

2 PARALEIPOMENON

CHAPTER 1

And Solomon the son of David was established over his kingdom, and the Lord his God was with him, and magnified him exceedingly. ²Then Solomon spake unto all Israel, to the captains of thousands, to the captains of hundreds, and to the judges, and to all the rulers before Israel, even the chiefs of the families: ³and Solomon and all the congregation went to the high place that was in Gibeon, where was the tabernacle of the testimony of God, which Moses the servant of the Lord had made in the wilderness. ⁴But the ark of God had David brought up from the city of Kirjath-jearim; for David had prepared a place for it, for he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem. ⁵Moreover the brasen altar, that Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, was there before the tabernacle of the Lord: and Solomon and the congregation inquired at it. ⁶And Solomon brought thither to the brasen altar, which was before the Lord in the tabernacle, and offered a thousand whole burnt offerings upon it. ⁷In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee. ⁸And Solomon said unto God, Thou hast dealt exceeding mercifully with my father David, and hast made me king in his stead. ⁹And now, O Lord God, let Thy name be established upon David my father, for Thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in number. ¹⁰Give me now wisdom and understanding, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this Thy great people? ¹¹And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked great riches, nor glory, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and understanding for thyself, that thou mayest judge My people, over whom I have made thee king: ¹²this wisdom and understanding will I give thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and glory, that there shall not have been any like unto thee among the kings that have been before thee, neither shall there be any such after thee. ¹³Then Solomon came from the high place that was in Gibeon to Jerusalem, from before the tabernacle of the testimony, and reigned over Israel. ¹⁴And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen: and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen; and he left them in the chariot cities, and the people that were with the king in Jerusalem. ¹⁵And the king made silver and gold as Jerusalem to be as stones, and cedar trees in Judah as sycamore trees that are in the plain for multitude. ¹⁶And there was an exodus of the horses unto Solomon from Egypt, and they were bought by the value of the king's merchants for going: and they went up, and brought out of Egypt a chariot for six hundred pieces of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty pieces of silver: and so

brought they out for all the kings of the Hittites and for the kings of Syria, by their means.

CHAPTER 2

And Solomon said that he would build an house unto the name of the Lord, and an house for his kingdom. ²And Solomon gathered together threescore and ten thousand men to bear burdens, and fourscore thousand hewers of stone in the mountain: and three thousand and six hundred to oversee them. ³And Solomon sent to Hiram king of Tyre, saying, Whereas thou didst deal with David my father, and didst send him cedars to build him an house to dwell therein, ⁴behold I also his son build an house to the name of the Lord my God, to consecrate it to Him, and to burn before Him incense, and loaves of presentation continually, and to offer up whole burnt offerings continually morning and evening, and on the sabbaths, and at the new moons, and at the feasts of the Lord our God: this is a perpetual ordinance for Israel. ⁵And the house which I build is great: for great is the Lord our God beyond all gods. ⁶And who shall be able to build Him an house, seeing the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot bear His glory: and who am I, that I should build Him an house, save only to burn incense before Him? ⁷Send me now therefore a man wise and cunning to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in iron, and in purple, and in scarlet, and in blue, and one that knoweth to grave together with the cunning men that are with me in Judah, and in Jerusalem; which stuff David my father did provide. ⁸Send me also cedar wood, and wood of juniper, and of pine: for I know that thy servants are skilled to cut timber in Lebanon: and, behold, thy servants shall go with my servants, ⁹even to prepare me timber in abundance: for the house which I build *shall be* great and glorious. ¹⁰And, behold, I have given freely to thy servants that work and cut the wood, corn for food, even twenty thousand measures of corn, and twenty thousand measures of barley, and twenty thousand measures of wine, and twenty thousand measures of oil. ¹¹Then Hiram king of Tyre answered in writing, and sent to Solomon, saying, Because the Lord hath loved His people, He hath made Thee king over them. ¹²And Hiram said, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, that hath made heaven and earth, who hath given to king David a wise son, and one endued with knowledge and understanding, who shall build an house for the Lord, and an house for his kingdom. ¹³And now I have sent thee a wise and understanding man, who was of Hiram my father's (¹⁴his mother was of the daughters of Dan, and his father a Tyrian,) skilled to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in iron, and in stones and timber; and to weave with purple, and blue, and fine linen, and scarlet; and to grave, and to find out every device whatsoever thou shalt give him, with thy cunning men, and with the cunning men of my Lord David my father. ¹⁵And now the wheat, and the barley, and the oil, and the wine, which my lord hath spoken of, let him send unto his servants. ¹⁶And we will cut wood out of Lebanon, according to all thy need,

and we will bring it in floats to the sea of Joppa; and thou shalt bring it to Jerusalem. ¹⁷And Solomon gathered all the strangers that were in the land of Israel after the numbering wherewith David his father had numbered them; and there were found an hundred and fifty thousand and three thousand and six hundred. ¹⁸And he made of them threescore and ten thousand of them bearers of burdens, and fourscore thousand hewers of stone, and three thousand and six hundred taskmasters over the people.

CHAPTER 3

Then Solomon began to build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem in the mount of Moriah, where the Lord appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. ²And he began to build in the second month, in the fourth year of his reign. ³And thus Solomon began to build the house of God: the length by cubits, even the measure from end to end, was threescore cubits, and the breadth twenty cubits. ⁴And the porch that was in the front of the house, the length of it in front of the breadth of the house was twenty cubits, and the height of it was an hundred and twenty cubits: and he overlaid it within with pure gold. ⁵And the great house he lined with cedar wood, and overlaid it with pure gold, and carved thereon palm trees and chains. ⁶And he garnished the house with precious stones for beauty, and overlaid it with gold of the gold of Parvaim. ⁷He overlaid also the house, and the walls thereof, and the doorposts, and the roofs, and the doors with gold; and graved cherubims on the walls. ⁸And he made the house of the holy of holies; the length thereof was according to the front of the house, the breadth of the house twenty cubits, and the length twenty cubits; and he overlaid it with pure gold for cherubims, *amounting* to six hundred talents. ⁹And the weight of the nails, even the weight of each was fifty shekels of gold: and he overlaid the upper chamber with gold. ¹⁰And in the most holy house he made two cherubims *of* woodwork, and overlaid them with gold. ¹¹And the wings of the cherubims were twenty cubits long: and one wing of five cubits touched the wall of the house: and the other wing of five cubits touched the wing of the other cherub. *(no verse 12)* ¹³And the wings of these cherubims spread forth were twenty cubits long: and they stood on their feet, and their faces were toward the house. ¹⁴And he made the veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and wrought cherubims thereon. ¹⁵Also he made before the house two pillars, thirty and five cubits high, and the chapiters of them were of five cubits. ¹⁶And he made chains, as in the oracle, and put them on the heads of the pillars; and made an hundred pomegranates, and put them on the chains. ¹⁷And he reared up the pillars before the temple, one on the right hand, and one on the left; and called the name of the one on the right hand 'Uprightness', and the name of the one on the left 'Strength'.

CHAPTER 4

Moreover he made an altar of brass, twenty cubits the length thereof, and ten cubits the height thereof. ²Also he made the molten sea of ten cubits in diameter, round in compass, and five cubits the height thereof, and thirty cubits the compass round about. ³And under it was the similitude of calves; they do compass it round about; ten cubits compassed the laver round about: they cast the calves, two rows in their casting, ⁴wherein they made them twelve calves, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east: and the sea was above upon them, and their hinder parts were inward. ⁵And the thickness of it was an handbreadth, and the brim of it as the brim of a cup, graven with flowers of lilies, holding three thousand measures; and he finished it. ⁶He made also ten lavers, and put five on the right hand, and five on the left, to wash in them the instruments of the whole burnt offerings, and to rinse in them; and the sea was for the priests to wash in. ⁷And he made the ten candlesticks of gold according to their judgment, and set them in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left. ⁸He made also ten tables, and placed them in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left: and he made an hundred basons of gold. ⁹Furthermore he made the court of the priests, and the great court, and doors to the court, and the panels of them were overlaid with brass. ¹⁰And he set the sea at the corner of the house on the right side, as it were fronting the east. ¹¹And Hiram made the fleshhooks, and the fire pans, and the grate of the altar, and all the instruments thereof: and Hiram finished all the work which he wrought for king Solomon in the house of God; ¹²to wit, the two pillars, and upon them an embossed work for the chapiters which were on the heads of the two pillars, and the two nets to cover the two heads of the chapiters which are on the heads of the pillars; ¹³and four hundred golden bells for the two nets, and two rows of pomegranates in each net, to cover the two embossed rims of the chapiters which are upon the pillars. ¹⁴He made also the ten bases, and lavers made he upon the bases; ¹⁵and the one sea, and the twelve calves under it; ¹⁶the foot baths also, and the buckets, and the caldrons, and the fleshhooks, and all their furniture, (which Hiram made, and brought to king Solomon in the house of the Lord,) of pure brass. ¹⁷In the country round about Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground in the house of Succoth, and between that and Zeredathah. ¹⁸So Solomon made all these vessels in great abundance: for the quantity of brass failed not. ¹⁹And Solomon made all the vessels of the house of the Lord, the golden altar also, and the tables, and upon them were to be the loaves of loaves of presentation; ²⁰also the candlesticks, and the lamps to give light according to the judgment, and before the oracle, of pure gold; ²¹also their snuffers, and their lamps, and the bowls, and the censers, and the fire pans, of pure gold; ²²and the inner door of the house into the holy of holies, and the inner doors of the temple of gold.

CHAPTER 5

Thus all the work that Solomon wrought for the house of the Lord was finished. And Solomon brought in the holy things of David his father, the silver and the gold, and the vessels, and put them in the treasury of the house of the Lord. ²Then Solomon assembled all the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chiefs of the families of the sons of Israel, unto Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David; this is Zion. ³And all Israel were assembled unto the king in the feast, this is the seventh month. ⁴And all the elders of Israel came; and all the Levites took up the ark, ⁵and the tabernacle of the testimony, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle; and the priests and the Levites brought it up. ⁶And king Solomon, and all the elders of Israel, and the religious men of them, and they of them that were assembled before the ark, sacrificed calves and sheep, which could not be told nor numbered for multitude. ⁷And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the Lord into his place, into the oracle of the house, into the holy of holies, even under the wings of the cherubims. ⁸And the cherubims spread forth their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above. ⁹And the staves extended, and the heads of the staves were seen from the holy place before the oracle; they were not seen without: and they they were unto this day. ¹⁰There was nothing in the ark save the two tables which Moses put therein at Horeb, which God did give in covenant with the sons of Israel, when they went out of the land of Egypt. ¹¹And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place: (for all the priests that were found were sanctified; they were not then arranged according to their daily course:) ¹²that all the singing Levites which were assigned unto the sons of Asaph, to Heman, to Jeduthun, and unto his sons, of them that were arrayed in linen clothes, with cymbals, and psalteries, and harps, stood before the altar; and with an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets. ¹³And there was as one voice in the trumpeting, and the singing, and in giving thanks, and praising the Lord, when they lifted up their voices with trumpets, and cymbals, and instruments of musick: and they said, O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever; then was the house filled with the cloud of the glory of the Lord. ¹⁴And the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

CHAPTER 6

Then said Solomon, The Lord hath said that He would dwell in thick darkness. ²But I have built an house unto Thy name, holy unto Thee, and prepared for to dwell in for ever. ³And the king turned his face, and blessed the whole congregation of Israel: and all the congregation of Israel stood by. ⁴And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel: He hath with His hands even fulfilled as He spake with His mouth unto my father David, saying, ⁵From the

day when I brought up My people out of the land of Egypt I chose no city among all the tribes of Israel to build an house, that My name should be there; neither chose I a man to be a leader over My people Israel. ⁶But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name should be there; and have chosen David to be over My people Israel. ⁷And it came into the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the Lord God of Israel. ⁸But the Lord said to David my father, Forasmuch as it came into thine heart to build an house for My name, thou didst well in that it came into thine heart. ⁹Notwithstanding thou shalt not build the house: for thy son which shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house for My name. ¹⁰And the Lord hath confirmed this word that He spake: and I am raised up in the room of David my father, and I sit on the throne of Israel, as the Lord said, and have built the house for the name of the Lord God of Israel: ¹¹and there have I set the ark, wherein is the covenant of the Lord, that He made with Israel.

¹²And he stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands. ¹³For Solomon had made a brasen scaffold, and had set it in the midst of the court of the sanctuary: the length thereof was five cubits, and the breadth thereof five cubits, and the height thereof three cubits: and upon it he stood, and fell upon his knees before all the congregation of Israel, and spread abroad his hands toward heaven, ¹⁴and said, O Lord God of Israel, there is no God like Thee in the heaven, nor in the earth; Which keepest covenant and mercy with Thy servants, that walk before Thee with all their heart. ¹⁵Even as Thou hast kept them with Thy servant David my father, as Thou hast spoken unto him in words: Thou hast spoken with Thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with Thine hand, as it is this day. ¹⁶And now, O Lord God of Israel, keep with Thy servant David my father the things which thou spakest unto him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in My sight that sitteth upon the throne of Israel; yet so that thy children will take heed to their ways to walk in My law, as thou hast walked before Me. ¹⁷And now, O Lord God of Israel, I pray Thee, let Thy word be confirmed, which Thou hast spoken unto thy servant David. ¹⁸For will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? if the heaven, and the heaven of heavens will not suffice Thee, what then is this house which I have built? ¹⁹Yet Thou shalt have respect to the prayer of Thy servant, and to my supplication, O Lord God; to hearken unto the petition and the prayer which Thy servant prayeth before Thee this day: ²⁰that Thine eyes may be open over this house day and night, toward this place whereon Thou hast said Thy name should be called; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth toward this house. ²¹And Thou shalt hear the supplication of Thy servant, and of Thy people Israel, whatsoever prayers they shall make toward this place: and Thou shalt hearken in Thy dwelling place even from heaven; yea, Thou shalt hear, and be merciful. ²²If a man sin against his neighbour, and he bring an oath upon him to make him swear, and he come and swear before the altar in this house; ²³then shalt Thou hearken out of heaven, and do, and judge Thy servants, to requite the transgressor, and to return his ways upon his own head; and to justify the righteous, to

recompense him according to his righteousness. ²⁴And if Thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy, if they sin against Thee; and shall turn and confess unto Thy name, and pray and make supplication before Thee in this house; ²⁵then shalt Thou hearken out of heaven, and be merciful unto the sins of Thy people Israel, and shalt restore them to the land which Thou gavest to them and to their fathers. ²⁶When the heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against Thee, and when they pray toward this place, and confess Thy name, and turn from their sins, because Thou shalt afflict them; ²⁷then shalt Thou hear from heaven, and be merciful to the sins of Thy servants, and of Thy people Israel: for Thou shalt shew them the good way wherein they shall walk; and Thou shalt send rain upon Thy land, which Thou gavest unto Thy people for an inheritance. ²⁸If there be dearth in the land; if there be death, a pestilent wind and blight; if there be locust and caterpillar; and if the enemy harass them before their cities; in whatsoever plague whatsoever and distress: ²⁹then what prayer and what supplication soever shall be made of any man, and of all Thy people Israel, if a man know his own plague and his own sickness, and spread forth his hands toward this house; ³⁰then shalt Thou hear from heaven out of Thy prepared dwelling place, and be merciful, and render unto the man according to his ways, as Thou shalt know his heart; (for Thou only knowest the heart of the children of men:) ³¹that they may reverence all Thy ways in all the days which they live upon the face of the land, which Thou gavest unto our fathers. ³²And every stranger, which is not of Thy people Israel, and is come from a far country for Thy great name's sake, and Thy mighty hand, and Thy high arm; when they come and worship at this place; ³³then shalt Thou hear from the heaven, even from Thy prepared dwelling place, and shalt do according to all that the stranger calleth upon Thee for: that all the nations of the earth may know Thy name, and that they may fear Thee, as doth Thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by Thy name. ³⁴And if Thy people go out to war against their enemies by the way that Thou shalt send them, and they pray unto Thee toward this city which Thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built unto Thy name; ³⁵then shalt Thou hear from the heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause. ³⁶Whereas if they sin against Thee, (for there is no man that will not sin,) and Thou smite them, and deliver them up before their enemies, and they that take them captive carry them into a land far off or near; ³⁷and if they repent themselves in the land whither they were carried captive, and also turn and make supplication unto Thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have transgressed, and have done unrighteously; ³⁸and if they return to Thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of them that carried them captives, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their land, which Thou gavest unto their fathers, and toward the city which Thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built unto Thy name: ³⁹then shalt Thou hear from the heaven, even from Thy prepared dwelling place, their prayer and their supplication, and Thou shalt execute judgments, and be merciful unto Thy people that sin against Thee. ⁴⁰And

now, O Lord, I pray Thee, let Thine eyes be opened, and Thine ears attentive to the petition that is made in this place. ⁴¹And now arise, O Lord God, into Thy resting place, Thou, and the ark of Thy strength: let Thy priests clothe themselves with salvation, and Thy sons rejoice in prosperity. ⁴²O Lord God, turn not away the face of Thine anointed: remember the mercies of Thy servant David.

CHAPTER 7

Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, then the fire came down from heaven, and devoured the whole burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the house. ²And the priests could not enter into the house of the Lord at that time, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. ³And all the sons of Israel saw the fire come down, and the glory of the Lord was upon the house; and they fell upon their face to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the Lord, for it is good; because His mercy endureth for ever. ⁴And the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the Lord. ⁵And king Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty and two thousand calves: so the king and all the people dedicated the house of the Lord. ⁶And the priests stood at their watches: the Levites also with instruments of musick of the Lord, of king David, to give thanks before the Lord; for His mercy endureth for ever; with the hymns of David by their ministry; and the priests sounded trumpets before them, and all Israel stood. ⁷And Solomon hallowed the middle of the court that was in the house of the Lord: for there he offered the whole burnt offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings, because the brasen altar which Solomon had made was not sufficient to receive the whole burnt offerings, and the meat offerings, and the fat. ⁸Also at that time Solomon kept the feast seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath and unto the river of Egypt. ⁹And in the eighth day he kept a solemn assembly: for he kept a feast for the dedication of the altar seven days. ¹⁰And on the three and twentieth day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their tents, rejoicing and with a glad heart because of the good deeds that the Lord had done unto David, and to Solomon, and to Israel His people.

¹¹So Solomon finished the house of the Lord, and the king's house: and in whatsoever Solomon wished in his heart to do in the house of the Lord, and in his own house, he prospered. ¹²And the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to Myself for an house of sacrifice. ¹³If I shut up the heaven, and there be no rain, and if I command the locust to devour the trees, and if I send pestilence upon My people; ¹⁴then if My people, upon whom My name is called, shall be ashamed, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I also hear from heaven, and be merciful unto their sins, and will heal their land. ¹⁵And now Mine eyes shall be open, and Mine ears attent unto the prayer of this place. ¹⁶And now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that

My name may be there for ever: and Mine eyes and Mine heart shall be there always. ¹⁷And if thou wilt walk before Me, as did David thy father, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe Mine ordinances and My judgments; ¹⁸then will I stablish the throne of thy kingdom, as I have covenanted with David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man to rule in Israel. ¹⁹But if ye turn away, and forsake Mine ordinances and My commandments, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other gods, and worship them; ²⁰then will I remove you from the land which I have given them; and this house, which I have hallowed to My name, will I remove out of My sight, and will make it to be a proverb and a byword among all nations. ²¹And as for this high house, every one that passeth by it shall be astonished, and shall say, Why hath the Lord done thus unto this land, and unto this house? ²²And men shall say, Because they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold of other gods, and worshipped them, and served them: all therefore hath He brought all this evil upon them.

CHAPTER 8

And it came to pass after twenty years, wherein Solomon had built the house of the Lord, and his own house, ²that Solomon rebuilt the cities which Hiram had given to Solomon, and caused the sons of Israel to dwell therein. ³And Solomon came to Hamath-zobah, and strengthened it. ⁴And he built Tadmor in the wilderness, and all the strong cities, which he built in Hamath. ⁵Also he built Beth-horon the upper, and Beth-horon the nether, strong cities; they had walls, gates, and bars; ⁶and Balaath, and all the strong cities which Solomon had, and all his chariot cities, and the cities of the horsemen, and all things that Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all his kingdom. ⁷As for all the people that was left of the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which are not of Israel, ⁸but were of the children, whom the sons of Israel destroyed not, who were left after them in their land, them did Solomon make to pay tribute until this day. ⁹But of the sons of Israel did Solomon make no servants in his kingdom; for, behold, they were men of war and rulers, and mighty men, and captains of chariots and horsemen. ¹⁰And these are the chiefs of the officers of king Solomon, even two hundred and fifty that bare oversight of the work among the people.

¹¹And Solomon brought up the daughter of Pharaoh out of the city of David unto the house that he had built for her: for he said, My wife shall not dwell in the city of David the king of Israel, because the place is holy whereunto the ark of the Lord hath come.

¹²Then Solomon offered whole burnt offerings unto the Lord on the altar which he had built unto the Lord before the temple, ¹³according to the daily rate, to offer according to the commandments of Moses, on the sabbaths, and at the new moons, and at the feasts, three times in the year, even at the feast

of unleavened bread, and at the feast of weeks, and at the feast of tabernacles. ¹⁴And he established, according to the order of David his father, the courses of the priests, and according to their public ministrations, and the Levites over their charges; to praise and minister before the priests according to the daily order: the porters also were appointed according to their courses to the different gates: for thus were the commandments of David the man of God. ¹⁵They transgressed not the commandments of the king concerning the priests and the Levites in respect of everything else, and in respect of the treasures. ¹⁶Now all the work was prepared from the day when the foundation was laid, until Solomon finished the house of the Lord.

¹⁷Then went Solomon to Ezion-geber, and to Eloth, near the sea in the land of Edom. ¹⁸And Hiram sent by the hand of his servants ships, and servants that had knowledge of the sea; and they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and brought thence four hundred and fifty talents of gold; and they came to king Solomon.

CHAPTER 9

And the queen of Sheba heard of the name of Solomon, and came to Jerusalem to prove Solomon with hard questions, with a very great force, and camels that bare spices in abundance, and gold, and precious stones: and she came to Solomon, and told him all that was in her mind. ²And Solomon told her all her words; and there passed not a word from Solomon which he told her not. ³And the queen of Sheba saw the wisdom of Solomon, and the house that he had built, and the meat of the tables, and the sitting of his servants, and the standing of his ministers, and their apparel, and the whole burnt offerings which he offered up in the house of the Lord; and she was in an ecstasy. *(no verse 4)* ⁵And she said to the king, It was a true report which I heard in mine own land concerning thy words, and concerning thy wisdom. ⁶Howbeit I believed not their words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen: and, behold, the one half of the abundance of thy wisdom was not told me: thou hast exceeded the fame that I heard. ⁷Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and hear thy wisdom. ⁸Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on His throne to be king for the Lord thy God: because thy Lord thy God loved Israel, to establish them for ever, therefore He set thee over them for a king, to do judgment and justice. ⁹And she gave the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and spices in very great abundance, and precious stones: neither were there any such spices as those which the queen of Sheba gave king Solomon. ¹⁰And the servants of Solomon and the servants of Hiram brought gold to Solomon from Ophir, and pine timber, and precious stones. ¹¹And the king made of the pine timber steps to the house of the Lord, and to the king's house, and harps and psalteries for the singers: and there were none such seen before in the land of Judah.) ¹²And king Solomon gave to the

queen of Sheba all that she asked, beside that which she had brought unto king Solomon: and she returned to her own land.

¹³And the weight of the gold that was brought to Solomon in one year was six hundred and threescore talents of gold; ¹⁴beside that which the men that arranged and the merchants brought: and all the kings of Arabia and the princes of the land brought gold and silver to Solomon. ¹⁵And king Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold: there were six hundred shekels of pure gold to one target. ¹⁶And three hundred shields *made he* of beaten gold: the weight of three hundred shekels went to one shield: and the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon. ¹⁷And the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold. ¹⁸And there were six steps to the throne, riveted with gold, and stays on each side of the sitting place of the throne, and two lions standing by the stays: ¹⁹and twelve lions standing there on the six steps on each side. there was not the like in any *other* kingdom. ²⁰And all the vessels of king Solomon were of gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were covered with gold: silver was not any thing accounted of in the days of Solomon. ²¹For a ship went for the king to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram: every three years once came the ships of Tarshish unto the king, laden with gold, and silver, ivory, and apes. ²²And Solomon passed all kings in riches and wisdom. ²³And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, that God had put into his heart. ²⁴And they brought every man his presents, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and raiment, stacte, and spices, horses, and mules, a rate every year. ²⁵And Solomon had four thousand mares for chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen; and he bestowed them in the chariot cities, and with the king in Jerusalem. ²⁶And he reigned over all the kings from the river even unto the land of the Philistines, and to the borders of Egypt. ²⁷And the king made gold and silver in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar trees *made he* as the sycamore trees *that are* in the plain for abundance. ²⁸And there was an exodus of the horses unto Solomon out of Egypt, and out of all the lands.

²⁹Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, the first and the last, behold, these are written in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the words of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Joel the seer concerning Jeroboam the son of Nebat. ³⁰And Solomon reigned over all Israel forty years. ³¹And Solomon fell asleep; and they buried him in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 10

And Rehoboam came to Shechem: for to Shechem were all Israel come to make him king. ²And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard it, (now he was in Egypt, forasmuch as he had fled thither from the face of king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt,) that Jeroboam returned out of Egypt. ³And they sent and called him; and Jeroboam and all the congregation came to Rehoboam, saying, ⁴Thy father made our yoke grievous:

now therefore ease thou somewhat of the grievous servitude of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, and we will serve thee. ⁵And he said unto them, Go away for three days. So the people departed. ⁶And king Rehoboam gathered together the elders that had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, How counsel ye me to return answer to this people? ⁷And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wouldest befriend this people this day, and be kind to them, and speak good words to them, then will they be thy servants for ever. ⁸But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which took counsel with him, and took counsel with the young men that were brought up with him, that stood before him. ⁹And he said unto them, What do ye advise that I should answer this people, which have spoken to me, saying, Ease somewhat of the yoke which thy father did lay upon us? ¹⁰And the young men that were brought up with him spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou answer the people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, and do thou lighten somewhat of it from us; thus shalt thou say, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins. ¹¹And seeing my father chastised you with an heavy yoke: my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions. ¹²And Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day, as the king had spoken, saying, Return to me on the third day. ¹³And the king answered roughly; and king Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the old men, ¹⁴and spake unto them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add thereto: my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions. ¹⁵And the king hearkened not unto the people: for it was a turn of events from God, saying, The Lord hath confirmed His word, which He spake by the hand of Ahijah the Shilonite concerning Jeroboam the son of Nebat, ¹⁶and all Israel; for the Lord hearkened not unto them. And the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David, or inheritance in the son of Jesse? to thy tents, O Israel: now, David, see to thine own house. So all Israel went to their tents. ¹⁷And the men of Israel, even those that dwelt in the cities of Judah, *remained*, and made Rehoboam king over them. ¹⁸And king Rehoboam sent Hadoram that was over the tribute unto them; and the sons of Israel stoned him with stones, and he died. And king Rehoboam made speed to get him up into his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem. ¹⁹So Israel rebelled against the house of David until this day.

CHAPTER 11

And Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem; and he gathered of Judah and Benjamin an hundred and fourscore thousand young men, for to make war; and he waged war against Israel, that he might bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam. ²And the word of the Lord came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying, ³Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, and to all Judah and Benjamin, saying, ⁴Thus saith the Lord, Ye shall not go up, nor wage war against your brethren: return every man to his home: for this thing is done of

Me. And they hearkened unto the word of the Lord, and returned from going against Jeroboam. ⁵And Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built walled cities in Judah. ⁶And he built Bethlehem, and Etam, and Tekoa, ⁷and Bethzur, and Shoco, and Adullam, ⁸and Gath, and Mareshah, and Ziph, ⁹and Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah, ¹⁰and Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which pertaineth to Judah and Benjamin, walled cities. ¹¹And he fortified them with walls, and put captains in them, and store of victual, oil and wine, ¹²in every several city shields and spears; and he fortified them in great number, and had Judah and Benjamin on his side. ¹³And the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel were gathered unto him out of all their coasts. ¹⁴For the Levites left the tents of their possession, and went to Judah to Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off, that they might not minister unto the Lord. ¹⁵And he made him priests for the high places, and for the idols, and for the vanities, and for the calves which Jeroboam had made. ¹⁶And he cast out from the tribes of Israel such as set their heart to seek the Lord God of Israel: and they came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice unto the Lord God of their fathers. ¹⁷And they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and strengthened Rehoboam the son of Solomon, three years: for three years he walked in the way of David and Solomon. ¹⁸And Rehoboam took him Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth the son of David to wife, and Abigail the daughter of Eliab the son of Jesse. ¹⁹And she bare him sons; Jeush, and Shamariah, and Zaham. ²⁰And after he took him Maachah the daughter of Absalom; and she bare him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith. ²¹And Rehoboam loved Maachah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and his concubines: (for he had eighteen wives, and threescore concubines; and begat twenty and eight sons, and threescore daughters.) ²²And he made Abijah the son of Maachah the chief, leader among his brethren: for he thought to make him king. ²³And he was exalted beyond all his other sons in all the coasts of Judah and Benjamin, and in the strong cities: and he gave them victual in abundance: and he desired many wives.

CHAPTER 12

And it came to pass, when the kingdom of Rehoboam was established, and when he had grown strong, that he forsook the commandments of the Lord, and all Israel with him. ²And it came to pass, that in the fifth year of King Rehoboam, Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, because they had sinned against the Lord, ³with twelve hundred chariots, and threescore thousand horsemen: and there was no number of the multitude that came with him from Egypt; the Lubim, the Sukkim, and the Ethiopians. ⁴And they obtained possession of the strong cities which were in Judah, and came to Jerusalem. ⁵Then came Shemaiah the prophet to Rehoboam, and to the princes of Judah, that were gathered together to Jerusalem for fear of Shishak, and said unto them, Thus saith the Lord, Ye have forsaken Me, and I will leave you in the hand of Shishak. ⁶And the elders of Israel and the king

were ashamed, and said, The Lord is righteous. ⁷And when the Lord saw that they were ashamed, then came the word of the Lord to Shemaiah, saying, They have repented; I will not destroy them, but will set them in safety for a little, and My wrath shall not be poured out upon Jerusalem. ⁸Nevertheless they shall be servants, and know My service, and the service of the kings of the earth. ⁹So Shishak king of Egypt went up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures that were in the house of the Lord, and the treasures that were in the king's house; he took all: and he took away the shields of gold which Solomon had made. ¹⁰And instead of them king Rehoboam made shields of brass. And Shishak set over him captains of footmen, as keepers of the gate of the king. ¹¹And it came to pass, when the king entered into the house of the Lord, the guards and the footmen went in, and they returned to meet the footmen. ¹²And when he repented, the wrath of the Lord turned from him, and did not destroy him altogether: for there were good things in Judah.

¹³So king Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem, and reigned: for Rehoboam was one and forty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, in the city which the Lord had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to call His name there: and his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess. ¹⁴And he did evil; for he prepared not his heart to seek the Lord. ¹⁵And the acts of Rehoboam, the first and the last, behold, are they not written in the book of Shemaiah the prophet, and Iddo the seer, with his achievements? ¹⁶And Rehoboam made war against Jeroboam all his days. And Rehoboam died with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David: and Abijah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 13

In the eighteenth year of the reign of Jeroboam began Abijah to reign over Judah. ²He reigned three years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Michaiiah the daughter of Uriel of Gibeon. And there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam. ³And Abijah set the battle in array with an army of mighty men of war, even four hundred thousand mighty men: Jeroboam also set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand men, mighty warriors of the host. ⁴And Abijah rose up upon mount Zemaraim, which is in mount Ephraim, and said, Hear ye, Jeroboam, and all Israel: ⁵ought ye not to know that the Lord God of Israel gave a king over Israel to David for ever, and to his sons, by a covenant of salt? ⁶Yet Jeroboam the son of Nabat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, is risen up, and hath revolted from his master: ⁷and there are gathered unto him pestilent men, transgressors, and he rose up against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and fearful in heart; and he withstood him not. ⁸And now ye profess to withstand the kingdom of the Lord in the hand of the sons of David; and ye be a great multitude, and there are with you golden calves, which Jeroboam made you for gods. ⁹Did ye not cast out the priests of the Lord, the sons of

Aaron, and the Levites, and make you priests of the people of any land? whosoever came to consecrate himself with a calf of the herd and seven rams, forthwith he became a priest to that which is no god. ¹⁰But we have not forsaken the Lord our God; and his priests, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, do minister unto the Lord; and in their daily courses ¹¹they sacrifice unto the Lord whole burnt offering, morning and even, and compound incense: the loaves of proposition also set they upon the pure table; and the candlestick of gold, and the lamps for burning, to light in the evening: for we keep the charge of the Lord God of our fathers; but ye have forsaken him. ¹²And, behold, the Lord and his priests are with us at our head, and the signal trumpets to sound an alarm over us. O sons of Israel, fight ye not against the Lord God of our fathers; for ye shall not prosper. ¹³Now Jeroboam caused an ambushment to come about behind him: and he was before Judah, and the ambushment was behind *them*. ¹⁴And Judah looked back, and, behold, the battle was against them before and behind: and they cried unto the Lord, and the priests sounded with the trumpets. ¹⁵And the men of Judah gave a shout: and as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass, that the Lord smote Jeroboam and Israel before Abijah and Judah. ¹⁶And the sons of Israel fled before Judah; and the Lord delivered them into their hands. ¹⁷And Abijah and his people smote them with a great slaughter: and there fell slain of Israel five hundred thousand mighty men. ¹⁸So the sons of Israel were brought low in that day, and the sons of Israel prevailed, because they hoped in the Lord God of their fathers. ¹⁹And Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and took the cities from him, Bethel with the towns thereof, and Jeshanah and the towns thereof, and Ephraim and the towns thereof. ²⁰Neither did Jeroboam recover strength again all the days of Abijah: and the Lord smote him, and he died. ²¹But Abijah strengthened himself, and took him fourteen wives, and begat twenty and two sons, and sixteen daughters. ²²And the rest of the acts of Abijah, and his deeds, and his sayings, are written in the book of the prophet Iddo.

CHAPTER 14

And Abijah died with his fathers; and they buried him in the city of David: and Asa his son reigned in his stead. In the days of Asa the land of Judah had rest ten years. ²And he did that which was good and right in the sight of the Lord his God. ³And he took away the altars of the strange gods, and the high places, and brake the pillars in pieces, and cut down the groves: ⁴and told Judah to seek earnestly the Lord God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandments. ⁵Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the altars and the images, and established in quietness ⁶fortified cities in the land of Judah: for the land was quiet, and he had no war in those years; because the Lord had given him rest. ⁷And he said unto Judah, Let us fortify these cities, and make walls, and towers, and gates, and bars; we shall prevail over the land, because as we have sought out the Lord our God, He hath

sought us out, and hath given us rest on every side, and prospered us. ⁸And Asa had a force of armed men that bare targets and spears in the land of Judah, three hundred thousand; and in the land of Benjamin two hundred and fourscore thousand: all these were mighty men of war. ⁹And there went out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came unto Mareshah. ¹⁰And Asa went out to meet him, and set the battle in array in the valley north of Mareshah. ¹¹And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, Lord, it is not impossible with Thee to save by many or by few: strengthen us, O Lord our God; for we hope in Thee, and in Thy name are we come against this great multitude. O Lord, our God, let not man prevail against Thee. ¹²And the Lord smote the Ethiopians before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled. ¹³And Asa and his people pursued them unto Gerar: and the Ethiopians fell, that they could not recover themselves; for they were crushed before the Lord, and before His host; and they took away much spoil. ¹⁴And they destroyed their towns round about Gerar; for a terror of the Lord was upon them: and they spoiled all their cities; for they had much spoil. ¹⁵Also they destroyed the tents of cattle, and the Amazons, and took many sheep and camels, and returned to Jerusalem.

CHAPTER 15

And the spirit of the Lord came upon Azariah the son of Oded, ²and he went out to meet Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The Lord is with you, while ye be with Him; and if ye seek Him out, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake Him, He will forsake you. ³And for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a priest to teach, and without the law. ⁴But He shall turn them unto the Lord God of Israel, and He will be found of them. ⁵And in that time there is no peace to him that goeth out, nor to him that cometh in, for the terror of the Lord is upon all the inhabitants of the land. ⁶And nation shall fight against nation, and city against city: for God hath confounded them with every affliction. ⁷But be ye strong, and let not your hands be weakened: for there is a reward for your work. ⁸And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, then he strengthened himself, and cast out the abominations out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which Jeroboam had possessed in mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the Lord, that was before the temple of the Lord. ⁹And he gathered Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers that dwelt with them out of Ephraim, and out of Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for many of Israel were joined unto him, when they saw that the Lord his God was with him. ¹⁰And they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa. ¹¹And he sacrificed unto the Lord in that day, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred calves and seven thousand sheep. ¹²And he entered into a covenant that they should seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul: ¹³and that

whosoever would not seek the Lord God of Israel should die, whether young or old, whether man or woman. ¹⁴And they swore unto the Lord with a loud voice, and with trumpets, and with cornets. ¹⁵And all Judah rejoiced concerning the oath: for they swear with all their heart, and sought Him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and the Lord gave them rest round about. ¹⁶And he removed Maachah his mother from being priestess to Asherah, and cut the idol, and burnt it in the brook of Kidron. ¹⁷Nevertheless they took not away the high places: they remained yet in Judah: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days. ¹⁸And he brought in the holy things of David his father, and the holy things of the house of God, silver, and gold, and vessels. ¹⁹And there was no war with him until the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.

CHAPTER 16

And in the eight and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa, the king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, to the intent that he should not allow going out or coming in to Asa king of Judah. ²And Asa took silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of the Lord and of the king's house, and sent to the son of Hadad king of Syria, that dwelt in Damascus, saying, ³Make a covenant between me and thee, and between my father and thy father: behold, I have sent gold and silver; come, and turn away from me Baasa king of Israel, and let him depart from me. ⁴And the son of Hada hearkened unto king Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel; and smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abel-maim, and all the country round Naphtali. ⁵And it came to pass, when Baasa heard it, that he left of building Ramah, and put a stop to his work: ⁶then king Asa took all Judah, and took the stones of Ramah, and the timber thereof, wherewith Baasha built; and he built therewith Geba and Mizpah. ⁷And at that time Hanani the prophet came to Asa king of Judah, and said unto him, Because thou hast trusted on the king of Syria, and not trusted on the Lord thy God, therefore is the army of Syria escaped out of thine hand. ⁸Were not the Ethiopians and Libyans a great force, in courage and in horsemen in great numbers? and did not He deliver them into thine hands, because thou trustedst in the Lord? ⁹For the eyes of the Lord look upon all the earth, to strengthen every heart that is perfect toward Him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: from henceforth there shall be war with thee. ¹⁰And Asa was exceeding wroth with the prophet, and put him in a prison house; for he was angry at this: and Asa vexed some of the people the same time. ¹¹And, behold, the acts of Asa, the first and the last, are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. ¹²And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until he was very ill: yet in his disease he sought not to the Lord, but to the physicians. ¹³And Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the fortieth year of his reign. ¹⁴And they buried him in the sepulchre, which he had digged for himself in

the city of David, and laid him on a bed, and filled it with spices and all kinds of perfumes of the apothecaries: and they made a very great funeral for him.

CHAPTER 17

And Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead; and Jehoshaphat strengthened himself against Israel. ²And he placed garrisons in all the strong cities of Judah, and appointed captains in all the cities of Judah, and in the cities of Ephraim, which Asa his father had taken. ³And the Lord was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father, and sought not unto idols; ⁴but sought to the Lord God of his father, and walked in the commandments for his father, and not after the works of Israel. ⁵And the Lord prospered the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah gave presents to Jehoshaphat; and he had great riches and glory. ⁶And his heart was lifted up in the way of the Lord: and he took away the high places and groves out of the land of Judah. ⁷Also in the third year of his reign he sent his chief men, and his mighty men, Obadiah, and Zechariah, and Nethaneel, and Micaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah. ⁸And with them were the Levites, even Shemaiah, and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and Jonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tobadonijah, Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, the priests. ⁹And they taught in Judah, and the book of the law of the Lord with them, and passed through the cities of Judah, and taught the people. ¹⁰And a terror of the Lord was upon all the kingdoms of the land round about Judah, and they made no war against Jehoshaphat. ¹¹Also some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents, and silver, and gifts; and the Arabians brought him seven thousand and seven hundred rams. ¹²And Jehoshaphat increased in greatness exceedingly; and he built in Judah places of abode, and strong cities. ¹³And he had many works in Judah; and the mighty men of war, of valour, were in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And this is the number of them according to the houses of their fathers; even the captains of thousands in Judah were Adnah the chief; and with him mighty men of strength three hundred thousand. ¹⁵And after him Jehohanan the captain; and with him two hundred and fourscore thousand. ¹⁶And after him Amasiah the son of Zichri, who was zealous for the Lord; and with him two hundred thousand mighty men of strength. ¹⁷And of Benjamin; Eliada, a mighty man of strength; and with him two hundred thousand armed men with bow and shield two hundred thousand. ¹⁸And after him Jehozabad; and with him an hundred and fourscore thousand mighty men of war. ¹⁹These were the servants of the king, beside those whom the king put in the strong cities in all Judah.

CHAPTER 18

Now Jehoshaphat had yet great riches and glory, and joined himself by marriage with the house of Ahab. ²And after a term of years he went down to Ahab to Samaria; and Ahab killed sheep and calves for him in abundance, and for the people that were with him; and he much desired him to go up with him to Ramoth of the hill country of Gilead. ³And Ahab king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat king of Judah, Wilt thou go with me to Ramoth of the hill country of Gilead? And he said unto him, As I am, so also art thou; as is thy people, so also is my people with thee for the war. ⁴And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, Seek, I pray thee, the Lord to day. ⁵And the king of Israel gathered together of the prophets four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall I go to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; and God shall deliver it into the king's hands. ⁶And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the Lord besides, that we might inquire of him? ⁷And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man by whom to inquire of the Lord: but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, for all his days are for evil: this is Micaiah the son of Imla. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so. ⁸And the king called an eunuch, and said, Fetch quickly Micaiah the son of Imla. ⁹And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah sat each of them on his throne, clad in their robes, sitting in a void place at the entering in of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them. ¹⁰And Zedekiah son of Canaan had made him horns of iron, and said, Thus saith the Lord, With these thou shalt push Syria until it be consumed. ¹¹And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramoth Gilead, and thou shalt prosper: and the Lord shall deliver it into the hands of the king. ¹²And the messenger that went to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, Behold, the prophets have spoken favourably concerning the king with one mouth; let now thy words, I pray thee, be like one of theirs, and speak thou good things. ¹³And Micaiah said, As the Lord liveth, whatsoever God shall say unto me, that will I speak. ¹⁴And he came to the king, and the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall I go up to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And he said, Go up; and thou shalt prosper, and they shall be given into your hands. ¹⁵And the king said to him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou say nothing but the truth to me in the name of the Lord? ¹⁶And he said, I saw Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep without a shepherd: and the Lord said, These have no commander; let each return to his home in peace. ¹⁷And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil? ¹⁸But he said, Not so. Hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting upon His throne; and all the host of heaven stood by on His right hand and His left. ¹⁹And the Lord said, Who will deceive Ahab king of Israel, that he may go up and fall in Ramoth Gilead? And one spake after this manner, and another spake after that manner. ²⁰And there came out a spirit, and stood before the Lord, and said, I will deceive him. And the Lord said, Whereby? ²¹And he said, I will go out, and be a lying spirit in the mouth

of all his prophets. And the Lord said, Thou shalt deceive him, and thou shalt prevail: go out, and do even so. ²²And now, behold, the Lord hath put a false spirit in the mouth of these thy prophets, and the Lord hath spoken evil against thee. ²³Then Zedekiah the son of Canaan drew near, and smote Micaiah upon the cheek, and said, unto him, Which way came the spirit of the Lord from me to speak unto thee? ²⁴And Micah said, Behold, thou shalt see on that day when thou shalt go from chamber to chamber to hide thyself. ²⁵And the king of Israel said, Take ye Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the captain, the king's son; ²⁶and ye shall say, Thus said the king, Put this fellow in the prison house, and let him eat the bread of affliction, and drink the water of affliction, until I return in peace. ²⁷And Micaiah said, If thou at all return in peace, then hath the Lord not spoken by me. And he said, Harken, all ye people.

²⁸So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead. ²⁹And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, Disguise me, and I will go into the battle; and do thou put on my raiment. So the king of Israel disguised himself; and they went into the battle. ³⁰Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of the chariots that were with him, saying, Fight ye neither against small nor great, save only against the king of Israel. ³¹And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, It is the king of Israel: and they compassed about him to fight against him: and Jehoshaphat cried out, and the Lord delivered him; and God turned them away from him. ³²And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned away from him. ³³And a man drew a bow with a good aim, and smote the king of Israel between the lungs and the breastplate: and he said to the chariot man, Turn thine hand, drive me out of the battle; for I am wounded. ³⁴And the battle turned in that day; and the king of Israel remained in the chariot against Syria until the even: and at time of the sun going down he died.

CHAPTER 19

And Jehoshaphat king of Judah returned to his house at Jerusalem. ²And Jehu the son of Hanani the prophet went out to meet him, and said unto him, King Jehoshaphat, helpest thou a sinner, or actest thou friendly toward one that is hated of the Lord? Therefore is wrath come upon thee from the Lord. ³Nevertheless there are good things found in thee, forasmuch as thou hast taken away the groves out of the land of Judah, and hast ordered thine heart to seek the Lord. ⁴And Jehoshaphat dwelt in Jerusalem: and he went out again among the people from Beer-sheba to the mount of Ephraim, and turned them back to the Lord God of their fathers. ⁵And he appointed judges in all the strong cities of Judah, city by city. ⁶And he said to the judges, Take good heed what ye do: for ye judge not for man, but for the Lord, and with you are matters of judgment. ⁷And now let the fear of the Lord be upon you, and be wary, and do it: for there is no unrighteousness with the

Lord our God, neither to respect persons, nor to take bribes. ⁸Moreover in Jerusalem did Jehoshaphat appointed some of the priests, and Levites, and the heads of houses of Israel, for the judgment of the Lord, and to judge them that dwelt in Jerusalem. ⁹And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear of the Lord, in truth, and with a perfect heart. ¹⁰What man soever with a cause that cometh before you of your brethren that dwell in the cities, between blood and blood, and between precept and commandment, and ordinances and judgments, ye shall even decide for them; that they shall not sin against the Lord, and there be not wrath upon you and upon your brethren: thus shall ye do, and ye shall not sin. ¹¹And, behold, Amariah the priest is head over you in every matter of the Lord; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael is head over the house of Judah in every matter of the king: also the scribes and the Levites are before you. Be strong, and act; and the Lord shall be with the good.

CHAPTER 20

And after this the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them some of the Meunites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle. ²And they came and told Jehoshaphat, saying, There is come against thee a great multitude from beyond the sea, from Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazon-tamar (this is Engedi). ³And Jehoshaphat feared, and set his face to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast in all Judah. ⁴And Judah gathered themselves together, to seek the Lord: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord. ⁵And Jehoshaphat stood up in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court. ⁶And he said, O Lord God of my fathers, art not Thou God in heaven above, and art not Thou Lord of all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in Thine hand is there not the might of dominion? and there is none that can resist Thee. ⁷Art not Thou the Lord that didst destroy the inhabitants of this land before the face of Thy people Israel, and gavest it to Thy beloved Abraham, unto his seed for ever? ⁸And they dwelt therein, and built a sanctuary therein unto Thy name, saying, ⁹If there come upon us evils, sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house, and before Thee, (for Thy name is upon this house,) and cry unto Thee because of the affliction; and Thou shalt hear, and deliver. ¹⁰And now, behold, the children of Ammon, and Moab, and mount Seir, in respect of whom Thou didst not let Israel pass through them, when they came out of the land of Egypt, (for they turned away from them, and destroyed them not;) ¹¹yet now, behold, they make an attempt against us, to come forth to cast us out of our inheritance, which Thou gavest us. ¹²O Lord our God, wilt Thou not judge them? for we have no might to oppose this great multitude that is come against us; neither know we what we shall do to them: but our eyes are unto Thee. ¹³And all Judah stood before the Lord, and their children, and their wives. ¹⁴And Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah the Levite, of the sons of

Asaph, upon him came the Spirit of the Lord in the congregation; ¹⁵and he said, Harken ye, all Judah, and them that dwell in Jerusalem, and king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid, neither be troubled before all this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. ¹⁶To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the ascent of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the river of the wilderness of Jeruel. ¹⁷It is not for you to fight: understand these things, and see the deliverance of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, neither be afraid to go out to morrow to meet them: and the Lord shall be with you. ¹⁸And Jehoshaphat bowed with his face to the ground with all Judah and them that dwelt in Jerusalem; and they fell before the Lord, to worship the Lord. ¹⁹And the Levites of the children of Kohath, and of the sons of Korah, rose up to praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

²⁰And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and cried, and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye that dwell in Jerusalem; put your trust in the Lord God, and ye shall be trusted; trust in His prophet, and ye shall prosper. ²¹And he consulted with the people, and set appointed men to sing psalms and praises, to give thanks, and to praise the holy things, as they went out before the army: and they said, Give thanks unto the Lord, for His mercy endureth for ever. ²²And when they began the praise and thanksgiving, the Lord caused the children of Ammon to fight against Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were routed. ²³Then the children of Ammon and Moab rose up against them that dwelt in mount Seir, to destroy and consume them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they rose up against one another, so that they were utterly destroyed. ²⁴And Judah came toward the watch tower of the wilderness, and looked, and saw the multitude; and, behold, all were fallen dead upon the earth; not one escaped. ²⁵And Jehoshaphat and his people went out to spoil them, and found much cattle, and furniture, and spoils, and precious things: and they spoiled them, and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, for it was abundant. ²⁶And it came to pass on the fourth day that they assembled themselves unto the Valley of Blessing: therefore they called the name of that place the Valley of Blessing, unto this day. ²⁷And all the men of Judah returned unto Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat led them with great joy; for the Lord had given them joy over their enemies. ²⁸And they entered into Jerusalem with psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the Lord. ²⁹And there was a terror of the Lord upon all the kingdoms of the land, when they heard that the Lord fought against the enemies of Israel. ³⁰And the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace; and his God gave him rest round about.

³¹And Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah, being thirty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and five years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi. ³²And he walked in the ways of his father Asa, and turned not aside from doing that which was right in the sight of the Lord. ³³Nevertheless the high places yet remained:

and as yet the people did not order their hearts unto the Lord God of their fathers. ³⁴And the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, the first and the last, behold, they are written in the history of Jehu the son of Hanani, who wrote the book of the kings of Israel.

³⁵And after this did Jehoshaphat king of Judah join himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, (now this was an unrighteous man,) ³⁶and he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish: and he made ships in Ezion-geber. ³⁷And Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Forasmuch as thou hast joined thyself with Ahaziah, the Lord hath broken thy work, and thy vessels are wrecked. And they were not able to go to Tarshish.

CHAPTER 21

And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David; and Jehoram his son reigned in his stead. ²And he had brethren the six sons of Jehoshaphat, Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah: all these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. ³And their father gave them great gifts, silver, and gold, and shields, together with walled cities in Judah: but the kingdom gave he to Jehoram; because he was the firstborn. ⁴And Jehoram rose up into his kingdom, and was strengthened, and slew all his brethren with the sword, and divers also of the princes of Israel. ⁵Jehoram was thirty and two years old when he succeeded to his kingdom, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem. ⁶And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, like as did the house of Ahab: for his wife was a daughter of Ahab: and he wrought that which was evil in the sight of the Lord. ⁷Howbeit the Lord would not utterly destroy the house of David, because of the covenant which He made with David, and as He said to him that He would give a light to him and to his sons for ever. ⁸In those days Edom revolted from Judah, and made over themselves a king. ⁹Then Jehoram went forth with his princes, and all the horse with him: and it came to pass that he rose up by night, and smote Edom that compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots; and the people fled unto their tents. ¹⁰And Edom revolted from Judah unto this day. Then Libnah at that time revolted from under his hand, because he forsook the Lord God of his fathers. ¹¹For he built high places in the cities of Judah, and caused them that dwelt in Jerusalem to commit fornication, and led Judah astray. ¹²And there came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, Thus saith the Lord God of thy father David, Because thou hast not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah, ¹³but hast walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and hast made Judah and them that dwell in Jerusalem to go a whoring, and hast slain thy brethren thy father's sons, which were better than thyself: ¹⁴behold, with a great plague will the Lord smite thee among thy people, and thy sons, and thy wives, and all thy goods: ¹⁵and thou shalt be in sickness with a disease of the

bowels, until thy bowels come forth by reason of the sickness day by day. ¹⁶So the Lord stirred up against Jehoram the Philistines, and the Arabians, and them that were nigh unto the Ethiopians: ¹⁷and they went up against Judah, and prevailed against them, and took away all the substance which they found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his daughters; and there was never a son left him, save Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons. ¹⁸And after all these things the Lord smote him in the bowels with an incurable disease. ¹⁹And it continued from day to day: and when the time of the days came to two years, there came forth his bowels from his belly in his sickness: and he died of a sore disease: and his people made no funeral, like the funeral of his fathers. ²⁰Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years: and he departed without praise, and was buried in the city of David, but not in the tombs of the kings.

CHAPTER 22

And the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah his youngest son king in his stead: for the band of robbers that came against them, the Arabians and the Amazonians, had slain all the elder sons. So Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah reigned. ²Twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem: his mother's name also was Atholia the daughter of Omri. ³He also walked in the way of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do evil. ⁴And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord like the house of Ahab: for they were his counsellors after the death of his father to his destruction. ⁵He walked also in their counsels, and went with Jehoram the son of Ahab king of Israel to war against Hazael king of Syria to Ramoth-gilead: and the archers smote Jehoram. ⁶And Jehoram returned to Jezreel to be healed of the wounds wherewith the Syrians smote him in Ramoth, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Jehoram the son of Ahab at Jezreel, because he was sick. ⁷And destruction of God came upon Ahaziah in his coming to Jehoram: for when he was come, Jehoram went out with him against Jehu the son of Nimshi, the anointed of the Lord against the house of Ahab. ⁸And it came to pass, when Jehu was taking vengeance upon the house of Ahab, that he found the princes of Judah, and the brethren of Ahaziah ministering to Ahaziah, and he slew them. ⁹And he gave order to seek Ahaziah: and they took him while he healed his wounds in Samaria, and brought him to Jehu, and he slew him: and they buried him, Because, said they, he is the son of Jehoshaphat, who sought the Lord with all his heart. So there was none in the house of Ahaziah that prevailed with power over the kingdom.

¹⁰And Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, and she arose and destroyed all the seed royal in the house of Judah. ¹¹But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him privily from among the king's sons that were slain, and put him and

his nurse in a bedchamber. So Jehoshabeath, the daughter of king Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest, hid him from the face of Athaliah; and she slew him not. ¹²And he was with him hid in the house of God six years: and Athaliah reigned over the land.

CHAPTER 23

And in the eighth year Jehoiada strengthened himself, and took the captains of hundreds, Azariah the son of Jehoram, and Ishmael the son of Jehohanan, and Azariah the son of Obed, and Maaseiah the son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat the son of Zechariah, with him into the house of the Lord. ²And they went about Judah, and gathered the Levites out of all the cities of Judah, and the heads of the families of Israel, and they came to Jerusalem. ³And all the congregation of Judah made a covenant with the king in the house of God: and he shewed them the king's son, and said unto them, Behold, let the king's son reign, as the Lord said concerning the sons of David. ⁴Now this is the thing that ye shall do; Let a third part of you, of the priests and of the Levites, enter in on the sabbath, even into the entering in of the gates; ⁵and let a third part be in the house of the king; and another third at the middle gate; and all the people in the courts of the house of the Lord. ⁶And let not any come into the house of the Lord, save the priests and the Levites, and the servants of the Levites; they shall go in, for they are holy: and let all the people keep the watch of the Lord. ⁷And the Levites shall compass the king round about, every man's weapon in his hand; and whosoever else goeth into the house, he shall die: but they shall be with the king when he goeth out, and when he cometh in. ⁸And the Levites and all Judah did according to all that the priest Jehoiada had commanded them, and took every man his men, from the beginning of the sabbath to the end of the sabbath: for Jehoiada the priest dismissed not the courses. ⁹And Jehoiada gave the men the swords, and the bucklers, and the weapons, that had been king David's in the house of God. ¹⁰And he set the people, every man with his weapons, from the right side of the house to the left side of the altar and the house, over against the king round about. ¹¹And he brought out the king's son, and put upon him the crown and the testimony; and Jehoiada the priest and his sons proclaimed him king, and anointed him, and said, Long live the king! ¹²And Athaliah heard the noise of the people running, and acknowledging and praising the king; and she went in to the king into the house of the Lord. ¹³And she looked, and, behold, the king stood in his place, and the princes and trumpets were at the entering in, and the princes were about the king: and all the people of the land rejoiced, and sounded the trumpets; there were the singers also singing with instruments, and singing hymns of praise. And Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Ye surely do conspire against me. ¹⁴And Jehoiada the priest charged the captains of hundreds, even the captains of the host, and said unto them, Thrust her forth without the house, and follow her; and let her be slain with the sword. For

the priest said, Let her not be slain in the house of the Lord. ¹⁵So they let her go out; and she went through the entering in of the horsemen of the king's house, and they slew her there. ¹⁶And Jehoiada made a covenant between him, and between the people, and between the king, that the people should be the Lord's. ¹⁷And all the people went into the house of Baal, and brake it down, and his altars, and brake his images to powder, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before his altars. ¹⁸And Jehoiada the priest committed the works of the Lord into the hands of the priests and Levites, and established anew the courses of the priests and Levites, which David had appointed over the house of the Lord, and to offer whole burnt offerings to the Lord, as it is written in the law of Moses, with gladness, and with songs by the hand of David. ¹⁹And the porters stood at the gates of the house of the Lord, that none which was unclean in any respect should enter in. ²⁰And he took the heads of the families, and the mighty men, and the chiefs of the people, and all the people of the land; and they led the king into the house of the Lord: and he went through the inner gate into the king's house, and they set the king upon the throne of the kingdom. ²¹And all the people of the land rejoiced: and the city was quiet: and they slew Athaliah with the sword.

CHAPTER 24

Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years 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 the days of Jehoiada the priest. ³And Jehoiada took for him two wives; and they bare sons and daughters. ⁴And it came to pass after these things, that it came into the heart of Joash to repair the house of the Lord. ⁵And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, Go out into the cities of Judah, and gather money of all Israel to repair the house of the Lord from year to year, and make haste to speak. But the Levites hastened not. ⁶And king Joash called Jehoiada the chief priest, and said unto him, Why hast thou not looked after the Levites, that they bring out of Judah and Jerusalem that which was prescribed by Moses the man of God, for the assembly of Israel in the tabernacle of the testimony? ⁷For Athaliah was a transgressor, and her sons brake down the house of God; for also the holy things of the house of the Lord did they offer unto Baalim. ⁸And the king said, Let a chest be made, and let it be put at the gate of the house of the Lord without. ⁹And let men make a proclamation in Judah and in Jerusalem to bring in to the Lord as Moses the servant of God spake unto Israel in the wilderness. ¹⁰And all the princes and all the people gave, and brought in, and cast into the chest until it was filled. ¹¹And it came to pass, that at what time they brought in the chest unto the king's officers by the hand of the Levites, and when they saw that the money was superabundant, then the king's scribe and the high priest's officer came and emptied the chest, and put it upon his place again. Thus did they day by day, and gathered much money. ¹²And the king and Jehoiada the priest gave

it to such as did the work of the service of the house of the Lord, and hired masons and carpenters to repair the house of the Lord, and also such as wrought iron and brass to mend the house of the Lord. ¹³And the workmen wrought, and the works prospered in their hands, and they established the house of the Lord in his position, and strengthened it. ¹⁴And when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the money unto the king and unto Jehoiada, and made vessels for the house of the Lord, even vessels of service for whole burnt offerings, and gold and silver censers: and they offered whole burnt offerings in the house of the Lord continually all the days of Jehoiada.

¹⁵And Jehoiada waxed old, and was full of days; and he died, being an hundred and thirty years old at his death. ¹⁶And they buried him in the city of David with the kings, because he had done goodness with Israel, and with God, and with His house. ¹⁷And it came to pass, after the death of Jehoiada, that the princes of Judah went in, and made obeisance to the king. Then the king hearkened unto them. ¹⁸And they forsook the house of the Lord God of their fathers, and served the Asharoth and the idols: and there was wrath upon Judah and Jerusalem in that day. ¹⁹Yet He sent prophets to them, to turn them unto the Lord: and He testified unto them, but they obeyed not. ²⁰And the Spirit of the Lord came upon Azariah the son of Jehoiada the priest; and he stood up above the people, and said, Thus saith the Lord, Why transgress ye the commandments of the Lord? so shall ye not prosper, for ye have forsaken the Lord, and He will forsake you. ²¹And they conspired against him, and stoned him by command of Joash the king in the court of the house of the Lord. ²²Thus Joash remembered not the mercy which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but slew his son. And as he died, he said, The Lord look upon it, and judge. ²³And it came to pass at the end of the year, that the host of Syria went up against him: and they came against Judah and Jerusalem, and slew all the princes of the people among the people, and sent all the spoils of them unto the king of Damascus. ²⁴For the army of Syria came with but few men, yet God gave a very great host into their hands, because they had forsaken the God of their fathers: and He wrought judgments against Joash. ²⁵And after that they were departed from him, having left him in great diseases, then his own servants conspired against him, because of the blood of the son of Jehoiada the priest, and slew him on his bed, and he died: and they buried him in the city of David, but they buried him not in the sepulchre of the kings. ²⁶And they that conspired against him were Zabad the son of Shimeath the Ammonite, and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith the Moabite. ²⁷And all his sons, and the five, came unto him. And the other matters, behold, they are written in the book of the kings. And Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 25

Amaziah was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was

Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. ²And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, but not with a full heart. ³And it came to pass, when the kingdom was established in his hand, that he slew his servants that had slain the king his father. ⁴But he slew not their sons, according to the covenant of the law of the Lord, as it is written, as the Lord commanded, saying, The fathers shall not die for the children, neither shall the children die for the fathers, but they shall die each for his own sin. ⁵And Amaziah gathered the house of Judah together, and established them according to the houses of their families for captains of thousands and captains of hundreds in all Judah and Jerusalem: and he numbered them from twenty years old and above, and found them three hundred thousand able to go forth to war, that held spear and shield. ⁶He hired also an hundred thousand mighty men out of Israel for an hundred talents of silver. ⁷And there came a man of God to him, saying, O king, let not the host of Israel go with thee; for the Lord is not with Israel, even of all the sons of Ephraim. ⁸For if thou undertake to strengthen thyself by these, then the Lord shall put thee to flight before the enemies: for it is of God both to strengthen, and put to flight. ⁹And Amaziah said to the man of God, But what shall I do for the three hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel? And the man of God said, The Lord can give thee much more than these. ¹⁰And Amaziah separated from the army that was come to him from Ephraim, to go away to their place: and they were exceeding wroth in their anger with Judah, and returned to their place in great anger. ¹¹And Amaziah strengthened himself, and took his people, and went to the valley of salt, and there smote of the children of Seir ten thousand. ¹²And ten thousand alive did the children of Judah take captive, and they brought them unto the top of the precipice, and cast them down from the top of the precipice, and they all were dashed to pieces. ¹³And the sons of the host which Amaziah sent back, that they should not go with him to battle, fell upon the cities of Judah, from Samaria even unto Beth-horon; and they smote three thousand among them, and took much spoil. ¹⁴And it came to pass, after that Amaziah was come from smiting Edom, that he brought home the gods of the children of Seir, and set them up for himself as gods, and bowed down himself before them, and sacrificed unto them. ¹⁵Wherefore the anger of God came upon Amaziah, and He sent him a prophet; and he said unto him, Why hast thou sought after the gods of the people, which delivered not their own people out of thine hand? ¹⁶And it came to pass, when the prophet spake unto him, that he said unto him, Have I made thee the king's counsellor? take heed, lest thou be scourged: and the prophet forbore, and said, I know that God is disposed against thee to destroy thee, because thou hast done this thing, and hast not hearkened unto my counsel. ¹⁷And Amaziah king of Judah took counsel, and sent to Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Come, and let us see one another in the face. ¹⁸And Joash 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: but, behold, the wild beasts of the field that are in Lebanon shall come: and there came the wild beasts, and trode down the thistle. ¹⁹Thou hast said, Lo, I have

smitten Edom; and thine heavy heart lifteth thee up: abide now at home; for why dost thou join thyself unto evil, that thou shouldest fall, and Judah with thee? ²⁰But Amaziah hearkened not; for it was of the Lord, to deliver him into the hands of his enemies, because he sought after the gods of the Edomites. ²¹So Joash king of Israel went up; and they saw one another, he and Amaziah king of Judah, in Beth-shemesh, which is in Judah. ²²And Judah was put to flight before Israel, and they fled every man to his tent. ²³And Joash king of Israel overtook Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, in Beth-shemesh, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate, four hundred cubits. ²⁴And *he took* all the gold and the silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the Lord, and with Obed-edom, and the treasures of the king's house, the hostages also, and returned to Samaria. ²⁵And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Joash the son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years. ²⁶And the rest of the acts of Amaziah, the first and the last, behold, are they not written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel? ²⁷And at the time that Amaziah departed from the Lord they made a conspiracy against him; and he fled to Lachish: and they sent to Lachish after him, and slew him there. ²⁸And they took him up on horses, and buried him with his fathers in the city of David.

CHAPTER 26

Then all the people of the land took Uzziah, and he was sixteen years old; and they made him king in the room of his father Amaziah. ²He built Eloth, he restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers. ³At the age of sixteen years did Uzziah begin to reign, and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem: his mother's name also was Jecholiah of Jerusalem. ⁴And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that Amaziah his father did. ⁵And he sought the Lord in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the fear of the Lord: and in his days he sought the Lord; and the Lord prospered him. ⁶And he went forth and warred against the Philistines, and brake down the walls of Gath, and the walls of Jabneh, and the walls of Ashdod, and built cities about Ashdod, and among the Philistines. ⁷And God strengthened him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians that dwelt upon the rock, and against the Mehunims. ⁸And the Ammonites gave gifts to Uzziah: and his fame spread abroad even to the entering in of Egypt; for he strengthened himself exceedingly. ⁹Moreover Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem, both at the gate of the corner, and at the valley gate, and at the turning of the walls, and fortified them. ¹⁰Also he built towers in the wilderness, and digged many wells: for he had much cattle, both in the low country, and in the plain; vinedressers also in the mountain country, and in Carmel: for he was an husbandman. ¹¹And Uzziah had an host of fighting men, that went out to war by number, and returned in number; and their numbering was by the hand of Jeiel the scribe, and Maaseiah the judge, by

the hand of Hananiah the king's deputy. ¹²The whole number of the chiefs of families of the mighty men of war was two thousand and six hundred; ¹³and with them was a force for warfare, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and five hundred: these waged war mightily to help the king against his enemies. ¹⁴And Uzziah prepared for them throughout all the host shields, and spears, and helmets, and habergeons, and bows, and slings for stones. ¹⁵And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by a cunning contriver, to be on the towers, and upon the corners, to shoot arrows and great stones withal: and the fame of their preparation was heard far abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he was strong.

¹⁶But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple of the Lord, to burn incense upon the altar of incense. ¹⁷And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests of the Lord, mighty men. ¹⁸And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, It is not for thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the Lord, but only for the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to sacrifice: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast departed from the Lord; neither shall this be for glory unto thee from the Lord God. ¹⁹And Uzziah was wroth, and in his hand was the censer to burn incense in the temple: and while he was wroth with the priests, then the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the Lord, over the altar of incense. ²⁰And Azariah the chief priest, and the other priests, turn to look upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead; and they gat him hastily out from thence, for he also hastened to go out, because the Lord had rebuked him. ²¹And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house; for he was cut off from the house of the Lord: and Jotham his son was over his kingdom, judging the people of the land. ²²And the rest of the acts of Uzziah, the first and the last, are written by Isaiah the prophet. ²³And Uzziah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the field of the burial of the kings; for they said, He is a leper: and Jotham his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 27

Jotham was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok. ²And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father Uzziah did: howbeit he entered not into the temple of the Lord. And yet the people did corrupt themselves. ³He built the high gate of the house of the Lord, and in the wall of Ophel he built much; and he built cities. ⁴In the mountains of Judah, and in the forests he built dwelling places and towers. ⁵He fought also with the king of the children of Ammon, and prevailed against them: and the children of Ammon gave him each year an hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand measures of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. These did the king of the children of Ammon

bring unto him each year, both in the first year and in the second year, and in the third. ⁶Jotham waxed mighty, because he prepared his ways before the Lord his God. ⁷And the rest of the acts of Jotham, and his war, and his deeds, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. *(no verse 8)* ⁹And Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 28

Achaz was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: and he did not that which was right in the Lord, like David his father. ²But he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, for he made graven images. For he sacrificed ³unto their idols in the valley of the Son of Hinnom, and passed his children through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen whom the Lord had cast out before the sons of Israel. ⁴And he burnt incense upon the high places, and upon the roofs, and under every shady tree. ⁵And the Lord his God delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria; and he smote him, and took captive a great multitude of them, and carried him to Damascus. ⁶And God also delivered him into the hands of the king of Israel, who smote him with a great slaughter. ⁶And Pekah the son of Remaliah king of Israel slew in Judah an hundred and twenty thousand in one day; because they had forsaken the Lord God of their fathers. ⁷And Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, slew Maaseiah the king's son, and Azrikam the chief of his horse, and Elkanah the king's deputy. ⁸And the sons of Israel took captive of their brethren three hundred thousand, women, and sons, and daughters, and they spoiled them of much substance, and brought the spoils to Samaria. ⁹And a prophet of the Lord was there; his name was Oded; and he went out to meet the host that came to Samaria, and said unto them, Behold, the wrath of the Lord God of your fathers is upon Judah, and He hath delivered them into your hands, and ye have slain them in wrath, and it has reached even unto heaven. ¹⁰And now ye talk of keeping the children of Judah and Jerusalem for bondmen and bondwomen. Lo, am I not with you to testify for the Lord your God? ¹¹And now hear me, and restore the captivity of your brethren whom ye have taken: for the fierce anger of the Lord is upon you. ¹²And the chiefs of the sons of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, and Berachiah the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against them that came from the war, ¹³and said unto them, Ye shall not bring in the captives hither to us: for seeing sin against the Lord is upon us, ye intend to add to our sins and to our trespass: for sin is great, and the fierce anger of the Lord is upon Israel. ¹⁴So the men of war left the captives and the spoils before the princes and all the congregation. ¹⁵And the men which were called by name rose up, and took hold of the captives, and from the spoils clothed all that were naked, and gave them garments and shoes, and gave them to eat, and *oil* to anointed themselves with, and helped also every one that was weak with

asses, and put them in Jericho, the city of palm trees, with their brethren: and they returned to Samaria.

¹⁶At that time did king Ahaz send unto the king of Assyria to help him; and on this occasion ¹⁷because the Edomites had attacked him, and smitten Judah, and taken a number of captives. ¹⁸The Philistines also had made an attack on the cities of the plain country, and the cities of the south of Judah, and taken Beth-shemesh, and Aijalon, and Gederoth, and Sochoh and her villages, and Timnah and her villages, and Gimzo and her villages: and they dwelt there. ¹⁹For the Lord brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Judah; for he grievously departed from the Lord. ²⁰And Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria came against him, and afflicted him. ²¹And Ahaz took the things in the house of the Lord, and the things in the house of the king, and of the princes, and gave them unto the king of Assyria: but he was no help to him, ²²but only troubled him in his affliction: and he departed yet more from the Lord; and king Ahaz said, ²³I will seek after the gods of Damascus that smite me. And he said, Forasmuch as the gods of the kings of Syria strengthen them, therefore will I sacrifice unto them; and they will help me. But they became a stumblingblock to him, and to all Israel. ²⁴And Ahaz removed the vessels of the house of the Lord, and cut them in pieces, and shut the doors of the house of the Lord, and made to him altars in every corner in Jerusalem: ²⁵and in each several city in Judah he made high places to burn incense unto strange gods: and they provoked to anger the Lord God of their fathers. ²⁶And the rest of his acts, and his deeds, the first and the last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. ²⁷And Ahaz slept, and was buried in the city of David; for they brought him not into the sepulchres of the kings of Israel: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 29

And Hezekiah began to reign at the age of five and twenty years, and he reigned nine and twenty years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah. ²And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father David had done. ³And it came to pass, when he was established over his kingdom, in the first month, that he opened the doors of the Lord, and repaired them. ⁴And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and put them on the east side, ⁵and said unto them, Hear, ye Levites: sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the Lord God of your fathers, and cast out the impurity from the holy places. ⁶For our fathers have revolted, and done that which was evil before the Lord our God, and have forsaken Him, and have turned away their face from the tabernacle of the Lord, and have turned their back. ⁷And they have shut up the doors of the temple, and put out the lamps, and have not burnt incense, and have not offered whole burnt offerings in the holy place unto the God of Israel. ⁸And the Lord was exceeding wroth with Judah and Jerusalem, and made them an astonishment, and a desolation, and a hissing, as ye see with

your eyes. ⁹And lo, your fathers have been smitten with the sword, and your sons and your daughters and your wives are in captivity in a land not their own, as it is even now. ¹⁰Therefore it is in mine heart to make a covenant, a covenant with the Lord God of Israel, that he may turn His fierce wrath away from us. ¹¹And now be ye not wanting; for the Lord hath chosen you to stand before Him to minister, and to be ministers and burners of incense unto Him. ¹²Then the Levites arose, Mahath the son of Amasai, and Joel the son of Azariah, of the sons of Kohath: and of the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehallelel: and of the sons of Gershon, Joah the son of Zimma, and Eden: these were the sons of Joah. ¹³And of the sons of Elizaphan; Shimri, and Jeiel: and of the sons of Asaph; Zechariah, and Mattaniah: ¹⁴and of the sons of Heman; Jehiel, and Shimei: and of the sons of Jeduthun; Shemaiah, and Uzziel. ¹⁵And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves according to the king's commandment, by the words of the Lord, to cleanse the house of the Lord. ¹⁶And the priests entered into the house of the Lord, to cleanse it, and they cast out all the uncleanness that was found in the house of the Lord, even into the court of the house of the Lord: and the Levites received it, to cast into the brook of Kidron without. ¹⁷And they began on the first day on the new moon of the first month to cleanse, and on the eighth day of the month came they into the temple of the Lord: and they cleansed the house of the Lord in eight days; and on the thirteenth day of the first month they made an end. ¹⁸And they went in to king Hezekiah, and said, We have cleansed all the things in the house of the Lord, the altar of whole burnt offering, and the vessels thereof, and the table of the proposition, and the vessels thereof; ¹⁹and all the vessels which king Ahaz in his reign did pollute in his apostasy, have we prepared and cleansed: behold, they are before the altar of the Lord. ²⁰And king Hezekiah rose early in the morning, and gathered the rulers of the city, and went up to the house of the Lord. ²¹And he brought seven calves, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven kids of goats, for a sin offering for the kingdom, and for the holy things, and for Israel: and he told the priests the sons of Aaron to go up to the altar of the Lord. ²²And they killed the calves, and the priests received the blood, and poured it upon the altar: and they killed the rams, and poured the blood upon the altar: they killed also the lambs, and poured the blood poured the blood round about the altar. ²³And they brought the goats for a sin offering before the king and the congregation; and they laid their hands upon them. ²⁴And the priests killed them, and offered their blood as a propitiation upon the altar; and they made an atonement for all Israel: for the king said, The whole burnt offering and the sin offering are for all Israel. ²⁵And he set the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, and with psalteries, and with harps, according to the commandment of king David, and of Gad the king's seer, and Nathan the prophet: for by the commandment of the Lord was the order in the hands of the prophets. ²⁶And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets. ²⁷And Hezekiah spake to offer the whole burnt offering upon the altar: and when they began to offer the whole burnt offering, they began to sing unto the Lord,

and the trumpets with the instruments of David king of Israel. ²⁸And all the congregation worshipped, and the psalm singers sang, and the trumpets sounded, until the whole burnt offering was completed. ²⁹And when they had made an end of offering, the king and all that were found with him bowed themselves, and worshipped. ³⁰And king Hezekiah and the princes told the Levites to sing hymns unto the Lord in the words of David, and of Asaph the prophet: and they sang hymns with gladness, and fell down, and worshipped. ³¹Then Hezekiah answered and said, Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto the Lord, bring near and offer sacrifices of praise in the house of the Lord. And the congregation brought sacrifices and thank offerings into the house of the Lord; and every man that was ready in his heart brought whole burnt offerings. ³²And the number of the whole burnt offerings, which the congregation brought, was threescore and ten calves, an hundred rams, and two hundred lambs: all these were for an whole burnt offering to the Lord. ³³And the consecrated calves were six hundred, and the sheep three thousand. ³⁴But the priests were few, and could not flay the whole burnt offering: wherefore their brethren the Levites did help them, until the work was finished, and until the priests had purified themselves: for the Levites did more zealously purify themselves than did the priests. ³⁵And the whole burnt offering was abundant with the fats of the one consecrated of the peace offering, and the drink offerings of the whole burnt sacrifice. So the service was set in order in the house of the Lord. And Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, because God had prepared the people: for the thing was done suddenly.

CHAPTER 30

And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come into the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, to keep the passover unto the Lord God of Israel. ²For the king, and the princes, and all the congregation in Jerusalem, purposed to keep the passover in the second month. ³For they could not keep it at that time, because the priests had not sanctified themselves sufficiently, neither had the people gathered themselves together to Jerusalem. ⁴And the thing pleased the king and the congregation. ⁵And they established a decree, that a proclamation should go throughout all Israel, from Beer-sheba even to Dan, that they should come and keep the passover unto the Lord God of Israel at Jerusalem: for the multitude had not done it according to the scripture. ⁶And the running men went with the letters from the king and the princes unto all Israel and Judah, according to the commandment of the king, saying, Ye sons of Israel, turn again unto the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel; and do ye bring back them that are escaped, even them that were left of the hand of the king of Assyria. ⁷And be not ye like your fathers, and like your brethren, which revolted against the Lord God of their fathers, and He gave them up into desolation, as ye see. ⁸And now harden not your hearts, as your fathers

did; give ye glory unto the Lord, and enter into His sanctuary, which He hath sanctified for ever: and serve the Lord your God; and He shall turn away His fierce anger from you. ⁹For when ye turn again unto the Lord, your brethren and your children shall be pitied before all them that have carried them captives; and He shall restore you to this land: for the Lord our God is merciful, and compassionate, and will not turn away His face from you, if we return unto Him. ¹⁰So the posts passed through from city to city in mount Ephraim and Manasseh, and even unto Zebulun: but they as it were laughed them to scorn, and mocked them. ¹¹Nevertheless the men of Asher, and of Manasseh, and of Zebulun, were ashamed, and came to Jerusalem and Judah. ¹²Also the hand of God was to give them one heart to come to do according to the commandments of the king and of the princes, by the word of the Lord. ¹³And there were gathered to Jerusalem to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very great congregation. ¹⁴And they arose and took away the altars that were in Jerusalem, and all whereon they burnt incense to false gods they tore down, and cast them into the brook Kidron. ¹⁵Then they killed the passover on the fourteenth day of the second month: and the priest and the Levites were ashamed, and purified themselves, and brought in whole burnt offerings into the house of the Lord. ¹⁶And they stood at their station according to their ordinance, according to the commandment of Moses the man of God: and the priests received the blood of the hand of the Levites. ¹⁷For a great part of the congregation was not sanctified: and the Levites were to kill the passover for every one that could not sanctify himself unto the Lord. ¹⁸For the greatest part of the people of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet did they eat the passover not according to the scripture. For this reason also did Hezekiah pray concerning them, saying, ¹⁹The good Lord be merciful in respect of every heart that in sincerity seeketh the Lord God of their fathers, and is not *purified* according to the purification of the sanctuary. ²⁰And the Lord hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people. ²¹And the sons of Israel that were present in Jerusalem kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with great gladness: and they continued daily to sing hymns unto the Lord; and the priest and the Levites played on instruments unto the Lord. ²²And Hezekiah spake unto the heart of all the Levites, and to them that had a good understanding of the Lord: and they completed the feast of unleavened bread in seven days, offering a peace offering, and confessing the Lord God of their fathers. ²³And the whole assembly took counsel to keep other seven days: and they kept other seven days with gladness. ²⁴For Hezekiah set apart for Judah, even for the congregation, a thousand calves and seven thousand sheep: and the princes set apart for the people a thousand calves and ten thousand sheep, and the holy things of the priests abundantly. ²⁵And all the congregation, the priests and the Levites, and all the congregation of Judah, and they that were present of Jerusalem, and the strangers that came out of the land of Israel, and they that dwelt in Judah, rejoiced. ²⁶And there was great joy in Jerusalem: from the days of Solomon the son of David king of Israel there was not such a feast

in Jerusalem. ²⁷Then the priests and the Levites arose and blessed the people: and their voice was heard, and their prayer came into His holy dwelling place, even unto heaven.

CHAPTER 31

Now when all this was finished, all Israel that were found in the cities of Judah went out, and brake the pillars in pieces, and cut down the groves, and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, of Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had made an end: and all Israel returned, every one to his own inheritance, and into their cities. ²And Hezekiah appointed the daily courses of the priests and the Levites, and the courses of each according to his ministry, to the priests and to the Levites, for the whole burnt offering, and for the peace offering, and to praise, and to give thanks, and to minister in the gates, and in the courts of the house of the Lord. ³And the king's portion out of his substance was appointed for the whole burnt offerings, the morning and the evening, and the whole burnt offerings for the sabbaths, and for the new moons, and for the feasts that were written in the law of the Lord. ⁴And they told the people that dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites, that they might be strong in the ministry of the house of the Lord. ⁵And as soon as he gave the command, Israel brought in abundance firstfruits of corn, and wine, and oil, and honey, and every fruit of the field: and the sons of Israel and Judah brought tithes of every thing in abundance. ⁶And they that dwelt in the cities of Judah, they also brought in tithes of calves and sheep, and tithes of goats, and consecrated them unto the Lord their God, and brought them in, and laid them in heaps. ⁷In the third month began the heaps to be built up, and in the seventh month they were finished. ⁸And Hezekiah and the princes came and saw the heaps, and blessed the Lord and His people Israel. ⁹Then Hezekiah inquired of the priests and the Levites concerning the heaps. ¹⁰And Azariah the priest, the chief over the house of Zadok, spake unto him, and said, Since the time that the firstfruits began to be brought into the house of the Lord, we have eaten and drunk, and have left even in abundance: for the Lord hath blessed His people; and we have left behind still to this great abundance. ¹¹And Hezekiah told them yet farther to prepare chambers for the house of the Lord; and they prepared them, ¹²and brought thither the firstfruits and the tithes faithfully: and over them Cononiah the Levite was for ruler, and Shimei his brother was the next. ¹³And Jehiel, and Azaiah, and Nahath, and Asahel, and Jerimoth, and Jozabad, and Eliel, and Ismachiah, and Mahath, and Benaniah, and his sons, were appointed overseers by Cononiah and Shimei his brother, as Hezekiah the king, and Azariah, which was over the house of the Lord, commanded. ¹⁴And Korah the son of Imnah the Levite, the porter toward the east, was over the gifts, to distribute the firstfruits of the Lord, and the most holy things, ¹⁵by the hand of Eden, and Miniamin, and Jeshua, and Shemaiah, and Amariah, and Shechaniah, by the

hand of the priests faithfully, to give unto their brethren according to the courses, as well to great as to small: ¹⁶beside the increase of males from three years old and upward, even unto every one that entered into the house of the Lord, a portion according to a daily rate, for service in the daily courses of their order. ¹⁷This is the distribution of the priests according to the houses of their families; and the Levites in their daily courses from twenty years old and upward in their order, ¹⁸in registers, for all the increase of their sons and their daughters for the whole number: for they faithfully sanctified the holy place. ¹⁹As for the sons of Aaron that executed the priestly office, even those from their cities, the men in each several city that were named by name to give a portion to every male among the priests, and to every one that was reckoned among the Levites. ²⁰And thus did Hezekiah throughout all Judah, and wrought that which was good and right before the Lord his God. ²¹And in every work that he began in the service in the house of the Lord, and in the law, and in the ordinances, he sought his God with all his heart, and wrought, and prospered.

CHAPTER 32

And after these things, and this faithfulness, came Sennacherib king of the Assyrians; and he came to Judah, and encamped against the fortified cities, and spake to take them for himself. ²And Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib was come, and that his face was set to fight against Jerusalem. ³And he took counsel with his elders and his mighty men to stop the wells of water which were without the city: and they did help him. ⁴And he gathered much people together, and stopped the wells of water, and the river that made a division through the midst of the city, saying, Lest the king of the Assyrians come, and find much water, and be strengthened. ⁵Also Hezekiah strengthened himself, and built up all the wall that had been razed, and the towers, and another wall without before, and fortified the strong place of the city of David, and prepared weapons in abundance. ⁶And he appointed captains of war over the people; and they were gathered unto him in the square of the gate of the city: and he spake unto their heart, saying, ⁷Be strong and courageous, and be not afraid nor dismayed before the king of Assyria, and before all the nation that is with him: for there be more with us than with him. ⁸With him are arms of flesh; but with us is the Lord our God to save us, and to fight our battle. And the people rested with confidence upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah. ⁹And after these things did Sennacherib king of the Assyrians send his servants to Jerusalem: and he himself went against Lachish, and all his army with him; and he sent to Hezekiah king of Judah, and to all Judah that was in Jerusalem, saying, ¹⁰Thus saith Sennacherib king of the Assyrians, Whereon do ye trust, that ye will abide in the siege in Jerusalem? ¹¹Doth not Hezekiah deceive you, to give you over to death, and famine, and thirst, saying, The Lord our God will deliver us out of the hand of the king of Assyria? ¹²Is not this Hezekiah that

hath taken down his altars and his high places, and hath spoken to Judah and Jerusalem, saying, Ye shall worship before this altar, and burn incense upon it? ¹³Know ye not what I and my fathers have done to all the nations of the lands? Were the gods of the nations of all the earth any ways able to rescue their people out of mine hand? ¹⁴Who is there among all the gods of those nations that my fathers utterly destroyed? could they deliver their people out of mine hand, that your God should be able to deliver you out of mine hand? ¹⁵Now then let not Hezekiah deceive you, nor let him make you thus confident, and believe him not: for no god of any nation or kingdom is any ways able to deliver his people out of mine hand, or the hand of my fathers: therefore your God shall not deliver you out of mine hand. ¹⁶And his servants spake yet more against the Lord God, and against His servant Hezekiah. ¹⁷He wrote a letter also to rail on the Lord God of Israel, and spake concerning Him, saying, As the gods of the nations of the earth have not delivered their people out of mine hand, so shall the God of Hezekiah by no means deliver His people out of mine hand. ¹⁸And he cried with a loud voice in the Jews' speech unto the people of Jerusalem upon the wall, calling on them to assist them, and pull down the walls; that they might take the city. ¹⁹And he spake against the God of Jerusalem, as against the gods of the people of the earth, the works of the hands of men. ²⁰And king Hezekiah and Isaiah the prophet the son of Amos prayed concerning these things, and cried to heaven. ²¹And the Lord sent an angel, and he destroyed every mighty man and warrior, and leader and captain, in the camp of the king of Assyria: and he returned with shame of face to his own land, and came into the house of his god: and *some* of them that came forth out of his own bowels slew him with the sword. ²²So the Lord delivered Hezekiah and them that dwelt in Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib king of the Assyrians, and from the hand of all, and gave them rest round about. ²³And many brought gifts unto the Lord to Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah: and he was exalted in the sight of all nations after these things.

²⁴In those days Hezekiah was sick even to death, and prayed unto the Lord: and He hearkened unto him, and gave him a sign. ²⁵But Hezekiah rendered not again unto the Lord according to the return which He made unto him; but his heart was lifted up: and wrath came upon him, and upon Judah and Jerusalem. ²⁶And Hezekiah humbled himself after the pride of his heart, both he and them that dwelt in Jerusalem; and the wrath of the Lord came not upon them in the days of Hezekiah. ²⁷And Hezekiah had riches and exceeding great glory: and he made himself treasuries of silver, and of gold, and of precious stone, for spices also, and storehouses for weapons, and for precious vessels; ²⁸and cities for the increase of corn, and wine, and oil; and stalls and mangers for all manner of beasts, and cotes for flocks; ²⁹and cities which he made for himself, and store of sheep and oxen in abundance: for the Lord had given him substance very much. ³⁰The same Hezekiah stopped up the course of the water of Gihon above, and brought the water straight down to the south of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works. ³¹Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who

were sent unto him to inquire of the prodigy that came upon the land, the Lord left him, to try him, to know what was in his heart. ³²And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his mercy, behold, they are written in the prophecy of Isaiah the son of Amos the prophet, and in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. ³³And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in an high place among the sepulchres of the sons of David: and all Judah and them that dwelt in Jerusalem gave him glory and honour at his death. And Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

CHAPTER 33

Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. ²And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all the abominations of the heathen, whom the Lord had destroyed before the face of the sons of Israel. ³And he returned and built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down, and reared up pillars to the Baalim, and made groves, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them. ⁴Also he built altars in the house of the Lord, whereof the Lord had said, In Jerusalem shall My name be for ever. ⁵And he built altars to all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord. ⁶And he passed his children through the fire in the valley of the Son of Hinnom: also he divined, and used auspices, and sorceries, and appointed those who had divining spirits, and enchanters; and wrought abundant wickedness before the Lord, to provoke Him to anger. ⁷And he set the graven image, the molten statue, the idols which he made, in the house of God, of which God had said to David and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, will I put My name for ever: ⁸neither will I any more remove the foot of Israel from out of the land which I gave to their fathers; if only they will take heed to do all things that I have commanded them, according to all the law and the ordinances and the judgments by the hand of Moses. ⁹So Manasseh led Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem astray, to do evil beyond all the nations, whom the Lord had cast out before the sons of Israel. ¹⁰And the Lord spake to Manasseh, and to his people: but they hearkened not. ¹¹And the Lord brought upon them the captains of the host of the king of Assyria; and they took Manasseh in bonds, and bound him in fetters, and brought him to Babylon. ¹²And when he was afflicted, he sought the face of the Lord his God, and was humbled greatly before the face of the God of his fathers, ¹³and prayed unto Him: and He hearkened unto him, and heard his cry, and brought him again to Jerusalem to his kingdom: and Manasseh knew that the Lord He is God. ¹⁴And afterward he built a wall without the city of David, from the south west corner in the valleys, and at the entering in through the fish gate, as men go out by the gate round about, even unto Ophel; and he raised it much, and set captains of the host in all the fortified cities in Judah. ¹⁵And he took away the strange gods, and the graven image out of the house

of the Lord, and all the altars that he had built in the mount of the house of the Lord, and in Jerusalem, and without the city. ¹⁶And he repaired the altar of the Lord, and sacrificed thereon a sacrifice of peace offering and thank offering, and told Judah to serve the Lord God of Israel. ¹⁷Nevertheless the people did sacrifice still in the high places, only to the Lord their God. ¹⁸And the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and his prayer unto God, and the words of the seers that spake to him in the name of the God of Israel, ¹⁹behold, they are in the words of his prayer; and God hearkened unto him. And all his sins, and his backslidings, and the places wherein he built the high places, and set there groves and graven images, before he repented: behold, they are written in the books of the seers. ²⁰And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the garden of his own house: and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

²¹Amon was two and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned two years in Jerusalem. ²²And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, as did Manasseh his father: and Amon sacrificed unto all the idols which Manasseh his father had made, and served them. ²³And he was not humbled before the Lord, as Manasseh his father was humbled; for Amon his son abounded in transgression. ²⁴And his servants conspired against him, and slew him in his own house. ²⁵And the people of the land slew the men that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

CHAPTER 34

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty and one years. ²And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of David his father, and turned aside neither to the right hand, nor to the left. ³And in the eighth year of his reign, and being yet a youth, he began to seek after the Lord God of David his father: and in the twelfth year of his reign he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the ornaments for the altars, and the molten images. ⁴And he brake down the altars of Baalim that were before his face, and the high places that were above him; and he cut down the groves, and the graven images; and the molten images he brake in pieces, and made dust of them, and strowed it upon the face of the tombs of them that had sacrificed unto them. ⁵And he burnt the bones of the priests upon the altars, and purged Judah and Jerusalem. ⁶And so did he in the cities of Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Simeon, and Naphtali, and the places round about them. ⁷And he brake down the altars and the groves, and cut the idols into fine pieces, and cut off all the high places from all the land of Israel, and returned to Jerusalem.

⁸And in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the

house of the Lord his God. ⁹And they came to Hilkiyah the high priest, and gave the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites that kept the gate had gathered at the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and of the princes, and of every one that was left in Israel, and of the children of Judah and Benjamin, and of them that dwelt in Jerusalem. ¹⁰And they gave it into the hand of the workmen that were appointed in the house of the Lord, and they gave it to the workmen that wrought in the house of the Lord, to repair and strengthen the house. ¹¹Also to the carpenters and builders gave it they, to buy hewn stones, and timber for beams to cover the houses that the kings of Judah had destroyed. ¹²And the men were faithfully occupied in the works: and over them were overseers, Jahath, and Obadiah, Levites of the sons of Merari, and Zechariah and Meshullam of the sons of Kohath, to oversee; and every Levite, and every one that understood to play on instruments of musick; ¹³and over the bearers of burdens, and over all the workmen in the respective works; and of the Levites there were scribes, and judges, and porters. ¹⁴And when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the Lord, Hilkiyah the priest found a book of the law of the Lord by the hand of Moses. ¹⁵And Hilkiyah answered and said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found a book of the law in the house of the Lord. And Hilkiyah gave the book to Shaphan. ¹⁶And Shaphan brought the book to the king, and moreover brought the king word, saying, All the money given is in the hands of the servants that work. ¹⁷And they have collected the money that was found in the house of the Lord, and given it into the hand of the overseers, and into the hand of them that do the work. ¹⁸And Shaphan the scribe brought word to the king, saying, Hilkiyah the priest hath given me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king. ¹⁹And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes. ²⁰And the king commanded Hilkiyah, and Ahikam the son of Micah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the servant of the king, saying, ²¹Go, inquire of the Lord for me, and for every one that is left in Israel and Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found: for great is the wrath of the Lord that is kindled among us, because our fathers have not hearkened to the words of the Lord, to do all the things that are written in this book. ²²And Hilkiyah, and the others that the king had told, went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvath, the son of Hasrah, which kept the commandments; and she dwelt in Jerusalem in the second *quarter*: and they spake unto her according to these things. ²³And she said unto them, Thus hath said the Lord God of Israel, Tell ye the man that sent you to Me, ²⁴Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I do bring evils upon this place, even all the words that are written in the book that was read before the king of Judah: ²⁵because they have forsaken Me, and have burned incense unto strange gods, that they might provoke Me to anger by all the works of their hands; and My wrath is kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched. ²⁶And concerning the king of Judah, who sent you to seek the Lord, so shall ye say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, As for the words which thou hast heard, ²⁷forasmuch as thine heart was ashamed, and thou wast humbled before Me when thou heardest My

words against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof; and thou wast humbled before Me, and didst rend thy clothes, and didst weep before Me; I have heard also, saith the Lord. ²⁸Behold, I will gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace, neither shall thine eyes look upon all the evils that I will bring upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof. And they brought word to the king again. ²⁹And the king sent and gathered together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. ³⁰And the king went up into the house of the Lord, and all Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests, and the Levites, and all the people, great and small: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that were found in the house of the Lord. ³¹And the king stood at a pillar, and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk before the Lord, to keep his commandments, and His testimonies, and His ordinances, to perform the words of the covenant that were written in this book. ³²And he caused all that were found in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand; and the inhabitants of Jerusalem made a covenant in the house of the Lord God of their fathers. ³³And Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the land that pertained to the sons of Israel, and made all that were found in Jerusalem and in Israel to serve the Lord their God all his days: he departed not from following the Lord God of his fathers.

CHAPTER 35

And Josiah kept the passover unto the Lord his God; and sacrificed the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month. ²And he appointed the priests at their charges, and encouraged them for the services of the house of the Lord. ³And he spake unto the Levites, unto the mighty ones in all Israel, to consecrate themselves unto the Lord: and they put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David king of Israel did build: and the king said, It is not for you to lift up anything upon your shoulders; now then minister to the Lord your God, and unto His people Israel. ⁴And prepare yourselves according to the houses of your families, and according to your daily courses, according to the writing of David king of Israel, and by the hand of Solomon his son. ⁵And stand in the house according to the divisions of the houses of your families for your brethren the sons of people; so also let there be for the Levites a division of the house of their family. ⁶And kill the passover, and prepare it for your brethren, to do according to the word of the Lord, by the hand of Moses. ⁷And Josiah gave as an offering to the children of the people, sheep, and lambs, and kids of the young of the goats, all for the passover, for all that were found, to the number of thirty thousand, and three thousand calves: these were of the king's substance. ⁸And his princes gave an offering unto the people, and to the priests, and to the Levites: and Hilkiah and Zechariah and Jehiel the chief men gave to the priests of the house of God, they even gave for the passover, sheep, and lambs, and kids two thousand and six hundred, and three hundred calves. ⁹Conaniah also, and

Banaiah, and Shemaiah, and Nethanael his brother, and Hashabiah, and Jeiel, and Jozabad, chiefs of the Levites, gave an offering unto the Levites for the passover of five thousand sheep, and five hundred calves. ¹⁰And the service was prepared, and the priests stood in their places, and the Levites in their divisions, according to the king's commandment. ¹¹And they killed the passover, and the priests sprinkled the blood from their hand, and the Levites flayed. ¹²And they prepared the whole burnt offering, that they might give to them according to the division by the houses of the families, to the sons, to offer unto the Lord, as it is written in the book of Moses. ¹³And so did they until the morning. And they roasted the passover with fire according to the judgment: and the holy pieces sod they in copper vessels and caldrons. And the way prospered, and they speedily served all the children of the people. ¹⁴And afterward they made ready for themselves, and for the priests: because the priests were busied in offering the whole burnt offerings and the fat until night; then the Levites prepared for themselves, and for their brethren the sons of Aaron. ¹⁵And the sons of Asaph the psalm singers were in their place, according to the commandments of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun, the prophets of the king; and the chiefs and the porters of the several gates; it was not for them to stir from the service of the holy things, for their brethren the Levites prepared for them. ¹⁶So all the service of the Lord was duly ordered and prepared in that day, for keeping the passover, and offering the whole burnt offerings upon the altar of the Lord, according to the commandment of king Josiah. ¹⁷And the sons of Israel that were present kept the passover at that time, and feast of unleavened bread seven days. ¹⁸And there was no passover like to it in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; neither did any king of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁹In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was this passover kept. ^{19a}And them that had in them a divining spirit, and the wizards, and the images, and the idols, and the sodomites which were in the land Judah and in Jerusalem, did king Josiah burn, that he might confirm the words of the law that were written in the book that Hilkiyah found in the house of the Lord. ^{19b}There was no king like to him before him, which turned unto the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his strength, according to all the law of Moses; and after him there rose there up none like unto him. ^{19c}Nevertheless the Lord turned not from the anger of His fierce wrath, wherewith the Lord was exceeding wroth against Judah, for all the provocations wherewith Manasseh provoked Him to anger. ^{19d}And the Lord said, I will even remove Judah also from My presence, as I have removed Israel; and I have rejected the city which I chose, even Jerusalem, and the house whereof I said, My name shall be there.

²⁰And Pharaoh Necho king of Egypt went up against the king of the Assyrians; and king Josiah went to meet him. ²¹And he sent messengers to him, saying, What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? I am come not to war against thee this day; and God hath told me to make haste: beware of the God that is with me, lest He destroy thee. ²²Nevertheless Josiah turned

not his face from him, but strengthened himself to fight against him, and hearkened not unto the words of Necho by the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo. ²³And the archers shot at king Josiah; and the king said to his servants, Have me away; for I am sore wounded. ²⁴And his servants lifted him out of the chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had, and brought him to Jerusalem, and he died, and was buried with his fathers: and all Judah and Jerusalem lamented over Josiah. ²⁵And Jeremiah mourned over Josiah: and all the chief men and the chief women spake a lamentation over Josiah to this day, and made it an ordinance for Israel: and, behold, it is written in the Lamentations. ²⁶And the rest of the acts of Josiah, and his hope, they are written in the law of the Lord. ²⁷And his acts, the first and the last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

***CHAPTER 36

And the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's stead over Jerusalem. ²Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Amital, the daughter of Jeremiah of Lobena. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done. And Pharaoh Necho bound him in Deble in the land of Emath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem. ³And the king brought him over to Egypt; and imposed a tribute upon the land, an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold. ⁴And Pharaoh Necho made Eliakim the son of Josiah king over Judah in the room of his father Josiah, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. And Pharaoh Necho took his brother Jehoahaz, and brought him into Egypt, and he died there: but he had given the silver and the gold to Pharaoh. At that time the land began to be taxed to give the money at the command of Pharaoh; and every one as he could did borrow the silver and the gold of the people of the land, to give unto Pharaoh Necho.

⁵Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Zechora, the daughter of Neriou of Rama. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers did. In his days came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon into the land; and he served him three years, and then revolted from him. And the Lord sent against them the Chaldeans, and plundering parties of the Moabites, and of the children of Ammon, and of Samaria: but after this they departed, according to the word of the Lord by the hand of his servants the prophets. Nevertheless the wrath of the Lord was upon Judah, that they should be taken away out of His presence, because of the sins of Manasseh in all that he did, and for the innocent blood which Jehoiakim did shed, (for he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood;) yet the Lord would not utterly destroy them. ⁶And against

him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and bound him in fetters of brass, and carried him away to Babylon. ⁷Also he carried of the vessels of the house of the Lord to Babylon, and put them in his temple in Babylon. ⁸And the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, behold, are not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? And Jehoiakim slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in Ganoza: and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his stead.

⁹Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord. ¹⁰And at the turn of the year, king Nebuchadnezzar sent, and brought him to Babylon, with the precious vessels of the house of the Lord, and made Zedekiah his father's brother king over Judah and Jerusalem.

¹¹Zedekiah was one and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. ¹²And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord his God: he was not ashamed before Jeremiah the prophet, nor because of the word of the Lord; ¹³in that he rebelled against king Nebuchadnezzar, which he adjured him by God *not to do*: but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart not to return unto the Lord God of Israel. ¹⁴And all the glorious men of Judah, and the priests, and the people of the land, transgressed very much in the abominations of the heathen, and polluted the house of the Lord, which was in Jerusalem. ¹⁵And the Lord God of their fathers sent by the hand of His prophets, rising up betimes, and sending His messengers; because He spared His people, and His sanctuary. ¹⁶Nevertheless they sneered at His messengers, and set at nought His words, and mocked His prophets, until the wrath of God rose up against His people, till there was no remedy. ¹⁷And He brought against them the king of the Chaldeans, and slew their young men with the sword in the house of His sanctuary, and spared not Zedekiah, and had no mercy upon their virgins: and they led their old men away; He delivered all things into their hands. ¹⁸And all the vessels of the house of God, the great and the small, and the treasures of the house of the Lord, and all the treasures of the king, and of the great men; all these he brought to Babylon. ¹⁹And he burnt the house of the Lord, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt the palaces thereof with fire, and *utterly destroyed* every goodly vessel. ²⁰And the remnant carried he away to Babylon; and they were servants to him and his sons until the kingdom of the Medes, ²¹that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, until the land should enjoy her sabbaths in resting and keeping sabbath all the days of her desolation, till the accomplishment of seventy years.

²²In the first year of Cyrus king of the Persians, after the fulfilment of the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of the Persians, and told him to make proclamation in writing throughout the kingdom, saying, ²³Thus saith Cyrus king of the Persians unto all the kingdoms of the earth: The Lord God of heaven hath given me power;

and He hath charged me to build Him an house in Jerusalem, in Judah. Who is there of you of all His people? his God shall be with him, and let him go up.