²³And now, I pray thee, make an agreement with my lord the king of the Assyrians, and I will give thee two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders upon them. ²⁴How then wilt thou turn away the face of one local ruler from among the least of my lord's servants, seeing thou putttest thy trust on Egypt for chariots and horsemen? ²⁵And now are we come up without the Lord against this place to destroy it? The Lord said to me, Go up against this land, and destroy it. ²⁶And Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and Shebna, and Joah, said unto Rabshakeh, Speak now to thy servants in the Syrian language; for we understand it: and talk not with us in the Jews' language: and wherefore speakest thou in the ears of the people that are on the wall. ²⁷And Rabshakeh said unto them, Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men which sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss together with you? ²⁸And Rabshakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in the Jewish language, and spake, and said, Hear the words of the great king of the Assyrians: ²⁹Thus saith the king, Let not Hezekiah encourage you with words: for he shall not be able to deliver you out of his hand: ³⁰neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord, saying, The Lord will surely deliver us; this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of the Assyrians. Hearken not to Hezekiah: ³¹for thus saith the king of the Assyrians, Gain ye my favour, and come out to me: and every man shall drink of his own vine, and every man shall eat of his own fig tree, and shall drink water out of his own cistern: ³²until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, and bread and vineyards, a land of olive oil and of honey; and ye shall live, and not die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah, for he deceiveth you, saying, The Lord will deliver you. ³³Have the gods of the nations at all delivered each their own land out of the hand of the king of the Assyrians? ³⁴Where is the god of Hamath, and of Arpad? where is the god of Sepharvaim, Henah, and Ivah? for have they delivered Samaria out of mine hand? ³⁵Who is there among the gods of the countries, that have delivered their countries out of mine hand, that the Lord should deliver Jerusalem out of mine hand? ³⁶But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word: for there was a commandment of the king, saying, Answer him not. ³⁷Then came in Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, the steward, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah, having rent their clothes, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

CHAPTER 19

And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth, and went into the house of the Lord. ²And he sent Eliakim the steward, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, clothed with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amos. ³And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of tribulation, and

of rebuke, and of provocation: for the children are come to the travail, but the mother hath no strength. ⁴It may be the Lord thy God will hear all the words of Rab-shekah, whom the king of the Assyrians his master hath sent to reproach the living God, and to revile Him with the words which the Lord thy God hath heard: and thou shalt offer thy prayer for the remnant that is found. ⁵So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah. ⁶And Isaiah said unto them, "Thus shall ye say to your master, Thus saith the Lord, Be not afraid of the words which thou hast heard, wherewith the servants of the king of the Assyrians have blasphemed. ⁷Behold, I do send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a report, and shall return to his own land; and I will overthrow him with the sword in his own land.

⁸So Rab-shekah returned, and found the king of the Assyrians warring against Libnah: for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish. ⁹And he heard concerning Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, saying, Behold, he is come out to fight with thee: and he returned, and sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying, ¹⁰Let not thy God in whom thou trustest encourage thee, saying, Jerusalem shall not be delivered into the hands of the king of the Assyrians. ¹¹Behold, thou hast heard all that the kings of the Assyrians have done in all the lands, to anathematize them: and shalt thou be delivered? ¹²Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed; both Gozan, and Haran, and Rezep, and the sons of Eden which were in Thelasar? ¹³Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad? and where is the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivah? ¹⁴And Hezekiah took the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the Lord, and Hezekiah spread it before the Lord, ¹⁵and said, O Lord God of Israel, Which dwellest over the cherubim, Thou art the only God in all the kingdoms of the earth; Thou hast made heaven and earth. ¹⁶Lord, bow down Thine ear, and hear: open, Lord, Thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he hath sent to reproach the living God. ¹⁷For of a truth, Lord, the kings of the Assyrians have wasted the nations, ¹⁸and have cast their gods into the fire: for they are no gods, but the works of men's hands, wood and stone: and they have destroyed them. ¹⁹And now, O Lord our God, deliver us out of his hand, and all the kingdoms of the earth shall know that Thou only art the Lord God.

²⁰And Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the Lord God of hosts, the God of Israel, I have heard thy prayer to me concerning Sennacherib king of the Assyrians. ²¹This is the word that the Lord hath spoken against him; The virgin daughter of Zion hath made light of thee, and laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee. ²²Whom hast thou reproached, and whom hast thou reviled? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high: even against the Holy One of Israel? ²³By the hand of thy messengers hast thou reproached the Lord, and said, With the multitude of my chariots will I go up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon; and I have cut down the height of His tall cedar tree, and His choice cypresses: and I am come into the midst of the forest, and of Carmel. ²⁴I have refreshed and

drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of fortified places. ²⁵I have brought it about, I have brought it to an end; and it is come to the destruction of the bands of warlike prisoners, even of strong cities. ²⁶And they that dwelt in them were weak of hand; they did tremble, and were confounded; they became as the grass of the field, or as the green herb, the grass that groweth on the houses, and that which is trod down by him that standeth upon it. ²⁷But I know thy downsitting, and thy going out, and thy rage against Me. ²⁸Because thou wast angry against Me, and thy fierceness is come up even into Mine ears, therefore will I put My hook into thy nostrils, and My bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest. ²⁹And this shall be a sign unto thee: eat thou this year the things that grow of themselves, and in the second year the things which spring up; and in the third year let there be sowing, and reaping, and planting of vineyards, and eat the fruits thereof. ³⁰And him that is escaped of the house of Judah shall He increase: and the remnant shall take root downward, and bear fruit upward. ³¹For out of Zion shall go forth a remnant, and he that escapeth out of mount Zion: the zeal of the Lord shall do this. ³²Is it not so? Thus saith the Lord, concerning the king of the Assyrians, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, neither shall a shield come against it, nor shall he heap a mound against it. ³³By the way that he cometh, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the Lord. ³⁴And I will defend this city as with a shield, for Mine own sake, and for My servant David's sake.

³⁵And it came to pass at night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and they arose early in the morning, and, behold, *they were* all dead corpses. ³⁶And Sennacherib king of the Assyrians departed, and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh. ³⁷And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia; and Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 20

In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came in to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Give charge to thine household; thou shalt die, and not live. ²And Hezekiah turned to the wall, and prayed unto the Lord, saying, ³O Lord, I pray Thee, remember how I have walked before Thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in Thy sight. And Hezekiah wept with a great weeping. ⁴And Isaiah was in the middle court, and the word of the Lord came to him, saying, ⁵Turn back; and thou shalt say to Hezekiah the ruler of My people, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the Lord. ⁶And I will add unto thy days fifteen

years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of the Assyrians; and I will defend this city for Mine own sake, and for My servant David's sake. ⁷And he said, Let them take a cake of figs, and lay it upon the ulcer, and he shall be well. ⁸And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the Lord will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the Lord the third day? ⁹And Isaiah said, This is the sign of the Lord, that the Lord will do the thing that He hath spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, *or* if it should go back ten degrees? ¹⁰And Hezekiah said, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward on the dial ten degrees. ¹¹And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the Lord: and the shadow returned ten degrees backward on the dial. ¹²At that time Berodach-baladan, the son of Baladan king of Babylon, sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick. ¹³And Hezekiah rejoiced at them, and shewed them all the house of his spices, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the fine oil, and the armoury, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, and in all his dominions, that Hezekiah shewed them not. ¹⁴And Isaiah the prophet went in unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee? And Hezekiah said, They are come unto me from a distant land, even from Babylon. ¹⁵And he said, What saw they in thine house? And he said, All the things that are in mine house they saw: there was nothing among my treasures that I shewed them not; yea, all that was in my treasures also. ¹⁶And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the Lord: ¹⁷Behold, the days come, that all things that are in thine house, and that which thy fathers have treasured up unto this day, shall be taken into Babylon: and there shall not fail a word which the Lord hath spoken. ¹⁸And as for thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, they shall be taken; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon. ¹⁹And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, Good is the word of the Lord which thou hast spoken: *only* let there be peace in my days. ²⁰And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and all that he made, the fountain, and the conduit, and *how* he brought water into the city, are not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ²¹And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 21

Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Hephzi-bah. ²And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, after the abominations of the heathen, whom the Lord cast out from before the sons of Israel. ³And he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up an altar to Baal, and made groves, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them. ⁴And he built an altar in the house of the Lord; whereas He had said, In Jerusalem

will I put My name. ⁵And he built an altar for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord. ⁶And he made his sons pass through the fire, and used divination, and auspices, and made groves, and multiplied wizards, to do that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger. ⁷And he set the graven image of the grove in the house of which the Lord had said to David, and to Solomon his son, in his house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, will I even put My name for ever. ⁸And I will not again remove the foot of Israel from the land which I gave their fathers, who shall keep all that I have commanded, according to all the commandments that My servant Moses commanded them. ⁹But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do evil in the sight of the Lord, more than the nations whom the Lord utterly destroyed from before the sons of Israel. ¹⁰And the Lord spake by His servants the prophets, saying, ¹¹Forasmuch as Manasseh the king of Judah hath done all these evil abominations, beyond all that the Amorite did, which lived before him, and hath led Judah also into sin by their idols, ¹²it shall not be so. Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Behold, I am bringing calamities upon Jerusalem and Judah, that both the ears of every one that heareth shall tingle. ¹³And I will stretch over Jerusalem the measure of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab: and I will wipe Jerusalem, as a jar is wiped, and turned upside down in the wiping. ¹⁴And I will reject the remnant of Mine inheritance, and deliver them into the hands of their enemies; and they shall be for a plunder and a spoil to all their enemies: ¹⁵forasmuch as they have done wickedly in My sight, and have provoked Me to anger from the day that I brought their fathers out of Egypt, even unto this day. ¹⁶Moreover Manasseh shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to the other; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing evil in the sight of the Lord. ¹⁷And all the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, are not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ¹⁸And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzzah: and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

¹⁹Amon was twenty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Meshullemeth, the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah. ²⁰And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, as his father Manasseh did. ²¹And he walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and worshipped them. ²²And he forsook the Lord God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of the Lord. ²³And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and slew the king in his own house. ²⁴And the people of the land smote all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead. ²⁵And the rest of the acts of Amon, even all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ²⁶And they buried him in his sepulchre in the garden of Uzzah: and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 22

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath. ²And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in all the way of David his father: he turned not aside to the right hand or to the left. ³And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, in the eighth month, that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azalaih, the son of Meshullam, the scribe of the house of the Lord, saying, ⁴Go up to Hilkiah the high priest, and seal the amount of the money which is brought into the house of the Lord, which they that keep the door have collected of the people. ⁵And let them give it into the hand of the workmen that are appointed in the house of the Lord. And he gave it to the workmen in the house of the Lord, to repair the breaches in the house, ⁶even unto the carpenters, and builders, and masons, and also to buy timber and hewn stones to repair the breaches of the house. ⁷Only they did not call them to account for the money that was given them, because they dealt faithfully. ⁸And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it. ⁹And he went into the house of the Lord unto the king, and reported the matter to the king, and said, Thy servants have collected the money that was found in the house of the Lord, and have given it into the hand of the workmen that are appointed in the house of the Lord. ¹⁰And Shaphan the scribe spake unto the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath given me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king. ¹¹And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the book of the law, that he rent his clothes. ¹²And the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Micaiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asahiah the servant of the king, saying, ¹³Go ye, inquire of the Lord for me, and for all the people, and for all Judah, and concerning the words of this book of this book that is found: for great is the wrath of the Lord that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according unto all things that are written concerning us. ¹⁴So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the mother of Shallum, the son of Tikvah the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in Masena;) and the communed with her. ¹⁵And she said unto them, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Say unto the man that sent you to me, ¹⁶Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read: ¹⁷because they have forsaken Me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke Me to anger with the works of their hands; therefore My wrath shall burn forth against this place, and shall not be quenched. ¹⁸But to the king of Judah which sent you to inquire of the Lord, thus shall ye say to him, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, As touching the words which thou hast heard; ¹⁹because thine heart was softened, and thou wast humbled

before Me, when thou heardest all that I spake against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that it should be for an abolition, and for a curse, and didst rend thy clothes, and weep before Me; I also have heard, saith the Lord. ²⁰It shall not be so *therefore*: behold, I will add thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered into thy sepulchre in peace; and thine eyes shall not see *any* among all the evils which I will bring upon this place. And they brought the king word.

CHAPTER 23

And the king sent, and gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. ²And the king went up into the house of the Lord, and every man of Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the house of the Lord. ³And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord, to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His ordinances with all the heart and all the soul, to confirm the words of this covenant, even the things written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant. ⁴And the king commanded Hilkiyah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and them that kept the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the grove, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and took the ashes of them to Bethel. ⁵And he burned the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained; (and they burned incense in the high places, and in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem;) them also that burned incense unto Baal, and to the sun, and to the moon, and to the mazuroth, and to all the hosts of heaven. ⁶And he carried out the grove from the house of the Lord unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and reduced it to ashes, and cast the powder thereof upon the sepulchres of the children of the people. ⁷And he brake down the house of the sodomites, that were by the house of the Lord, where the women wove tents for the grove. ⁸And he brought all the priests up from the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba even to Beer-sheba, and brake down the house of the gates that was by the entering in of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's left hand at the gate of the city. ⁹Nevertheless the priests of the high places went not up to the altar of the Lord in Jerusalem, for they only did eat unleavened bread among their brethren. ¹⁰And he defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, which was for a man to make his son or his daughter to pass through fire to Moloch. ¹¹And he burned the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entering in of the house of the Lord, by the treasury of Nathan the king's eunuch, which was in the suburbs, and burned the chariot of the sun with fire. ¹²And the altars that were on the roof of the

upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the Lord, did the king pull down, and remove them by force from thence, and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron. ¹³And the house that was before Jerusalem, which was on the right hand of the mount of Mosoath, which Solomon the king had builded to Ashtoreth the abomination of the Zidonians, and to Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and to Milcom the abomination of the children of Ammon, did the king defile. ¹⁴And he brake in pieces the pillars, and utterly destroyed the groves, and filled their places with the bones of men. ¹⁵Also the high altar in Bethel, which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, even that high altar he tore down, and brake in pieces the stones thereof, and reduced it to powder, and burned the grove. ¹⁶And Josiah turned himself aside, and spied the sepulchres that were there in the city, and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of the Lord which the man of God spake, when Jeroboam stood by the altar at the feast: and he turned, and lifted up his eyes unto the sepulchre of the man of God, which spake these words. ¹⁷And he said, What is that mound which I see? And the men of the city said unto him, It is the sepulchre of the man of God that came out of Judah, and invoked these words, which he invoked against the altar of Bethel. ¹⁸And he said, Let him alone; let none disturb his bones. So his bones were spared, with the bones of the prophet that came out of Samaria. ¹⁹Moreover all the houses of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke the Lord to anger, Josiah took away, and did to them all that he did in Bethel. ²⁰And he sacrificed all the priests of the high places that were there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem.

²¹And the king commanded all the people, saying, Keep the passover unto the Lord your God, as it is written in the book of this covenant. ²²For such a passover such as this had not been holden from the days of the judges that judged Israel, even all the days of the kings of Israel, and of the kings of Judah. ²³But in the eighteenth year of king Josiah was the passover holden to the Lord in Jerusalem. ²⁴Moreover the sorcerers, and the wizards, and the theraphin, and the idols, and all the abominations that had been set up in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might keep the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the Lord. ²⁵Like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his strength, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there not one like him. ²⁶Notwithstanding the Lord turned not from the fierceness of His great wrath, wherewith He was wroth in His anger against Judah, because of the provocations that Manasseh had provoked Him withal. ²⁷And the Lord said, I will remove Judah also out of My sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city which I have chosen, even Jerusalem, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there. ²⁸And the rest of the acts of Josiah, and all that he did, are not these things written in the book of the

chronicles of the kings of Judah? ²⁹And in his days went up Pharaoh Nechoh king of Egypt against the king of the Assyrians to the river Euphrates: and king Josiah went out to meet him; and Nechoh slew him in Megiddo when he had seen him. ³⁰And his servants carried him in a chariot dead from Megiddo, and brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own sepulchre: and the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's stead. ³¹Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. ³²And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers did. ³³And Pharaoh Nechoh removed him to Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put a tribute on the land of an hundred talents of silver, and an hundred talents of gold. ³⁴And Pharaoh Nechoh made Eliakim the son of Josiah king of Judah over them in the room of Josiah his father: and he turned his name to Jehoiakim, and took Jehoahaz away, and brought him to Egypt; and he died there. ³⁵And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh; but he assessed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh: they gave the silver and the gold of each man according to his assessment, together with the people of the land, to give it unto Pharaoh Nechoh. ³⁶Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Pedaiah of Rumah. ³⁷And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done.

CHAPTER 24

¹In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon went up, and Jehoiakim became his servant three years: and he turned and revolted from him. ²And the Lord sent against him the bands of the Chaldees, and the bands of Syria, and the bands of Moab, and the bands of the children of Ammon, and sent them into the land of Judah to prevail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by the hand of His servants the prophets. ³Moreover it was the purpose of the Lord concerning Judah, to remove them out of His sight, because of the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he did. ⁴Moreover he shed innocent blood, and filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; and the Lord would not be propitiated. ⁵And the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, behold, are not these written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ⁶And Jehoiakim slept with his fathers: and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his stead. ⁷And the king of Egypt came not any more out of his land: for the king of Babylon had taken from the river of Egypt unto the river Euphrates all that pertained to the king of Egypt.

⁸Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months: and his mother's name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem. ⁹And he did that which was evil in

the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father had done. ¹⁰At that time Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon went up to Jerusalem, and the city was besieged. ¹¹And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants did besiege it. ¹²And Jehoiachin the king of Judah came forth to the king of Babylon, he, and his servants, and his mother, and his princes, and his eunuchs: and the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign. ¹³And he brought forth thence all the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the Lord, according to the word of the Lord. ¹⁴And he away all Jerusalem, and all the captains, and the mighty men, and took captive ten thousand prisoners, every artificer and smith: and only the poor of the land were left. ¹⁵And he carried away Joachim to Babylon, and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his eunuchs: and all the mighty men of the land carried he away into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon. ¹⁶And all the men of might, even seven thousand, and artificers and smiths a thousand, all of them strong and apt for war, them the king of Babylon carried captive to Babylon. ¹⁷And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his son king in his stead, and called his name Zedekiah.

¹⁸Zedekiah was twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah. ¹⁹And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that Jehoiachin did. ²⁰For it was according to the Lord's mind to bring evil upon Jerusalem and upon Judah, until He had cast them out from His presence, that Zedekiah revolted against the king of Babylon.

CHAPTER 25

And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it, and built a mound against it. ²And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah, on the ninth day of the month. ³And the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land. ⁴And the city was broken up, and all the men of war went forth by night by the way of the gate between the walls; (this is the gate of the king's garden;) and the Chaldees were against the city round about: and the king went by the way of the plain. ⁵And the force of the Chaldees pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho: and all his army was scattered from about him. ⁶And they took the king, and brought him to the king of Babylon to Riblah; and he gave judgment upon him. ⁷And he slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him in fetters, and brought him to Babylon.

⁸And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, (this is the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon,) came Nebuzar-adan the chief cook, which stood before the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem. ⁹And he

burnt the house of the Lord, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem: even every house did the chief cook burn. ¹⁰And the force of the Chaldees did pull down the walls of Jerusalem round about. ¹¹And the rest of the people that were left in the city, and the deserters that fell away to the king of Babylon, and the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzar-adan the chief cook carry away. ¹²But the chief cook left of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and husbandmen. ¹³And the pillars of brass that were in the house of the Lord, and the bases, and the brasen sea that was in the house of the Lord, did the Chaldees brake in pieces, and carried the brass of them to Babylon. ¹⁴And the caldrons, and the shovels, and the bowls, and the censers, and all the vessels of brass wherewith they would minister, took he. ¹⁵And the firepans, and the gold and silver bowls, the chief cook took. ¹⁶Two pillars, and one sea, and the bases which Solomon had made for the house of the Lord; of the brass of all the vessels was there no weight. ¹⁷The height of one pillar was eighteen cubits, and the chapter upon it was of brass: and the height of the chapter was three cubits; the border, and the pomegranates on the chapter round about were all of brass: and so it was with the second pillar with the border thereof. ¹⁸And the chief cook took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah, the second in order, and the three keepers of the door. ¹⁹And out of the city they took one eunuch that was commander of the men of war, and five men that saw the face of the king, that were found in the city, and the scribe of the chief commander, which drew up the order of battle of the people of the land, and threescore men of the people of the land that were found in the city. ²⁰And Nabuzar-adan the chief cook took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah. ²¹And the king of Babylon smote them, and slew them at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was carried away out of his land.

²²And as for the people that remained in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left, even over them he set Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan. ²³And all the captains of the armies, they and their sons, heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah: and they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan the son of Careah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men. ²⁴And Gedaliah sware to them, and to their men, and said unto them, Fear not the passing of the Chaldees: dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon; and it shall be well with you. ²⁵But it came to pass in the seventh month, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the seed royal, came, and ten men with him, and smote Gedaliah, that he died, and the Jews and the Chaldees that were with him at Mizpah. ²⁶And all the people, both small and great, and the captains of the armies, arose, and went into Egypt: for they were afraid of the Chaldees.

²⁷And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the carrying away of Joakim king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, that Evilmarodek king of Babylon in the first year of his reign did lift up the head of Joachim king of Judah, and brought

him out of his prison house. ²⁸And he spake kindly unto him, and set his throne above the thrones of the kings that were with him in Babylon; ²⁹and changed his prison garments: and he did eat bread continually before him all the days of his life. ³⁰And his portion, a continual portion, was given him out of the house of the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life.