

## THE BOKE OF JUDGES.

## THE ARGUMENT.

*Albeit there is nothing that more provoketh Gods wrath, then mans ingratitude, yet is there nothing so displeasent and heinous that can turne backe Gods love from his Church. For now when the Israelites were entred into the land of Canaan, and saw the trueth of Gods promes performed, in stead of acknowledging his great benefits and giving thanks for the same, they fell to most horrible oblivion of God graces, contrarie to their solemne promes made unto Joshúa, and so provoked his vengeance (as muche as in them stode) to their utter destruction. Wherefore as they had moste evident signes by the mutabilitie of their state: for he suffered them to be moste cruelly vexed and tormented by tyrants: he pulled them from libertie, and cast them into slaverie, to the intent they might fele their owne miseries and so call unto him and be delivered. Yet to shewe that his mercies indure for ever, he raised up from time to time suche as shulde deliver them and assure them of his favour and grace, if they wolde turne to him by true repentance. And these deliverers the Scripture calleth Judges, because they were executers of Gods judgements, not chosen of the people nor by succession, but raised up, as it semed best to God, for the governance of his people. They were twelve in nomber besides Joshúa, and governed from Joshúa unto Saúl the first King of Israel. Joshúa and these unto the tyme of Saúl ruled 336 yeres. In this boke are manie notable points declared, but two especially: first, the battel that the Church of God hathe for the maintenance of true religion against idolatrie and superstition: next, what great danger that commune wealth is in, when as God giveth not a magistrate to reteine his people in the purenes of religion and his true service.*

## CHAP. 1

1 After Joshúa was dead, Judáh was constutite captaine. 6 Adoni-bézek is taken. 14 The request of Achsáh. 16 The children of Kení. 19 The Canaanites are made tributaries, but not destroyed.

After that Joshúa was dead, the children of Israél <sup>a</sup>asked the Lord, saying, <sup>b</sup>Who shal go up for us against the Canaanites, to fight first against them?

2 And the Lord said, Judáh shal go up: beholde, I have given the land into his hand.

3 And Judáh said unto Simeón his <sup>c</sup>brother, Come up with me into my lot, that we may fight against the Canaanites: and I likewise wil go with thee into thy lot: so Simeón went with him.

4 Then Judáh went up, and the Lord delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hands, and they slewe of them in Bézek ten thousand men.

5 And they founde <sup>d</sup>Adoni-bézek in Bézek: and they fought against him, and slewe the Canaanites, and the Perizzites.

6 But Adoni-bézek fled, & they pursued after him, and caught him, and <sup>e</sup>cut of the thumbes of his hands and of his fete.

7 And Adoni-bézek said, Seventie Kings having the thumbes of their hands and of their fete cut of, gathered *bread* under my table: as I have done, so God hathe rewarded me, so they broght him to Jerusalém, and there he dyed.

8 (Now the children of Judáh had fought against Jerusalém, and had taken it and smitten it with the edge of the sword, and had set the <sup>f</sup>citie on fire)

9 ¶ Afterwarde also the children of Judáh went downe to fight against the Canaanites, that dwelt in the mountaine, and toward to South, and in the lowe countrey.

10 And Judáh went against the Canaanites, that dwelt in Hebrón, which Hebrón beforetime was called <sup>g</sup>Kiriath-arbá: and they slew <sup>h</sup>Sheshái, and Ahimán and Talmái.

1 a By the judgement of Urim: read Exo. 28.30, Num. 27.21, 1 Sam. 28.6.

1 b Who shall be our Captain?

3 c For the tribe of Simeon had their inheritance within the tribe of Judah, Josh. 19.1.

5 <sup>d</sup>Or, the lord of Bezek.

6 d This was God's just judgement, as the tyrant himself confessed, that as he had done, so did he receive, Lev. 24.19.

8 e Which was afterward built again, and possessed by the Jebusites, 2 Sam. 5.6.

10 <sup>f</sup>Josh. 15.13.

10 f These three were giants, and the children of Anak.

11 And from thence he went to the inhabitants of Debír, and the name of Debír in olde time was Kiriath-sépher.

12 And Caléb said, He that smiteth Kiriath-sépher, and taketh it, even to him wil I give Achsáh my daughter to wife.

13 And Othniél the sonne of Kenáz Calebs yonger brother toke it, to whome he gave Achsáh his daughter to wife.

14 And when she came to *him*, she moved him to aske of her father a field, <sup>i</sup>and she lighted of her asse, and Caléb said unto her, What wilt thou?

15 And she answered him, Give me a blessing: for thou hast given me a South countrey, give me also springs of water: and Caléb gave her the springs above and the springs beneth.

16 ¶ And the children of <sup>j</sup>Kení Mosés father in lawe went up out of the citie of the palmetrees with the children of Judáh, into the wildernes of Judáh, that lieth in the South of Arád, and went and dwelt among the people.

17 But Judáh went with Simeón his brother, and they slewe the Canaanites that inhabited Zepháth, and utterly destroyed it, and called the name of the citie <sup>k</sup>Hormáh.

18 Also Judáh toke <sup>l</sup>Azzáh with the coastes thereof, and Askelón with the coastes thereof, and Ekrón with the coastes thereof.

19 And the Lord was with Judáh, and he possessed the mountaines: for he colde not drive out the inhabitants of the valleys, because they had charets of yron.

20 And they gave Hebrón unto Caléb, as <sup>m</sup>Mosés had said, and he expelled thence the thre sonnes of Anák.

21 But the children of Benjamín did not cast out the Jebusites, that <sup>n</sup>inhabited Jerusalém: therefore the Jebusites dwel with the children of Benjamín in Jerusalém unto this day.

22 ¶ They also that were of the house of Joséph, went up to Beth-él, and the Lord was with them,

23 And the house of Joséph caused to vewe Beth-él (and the name of the citie beforetime was <sup>o</sup>Luz)

24 And the spies sawe a man come out of the citie, and they said unto him, Shewe us, we pray thee, the way into the citie, <sup>p</sup>and we wil shewe thee mercie.

14 g Read Josh. 15.18.

16 h This was one of the names of Moses father-in-law, read Num. 10.29.

17 <sup>i</sup>Num. 21.3.

18 i These cities & others were afterward possessed of the Philistines, 1 Sam. 6.17.

20 <sup>j</sup>Num. 14.24, Josh. 14.13 and 15.14.

21 k For after that the tribe of Judah had burnt it, they built it again.

23 Gen. 28.19.

24 <sup>l</sup>Josh. 2.14

The rebellion of

## Judges 1:25 – 2:19

the people.

25 And when he had shewed them the way into the citie, they smote the citie with the edge of the sword, but they let the man and all his housholde departe.

26 Then the man went into the land of the Hittites, and buylt a citie, & called the name thereof Luz, which is the name thereof unto this day.

27 ¶ \*Nether did Manasséh destroy Beth-sheán with her townes, nor Taanách with her townes, nor the inhabitants of Dor with her townes, nor the inhabitants of Ibleám with her townes, nether the inhabitants of Megiddó with her townes: <sup>l</sup>but the Canaanites dwelled stil in that land.

28 Nevertheles when Israél was strog, they put the Canaanites to tribute, and expelled them not wholly.

29 ¶ \*Likewise Ephráim expelled not the Canaanites that dwelt in Gézer, but the Canaanites dwelt in Gézer among them.

30 ¶ Nether did <sup>m</sup>Zebulún expel the inhabitants of Kitrón, nor the inhabitants of Nahalól, but the Canaanites dwelt among them, and became tributaries.

31 ¶ Nether did Ashér cast out the inhabitants of Acchó, nor the inhabitants of Zidón, nor of Abláb, nor of Achzíb, nor of Helbáh, nor of Aphik, nor of Rehób,

32 But the Asherites dwelt among the Canaanites the inhabitants of the land: for thei did not drive them <sup>n</sup>out.

33 ¶ Nether did Naphtalí drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shémesh, nor the inhabitants of Beth-anáth, but dwelt among the Canaanites the inhabitants of the land: nevertheles the inhabitants of Beth-shémesh, & of Peth-anáth became tributaries unto them.

34 And the Amorites <sup>^</sup>drove the children of Dan into the mountaine: so that thei suffred them not to come downe to the valley.

35 And the Amorites <sup>^</sup>dwelt stil in mount Héres in Aijalón, and in Shaalvim, and when the <sup>^</sup>hand of Josephs familie prevailed, thei became tributaries:

36 And the coast of the Amorites was from Maaleh-akrabbím, even from <sup>p</sup>Sélah and upwarde.

### CHAP. 2

*1 The Angle rebuketh the people, because thei had made peace with the Canaanites. 11 The Israelites fel to idolatrie after Joshuas death. 14 Thei are delivered into the enemies hands. 16 God delivereth them by Judges 22 Why God suffred idolaters to remaine among them.*

**A**Nd an <sup>a</sup>Angel of the Lord came up from Gilgál to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have broght you unto the land which I had sworne unto your fathers, and said, I wil never breake my covenant with you.

2 \*Ye also shal make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land, \*but shal breake downe their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voyce. Why have ye done this?

27 \*Josh. 17.12.

27 l Wherefore God permitted the Canaanites to dwell in the land, read Ch. 3.4.

29 \*Josh. 16.10.

30 m That is the tribe of Zebulun, as is also to be understood of the rest.

32 n But made them pay tribute as the others did.

34 <sup>^</sup> Or, afflicted them.

35 <sup>^</sup>Or, would dwell.

35 o Meaning, when he was stronger than they.

36 p Which was a city in Arabia, or, as some read, from the rock.

### Chapter 2

1 a That is, messenger, or Prophet, as some think, Phinehas.

2 \*Deut. 7.2.

2 \*Deut. 12.3.

3 Wherefore, I said also, I wil not cast them out before you, but thei shalbe <sup>\*as thornes</sup> unto your sides, and their gods shalbe <sup>^</sup>your destruction.

4 And when the Angel of the Lord spake these wordes unto all the children of Israél, the people lift up their voyce, and wept.

5 Therefore thei called the name of that place, <sup>^</sup>Bochim, and offred sacrifices there unto the Lord.

6 ¶ Now when Joshúa had <sup>b</sup>sent the people away, the children of Israél went everie man into his inheritance to possesse the land.

7 And the people had served the Lord all the daies of Joshúa, and all the daies of the Elders that outlyved Joshúa, which had sene all the great <sup>c</sup>workes of the Lord that he did for Israél.

8 But Joshúa the sonne of Nun the servant of the Lord dyed, when he was an hundreth and ten yeres olde:

9 And thei buryed him in the coastes of his inheritance, in <sup>d</sup>Timnath-héres in mount Ephráim, on the Northside of mount Gáash.

10 And so all that generacion was gathered unto their fathers, and an other generacion arose after them, which nether knewe the Lord, nor yet the workes, which he had done for Israél.

11 ¶ Then the children of Israél did wickedly in the sight of the Lord, and served <sup>e</sup>Baalím,

12 And forsoke the Lord God of their fathers, which broght them out of the land of Egypt, & followed other gods, even the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed unto them, and provoked the Lord to angré.

13 So thei forsoke the Lord, and served Báal and <sup>f</sup>Ashtaróth.

14 And the wrath of the Lord was hote against Israél, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers, that spoiled them, & he <sup>g</sup>solde them into the hands of their enemies round about them, so that thei colde no longer stand before their enemies.

15 <sup>h</sup>Whethersoever thei went out, the <sup>h</sup>hand of the Lord was sore against them, as the Lord had said, and as the Lord had sworne unto them: so he punished them sore.

16 ¶ Notwithstanding, the Lord raised up <sup>^</sup>Judges, which <sup>^</sup>delivered them out of the hands of their oppressors.

17 But yet thei wolde not obey their Judges: for thei went a whoring after other gods, and worshipped them, and turned quickly out of the <sup>i</sup>way, wherein their fathers walked, obeying the commandements of the Lord: thei did not so.

18 And when the Lord had raised them up Judges, the Lord was with the Judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the daies of the Judge (for the Lord <sup>^</sup>had compassion of their gronings, <sup>k</sup>because of them that oppressed them and tormented them)

19 Yet <sup>\*</sup>when the Judge was dead, thei returned, and <sup>^</sup>did

3 \*Josh. 23.13.

3 <sup>^</sup>Or, snare.

5 <sup>^</sup>Or, weeping.

6 b After that he had divided to every man his portion by lot, Josh. 24.28.

7 c Meaning, the wonders and miracles.

9 d Heres by turning the letters backward in Sereh, as Josh. 24.30.

11 e That is, all manner of idoles.

13 f These were idoles, which had the form of an ewe or sheep among the Sidonians.

14 \*Ps. 44.13, Isa. 50.1.

15 g In all their enterprises.

15 h The vengeance.

16 <sup>^</sup>Or, Magistrates.

16 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., saved.

17 i Meaning, from the true religion.

18 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., repented.

18 k Seeing their cruelty.

19 \*Chap. 3.12.

19 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., corrupted themselves.

Othniel.

worse then their fathers, in following other gods to serve them & worship them • thei ceased not from their owne inventions, nor from their rebellious way.

20 Wherefore the wrath of the Lord was kindled against Israél, and he said, Because this people hath transgressed my covenant, which I commanded their fathers, and hath not obeyed my voyce,

21 Therefore wil I no more cast out before them any of the <sup>h</sup>nacions, which Joshúa left when he dyed,

22 That through them I may <sup>m</sup>prove Israél, whether they wil kepe the way of the Lord, to walke therein, as their fathers kept it, or not.

23 So the Lord left those nacions, and drove them not out immediately, nether delivered them into the hand of Joshúa.

### CHAP. 3

1 *The Canaanites were left to trye Israél. 9 Othniél delivereth Israél. 21 Ehúd killeth King Eglón. 31 Shamgár killeth the Philistims.*

**T**Hese now are the nacions which the Lord left, that he might prove Israél by them (*even as many of Israél as had not knowen all the <sup>a</sup>warres of Canáan,*

2 Onely to make the generacions of the children of Israél to knowe, and to teache them warre, which douteles their predessors knewe <sup>b</sup>not)

3 Five princes of the Philistims, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanón, from mount Báal-hermón unto one come to Hamath.

4 And these remained to prove Israél by them, to wit, whether thei wolde obey the commandements of the Lord, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Mosés.

5 And the children of Israél dwelt among the Canaanites, the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites,

6 And thei toke <sup>q</sup>their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sonnes, and served their gods.

7 ¶ So the children of Israél did wickedly in the sight of the Lord, and forgate the Lord their God, and served Baalím, and <sup>d</sup>Asheróth.

8 Therefore the wrath of the Lord was kindled against Israél, and he solde them into the hand of Chushán rishatháim King of <sup>^</sup>Arám-naharáim, and the children of Israél served Chushán rishatháim eight yeres.

9 ¶ And when the children of Israél cryed unto the Lord, the Lord stirred up a saviour to the children of Israél, and he saved them, *even Othniél the sonne of Kenáz, Calebs yonger brother.*

10 And the <sup>e</sup>Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he judged Israél, and went out to warre: and the Lord delivered Chushán rishatháim King of <sup>^</sup>Aram into his hand, and his hand prevailed against Chushán rishatháim.

11 So the land had rest <sup>f</sup>fourtie yeres, and Othniél the sonne of Kenáz dyed.

21 | As the Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites, &c.

22 m So that both outward enemies and false Prophets are but a trail to prove our faith, Deut. 13.3.

### Chapter 3

1 a Which were achieved by the hand of God, and not by the power of man.

2 b For they trusted in God and he fought for them.

6 c Contrary to God's commandment, Deut. 7.3.

7 d Trees or woods erected for idolatry.

8 <sup>^</sup>Or, Mesopotamia.

10 e He was stirred up by the Spirit of the Lord.

10 <sup>^</sup>Or, Syria.

11 f That is, 32 under Joshua, and 8 under Othniel.

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Ehúd.

12 ¶ Then the children of Israél againe committed wickedness in the sight of the Lord: & the Lord <sup>g</sup>strengthened Eglón King of Moáb against Israél, because thei had committed wickedness before the Lord.

13 And he gathered unto him the children of Ammón, and Amalék, and went and smote Israél, & thei possessed the citie of palmetrees.

14 So the children of Israél served Eglón King of Moáb eightene yeres.

15 But when the children of Israél cryed unto the Lord, the Lord stirred them up a saviour, Ehúd the sonne of Gerá the sonne of <sup>^</sup>Jemini, a man <sup>^</sup>name of his right hand: and the children of Israél sent a present by him unto Eglón King of Moáb.

16 And Ehúd <sup>^</sup>made him a dagger with two edges of a cubite length, & he did girde it under his rayment upon his right thigh,

17 And he presented the gift unto Eglón King of Moáb (and Eglón was a very fat man)

18 And when he had now presented the present, he sent away the people that bare the present,

19 But he turned againe from the <sup>h</sup>quarris, that were by Gilgál, and said, I have a secret errand unto thee, ô King. Who said, Kepe <sup>i</sup>silence: and all that stode about him, went out from him.

20 Then Ehúd came unto him, (and he sate alone in a somer parler, which he had) and Ehúd said, I have a message unto thee from God. Then he arose out of his throne,

21 And Ehúd put forthe his left hand, and toke the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly,

22 So that the hafte went in after the blade: and the fat closed about the blade, so that he colde not drawe the dagger out of his belly, but the dirt came out.

23 Then Ehúd gate him out <sup>^</sup>into the porche, and shut the dores of the parler upon him, and locked them.

24 And when he was gone out, his servants came: who seing that the dores of the parler were locked, thei said, <sup>^</sup>Surely he doeth his easement in his somer chamber.

25 And thei taryed til thei were ashamed: and seing he opened not the dores of the parler, thei toke the keye, and opened them, and beholde, their lord was fallen dead on the earth.

26 So Ehúd escaped (while thei taryed) and was passed the quarris, and escaped unto Seiráth.

27 And when he came *home*, <sup>^</sup>he blewe a trumpet in mount Ephráim, and the children of Israél went downe with him from the mountaine, and he went before them.

28 Then said he unto them, Followe me: for the Lord hath delivered your enemies, *even Moáb into your hand.* So they went downe after him, and toke the passages of Jordén toward Moáb, and suffred not a man to passe over.

29 And they slew of the Moabites the same time about ten thousand men, all <sup>^</sup>fed men, and all *were* warriors, and there escaped not a man.

30 So Moáb was <sup>^</sup>subdued that day, under the hand of Israél: and the <sup>k</sup>land had rest fourescore yeres.

12 g So that the enemies of God's people have no power over them, but by God's appointment.

15 <sup>^</sup>Or, Benjamin.

15 <sup>^</sup>Or, left-handed.

16 <sup>^</sup>Or, caused a dagger to be made.

19 h Or, as some read, from the places of idoles.

19 i Till all be departed.

23 <sup>^</sup>Or, haute.

24 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., he covers his feet.

27 <sup>^</sup>Or, caused the trumpet to be blown, Num. 10.2.

29 <sup>^</sup>Or, strong, and big bodied.

30 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., humbled.

30 k Meaning, the Israelites.

Shamgár. Deborah.

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Deborah's victory.

31 ¶ And after him was Shamgár the sonne of Anáth, which slewe of the Philistims sixe hundreth men with an oxe <sup>l</sup>goade, and he also delivered Israél.

### CHAP. 4

*1 Israél sinne and are given into the hands of Jabín. 4 Deborah judgeth Israél & exhorteth Barák to deliver the people 15 Siserá fleeth, 17 And is killed by Jaél.*

**A**nd the children of Israél <sup>^</sup>began againe to do wickedly in the sight of the Lord when Ehúd was dead.

2 And the Lord solde them into the hand of <sup>a</sup>Jabin King of Canaan, that reigned in Hazór, whose chief captaine was called Siserá, which dwelt in <sup>b</sup>Haroshúth of the Gentiles.

3 Then the children of Israél cryed unto the Lord: (for he had nine hundreth charets of yron, and twentie yeres he had vexed the children of Israél very sore)

4 ¶ And at that time Deborah a Prophetesse the wife of Lapidóth <sup>c</sup>judged Israél.

5 And this Deborah dwelt under a palme tre, betwene Ramáh and Beth-él in mount Ephráim, and the children of Israél came up to her for judgement.

6 Then she sent and called Barák the sonne of Abinóam out of Kédesh of Naphtali, and said unto him, Hathe not the Lord God of Israél <sup>d</sup>commanded, saying, Go, & drawe toward mount Tabór, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun?

7 And I wil drawe unto thee to the <sup>\*^</sup>river Kishón Siserá, the captaine of Jabins armie with his charets, and his multitude, and wil deliver him into thine hand.

8 And Barák said unto her, <sup>e</sup>If thou wilt go with me, I wil go: but if thou wilt not go with me, I wil not go.

9 Then she answered, I wil surely go with thee, but this journey that thou takest, shal not be for thine honour: for the Lord shal sel Siserá into the hand of a woman. And Deborah arose and went with Barák to Kédesh.

10 ¶ And Barák called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kédesh, and <sup>^</sup>he went up on his fete with ten thousand men, and Deborah went up with him.

11 (Now Heber the Kenite, which was of the <sup>^</sup>children of <sup>\*^</sup>Hobáb the father in law of Moses, was departed from the <sup>^</sup>Kenites, and pitched his tent <sup>f</sup>until the plaine of Zaanaim, which is by Kédesh)

12 Then they shewed Siserá, that Barák the sonne of Abinóam was gone up to mount Tabór.

13 And Siserá called for all his charets, *even* nine hundreth charets of yron, and all the people that were with him from Harosheth of the Gentiles, unto the river Kishón.

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31 I So that it is not the number, nor the means that God regards, when he will get the victory.

### Chapter 4

1 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., added, or continued to do evil.

2 a There was another Jabin, whom Joshua killed and burnt his city Hazor, Josh. 11.13.

2 b That is, in a wood, or strong place.

4 c By the Spirit of prophecy, resolving of controversies, and declaring the will of God.

6 d And revealed unto me by the Spirit of prophecy.

7 <sup>\*</sup>Psal. 83.9.

7 <sup>^</sup>Or, valley.

8 e Fearing his own weakness and his enemy's power, he desired the Prophetess to go with him to assure him of God's will from time to time.

10 <sup>^</sup>Or, he led after him 10,000 men.

11 <sup>^</sup>Or, posterity.

11 <sup>\*</sup>Num. 10.29.

11 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., from Kain.

11 f Meaning, that he possessed a great part of that country.

14 Then Deborah said unto Barák, <sup>9</sup>Up: for this is the day that the Lord hath delivered Siserá into thine hand. Is not the Lord gone out before thee? so Barák went downe from mount Tabór, and ten thousand men after him.

15 And the Lord destroyed Siserá and all his charets, and all his hoste with the edge of the sworde, before Barák, so that Siserá lighted downe of his charet, and fled away on his fete.

16 But <sup>\*</sup>Barák pursued after the charets, and after the hoste unto Haroshéth of the Gentiles: and all the hoste of Siserá fel upon the edge of the sworde: there was not a man left.

17 Howbeit, Siserá fled away on his fete to the tent of Jaél the wife of <sup>h</sup>Hebér the Kenite: (for peace was betwene Jabin the King of Hazór, and betwene the house of Hebér the Kenite)

18 And Jaél went out to mete Siserá, and said unto him, Turne in, my Lord, turne into me: feare not. And when he had turned in unto her into her tent, she covered him with a <sup>^</sup>mantel.

19 And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a litle water to drinke: for I am thirsty. And she opened <sup>\*</sup>a bottle of milke & gave him drinke, and covered him.

20 Againe he said unto her, Stande in the dore of the tent, and when anie man doeth come and enquire of thee, saying, Is <sup>^</sup>anie man here? thou shalt say, Nay.

21 Then Jaél Hebers wife toke a <sup>k</sup>nayle of the tent, and toke an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the naile into his temples, and fastened it into the grounde, (for he was fast a slepe, and wearie) and so he dyed.

22 And beholde, as Barák pursued after Siserá, Jaél came out to mete him, and said unto him, Come, and I wil shewe thee the man, whome thou sekest: and when he came into her *tent*, beholde, Siserá lay <sup>l</sup>dead, and the naile in his temples.

23 So God broght downe Jabin the King of Canáan that day before the children of Israél.

24 And the hand of the children of Israél <sup>^</sup>prospered, & prevailed against Jabin the King of Canáan, until they had destroyed Jabin King of Canáan.

### CHAP. 5

*1 The song and thanksgiving of Deborah and Barák after the victorie.*

**T**hen sang Deborah, and Barák the sonne of Abinóam the same day, saying, 2 Praise ye the Lord for the avenging of Israél, *and* for the <sup>a</sup>people that offred themselves willingly.

3 Heare, ye Kings, hearken ye princes: I, *even* I wil sing unto the Lord: I wil sing praises unto the Lord God of Israél.

4 Lord, <sup>\*</sup>when thou wentest out of Seír, when thou departedst out of the field of <sup>\*</sup>Edóm, the earth trembled, and the heavens rained, the clouds also dropped water.

5 <sup>\*</sup>The mountaines melted before the Lord, <sup>\*</sup>as *did* that Sinái before the Lord God of Israél.

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14 g She still encouraged him to this enterprise by assuring him of God's favor and aid.

16 <sup>\*</sup>Psal. 83.9.

17 h Whose ancestors were strangers, but worshipped the true God, and therefore were joined with Israél.

18 <sup>^</sup>Or, blanket.

19 <sup>\*</sup>Chap. 5.25.

20 i To wit, Sisera.

21 k That is, the pin or stake, whereby it was fastened to the ground.

22 l So he saw that a woman had the honor, as Deborah prophecied.

24 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., went and was strong.

### Chapter 5

2 a To wit, the two tribes of Zebulun and Naphtalí.

4 <sup>\*</sup>Deu. 2.1-4, and 33.2.

4 <sup>\*</sup>Deu. 4.10-11.

5 <sup>\*</sup>Psal. 97.5.

5 <sup>\*</sup>Exod. 19.18.

## The Song of Deborah.

## Judges 5:6 – 6:10

Gideón.

6 In the dayes of \*Shamgár the sonne of Anáth, in the dayes of \*Jaél the hie wayes were <sup>b</sup>unoccupied, and the travelers walked through the bywayes.

7 The townes were not inhabited: they decayed, / say, in Israél, until I Deborah came up, which rose up a <sup>c</sup>mother in Israél.

8 They chose newe gods: then was warre in the gates. Was there a <sup>d</sup>shilde or speare sene among fourtie thousand of Israél?

9 Mine heart *is set* on the governers of Israél, *and* on them that are willing among the people: praise ye the Lord.

10 Speake ye that ride on <sup>e</sup>white asses, ye that dwel <sup>f</sup>by Middín, and that walke by the waye.

11 For the noyse of the archers *appaised* among the <sup>g</sup>drawers of water: there shal thei rehearse the righteousnes of the Lord, his righteousnes of his townes in Israél: then did the people of the Lord go downe to the gates.

12 Up Deborah, up, arise, *and* sing a song: arise Barák, and lead <sup>h</sup>thy captivitie captive, thou sonne of Abinóam.

13 For they that remaine, have dominion over the mightie of the people: the Lord hath given me dominion over the strong.

14 Of Ephráim <sup>i</sup>their foote *arose* against Amalék *and* after thee, Ben-jamin *shal fight* against thy people, *ó Amalek*: of Machír came rulers, and of Zebulún they that handle the penne of the <sup>k</sup>writer.

15 And the Princes of Issachár were with Deborah, and Issachár, and also Barák: he was set on his fete in the valley: for the divisions of Reubén *were* great <sup>m</sup>thoghtes of heart.

16 Why abodest thou among the shepefoldes, to heare the bleatings of the flockes? for the divisions of Reubén *were* great thoghtes of heart.

17 <sup>n</sup>Gileád abode beyonde Jordén: & why doeth Dan remaine in shippes? Ashér sate on the seashore, and taried in his <sup>o</sup>decayed places.

18 *But* the people of Zebulún and Naphtalí have jeopardde their lives unto the death in the hie places of the field.

19 The Kings came *and* fought: they fought the Kings of Canáan in Taanách by the waters of Megiddó: they received no gaine of <sup>p</sup>money.

20 They fought from heaven, *even* the starres in their courses fought against Siserá.

21 The river Kishón <sup>q</sup>swept them away, that ancient river Kishón. *ô* my soule, thou hast marched valiantly.

22 Then were the horsehouses broken with the oft beating together of their mighty *men*.

23 Curse ye <sup>r</sup>Meróz: (said the Angel of the Lord) curse the inhabitants thereof, because they came not to helpe the Lord, to helpe the Lord against the mightie.

24 Jaél the wife of Hebér the Kenite shal be blessed above *other* women: blessed shal she be above women *dwelling* in tents.

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6 \*Chap. 3.31.

6 \*Chap. 4.17.

6 b For fear of the enemies.

7 c Miraculously stirred up of God to pity them and deliver them.

8 d They had no heart to resist their enemies.

10 e You governers.

10 f As in danger of your enemies.

11 g For now you may draw water without fear of your enemies.

12 h To wit, they that kept your people in captivity.

14 i Joshua first fought against Amalek, and Saul destroyed him.

14 k Even the learned did help to fight.

15 l Even the whole tribe.

15 m They marveled, that they came not over Jorden to help them.

17 n She reprovde all them that came not to help their brethren in their necessity.

17 o Either by beating of the sea, or by mining.

19 p They won nothing, but lost all.

21 q As a besome (broom) does the filth of the house.

23 r It was a city near Tabor, where they fought.

25 He asked water, *and* she gave him milke: she broght forthe <sup>s</sup>butter in a lordly dish.

26 She put her hand to the naile, & her right hand to the workemans hammer: with the hammer smote she Siserá: she smote of his head, after she had wounded, and pearsed his temples.

27 He bowed him downe at her fete, he fel downe, and lay stil: at her fete he bowed him downe, and fel: and when he had sonke downe, he lay there <sup>t</sup>dead.

28 The mother of Siserá loked out at a windowe, and cried through the lattesse, Why is his charet so long a comming? why tary the <sup>u</sup>wheles of his charets?

29 Her wise ladyes answered her, Yea. 'She answered her selfe with her owne wordes,

30 Have they not gotten, *and* they divide the spoyle? everie man hath a maide or two. Siserá hath a praye of divers couloured *garments*, a pray of sondry coulours of made nedleworke: of divers coulours of nedleworke on bothe sides, <sup>v</sup>for the chief of the spoyle.

31 So let all thine enemies perish, *ô* Lord: but they that love him, shal be as the <sup>w</sup>sunne when he riseth in his might, and the land had rest fortie yeres.

## CHAP. 6

1 *Israél is oppressed of the Midianites for their wickednes. 14 Gideón is sent to be their deliverer. 37 He asketh a signe.*

**A**fterward the children of Israél committed wickednes in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord gave them into the handes of Midián seven yeres.

2 And the hand of Midián prevailed against Israél, <sup>a</sup>and because of the Midianites the children of Israél made them dennes in the mountaines, and caves, and strong holdes.

3 When Israél had sowen, then came up the Midianites, the Amalekites, and they of the <sup>b</sup>East, and came upon them,

4 And camped by them, and destroyed the frute of the earth, even til thou come unto <sup>c</sup>Azzáh, & left no foode for Israél, nether shepe, nor oxe, nor asse.

5 For they went up, and their cattel, and came with their tentes as greshoppers in multitude: so that they and their camels were without number: and they came into the land to destroy it.

6 So was Israél exceedingly impoverished by the Midianites: therefore the <sup>d</sup>children of Israél cryed unto the Lord.

7 ¶ And when the children of Israél cryed unto the Lord because of the Midianites,

8 The Lord sent unto the children of Israel a Prophet, who said unto them, Thus sayeth the Lord God of Israél, I have broght you up from Egypt and have broght you out of the house of bondage,

9 And I have delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and have cast them out before you, and given you their land.

10 And I said unto you, I am the Lord your God: <sup>e</sup>feare not the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell: but you have not obeyed my voyce.

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25 s Some read, churned milk in a great cup.

27 <sup>t</sup>Ebr., destroyed.

28 <sup>u</sup>Or, feet.

29 t That is, she comforted herself.

30 u Because he was chief of the army.

31 x Shall grow daily more and more in God's favor.

## Chapter 6

2 a For fear of the Midianites they fled into the dens of the mountains.

3 <sup>b</sup>Or, of Kedem.

4 b Even almost the whole country.

6 c This is the end of God's punishments, to call his to repentance that they may seek for help of him.

10 \*2 Kings 17.38, Jer. 10.2.

Baals altar.

## Judges 6:11 – 7:1

Gideóns fleece.

11 ¶ And the Angel of the Lord came, and sate under the oke which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the father of the Ezrites, & his sonne Gideón threshed wheat by the winepresse, <sup>^</sup>to hide it from the Midianites.

12 Then the Angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord *is* with thee, thou valiant man.

13 To whome Gideón answered, <sup>d</sup>Ah my Lord, if the Lord be with us, why then is all this come upon us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers tolde us of, and said, Did not the Lord bring us out of Egypt? but now the Lord hathe forsaken us, and delivered us into the hand of the Midianites.

14 And the <sup>e</sup>Lord loked upon him, and said, Go in this thy <sup>f</sup>might, and thou shalt save Israël out of the hands of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

15 And he answered him, Ah my Lord, whereby shal I save Israël? beholde, my <sup>^</sup>father is poore in Manasséh, and I am the least in my fathers house.

16 Then the Lord said unto him, I wil therefore be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites, as one man.

17 And he answered him, I pray thee, if I have founde favour in thy sight, then shewe me <sup>g</sup>a signe, that thou talkest with me.

18 Departe not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring mine offering, and lay it before thee. And he said, I wil tary until thou come againe.

19 ¶ Then Gideón went in, & made ready a kid, and unleavened bread of an <sup>h</sup>Epháh of floure, and put the flesh in a basket, and put the broth in a pot, and broght it out unto him under the oke, and presented it.

20 And the Angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened bread, and lay them upon this stone, and powre out the broth: and he did so.

21 ¶ Then the Angel of the Lord put forthe the end of the staffe that he held in his hand, & touched the flesh and the unleavened bread: and there arose up fire <sup>i</sup>out of the stone, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened bread: so the Angel of the Lord departed out of his sight.

22 And when Gideón perceived that it was an Angel of the Lord, Gideón then said, Alas, my Lord God: <sup>\*</sup>for because I have sene an Angel of the Lord face to face, *I shal dye*.

23 And the Lord said unto him, Peace be unto thee: feare not, thou shalt not dye.

24 Then Gideón made an altar there unto the Lord, and called it, <sup>^</sup>Jehováh shalom: unto this day it is in Ophrah, of the father of the Ezrites.

25 ¶ And the same night the Lord said unto him, Take thy fathers yong bullocke, and another bullocke <sup>k</sup>of seven yeres olde, and destroy the altar of Báal that thy father hathe, and cut downe the grove that is by it,

26 And buylde an altar unto the Lord thy God upon the top of this rocke, in a plaine place: and take the seconde bullocke, and offer a burnt offering with the wood of the <sup>l</sup>grove, which thou shalt cut downe.

11 <sup>^</sup>Or, to prepare his flight.

13 <sup>d</sup> This came not of distrust, but of weakness of faith, which is in the most perfect: for no man in this life can have a perfect faith, but the children of God have a true faith, whereby they be justified.

14 <sup>e</sup> That is, Christ appearing in visible form.

14 <sup>f</sup> Which I have given you.

15 <sup>^</sup>Or, family.

17 <sup>g</sup> So that we see how the flesh is enemy unto God's vocation, which cannot be persuaded without signes.

19 <sup>h</sup> Of Ephah read Ex. 16.36.

21 <sup>i</sup> By the power of God only, as in the sacrifice of Helias, 1 King 18.38.

22 <sup>\*</sup> Exod. 33.20, chap. 13.22.

24 <sup>^</sup>Or, the Lord of peace.

25 <sup>k</sup> That is, as the Chalde text writes, fed seven years.

26 <sup>l</sup> Which grew above Baal's altar.

27 Then Gideón toke ten men of his servants, and did as the Lord bade him: but because he feared to do it by day for his fathers housholde and the men of the citie, he did it by night.

28 ¶ And when the men of the citie arose early in the morning, beholde, the altar of Báal was broken, and the grove cut downe that was by it, and the <sup>m</sup>seconde bullocke offred upon the altar that was made.

29 Therefore they said one to another, Who hathe done this thing? and when they inquired and asked, they said, Gideón the sonne of Joash hathe done this thing.

30 Then the men of the citie said unto Joash, Bring out thy sonne, that he may dye: for he hathe destroyed the altar of Báal, and hathe also cut downe the grove that was by it.

31 And Joash said unto all that stode by him, Wil ye pleade Báals cause? or wil ye save him? <sup>n</sup>he that wil contend for him, let him dye or the morning. If he be God, let him pleade for him selfe against him that hathe cast downe his altar.

32 And in that day was Gideón called Jerubbáal, that is, Let Báal plead for him selfe because he hathe broken downe his altar.

33 Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and they of the East, were gathered together, and went and pitched in the valley of Jzreél.

34 But the Spirit of the Lord <sup>^</sup>came upon Gideón, <sup>\*</sup>and he blew a trumpet, and <sup>o</sup>Abiézer was joyned with him.

35 And he sent messengers through out all Manasséh, which also was joyned with him, and he sent messengers unto Ashér, and to Zebulún and to Naphtali, and they came up to mete them.

36 Then Gideón said unto God, <sup>p</sup>If thou wilt save Israël by mine hand, as thou hast said,

37 Beholde, I wil put a fleece of wolle in the threshing place: if the dewe come on the fleece onely, and it be drye upon all the earth, then shal I be sure, that thou wilt save Israël by mine hand, as thou hast said.

38 And so it was: for he rose up early on the morowe, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dewe out of the fleece, and filled a bowle of water.

39 Againe Gideón said unto God, Be not angry with me, that <sup>\*</sup>I may speake once more: let me prove once againe, I pray thee, with the fleece: let it now be drye onely upon the fleece, and let dewe be upon all the grounde.

40 And God did so that same night: for it was <sup>q</sup>drye upon the fleece onely and there was dewe on all the grounde.

## CHAP. 7

*2 The Lord commandeth Gideón to send a way a great parte of his companie 22 The Midianites are discomfited by a wonderous sort, 25 Oréb and Zeéb are slaine.*

**T**hen <sup>\*</sup>Jerubbáal (who is Gideón) rose up early and all the people that were with him, & pitched beside <sup>^</sup>the well of Haród, so that the hoste of the Midianites was on the Northside of them in the valley by the hil of <sup>^</sup>Moréh.

28 <sup>m</sup> Meaning, the fat bull, which was kept to be offered unto Baal.

31 <sup>n</sup> Thus we ought to justify them, that are zealous of God's cause, though all the multitude be against us.

34 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., clad Gideon.

34 <sup>\*</sup>Num. 10.3, chap. 3.27.

34 <sup>o</sup> The family of Abiezer, whereof he was.

36 <sup>p</sup> This request proceeded not of infidelity, but that he might be confirmed in his vocation.

39 <sup>\*</sup>Gen. 18.32.

40 <sup>q</sup> Whereby he was assured that it was a miracle of God.

## Chapter 7

1 <sup>\*</sup>Chap. 8.35.

1 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., En-harod.

1 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., Hammoreh.

The Midianites dreame.

## Judges 7:2 – 8:4

Oréb & Zeéb.

2 And the Lord said unto Gideón, The people that are with thee, are to manie for me to give the Midianites into their handes, lest Israél make their <sup>a</sup>vante against me, and say, Mine hand hathe saved me.

3 Now therefore proclayme in the audience of the people, and say, \*Whoso is timerous or fearful, let him returne, and departe early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people which were at mount Gilead, two & twentie thousand, so ten thousand remained.

4 And the Lord said unto Gideón, The people are yer to manie bring them downe unto the water, and I wil <sup>b</sup>trye them for thee there: and of whome I say unto thee, This man shal go with thee, the same shal go with thee, and of whomesoever I say unto thee, This man shal not go with thee, the same shal not go.

5 So he broght downe the people unto the water. And the Lord said unto Gideón, As manie as lappe the water with their tongues as a dog lappeth, them put by them selves, and every one that shal bowe downe his knees to <sup>c</sup>drinke, *put aparte*.

6 And the number of them that lapped *by putting* their hands to their mouthes, *were* thre hundreth men: but all the remnant of the people kneled downe upon their knees to drinke water.

7 ¶ Then the Lord said unto Gideón, By these thre hundreth men that lapped, wil I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand, and let all the *other* <sup>d</sup>people go everie man unto his place.

8 ¶ So the people toke vitailles <sup>e</sup>with them, and their trumpets: and he sent all the rest of Israél, everie man unto his tent, <sup>f</sup>and retained the thre hundreth men: and the hoste of Midian was beneth him in a valley.

9 ¶ And the same night the Lord said unto him, Arise, <sup>g</sup>get thee downe unto the hoste: for I have delivered it into thine hand.

10 But if thou feare to go downe, *then* go thou, and Phurah thy servant downe to the hoste,

11 And thou shalt hearken, what they say, and so shal thine hands be strong to go downe unto the hoste. Then went he downe and Phuráh his servant unto the outside of the souldiars that were in the hoste.

12 ¶ And the Midianites, and the Amalekites and all <sup>h</sup>they of the East, lay in the valley like grasshoppers in multitude, and their camels *were* without number, as the sand which is by the seaside for multitude.

13 And when Gideón was come, beholde, a man tolde a dreame unto his neighbour, and said, Beholde, I dreamed a dreame, and lo, a <sup>i</sup>cake of barley bread tumbled from above into the hoste of Midián, & came unto a tent, & smote it that it fel, and overturned it, that the tent fel downe.

14 And his fellowe answered, and said, This is nothing els save the sworde of Gideón the sonne of Joásh a man of Israél, *for* into his hand hathe God delivered Midián and all the hoste.

15 ¶ When Gideón heard the dreame tolde, & the interpretacion of the same, he <sup>j</sup>worshipped, and returned unto the hoste of Israél, and said, Up: for the Lord hathe delivered into your hand the hoste of Midián.

16 And he devided the thre hundreth men into thre bandes, and

2 a God will not that any creature deprive him of his glory.

3 \*Deu. 20.5, 1 Mac. 3.56.

4 b I wil give you a proof to know them, that shall go with you.

5 c Let them depart, as unmet for this enterprise.

7 d That is, the one and thirty thousand, and 700 (31,700).

8 <sup>e</sup>Ebr., in their hands.

8 <sup>f</sup>Or, encouraged.

9 e Thus the Lord by divers means does strengthen him that he faint not in so great an enterprise.

12 \*Chap. 6.33.

13 f Some read, a trembling noise of barley bread meaning that one of no reputation should make their great army to tremble.

15 g Or, gave God thanks, as it is in the Chalde text.

gave everie man a trumpet in his hand with emptie pitchers, and <sup>l</sup>lampes <sup>h</sup>within the pitchers.

17 And he said unto them, Loke on me, and do likewise, when I come to the side of the hoste: even as I do, so do you.

18 When I blowe with a trumpet and all that are with me, blowe ye with trumpets also on everie side of the hoste, and say, <sup>i</sup>For the Lord, and for Gideón.

19 ¶ So Gideón and the hundreth men that were with him, came unto the outside of the hoste in the beginning of the middle watche, and they raised up the watchemen, and they blew with their trumpets, and brake the pitchers that were in their hands.

20 And the thre companies blew with trumpets and brake the pitchers, and held the lampes in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blowe withall: and they cryed, The <sup>k</sup>sworde of the Lord and of Gideón.

21 And they stode, everie man in his place rounde about the hoste: and all the hoste <sup>l</sup>ranne, and cryed, and fled.

22 And the thre hundreth blew with trumpets, and <sup>m</sup>the Lord set everie mans sworde upon his <sup>n</sup>neighbour, and upon all the hoste: so the hoste fled to Beth-hashittáh in Zereráh, *and* to the border of Abél meholáh unto Tabbáth.

23 Then the men of Israél being gathered together out of Naphtalí, and out of Ashér, and out of all Manasséh pursued after the Midianites.

24 And Gideón sent messengers unto all mount Ephráim, saying, Come downe against the Midianites, and take before them the <sup>o</sup>waters unto Beth-baráh, and Jordén. Then all the men of Ephráim gathered together and toke the waters unto Beth-baráh, and Jordén.

25 And they toke two <sup>p</sup>princes of the Midianites, Oréb and Zeéb, and slewe Oréb upon the rocke Oréb, and slewe Zeéb at <sup>q</sup>the winepresse of Zeéb, and pursued the Midianites, and broght the heads of Oréb and Zeéb to Gideón beyonde Jordén.

### CHAP. 8

*1 Ephráim murmureth against Gideón, 2 Who appeaseth them. 4 He passeth the Jordén 16 He revengeth him selfe on them of Succóth and Penuél 27 He maketh an Ephód which was the cause of idolatrie. 30 Of Gideóns sonnes and of his death.*

**T**hen the men of Ephráim said unto him, <sup>a</sup>Why hast thou served us thus that thou calledst us not, when thou wentest to fight with the Midianites? and they chode with him sharpely.

2 To whome he said, What have I now done in comparison of <sup>b</sup>you? is not <sup>c</sup>the gleaning of grapes of Ephráim better, then the vintage of Abiézer?

3 God hathe delivered into your hands the princes of Midián, Oréb & Zeéb: & what was I able to do in comparison of you? and when he had thus spoken, then their spirits abated toward him.

4 ¶ And Gideón came to Jordén to passe over, he, and the thre hundreth men that were with him, weary, yet pursuing *them*.

16 <sup>h</sup>Or, fire brand.

16 h These were means God used, to signify that the whole victory came of him.

18 i That is, the victory shalbe the Lord's and Gideon's his servant.

20 k Shall destroy the enemies.

21 <sup>l</sup>Or, broke their array.

22 \*Isa. 9.4.

22 l The Lord caused the Midianites to kill one another.

24 m Meaning, the passages or the fords, that they should not escape.

25 \*Psal. 83.11, Isa. 10.26.

25 n These places had their names of the acts that were done there.

### Chapter 8

1 a They began to cavil, because he had the glory of the victory.

2 b Which have slain two princes, Oreb and Zeeb.

2 c This last act of the whole tribe is more famous, then the whole enterprise of one man of one family.

5 And he said unto the men of Succóth, Give, I pray you, <sup>o</sup>morsels of bread unto the people <sup>^</sup>that followe me (*for they be weary*) that I may followe after Zébah, and Zalmunna Kings of Midián.

6 And the princes of Succóth said, Are the <sup>e</sup>hands of Zébah and Zalmunná now in thine hands, that we shulde give bread unto thine armie?

7 Gideón then said, Therefore when the Lord hathe delivered Zébah and Zalmunná into mine hand, I wil <sup>^</sup>teare your flesh with thornes of the wildernes and with breers.

8 ¶ And he went up thence to Penuél, and spake unto them likewise, and the men of Penuél answered him, as the men of Succóth answered.

9 And he said also unto the men of Penuél, When I come againe <sup>f</sup>in peace, I wil breake downe this towre.

10 ¶ Now Zébah and Zalmunná *were* <sup>g</sup>in Karkor, and their hostes with them, about fiftene thousand, all that were left of all the hostes of them of the East: for there was slayne an hundreth and twentie thousand men, that drewe swordes.

11 ¶ And Gideón went through them that dwelt in <sup>h</sup>tabernacles on the Eastside of Nóbah and Jogbeháh, and smote the hoste: for the hoste was careles.

12 And when Zébah and Zalmunná fled, he followed after them, and toke the two Kings of Midian, Zébah and Zalmunná, and discomfited all the hoste.

13 ¶ So Gideón the sonne of Joásh returned from battel, <sup>i</sup>the sunne being yet hie,

14 And toke a servant of the men of Succóth, & inquired of him: and he <sup>^</sup>wrote to him the princes of Succóth and the Elders thereof, *even* seventie and seven men.

15 And he came unto the men of Succóth, and said, Beholde Zébah and Zalmunná, by whome ye upbraided me, saying, Are the hands of Zébah and Zalmunná already in thine hands, that we shulde give bread unto thy weary men?

16 Then he toke the Elders of the citie, & thornes of the wildernes and breers, and <sup>^</sup>did teare the men of Succóth with them.

17 Also he brake downe the towre of <sup>\*</sup>Penuél, and slewe the men of the citie.

18 ¶ Then said he unto Zébah & Zalmunná, What maner of men were they, whome ye slew at Tabór? and they answered, <sup>^</sup>As thou art, so were they: *everie* one was like the children of a King.

19 And he said, They were my brethren, even my <sup>k</sup>mothers children: as the Lord liveth, if ye had saved their lives, I wolde not slay you.

20 Then he said unto Jéther his first borne sonne, Up, and slay them: but the boy drewe not his sword: for he feared, because he was yet yong.

21 Then Zébah and Zalmunná said, Rise thou, and fall upon us: for <sup>l</sup>as the man is, so *is* his strength. And Gideón arose and

5 d Or, some small portion.

5 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., that are at my feet.

6 e Because you have overcome an handful, think you to have overcome the whole?

7 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., beat to pieces.

9 f Having gotten the victory.

10 g A city eastward beyond Jorden.

11 h He went by the wilderness where the Arabians dwelt in tents.

13 i Some read, before the sun rose up.

14 <sup>^</sup>Or, described.

16 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., break in pieces, as one threshes corn.

17 <sup>\*</sup>1 King 12.25.

18 <sup>^</sup>Or, they were like unto you.

19 k We come all out of one belly: therefore I will be revenged.

21 l Meaning, that they would be rid out of the pain at once, or else to have a valiant man to put them to death.

slewe Zébah and Zalmunná, and toke away the <sup>^</sup>ornaments, that were on their camels neckes.

22 ¶ Then the men of Israél said unto Gideón, Reigne thou over us, bothe thou, and thy sonne, and thy <sup>m</sup>sonnes sonne: for thou hast delivered us out of the hand of Midián.

23 And Gideón said unto them, I wil not reigne over you, nether shal my childe reigne over you, *but* the Lord shal <sup>r</sup>reigne over you.

24 Againe Gideón said unto them, I wolde desire a request of you, that you wolde give me everie man the earings of his praye (for they had golden earings because they were Ismaelites)

25 And they answered, We wil give them. And they spred a garment, & did cast therein everie man the earings of his praye.

26 And the weight of the golden earings that he required, was a thousand and seven hundreth *shekels* of golde, beside collers, <sup>^</sup>and jewels, and purple raiment that was on the Kings of Midián, and beside the cheines, that were about their camels neckes.

27 And Gideón made an <sup>o</sup>Ephód thereof, and put it in Ophráh his citie: and all Israél went a whoring there after it, which was the destruction of Gideón and his house.

28 Thus was Midián broght lowe before the children of Israél, so that they lift up their heads nomore: and the countrey was in quietnes forty yeres in the dayes of Gideón.

29 ¶ Then Jerubbáal the sonne of Joásh went, and dwelt in his owne house.

30 And Gideón had seventie sonnes <sup>^</sup>begotten of his body: for he had many wives.

31 And his concubine that was in Shechém, bare him a sonne also, whose name he called Abimélech.

32 So Gideón the sonne of Joásh dyed in a good age, and was buried in the sepulchre of Joásh his father in Ophráh, of the <sup>p</sup>father of the Ezrites.

33 But when Gideón was dead, the children of Israél turned away and went a whoring after Baalim, and made <sup>q</sup>Baal-beríth their god.

34 And the children of Israél remembred not the Lord their God, which had delivered them out of the hands of all their enemies on everie side.

35 Nether <sup>s</sup>shewed they mercie on the house of Jerubbáal, *or* Gideón, according to all the goodness which he had shewed unto Israél.

## CHAP. 9

*1 Abimélech usurpeth the kingdome, and putteth his brethren to death 7 Jothám proposeth a parable. 23 Hatred betwene Abimélech & the Shechemites. 26 Gáal conspireth against him, & is overcome. 53 Abimélech is wounded to death by a woman.*

**T**hen Abimélech the sonne of Jerubbáal went to Shechém unto his <sup>a</sup>mothers brethren, and communed with them, and with all the familie, *and* house of his mothers father, saying,

2 Say, I pray you, in the audience of all the men of Shechém, whether is better for you, that all the sonnes of Jerubbáal, which

21 <sup>^</sup>Or, collars.

22 m That is, your posterity.

23 n His intent was to show himself thankful for this victory by restoring of religion, which, because it was not according as God had commanded, turned to their destruction.

26 <sup>^</sup>Or, sweet balls.

27 o That is, such things as pertained to the use of the tabernacle.

30 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., which came out of his thigh.

32 p Which city belonged to the family of the Ezrites.

33 q That is, Baal, to whom they had bound themselves by covenant.

35 r They were unmindful of God, and unkind toward him, by whom they had received so great a benefit.

## Chapter 9

1 a To practice with his kinfolks for the attaining of the kingdom.



Abimélech.

## Judges 9:2 –9:38

are seuentie persones, reigne over you, ether that one reign over you? Remember also, that I am your <sup>b</sup>bone, and your flesh.

3 Then his mothers brethren spake of him in the audience of all the men of Shechém, all these words: and their heartes were moved to followe Abimélech. for said they, He is our brother.

4 And they gave him seuentie pecies of silver out of the house of Baal-berith, wherewith Abimélech hired <sup>v</sup>vaine and light fellowes which followed him.

5 And he went unto his fathers house at Ophrah, and <sup>c</sup>slew his brethren, the sonnes of Jerubbáal, *about* seuentie persones upon one stone: yet Jothám the yongest sonne of Jerubbáal was left: for he hid him selfe.

6 ¶ And all the men of Shechém gathered together with all the house of <sup>d</sup>Milló, and came and made Abimélech King in the plaine, where the stone was erected in Shechém.

7 And when they tolde it to Jothám, he went and stode in the top of mount Gerizim, and lift up his voyce, and cryed, and said unto them, Harken unto me, you men of Shechém, that God may hearken unto you.

8 <sup>e</sup>The trees went forthe to anointe a King over them, and said unto the olive tre, Reigne thou over us.

9 But the olive tre said unto them, Shulde I leave my fatnes, wherewith by me they honor God and man, and go to avance me above the trees?

10 Then the trees said to the fig tre, Come thou, *and* be King over us.

11 But the fig tre answered them, Shulde I forsake my swetenes, and my good frute, and go to avance me above the trees?

12 Then said the trees unto the vine, Come thou *and* be King over us.

13 But the vine said unto them, Shulde I leave my wine, whereby I cheare God and man, and go to avance me above the trees?

14 Then said all the trees unto the <sup>v</sup>bramble, Come thou *and* reign over us.

15 And the bramble said unto the trees, If ye wil in dede anoint me King over you, come, and put your trust under my shadow: and if not, the <sup>f</sup>fire shal come out of the bramble, and consume the cedres of Lebanón.

16 Now therefore, if ye do truly & uncorruptly to make Abimélech King, and if ye have dealt wel with Jerubbáal and with his house, and have done unto him according to the deserving of his hands,

17 (For my father fought for you, and <sup>g</sup>adventured his life, and delivered you out of the hands of Midián.

18 And ye are risen up against my fathers house this day, and have slayne his children, *about* seuentie persones upon one stone, and have made Abimélech the sonne of his maideservant, King over the men of Shechém, because he is your brother)

19 If ye then have delt truly and purely with Jerubbáal, and with his house this day, then <sup>h</sup>rejoyce ye with Abimélech, and let him rejoyce with you.

20 But if not, let a fire come out from Abimélech, and consume the men of Shechém and the house of Milló: also let a fire come

2 b Of your kindred by my mother's side.

4 <sup>a</sup>Or, idle fellows and vagabonds.

5 c Thus tyrants to establish their usurped power spare not the innocent blood, 2 King 10.7, 2 Chron. 21.4.

6 d Which was as the town house or common hall, which he called the town of Shechem verse 49.

8 e By this parable he declares, that those that are not ambitious, are most worthy of honor, and that the ambitious abuse their honor both to their own destruction and others.

14 <sup>a</sup>Or, thistle, or brier.

15 f Abimelech shall destroy the nobles of Shechem.

17 <sup>a</sup>Ebr., he cast his life far from him.

19 g That he is your King, and you his subjects.

forthe from the men of Shechém, and from the house of Milló, and consume Abimélech.

21 And Jothám ranne away, and fled, and went to Beér and dwelt there for feare of Abimélech his brother.

22 So Abimélech reigned thre yere over Israël.

23 But God <sup>h</sup>sent an evil spirit betwene Abimélech, and the men of Shechém: and the men of Shechém brake their promes to Abimélech,

24 That the crueltie towarde the seuentie sonnes of Jerubbáal and their blood might come and be laide upon Abimélech their brother, which had slayne them, and upon the men of Shechém, which had aided him to kil his brethren.

25 So the men of Shechém set men in waite for him in the tops of the mountaines: who robbed all that passed that way by them: and it was tolde Abimélech.

26 Then Gáal the sonne of Ebéd came with his brethren, & they went to Shechém: and the men of Shechém put their confidence in him.

27 Therefore thei <sup>i</sup>went out into the field, and gathered in their grapes and troade them, and made mery, and went into the house of their gods, and did eat & drinke, and cursed Abimélech.

28 Then Gáal the sonne of Ebéd said, Who is Abimélech? and who is Shechém, that we shulde serve him? Is he not the sonne of Jerubbáal? and Zebúl is his officer? Serve rather the men of Hamór the father of Shechém: for why shulde we serve him?

29 Now wolde God this people were under mine hand: then wolde I put away Abimélech. And he said to <sup>k</sup>Abimélech, Increase thine armie, and come out.

30 ¶ And when Zebúl the ruler of the citie heard the wordes of Gáal the sonne of Ebéd, his wrath was kindled.

31 Therefore he sent messengers unto Abimélech <sup>l</sup>prively, saying, Beholde, Gáal the sonne of Ebéd and his brethren be come to Shechém, & beholde, thei fortifie the citie against thee.

32 Now therefore arise by night, thou and the people that is with thee, and lie in wayte in the field.

33 And rise early in the morning as soone as the sunne is up, and assalt the citie: and when he and the people that is with him, shal come out against thee, do to him <sup>m</sup>what thou canst.

34 ¶ So Abimélech rose up, and all the people that were with him by night: and thei laie in waite against Shechém in foure bandes.

35 Then Gáal the sonne of Ebéd went out and stode in the entring of the gate of the citie: and Abimélech rose up, and the folke that were with him, from lying in waite.

36 And when Gáal sawe the people, he said to Zebúl, Beholde, there come people downe from the tops of the mountaines: and Zebúl said unto him, The <sup>n</sup>shadowe of the mountaines seme men to thee.

37 And Gáal spake againe, & said, Se, there come folke downe <sup>o</sup>by the middle of the land, and an other band cometh by the way of the plaine of <sup>p</sup>Meonením.

38 Then said Zebúl unto him, Where is now thy mouth, that said, Who is Abimélech, that we shulde serve him? Is not this the people that thou hast despised? Go out now, I pray thee, and fight with them.

23 h Because the people consented with the King in sheading innocent blood: therefore God destroyed both the one and the other.

27 i Before they were afraid of Abimelech's power, and dare not go out of the city.

29 k Braggingly as though he had been present, or to his captain Zebul.

31 <sup>a</sup>Ebr., craftily.

33 <sup>a</sup>Ebr., what your hand can find.

36 l You are afraid of a shadow.

37 <sup>a</sup>Ebr., by the navel.

37 <sup>a</sup>Or, charmers.

Abimélech is slaine.

## Judges 9:39 –10:18

Tolá. Jaír.

39 And Gáal <sup>m</sup>went out before the men of Shechém, and fought with Abimélech.

40 But Abimélech pursued him, and he fled before him, and many were overthrown and wounded, even unto the entring of the gate.

41 And Abimélech dwelt at Arumáh: and Zebúl thrust out Gáal and his brethren that they shulde not dwel in Shechém.

42 ¶ And on the morowe, the people went out into the field: which was tolde Abimélech.

43 And he toke the <sup>n</sup>people, and devided them into thre bandes, and laid waite in the fields, and loked, and beholde, the people were come out of the citie, and he rose up against them, and smote them.

44 And Abimélech, and the bandes that were with him, rushed forwarde, and stode in the entring of the gate of the citie: and the two other bandes ranne upon all the people that were in the field and slewe them.

45 And when Abimélech had fought against the citie all that day, he toke the citie, and slewe the people that was therein, and destroyed the citie and sowed <sup>o</sup>salt in it.

46 ¶ And when all the men of the towre of Shechém heard it, thei entred into an holde of the house of the god <sup>p</sup>Berith.

47 And it was tolde Abimélech, that all the men of the towre of Shechém were gathered together.

48 And Abimélech gate him up to mount Zalmón, he and all the people that were with him: and Abimélech toke axes with him and cut downe boughs of trees and toke them, and bare them on his shulder, and said unto the folke that were with him, What ye have sene me do, make haste, *and* do like me.

49 Then all the people also cut downe every man his bough, and followed Abimélech, and put them to the holde, and set the holde of fire with them: so all the men of the towre of Shechém <sup>q</sup>died also, about a thousand men and women.

50 ¶ Then went Abimélech to Tebéz, and besieged Tebéz, and toke it.

51 But there was a strong towre within the citie, and thether fled all the men and women, and all the chief of the citie, and shut it to them, and went up to the top of the towre.

52 And Abimélech came unto the towre and fought against it, and went hard unto the dore of the towre to set it on fire.

53 But a certaine woman <sup>\*</sup>cast a piece of a milstone upon Abimélechs head, and brake his braine pan.

54 Then Abimélech called hastely his page that bare his harnes, and said unto him, Drawe thy sworde and slay me, that men say not of me, A woman slewe him. And his page <sup>r</sup>thrust him through, and he dyed.

55 And when the men of Israël sawe that Abimélech was dead, thei departed every man unto his owne place.

56 Thus God rendred the wickednes of Abimélech, which he did unto his father, in slaying his seventy brethren.

57 Also all the wickednes of the men of Shechém did God bring upon their heads. So upon them came the <sup>s</sup>curse of Jothám the sonne of Jerubbáal.

## CHAP. 10

39 m As their captain.

43 n Which were of his company.

45 o That it should be unfruitful and never serve to any use.

46 p That is, of Baal-berith, as Chap. 8.33.

49 q Meaning, that all were destroyed, aswel they in the tower as the other.

53 <sup>\*</sup>2 Sam. 11.21.

54 r Thus God by such miserable death takes vengeance on tyrants even in this life.

57 s For making a tyrant their King.

2 Tolá dyeth. 5 Jaír also dyeth. 17 The Israelites are punished for their sinnes. 10 Thei crye unto God, 16 And he hath pitie on them.

**A**fter Abimélech there arose to defend Israël, Tolá, the sonne of Puáh, the sonne of <sup>^</sup>Dodó, and man of Issachár which dwelt in Shamír in mount Ephráim.

2 And he <sup>^</sup>judged Israël thre and twentie yere and dyed, and was buryed in Shamír.

3 ¶ And after him arose Jaír a Gileadite, and judged Israël two and twentie yere.

4 And he had thirtie sonnes that <sup>a</sup>rode on thirty assecoltes, and thei had thirty cities, which are called <sup>^</sup>Havoth-Jaír unto this day, and are in the land of Gilead.

5 And Jaír dyed, and was buryed in Kamón.

6 ¶ <sup>\*</sup>And the children of Israël wrought wickednes againe in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalím and <sup>\*</sup>Ashtaróth, and the gods of <sup>^</sup>Arám, and the gods of Zidón, and the gods of Moáb, and the gods of the children of Ammón, and the gods of the Philistíms, and forsoke the Lord and served not him.

7 Therefore the wrath of the Lord was kindled against Israël, and <sup>^</sup>he solde them into the hands of the Philistíms, and into the hands of the children of Ammón:

8 Who from that yere vexed and oppressed the children of Israël eightene yeres, <sup>b</sup>even all the children of Israël that were beyonde Jordén, in the land of the Amorites, which is in Gileád.

9 Moreover the children of Ammón went over Jordén to fight against Judáh, and against Benjamín, and against the house of Ephráim: so that Israël was sore tormented.

10 Then the children of Israël <sup>c</sup>cryed unto the Lord, saying, We have sinned against thee, even because we have forsaken our owne God, and have served Baalím.

11 And the Lord <sup>d</sup>said unto the children of Israël, *did not I deliver you* from the Egyptians and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammón and from the Philistíms?

12 The Zidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Moabites did oppress you, & ye cryed to me & I saved you out of their hands.

13 Yet ye <sup>\*</sup>have forsaken me, and served other gods: wherefore I wil deliver you nomore.

14 Go, and crye unto the gods which ye have chosen. let them save you in the time of your tribulacion.

15 And the children of Israël said unto the Lord, We have sinned: do thou unto us whatsoever please thee: onely we pray thee to deliver us <sup>e</sup>this day.

16 Then they put away the strange gods from among them and <sup>f</sup>served the Lord. and he soule was grieved for the miserie of Israël.

17 Then the children of Ammón gathered them selves together, and pitched in Gileád: and the children of Israël assembled them selves, and pitched in Mizpéh.

18 And the people *and* princes of Gileád said one to an other,

1 <sup>^</sup>Or, his uncle.

2 <sup>^</sup>Or, governed.

4 a Signifying, they were men of authority.

4 <sup>^</sup>Or, the town of Jaír, as Deu. 3.14.

6 <sup>\*</sup>Chap. 2.11, 3.7, 4.1, 6.1, and 13.1.

6 <sup>\*</sup>Chap. 2.13.

6 <sup>^</sup>Or, Syria.

7 <sup>^</sup>Or, delivered.

8 b As the Reubenites, Gadites, and half tribe of Manasseh.

10 c They prayed to the Lord and confessed their sins.

11 d By stirring them up some Prophet, as Chap. 6.8.

13 <sup>\*</sup>Deut. 32.15, Jere. 2.13.

15 e That is, from this present danger.

16 f This is true repentance to put away the evil, and to serve God aright.

Whosoever wil begin the battel against the children of Ammón, the same shal be \*head over all the inhabitants of Gileád.

### CHAP. 11

*2 Jphtáh being chased away by his brethren, was after made captaine over Israél. 30 He maketh a rashe vowe. 32 He vainquisheth the Ammonites, 39 And sacrificeth his daughter according to his vowe.*

**T**hen Gileád begate Jphtáh, and Jphtáh the Gileáдите was <sup>^</sup>a valiant man, but the sonne of an <sup>^</sup>harlot. 2 And Gileads wife bare him sonnes, and when the womans children were come to age, they thrust out Jphtáh, and said unto him, Thou shalt not inherit in our fathers house: for thou art the sonne of a <sup>^</sup>strange woman.

3 Then Jphtáh fled from his brethren, and dwelt in the land of <sup>^</sup>Tob: and there gathered ydle fellowes to Jphtáh, and <sup>^</sup>went out with him.

4 ¶ And in processe of time the children of Ammón made warre with Israél.

5 And when the children of Ammón fought with Israél, <sup>^</sup>the Elders of Gileád went to fet Jphtáh out of the land of Tob.

6 And they said unto Jphtáh, <sup>^</sup>Come and be our captaine, that we may fight with the children of Ammón.

7 Jphtáh then answered the Elders of Gileád, Did not ye hate me, and <sup>^</sup>expel me out of my fathers house? how then come you unto me now in time of your tribulacion?

8 Then the Elders of Gileád said unto Jphtáh, Therefore we turne againe to thee now, that thou maiest go with us, and fight against the children of Ammón, and be our head over all the inhabitants of Gileád.

9 And Jphtáh said unto the Elders of Gileád, If ye bring me home againe to fight against the children of Ammón, if the Lord give them before me, shal I be your head?

10 And the Elders of Gileád said to Jphtáh, The Lord <sup>^</sup>be witnes betwene us, if we do not according to thy wordes.

11 Then Jphtáh went with the Elders of Gileád, and the people made him head and captaine over them: and Jphtáh rehearsed all his wordes before the Lord in Mizpéh.

12 ¶ Then Jphtáh sent messengers unto the King of the children of Ammón, saying, What hast thou to do with me, that thou art come against me, to fight in my land?

13 And the King of the children of Ammón answered unto the messengers of Jphtáh, <sup>^</sup>Because Israél toke my land, when they came up from Egypt, from Arnón unto Jabbók, and unto Jordén: now therefore restore those *lands* <sup>^</sup>quietly.

14 Yet Jphtáh sent messengers againe unto the King of the children of Ammón,

15 And said unto him, Thus saith Jphtáh, <sup>^</sup>Israél toke not the land of Moáb, nor the land of the children of Ammón.

18 \*Chap. 11.6.

### Chapter 11

1 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., a man of mighty force.

1 <sup>^</sup>Or, vitailer.

2 a That is, of a harlot, as ver. 1.

3 b Where the governor of the country was called Tob.

3 c Joined with him, as some think, against his brethren.

5 d Or, ambassadors, sent for that purpose.

6 e Men oft times are constrained to desire help of them, whom before they have refused.

7 f Oft times those things, which men reject, God choses to do great enterprises by.

10 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., be the hearer.

13 \*Num. 21.13.

13 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., in peace.

15 \* Deut. 2.9.

16 But when Israél came up from Egypt, and walked through the wildernes unto the red Sea, then they came to Kadësh.

17 <sup>^</sup>And Israél sent messengers unto the King of Edóm, saying, Let me, I pray thee, go through thy land: but the King of Edóm wolde not consent: and also they sent unto the King of Moáb, but he wolde not: therefore Israél abode in Kadësh.

18 Then thei went through the wildernes, and compassed the land of Edóm, & the land of Moáb, and came by the Eastside of the land Moáb, & pitched on the otherside of Arnón, <sup>^</sup>& came not within the coast of Moáb: for Arnón was the border of Moáb.

19 Also Israél <sup>^</sup>sent messengers unto Sihón, King of the Amorites, the King of Heshbón, and Israél said unto him, Let us passe, we pray thee, by thy land unto our <sup>^</sup>place.

20 But Sihón <sup>^</sup>consented not to Israél, that he shulde go through his coast: but Sihón gathered all his people together, & pytched in Jaház, and fought with Israél.

21 And the Lord God of Israél gave Sihón and all his folke into the hands of Israél, and they smote them: so Israél possessed all the land of the Amorites, the inhabitants of that countrey:

22 And they possessed <sup>^</sup>all the coast of the Amorites, from Arnón unto Jabbók, and from the wildernes even unto Jordén.

23 Now therefore the Lord God of Israél hathe cast out the Amorites before his people Israél, and shuldest thou possess it?

24 Woldest not thou possess that which Chemósh thy god giveth thee to possess? So whomesoever the <sup>^</sup>Lord our God driveth out before us, them wil we possesse.

25 <sup>^</sup>And art thou now farre better then Balák the sonne of Zippor King of Moáb? did he not strive with Israél & fight against them,

26 When Israél dwelt in Heshbón and in her townes, and in Aroér and in her townes, and in all the cities that are by the coasts of Arnón, thre hundreth yeres? why did ye not then recover <sup>^</sup>them in that space?

27 Wherefore, I have not offended thee: but thou doest me wrong to warre against me. The Lord the Judge <sup>^</sup>be judge this day betwene the children of Israél, and the children of Ammón.

28 Howbeit the King of the children of Ammón hearkened not unto the wordes of Jphtáh, which he had sent him.

29 ¶ Then the <sup>^</sup>Spirit of the Lord came upon Jphtáh, & he passed over to Gileád and to Manasséh, & came to Mizpéh in Gileád, & from Mizpéh in Gileád he went unto the children of Ammón.

30 And Jphtáh <sup>^</sup>vowed a vowe unto the Lord, and said, If thou shalt deliver the children of Ammón in to mine hands,

31 Then that thing that commeth out of the dores of mine house to mete me, when I come home in peace from the children of Ammón, shal be the Lords, and I wil offer it for a burnt offering.

32 And so Jphtáh went unto the children of Ammón to fight against them, and the Lord delivered them into his hands.

33 And he smote them from Aroér even til you come to Minnith, twentie cities, and so forthe to <sup>^</sup>Abél of the vineyardes, with an exceding great slaughter. Thus the children of Ammón were humbled before the children of Israél.

17 \*Num. 20.21.

18 \*Num. 21.13 and 22.1-4.

19 \*Deut. 2.26.

19 <sup>^</sup>Or, country.

20 g He trusted them not to go through his country.

22 \*Deut. 2.36.

24 h For we ought more to believe and obey God, then you your idols.

25 \*Nom. 22.2, Deut. 23.4, Josh. 24.9.

26 i Meaning their townes.

27 k To punish the offender.

29 l That is, the spirit of strength and zeal.

30 m As the Apostle commends Jphtah for his worthy enterprise in delivering the people, Ebr. 11:32: so by his rash vow & wicked performance of the same, his victory was defamed: and here we see that the sins of the godly do not utterly extinguish their faith.

33 <sup>^</sup>Or, the plain.

34 ¶ Now when Jphtáh came to Mizpéh unto his house, beholde, his daughter came out to mete him with <sup>n</sup>timbrels and dances, which was his onely childe: he had none other sonne, nor daughter.

35 And when he sawe her, he <sup>o</sup>rent his clothes, & said, Alas my daughter, thou hast broght me low, & art of them that trouble me: for I have opened my mouthe unto the Lord, & can not go backe.

36 And she said unto him, My father, if thou haste opened thy mouthe unto the Lord, do with me as thou hast promised, seing that the Lord hath avenged thee of thine enemies the children of Ammón.

37 Also she said unto her father, Do thus muche for me: suffre me two monethes, that I may go to the mountaines, and <sup>p</sup>bewaile my virginitie, I and my fellowes.

38 And he said, Go: and he sent her away two monethes: so she went with her companions, and lamented her virginitie upon the mountaines.

39 And after the end of two monethes, she turned againe unto her father, who did with her according to his vowe which he had vowed, & she had knowen no man, & it was a custome in Israél.

40 The daughters of Israél went yere by yere to lament the daughter of Jphtáh the Gileadite, foure dayes in a yere.

### CHAP. 12

*6 Jphtáh killeth two & fortie thousand Ephraimites. 8 After Jphtáh succedeth Ibzán, 11 Elón, 13 And Abdón.*

**A**ND the men of Ephráim gathered themselves together, and went <sup>a</sup>Northward and said unto Jphtáh, Wherefore wentest thou to fight against the children of Ammón, and didest not call <sup>b</sup>us to go with thee? we wil therefore burne thine house upon thee with fire.

2 And Jphtáh said unto them, I and my people were at great strife with the children of Ammón, and when I called you, ye delivered me not out of their hands.

3 So when I sawe that ye delivered me not, <sup>c</sup>I put my life in mine hands, and went upon the children of Ammón: so the Lord delivered them into mine hands. Wherefore then are ye come upon me now to fight against me?

4 Then Jphtáh gathered all the men of Gileád, and fought with Ephráim: and the men of Gileád smote Ephráim, because they said, Ye Giliadites are runagates of Ephráim <sup>d</sup>among the Ephraimites, *and* among the Manassites,

5 Also the Giliadites toke the passages of Jordén before the Ephraimites, and when the Ephraimites that were escaped, said, Let me passe, then the men of Gileád said unto him, Art thou an Ephraimite? If he said, Nay,

6 Then said they unto him, Say now <sup>e</sup>Shibbóleth: and he said, Sibbóleth: for he colde not so pronounce: then they toke him, and slewe him at the passages of Jordén: and there fel at that time of the Ephraimites two and forty thousand.

7 And Jphtáh judged Israél six yere: then dyed Jphtáh the Giliadite, and was buried in *one* of the cities of Gileád.

34 n According to the manner after the victory.

35 o Being overcome with blind zeal, and not considering whether the vow was lawful or no.

37 p For it was counted as a shame in Israel, to die without children, and therefore they rejoiced to be married.

### Chapter 12

1 a After they had passed Jorden.

1 b Thus ambition envies God's work in others, as they did also against Gideon, Chap. 8.1.

3 c That is, I ventured my life, and when man's help failed, put my trust only in God.

4 d You ran from us, and chose Gilead, and now in respect of us, you are nothing.

6 e Which signified, the fall of waters, or an ear of corn.

8 ¶ After him <sup>f</sup>Ibzán of Beth-léhem judged Israél.

9 Who had thirtie sonnes and thirtie daughters, *which* he sent out, and toke in thirtie daughters from abroad for his sonnes, and he judged Israél seven yere.

10 Then Ibzán dyed, and was buried at Beth-léhem.

11 ¶ And after him judged Israél Elón, a Zebulonite, and he judged Israél ten yere.

12 Then Elón the Zebulonite dyed, and was buried in Aijalón in the country of Zebulún.

13 ¶ And after him Abdón the sonne of Hillél the Pirathonite judged Israél.

14 And he had fortie sonnes and thirtie <sup>g</sup>neues that rode on seventie <sup>h</sup>assecoltes: and he judged Israél eight yeres.

15 Then dyed Abdón the sonne of Hillél the Pirathonite, and was buried in Pirathón, in the land of Ephráim, in the mount of the Amalekites.

### CHAP. 13

*1 Israél for their wickednes is oppressed of the Philistims. 3 The Angel appeareth to Manóahs wife. 16 The Angel commandeth him to sacrifice unto the Lord. 24 The birth of Samsón.*

**B**UT the children of Israél continued to commit <sup>\*</sup>wickednes in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord delivered them into the hands of the Philistims fortie yere.

2 ¶ Then there was a man in Zoráh of the familie of the Danites, named Manóah, whose wife was <sup>a</sup>baren, and bare not.

3 And the Angel of the Lord appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Beholde now, thou art baren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a sonne.

4 And nowe therefore beware <sup>\*</sup>that thou drinke no wine, nor strong drinke, nether eat anie uncleane thing.

5 For lo, thou shalt conceive and beare a sonne, and no razor shal <sup>\*</sup>come on his head: for the childe shalbe a <sup>b</sup>Nazarite unto God from his birth: and he shal begin to save Israél out of the hands of the Philistims.

6 ¶ Then the wife came, and tolde her housband, saying, A man of God came unto me, and the facion of him was like the facion of the Angel of God exceding <sup>c</sup>fearful, but I asked him not whence he was, nether tolde he me his name,

7 But he said unto me, Beholde, thou shalt conceive, and beare a sonne, and now thou shalt drinke no wine, nor strong drinke, nether eat anie uncleane thing: for the childe shal be a Nazarite to God from his byrth to the day of his death.

8 Then Manóah <sup>d</sup>prayed to the Lord and said, I pray thee, my Lord, let the man of God, whome thou sentest, come againe now unto us, and teache us what we shal do unto the childe when he is borne,

9 And God heard the voyce of Manóah, and the Angel of God came againe unto the wife, as she sate in the field, but Manóah her housband was not with her.

8 f Some think that this was Boaz the husband of Ruth.

14 <sup>a</sup>Ebr., son's sons.

14 <sup>h</sup>Or, horse colts.

### Chapter 13

1 <sup>\*</sup>Chap. 2.11, 3.7, 4.1, 6.1 and 10.6.

2 a Signifying that their deliverance came only of God and not by man's power.

4 <sup>\*</sup>Num. 6.2.

5 <sup>\*</sup>1 Sam. 1.11.

5 b Meaning, he should be separate for the world and dedicate to God.

6 c If flesh be not able to abide the sight of an Angel, how much less the presence of God?

8 d He shows himself ready to obey God's will, and therefore desires to know farther.

10 ¶ And the wife made haste and ranne, and shewed her housband and said unto him, Beholde, the man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me <sup>e</sup>to day.

11 And Manóah arose and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said unto him, Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? and he said, Yea.

12 Then Manóah said, Now let thy saying come to passe: *but* how shal we orde the childe, and do unto him?

13 And the Angel of the Lord said unto Manóah, The woman must beware of all that I said unto her.

14 She may eat of nothing that cometh of the vinetre: she shal not drinke wine nor strong drinke, nor eat anie <sup>u</sup>uncleane thing: let her observe all that I have commanded her.

15 Manóah then said unto the Angel of the Lord, I pray thee, let us reteine thee, until we have made ready a kid for thee.

16 And the Angel of the Lord said unto Manóah, Thogh thou make me abide, I wil not eat of thy bread, and if thou wilt make a burnt offering, offer it unto the <sup>h</sup>Lord: for Manóah knewe not that it was an Angel of the Lord.

17 Againe Manóah said unto the Angel of the Lord, What is thy name, that when thy saying is come to passe, we may honour thee?

18 And the Angel of the Lord said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my name, which is <sup>^</sup>secret?

19 Then Manóah toke a kid with the meat offering, and offred it upon a stone unto the Lord: and *the Angel* did <sup>i</sup>wonderously, whiles Manóah and his wife loked on.

20 For when the flame came up towarde heaven from the altar, the Angel of the Lord ascended up in the flame of the altar, and Manóah & his wife beheld it, & fel on their faces unto the ground.

21 (So the Angel of the Lord did no more appeare unto Manóah & his wife) Then Manóah knewe that it was an Angel of the Lord.

22 And Manóah said unto his wife, \*We shal surely dye, because we have sene God.

23 But his wife said unto him, If the Lord wolde kil us, he wolde not have received a <sup>k</sup>burnt offering, and a meat offering of our hands, nether wolde he have shewed us all these things, nor wolde now have tolde us anie suche.

24 ¶ And the wife bare a sonne, and called his name Samsón: and the childe grewe, and the Lord blessed him.

25 And the Spirit of the Lord began to <sup>^</sup>strengthen him in the hoste of Dan, betwene Zoráh, and Eshtaól.

#### CHAP. 14

*2 Samsón desireth to have a wife of the Philistims. 6 He killeth a lyon. 12 He propoundeth a riddle. 19 He killeth thirtie. 20 His wife forsaketh him and taketh another.*

**N**ow Samsón went downe to Timnáth, and sawe a woman in Timnáth of the daughters of the Philistims, 2 And he came up and tolde his father and his mother, and said, I have sene a woman in Timnáth of the daughters of the Philistims: now there-

10 e It seem that the Angel appeared unto her twice in one day.

11 f He called him man, because he so seemed, but he was Christ the eternal word, which at his time appointed became man.

14 g Any thing forbidden by the Law.

16 h Showing that he sought not his own honor, but God's, whose messenger he was.

18 <sup>^</sup>Or, marvelous?

19 i God sent fire from heaven to consume their sacrifice, to confirm their faith in his promise.

22 \*Exod. 33.20, chap. 6.22.

23 k These graces that we have received of God, and his accepting of our obedience, are sure tokens of his love toward us, so that nothing can hurt us.

25 <sup>^</sup>Or, to come upon him at divers times.

fore <sup>^</sup>give me her to wife.

3 Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there <sup>a</sup>never a wife among the daughters of thy brethren, and among all my people, that thou must go to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistims? And Samsón said unto his father, Give me her, for she pleaseth me wel.

4 But his father and his mother knewe not that it came of the Lord, that he shulde seke an occasion against the <sup>b</sup>Philistims: for at that time the Philistims reigned over Israél.

5 ¶ Then went Samsón and his father and his mother downe to Timnáth, and came to the vineyardes at Timnáth: and beholde, a yong Lyon roared upon him.

6 And the Spirit of the Lord <sup>c</sup>came upon him, and he tare him, as one shulde have rent a kid, and had nothing in his hand, nether tolde he his father nor his mother what he had done.

7 And he went downe, and talked with the woman which was beautiful in the eyes of Samsón.

8 ¶ And within a *fewe* dayes, when he returned <sup>^</sup>to receive her, he went aside to se the carkeis of the lyon: and beholde, there was a swarme of bees, and hony in the body of the lyon.

9 And he toke thereof in his hands, and went eating, and came to his father and to his mother, and gave unto them, and they did eat: but he tolde not them, that he had taken the hony out of the bodie of the lyon.

10 So his father went downe unto the woman, and Samsón made there a <sup>d</sup>feast: for so used the yong men to do.

11 And when <sup>e</sup>they sawe him, they broght thirtie companions to be with him.

12 Then Samsón said unto them, I wil now put forthe a ridle unto you: and if you can declare it me within seven dayes of the feast, and finde it out, I wil give you thirtie shetes, and thirtie <sup>f</sup>change of garments.

13 But if you cannot declare it me, then shal ye give me thirtie shetes and thirtie change of garments. And they answered him, Put forthe thy ridle, that we may heare it.

14 And he said unto them, Out of the eater came meat, and out of the strong came swetenes: and they colde not in thre dayes expounde the ridle.

15 And when the seventh day was <sup>g</sup>come, they said unto Samsóns wife, Entise thyne housband, that he may declare us the ridle, lest we burne thee and thy fathers house with fire. Have ye called us, <sup>^</sup>to possesse us? is it not so?

16 And Samsóns wife wept before him, and said, Surely thou hatest me and lovest me not: for thou hast put forthe a ridle unto the <sup>h</sup>children of my people, and hast not tolde it me. And he said unto her, Beholde, I have not toldest my father, nor my mother, and shal I tel it thee?

17 Then Samsóns wife wept before him <sup>i</sup>seven dayes, while their feast lasted: and when the seventh day came, he tolde her, because she was importunate upon him: so she tolde the ridle to the children of her people.

18 And the men of the citie said unto him the seventh day before the sonne went downe, What is sweter, then honie? and what is

2 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., take he for me to wife.

3 a Though his parents did justly reprove him, yet it appears that this was the secret work of the Lord, verse 4.

4 b To fight against them for the deliverance of Israel.

6 c Whereby he had strength and boldness.

8 <sup>^</sup>Or, to take her to his wife.

10 d Meaning, when he was married.

11 e That is, her parents or friends.

12 f To wear at feasts or solemn days.

15 g Or, drew near: for it was the fourth day.

15 <sup>^</sup>Or, to impoverish us.

16 h Unto them which are of my nation.

17 i Or, to the seventh day, beginning at the fourth.

The foxes.

stronger than a lyon? Then said he unto them, <sup>k</sup>If ye had not plowed with my heiffer, ye had not founde out my ridle.

19 And the Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he went downe to Ashkelón, and slewe thirtie men of them and spoiled them, and gave change of garments unto them, which expounded the ridle: & his wrath was kindled, & he went up to his fathers house.

20 Then Samsóns wife was *given* to his companion, whome he had used as his friend.

#### CHAP. 15

*4 Samsón tieth firebrandes to the foxe tailles. 6 The Philistíms burnt his father in lawe and his wife. 15 With the jawebone of an asse he killeth a thousand men. 19 Out of a great tothe in the jawe God gave him water.*

**B**Ut within a while after, in the time of wheat harvest, Samsón visited his wife with a kid, saying, I wil <sup>a</sup>go into my wife into the chamber: but her father wolde not suffre him to go in.

2 And her father said, I thoght that thou haddest hated her: therefore gave I her to thy companion. Is not her yonger sister fairer then she? take her, I pray thee, in stead of the other.

3 Then Samsón said unto them, Now am I more <sup>b</sup>blameles then the Philistíms: therefore wil I do them displeasure.

4 ¶ And Samsón went out, and toke thre hundreth foxes, and toke firebrands, and turned them taile to taile, and put a firebrand in the middes betwene two tailles.

5 And when he had set the brandes on fier, he sent them out into the standing corne of the Philistíms, and burnt up bothe the <sup>c</sup>riekes and the standing corne with the vineyardes and olives.

6 Then the Philistíms said, Who hathe done this? And they answered, Samsón the sonne in lawe of the <sup>d</sup>Timnite, because he had taken his wife, and given her to his companion. Then the Philistíms came up and <sup>e</sup>burnt her and her father with fire.

7 And Samsón said unto them, Thogh ye have done this, yet wil I be avenged of you, and then I wil cease.

8 So he smote them <sup>h</sup>hippe and thigh with a mighty plague: then he went and dwelt in the toppe of the rocke Etám.

9 ¶ Then the Philistíms came up, and pitched in Judáh, and <sup>h</sup>were spred abroad in Léhi.

10 And the men of Judáh said, Why are ye come up unto us? And they answered, To <sup>i</sup>binde Samsón are we come up, and to do to him as he hathe done to us.

11 Then thre thousand men of Judáh went to the toppe of the rocke Etám, and said to Samsón, Knowest thou not that the Philistíms are rulers over us? <sup>g</sup>Wherefore then hast thou done thus unto us? And he answered them, As they did unto me, so have I done unto them.

12 Againe they said unto him, We are come to binde thee, and to deliver thee into the hand of the Philistíms. And Samsón said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye wil not fall upon me your selves.

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18 k If you had not used the help of my wife.

19 l Which was one of the five chief cities of the Philistims.

#### Chapter 15

1 a That is, will use her as my wife.

3 b For through his father in law's occasion, he was moved again to take vengeance of the Philistims.

5 c Or, that which was reaped and gathered.

6 d Or, the citizen of Timnath.

6 e So the wicked punish not vice for love of justice, but for fear of danger, which els might come to them.

8 <sup>h</sup>Or, horsemen and footmen.

9 <sup>h</sup>Or, camped.

10 f And so being our prisoner, to punish him.

11 g Such was their gross ignorance, that they judged God's great benefit to be a plague unto them.

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Deliláh.

13 And they answered him, saying, No, but we wil binde thee and <sup>b</sup>deliver thee unto their hand, but we wil not kil thee. And they bound him with two newe cordes, and brought him from the rocke.

14 When he came to Léhi, the Philistíms shouted against him, and the Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and the cordes that were upon his armes, became as flaxe that was burnt with fire: for the bandes losed from his hands.

15 And he found a <sup>i</sup>newe jawebone of an asse, and put forthe his hand, and caught it, and slewe a thousand men therewith.

16 Then Samsón said, With the jawe of an asse *are* heapes upon heapes: with the jawe of an asse have I slayne a thousand men.

17 And when he had left speaking, he cast away the jawebone out of his hand, and called that place, <sup>h</sup>Ramath-Léhi.

18 And he was sore a thirst, and <sup>k</sup>called on the Lord, and said, Thou hast given this great deliverance into the hand of thy servant: and now shal I dye for thirst, and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?

19 Then God brake the cheeke tothe, that was in the jawe, and water came thereout: and when he had dronke, his Spirit came againe, and he was revived: wherefore the name thereof is called, <sup>h</sup>En-hakkoré, which is in Léhi unto this day.

20 And he judged Israél in the dayes of the Philistíms twentie yeres.

#### CHAP. 16

*3 Samsón carieth away the gates of Azzáh. 18 He was deceived by Deliláh. 30 He pulleth downe the house upon the Philistíms, and dyeth with them.*

**T**Hen went Samsón to <sup>a</sup>Azzáh, and sawe there <sup>h</sup>an harlot, and <sup>b</sup>went in unto her. 2 And it was tolde to the Azzathites, Samsón is come hether. And they went about, and layed wait for him all night in the gate of the citie, and were quiet all the night, saying, *Abide* <sup>h</sup>til the morning earely, and we shal kil him.

3 And Samsón slept til midnight, and arose at midnight, and toke the dores of the gates of the citie, and the two postes and lift them away with the barres, and put them upon his sholders, and caried them up to the top of the mountaine that is before Hebrón.

4 ¶ And after this he loved a woman by the <sup>h</sup>river of Sorék, whose name was Deliláh:

5 Unto whome came the princes of the Philistíms, and said unto her, Entise him, and se wherein his great strength *lieth*, and by what meane we may overcome him, that we may binde him, and punish him, and everie one of us shal give thee eleven hundreth <sup>c</sup>shekels of silver.

6 ¶ And Deliláh said to Samsón, Tel me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength *lieth*, and wherewith thou mightiest be bounde, to do thee hurt.

7 Samsón then answered unto her, If they binde me with seven <sup>h</sup>greene cordes that were never dryed, then shal I be weake, and

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13 h Thus they had rather betray their brother, then use the means that God had given for their deliverance.

15 i That is, of an asse lately slain.

17 <sup>h</sup>Or, the lifting up of the jaw.

18 k Whereby appears, that he did these things in faith, and so with a true zeal to glorify God and deliver his country.

19 <sup>h</sup>Or, the fountain of him that prayed.

#### Chapter 16

1 a One of the five chief cities of the Philistims.

1 <sup>h</sup>Or, vitailer.

1 b That is, he lodged with her.

2 <sup>h</sup>Or, to the light of the morning.

4 <sup>h</sup>Or, plain.

5 c Of the value of a shekel read Gen. 23.15.

7 <sup>h</sup>Or, new white.

be as an other man.

8 And the princes of the Philistims broght her seven greene cordes that were not drye, and she bounde him therewith.

9 (And she had <sup>d</sup>men lying in wayte with her in the chamber) Then she said unto him, The Philistims *be* upon thee, Samsón. And he brake the cordes, as a thread of towe is broken, when <sup>e</sup>it feleth fire: so his strength was not knowen.

10 ¶ After Delilah said unto Samsón, Se, thou hast mocked me & tolde me lies. I pray thee now, <sup>f</sup>tel me wherewith thou mightiest be bound.

11 Then he answered her, If they binde me with newe ropes that never were occupied, then shal I be weake, and be as another man.

12 Delilah therefore toke newe ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, The Philistims *be* upon thee, Samsón: (and men lay in wait in the chamber) and he brake them from his armes, as a threde.

13 ¶ Afterward Delilah said to Samsón, Hetherto thou hast beguiled me, and tolde me lies: tel me how thou mightiest be bound. <sup>g</sup>And he said unto her, If thou plattedst seven lockes of mine head with the threades of the woufe.

14 And she fastened it with a pinne, and said unto him, The Philistims *be* upon thee, Samsón. And he awoke out of his slepe, and went away with the <sup>h</sup>pinne of the webbe and the woufe.

15 Againe she said unto him, How canst thou say, <sup>i</sup>I love thee, when thine heart is not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not tolde me wherein thy great strength *lieth*.

16 And because she was importunate upon him with her wordes continually, and vexed him, his soule was peined unto the death.

17 Therefore he tolde her all his <sup>j</sup>heart, and said unto her, There never came a razor upon mine head: for I am a Nazarite unto God from my mothers wombe: therefore if I be shaven, my strength wil go from me, & I shal be weake, & be like all other men.

18 And when Delilah sawe that he had tolde her all his heart, she sent, and called for the Princes of the Philistims, saying, Come up once *again*: for he hathe shewed me all his heart. Then the princes of the Philistims came up unto her, and broght the money in their hands.

19 And she made him slepe upon her knees, and she called a man, and made him to shave of the seven lockes of his head, and she began to vex him, & his strength was <sup>k</sup>gone from him.

20 Then she said, The Philistims *be* upon thee, Samsón. And he awoke out of his slepe, and thoght, I wil go out now as at other times, and shake my selfe, but he knewe not that the Lord was departed from him.

21 Therefore the Philistims toke him, and put out his eies, and broght him downe to Azzáh, and bound him with fetters: and he did grinde in the prison house.

22 And the heere of his head began to <sup>l</sup>growe againe after that it was shaven.

9 d Certain Philistims in a secret chamber.

9 e When fire comes near it.

10 f Though her falsehood tended to make him, lose his life, yet his affection so blinded him that he could not beware.

13 g It is impossible, if we give place to our wicked affections, but at length we shall be destroyed.

14 <sup>h</sup>Or, beam.

15 h For this Samson used to say, I love you.

17 i Thus his immoderate affections toward a wicked woman caused him to lose God's excellent gifts, and become slave unto them, whom he should have ruled.

19 k Not for the loss of his hair, but for the contempt of the ordinance of God, which was the cause that God departed from him.

22 l Yet had he not his strength again, till he had called upon God, and reconciled himself.

23 Then the princes of the Philistims gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagón their god, and to rejoyce: for they said, Our god hathe delivered Samsón our enemie into our hands.

24 Also when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemie and destroyer of our countrey, which hathe slaine manie of us.

25 And when their heartes were mery, they said, Call Samsón, that he may make us pastime. So they called Samsón out of the prison house, and he <sup>m</sup>was a laughing stocke unto them, and they set him betwene the pillers.

26 Then Samsón said unto the servant that led him by the hand, Lead me, that I may touche the pillers that the house standeth upon, and that I may leane to them.

27 (Now the house was ful of men & woman, and there *were* all the princes of the Philistims: also upon the rooffe *were* about thre thousand men and woman that behelde while Samsón <sup>n</sup>played)

28 Then Samsón called unto the Lord, and said, ô Lord God, I pray thee, thinke upon me: ô God, I beseeche thee, strengthen me at this time onely, that I maye be <sup>o</sup>at once <sup>p</sup>avenged of the Philistims for my two eyes.

29 And Samsón layed holde on the two middle pillers whereupon the house stode, and on which it was borne up: on the one with his right hand, and on the other with his left.

30 Then said Samsón, <sup>q</sup>Let me lose my life with the Philistims: and he bowed him with all his might, and the house fel upon the princes, and upon all the people that were therein. so the dead which he slue at his death were mo then they which he had slayne in his life.

31 Then his brethren, & all the house of his father came downe and toke him, and broght him up and buryed him betwene Zoráh and Eshtaól, in the sepulchre of Manóah his father: now he had judged Israél twentie yeres.

## CHAP. 17

3 Michahs mother according to her vowe made her sonne two idoles. 5 He made his sonne a Priest for his idoles, 10 And after he hired a Levite.

**T**Here <sup>a</sup>was a man of mount Ephráim, whose name was Michah, 2 And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundreth *shekels* of silver that were taken from thee, for the which thou cursedst, and spakedst it, even in mine hearing, beholde, the silver *is* with me, I toke it. Then his mother said, Blessed be my sonne of the Lord.

3 And when he had restored the eleven hundreth *shekels* of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had dedicate the silver to the Lord of mine hand for my sonne, to make <sup>b</sup>a graven and molten image, Now therefore I wil give it thee againe.

4 And when he had restored the money unto his mother, his mother toke two hundreth *shekels* of silver, and gave them to the founder, which made thereof a graven and molten image, and it was in the house of Micháh.

25 m Thus by God's just judgements they are made slaves to infidels, which neglect their vocation in defending the faithful.

27 <sup>n</sup>Or, was mocked.

28 <sup>o</sup>Ebr., take out vengeance.

28 n According to my vocation, which is to execute God's judgements upon the wicked.

30 o He speaks not this of despair, but humbling himself for neglecting his office and the offence thereby given.

## Chapter 17

1 a Some think this history was in the time of Othniel, or as Josephus writes, immediately after Joshua.

3 b Contrary to the commandment of God and true religion practiced under Joshua, they forsoke the Lord and fell to idolatry.

Dan. Michah.

## Judges 17:5 –18:22

Laísh.

5 And this man Micháh had an house of gods, and made an \*Ephód, and \*Teraphím, & ^consecrated one of his sonnes, who was his Priest.

6 In those daies there was no <sup>d</sup>King in Israél, *but* everie man did that, which was good in his owne eies.

7 ¶ There was also a yong man out of Beth-léhem Judáh, <sup>e</sup>of the familie of Judáh: who was a Levite, and sojourned there.

8 And the man departed out of the citie, *even* out of Beth-léhem Judáh, to dwel where he colde finde *a place*: & as he journeied, he came to mount Ephráim to the house of Micháh.

9 And Micháh said unto him, Whence comest thou? And the Levite answered him, <sup>f</sup>I *come* from Beth-léhem Judáh, and go to dwel where I may finde *a place*.

10 Then Micháh said unto him, Dwel with me, and be unto me a father and a Priest, and I wil give thee ten *shekels* of silver by yere, and a sute of apparel, and thy meat and drinke. So the Levite went in.

11 And the Levite was <sup>g</sup>content to dwel with the man, and the yong man was unto him as one of his owne sonnes.

12 And Micháh consecrated the Levite, and the yong man was his Priest, and was in the house of Micháh.

13 Then said Micháh, Now I knowe that the Lord wil be <sup>h</sup>good unto me, seing I have a Levite to my Priest.

### CHAP. 18

*2 The children of Dan send men to searche the land. 21 Then come the six hundreth and take the gods, and the Priest of Micháh awaie. 27 They destroy Laísh. 28 Thei buyld it again, 30 And set up idolatrie.*

**I**N those dayes there was no <sup>a</sup>King in Israél, and at the same time the tribe of Dan soght them an inheritance to dwel in: for unto that time *all* their inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israél.

2 Therefore the children of Dan sent of their familie, five men out of their coastes, *even* men expert in warre, out of Zoráh and Eshtaól, to vewe the land and searche it out, and said unto them, <sup>b</sup>Go, *and* searche out the land. Then thei came to mount Ephráim to the house of Micháh and lodged there.

3 When thei were in the house of Micháh, thei knewe the <sup>c</sup>voyce of the yong man the Levite: and being turned in thether, thei said unto him, Who broght thee hether? or what makest thou in this place? and what hast thou *to do* here?

4 And he answered them, Thus and thus dealeth Micháh with me, and hathe hired me, and I am his Priest.

5 Againe thei said unto him, Aske counsel now of god, that we may knowe whether the way which we go, shal be prosperous.

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5 \*Chap. 8:27.

5 c He would serve both God and idols.

5 \*Gen. 31:19, Hos. 3.4.

5 ^Ebr., filled the hand of one.

6 d For where there is no magistrate fearing God, there can be no true religion, nor order.

7 e Which Bethlehem was in the tribe of Judah.

9 f For in those days the service of God was corrupt in all estates and the Levites were not looked unto.

11 g Not considering that he forsoke the true worshipping of God for to maintain his own belly.

13 h Thus the idolaters persuade themselves of God's favor, when in deed he does detest them.

### Chapter 18

1 a Meaning no ordinary Magistrate, to punish vice according to God's word.

2 b For the portion which Joshua gave them, was not sufficient for all their tribe.

3 c They knew him by his speech that he was a stranger there.

6 And the Priest said unto them, <sup>d</sup>Go in peace: for the Lord guideth your way which ye go.

7 Then the five men departed and came to Laísh, and sawe the people that were therein, which dwelt careles, after the maner of the Zidonians, quiet & sure, because no man <sup>e</sup>made any trouble in the land, or usurped any dominion: also they were far from the Zidonians, and had no busines with *other* men.

8 ¶ So thei came againe unto their brethren to Zoráh & Eshtaól: and their brethren said unto them, What have ye *done*?

9 And thei answered, Arise, that we may go up against them: for we have sene the land, and surely it is very good, and <sup>e</sup>do ye sit stil? be not slouthful to go and enter to possesse the land.

10 (If ye wil go, ye shal come unto a careles people, and the cuntry *is* large) for God hathe given it into your hand. *It is* a place which doeth lacke nothing that is in the worlde.

11 ¶ Then there departed thence of the familie of the Danites, from Zoráh and from Eshtaól, six hundreth men appointed with instruments of warre.

12 And thei went up, and pitched in Kiriáth jearím in Judáh: wherefore they called that place, <sup>f</sup>Mahaneh-Dan unto this day: and it is behinde Kiriáth jearím.

13 And thei went thence unto mount Ephráim, and came to the house of Micháh.

14 Then answered the five men, that went to spie out the cuntry of Laísh, and said unto their brethren, <sup>f</sup>Knowe ye not, that there is in these houses an Ephód, and Teraphím, and a graven and a molten image? Now therefore consider what ye have to do.

15 And thei turned thetherwarde and came to the house of the yong man the Levite, *even* unto the house of Micháh, and saluted him peaceably.

16 And the six hundreth men appointed with their weapons of warre, which were of the children of Dan, stode by the entring of the gate.

17 Then the five men that went to spie out the land, went in thether, *and* toke the <sup>g</sup>graven image and the Ephód, and the Teraphím, & the molten image: & the Priest stode in the entring of the gate with the six hundreth men, that were appointed with weapons of warre,

18 And the other went into Micháhs house and fet the graven image, the Ephód, and the Teraphím, and the molten image. Then said the Priest unto them, What do ye?

19 And thei answered him, Holde thy peace: laye thine hand upon thy mouth, and come with us to be our father and Priest. Whether is it better that thou shuldest be a Priest unto the house of one man, or that thou shuldest be a Priest unto a tribe and to a familie in Israél?

20 And the Priests heart was glad, and he toke the Ephód and the Teraphím, & the graven image, and went among the <sup>h</sup>people.

21 And they turned and departed, and put the children and the cattel, and the substance <sup>i</sup>before them.

22 ¶ When thei were farre of from the house of Micháh, the men that were in the houses nere to Micháhs house, gathered together, and pursued after the children of Dan,

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6 d Thus God grants the idolaters sometimes their requests to their destruction that delight in errors.

7 ^Ebr., made them ashamed.

9 e Lose you this good occasion through your slothfulness?

12 ^Or, the tents of Dan.

14 f Because they before had had good success, they would that their brethren should be encouraged by hearing the same tidings.

17 g So superstition blinded them, that they thought God's power was in these idols, and that they should have good success by them, though by violence and robbery they did take them away.

20 h With the six hundred men.

21 i Suspecting them that did pursue them.



## The Levites

23 And cryed unto the children of Dan: who turned their faces, and said unto Micháh, What ayleth thee, that thou makest an outcrys?

24 And he said, Ye have taken away my <sup>k</sup>gods, which I made, and the Priest, and go your waies: and what have I more? how then say ye unto me, What aileth thee?

25 And the children of Dan said unto him, Let not thy voyce be heard among us, lest <sup>^</sup>angry fellowes runne upon thee, and thou lose thy life with the lives of thine housholde.

26 So the children of Dan went their waies: and when Micháh sawe that they were to strong for him, he turned, and went backe unto his house.

27 And thei toke the <sup>t</sup>hings which Micháh had made, and the Priest which he had, and came unto Laísh, unto a quiet people and without mistrust, and smote them with the edge of the sworde, and burnt the citie with fire:

28 And there was none to <sup>^</sup>helpe, because <sup>m</sup>Laísh was farre from Zidón, and they had no busines with *other* men: also it was in the valley that lyeth by Beth-rehób. After, they buylt the citie, and dwelt therein,

29 <sup>\*</sup>And called the name of the citie Dan, after the name of Dan their father which was borne unto Israél: howbeit the name of the citie was Laish at the beginning.

30 Then the children of Dan set them up the <sup>n</sup>graven image: and Jonathan the son of Gershóm, the sonne of Manasséh and his sonnes were the Priests in the tribe of the Danites until the day of the <sup>o</sup>captivitie of the land.

31 So they set them up the graven image, which Micháh had made, all the while the house of God was in Shilóh.

## CHAP. 19

*1 A Levites wife being an harlot, forsake her housband, and he toke her againe. 25 At Gibeah she was moste vilenously abused to the death. 29 The Levite cutteth her in pieces and sendeth her to the twelve tribes.*

**A**lso in those daies, <sup>\*</sup>when there was no King in Israél, a certaine Levite dwelt on the side of mount Ephráim, and toke to wife a <sup>\*</sup>concubine out of Beth-léhem Judah,

2 And his concubine played the whore <sup>^</sup>there, and went away from him unto her fathers house to Beth-léhem Judah, & there continued the space of foure moneths.

3 And her housband arose and went after her, to speak <sup>^</sup>friendly unto her, and to bring her againe: *he had* also his servant with him, and a couple of asses: and she broght him unto her fathers house, and when the yong womans father sawe him, he rejoiced <sup>^</sup>of his comming.

4 And his father in lawe, the yong womans father reteined him: and he abode with him thre daies: so they did eat and drinke, and lodged there.

5 ¶ And when the fourth day came, thei arose early in the morn-

24 <sup>k</sup> This declares what opinion the idolaters have of their idols.

25 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., who have their hearts bitter.

27 <sup>l</sup> Meaning, the idols, as verse 18.

28 <sup>^</sup>Or, deliver them.

28 <sup>m</sup> Which after was called Cesarea Philippi.

29 <sup>\*</sup>Josh. 19.47.

30 <sup>n</sup> Thus instead of giving glory to God, they attributed the victory to their idols, and honored them therefore.

30 <sup>o</sup> That is, till the Ark was taken, 1 Sam. 5.1.

## Chapter 19

1 <sup>\*</sup>Chap. 17.6 and 18.1.

1 <sup>\*</sup>Gen. 25.6.

2 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., besides him: to wit, with others.

3 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., to her heart.

3 <sup>^</sup>Or, at his meeting.

## Judges 18:23 –19:20

and his wife.

ing, and <sup>^</sup>he prepared to departe: then the yong womans father said unto his sonne in lawe, <sup>^</sup>Comforte thine heart with a morsel of bread, and then go your way.

6 So they sate downe, and did eat and drinke bothe of them together. And the <sup>a</sup>yong womans father said unto the man, Be content, I pray thee, and tary all night, & let thine heart be mery.

7 And when the man rose up to departe, his father in lawe <sup>^</sup>was earnest: therefore he returned, and lodged there.

8 And he arose up early the fift day to departe, and the yong womans father said, <sup>b</sup>Comforte thine heart, I pray thee: and they taryed until after midday, and they bothe did eat.

9 Afterwarde when the man arose to departe with his concubine and his servant, his father in lawe, the yong womans father said unto him, Beholde now, the day <sup>^</sup>draweth towarde even: I pray you, tary all night: beholde the <sup>^</sup>sunne goeth to rest: lodge here, that thine heart may be mery, and tomorowe get you early upon your way, and go to thy <sup>o</sup>tent.

10 But the man wolde not tary, but arose and departed, and came over against Jebús, (which is Jerusalém) and his two asses laden, and his concubine *were* with him.

11 When thei were nere to Jebús, the day <sup>^</sup>was sore spent, and the servant said unto his master, Come, I pray thee, and let us turne into this citie of the Jebusites, and lodge all night there.

12 And his master answered him, <sup>^</sup>We wil not turne into the citie of strangers that are not of the children of Israél, but we wil go forthe to Gibeáh.

13 And he said unto his servant, Come, and let us drawe nere to one of these places, that we may lodge in Gibeáh or in Ramáh.

14 So they went forwarde upon their way, and the sunne went downe upon them nere to Gibeáh, which is in Benjamín.

15 ¶ Then thei turned thether to go in and lodge in Gibeáh: and when he came, he sate him downe in a strete of the citie: for there was no man that <sup>^</sup>toke them into his house to lodge.

16 And beholde, there came an olde man from his worke out of the field at even, and the man was of mount Ephráim, but dwelt in Gibeáh: and the men of the place were the children of <sup>e</sup>Jeminí.

17 And when he had lift up his eyes, he sawe a <sup>^</sup>wayfaring man in the stretes of the citie: then this olde man said, Whether goest thou, and whence comest thou?

18 And he answered him, We came from Beth-léhem Judáh, unto the side of mount Ephráim: from thence am I: and I went to Beth-léhem Judáh, and go *now* to the <sup>h</sup>house of the Lord: and no man receiveth me to house,

19 Although we have strawe and provandre for our asses, and also bread and wine for me and thine handmayd, and for the boy that is with thy servant: we lacke nothing.

20 And the olde man said, <sup>^</sup>Peace be with thee: as for all that thou lackest, *shalt thou finde* with me: onely abide not in the strete all night.

5 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., rose up.

5 <sup>^</sup>Or, strengthen.

6 <sup>a</sup> That is, his concubine's father.

7 <sup>^</sup>Or, compelled him.

8 <sup>b</sup> Meaning, that he should refresh himself with meat, as verse 5.

9 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., is weak.

9 <sup>^</sup>Or, the day lodges.

9 <sup>c</sup> To wit, to the town or city where he dwelt.

11 <sup>^</sup>Or, went down.

12 <sup>d</sup> Though in these days there were most horrible corruptions, yet very necessity could not compel them to have to do with them that professed not the true God.

15 <sup>^</sup>Or, gathered them.

16 <sup>e</sup> That is, of the tribe of Benjamin.

17 <sup>^</sup>Or, a man walking.

18 <sup>f</sup> To Shiloh or Mizpeh, where the Ark was.

20 <sup>^</sup>Or, be of good comfort.

21 ¶ So he broght him into his house, and gave foddre unto the asses: and thei washed their fete, and did eat and drinke.

22 And as they were making their hearts mery, beholde, the men of the citie, <sup>^</sup>wicked men beset the house round about, and <sup>9</sup>smote at the dore, and spake to this olde man the master of the house, saying, Bring forth the man that came into thine house that we may knowe him.

23 And <sup>\*</sup>this man the master of the house, went out unto them, and said unto them, Naye my brethren, do not so wickedly, I pray you: seing that this man is come into mine house, do not this vilanie.

24 Beholde, *here is* my daughter, a virgine, and his concubine: them wil I bring out now, <sup>h</sup>and humble them, and do with them what semeth you good: but to this man do not this vilenie.

25 But the men wolde not hearken to him: therefore the man toke his concubine, and broght her out unto them: and they knewe her and abused her all the night unto the morning: and when the day began to spring, they let her go.

26 So the woman came in the dawning of the day, and <sup>i</sup>fel downe at the dore of the mans house where her lord was, til the light day.

27 And her <sup>^</sup>lord arose in the morning, and opened the dores of the house, and went out to go his way, and beholde, the woman his concubine was <sup>^</sup>dead at the dore of the house and her hands *lay* upon the thresholde.

28 And he said unto her, Up and let us go: but she answered not. Then he toke her up upon the asse, and the man rose up, and went unto his <sup>k</sup>place.

29 And when he was come to his house, he toke a knife, and laid hand on his concubine, and devided her in pieces with her bones into twelve partes, and sent her through all quarters of Israél.

30 And all that sawe it, said, There was no <sup>l</sup>such thing done or sene since the time that the children of Israél came up from the land of Egypt unto this day: conside the matter, consult and give sentence.

## CHAP. 20

*1 The Israelites assemble in Mizpéh, to whome the Levite declar-eth his wrong – 13 They sent for them that did the vilenie. 25 The Israelites are wise overcome, 46 And at length get the victorie.*

**T**hen <sup>\*</sup>all the children of Israél went out & the Congregacion was gathered together as <sup>o</sup>one man, from Dan to Beér shéba, with the land of Gilead, unto the <sup>b</sup>Lord in Mizpéh.

2 And the <sup>^</sup>chief of all the people *and* all the tribes of Israél assembled in the Congregacion of the people of God foure hundreth thousand fotemen that <sup>c</sup>drewe sword.

3 (Now the children of Benjamín heard that the children of Israél were gone up to Mizpéh) Then the children of Israél <sup>d</sup>said, How is this wickednes committed?

22 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., men of Belial: that is given to all wickedness.

22 g To the intent they might break it.

23 <sup>\*</sup>Gen. 19.7.

24 h That is, abuse them.

26 i She fell down dead, as verse 27.

27 <sup>^</sup>Or, husband.

27 <sup>^</sup>Or fallen.

28 k Meaning, home unto mount Ephraim.

30 l For this was like the sin of Sodom, for the which God rained down fire and brimstone from heaven.

## Chapter 20

1 <sup>\*</sup>Osee. 10.9.

1 a That is, all with one consent.

1 b To ask counsel.

2 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., corners.

2 c Meaning men able to handle their weapon.

3 d To the Levite.

4 And the same Levite, the womans housband that was slaine, answered and said, I came unto Gibeáh that is in Benjamín with my concubine to lodge,

5 And the <sup>^</sup>men of Gibeáh arose against me, & beset the house round about upon me by night, thinking to have slaine me, and have forced my concubine that she is dead.

6 Then I toke my concubine, and cut her in pieces, and sent <sup>e</sup>her through out all the countrey of the inheritance of Israél: for they have committed abominacion and vilenie in Israél.

7 Beholde, ye are all children of Israél: give your advise, and counsel herein.

8 Then all the people arose as one man, saying, There shal not a man of us go to his tent, nether anie turne into his <sup>h</sup>house.

9 But now this is that thing which we wil do to Gibeáh: *we wil go up* by lot against it,

10 And we wil take ten men of the hundreth throughout all the tribes of Israél, and an hundreth of the thousand, and a thousand of ten thousand to bring <sup>9</sup>vitaile for the people that they may do (when they come to Gibeáh of Benjamín) according to all the vilenie, that it hathe done in Israél.

11 ¶ So all the men of Israél were gathered against the citie, knit together, as one man.

12 And the tribes of Israél sent men through all the <sup>h</sup>tribe of Benjamín, saying, What wickednes is this that is committed among you?

13 Now therefore deliver us those wicked men which are in Gibeáh, that we may put them to death, and put away evil from Israél: but the children of Benjamín <sup>i</sup>wolde not obey the voyce of their brethren the children of Israél.

14 But the children of Benjamín gathered them selves together out of the cities unto Gibeáh, to come out and fight against the children of Israél.

15 ¶ And the children of Benjamín were nombred at that time out of the cities six and twentie thousand men that drewe sworde, beside the inhabitants of Gibeáh, which were nombred seven hundreth chosen men.

16 Of all this people *were* seven hundreth chosen men, being <sup>l</sup>left handed: all these colde sling stones at an heere breadth, and not faile.

17 ¶ Also the men of Israél, beside Benjamín, were nombred foure hundreth thousand men that drewe sworde, even all men of warre.

18 And the children of Israél arose, and went up <sup>k</sup>to the house of God, and asked of God, saying, Which of us shal go up first to fight against the children of Benjamín? And the Lord said, Judáh *shalbe* first.

19 Then the children of Israél arose up early and camped against Gibeáh.

20 And the men of Israél went out to battel against Benjamín, and the men of Israél put them selves in array to fight against them beside Gibeáh.

21 And the children of Benjamín came out of Gibeáh, and slewe downe to the grounde of the Israélites that day <sup>t</sup>two and twentie

5 <sup>^</sup>Or, chief, or lords.

6 e That is, her pieces, to every tribe a piece, Chap. 19.29.

8 f Before we have revenged this wickedness.

10 g These only should have the charge to provide for vitaile for the rest.

12 h That is, every family of the tribe.

13 i Because they would not suffer the wicked to be punished, they declared themselves to maintain them in their evil, and therefore were all justly punished.

16 <sup>\*</sup>Chap. 3.15.

18 k That is, to the Ark, which was in Shiloah: some think, in Mizpeh, as verse 1.

21 l This God permitted, because the Israelites partly trusted too much in their strength, and partly God would by this means punish their sins.

The battel with  
thousand men.

22 And the people, the men of Israël plucked up their hearts, and set their battel againe in array in the place where they put them in array the first day.

23 (For the children of Israël had gone up and wept before the Lord unto the evening, & had asked of the Lord, saying, Shal I go againe to battel against the children of Benjamín my brethren? and the Lord said, Go up against them)

24 ¶ Then the children of Israël came nere against the children of Benjamín the seconde day.

25 Also the seconde day Benjamín came forthe to mete them out of Gibeáh, and slewe downe to the grounde of the children of Israël againe eightene thousand men: <sup>^</sup>all they colde handle the sworde.

26 Then all the children of Israël went up and all the people came also unto the house of God, and wept and sate there before the Lord and fasted that day unto the evening, and offred burnt offrings and peace offrings before the Lord.

27 And the children of Israël asked the Lord (for <sup>m</sup>there was the Arke of the covenant of God in those dayes,

28 And Phinehás the sonne of Eleazár, the sonne of Aarón <sup>n</sup>stode before it at that time) saying, Shal I yet go anie more to battel against the children of Benjamín my brethren, or shal I cease? And the Lord said, Go up: for tomorowe I wil deliver them into your hand.

29 And Israël set men to lye in wait round about Gibeáh.

30 And the children of Israël went up against the children of Benjamín the third day, and put them selves in array against Gibeáh, as at other times.

31 Then the children of Benjamín comming out against the people, were <sup>o</sup>drawn from the citie: and they began to smite of the people and kil as at other times, *even* by the wayes in the field (whereof one goeth up to the house of God, and the other to Gibeáh) upon a thirtie men of Israël.

32 (For the children of Benjamín said, They are fallen before us, as at the first. But the children of Israël said, Let us flee and plucke them away from the citie unto the hie <sup>p</sup>wayes)

33 And all the men of Israël rose up out of their place, and put them selves in array at Baál tamár: and the men that lay in waite of the Israëlites came forthe of their place, *even* out of the medowes of Gibeáh,

34 And they came over against Gibeáh, ten thousand chosen men of all Israël, and the battel was sore: for they knewe not that the <sup>q</sup>evil was nere them.

35 ¶ And the Lord smote Benjamín before Israël, & the children of Israël destroyed of the Benjamites the same day five & twentie thousand & an hundreth men: all they colde handle the sworde.

36 So the children of Benjamín sawe that they were striken downe: for the men of Israël <sup>r</sup>gave place to the Benjamites, because they trusted to the men that lay in wait, which they had laid beside Gibeáh.

37 And they that lay in waite hasted, and brake forthe towarde Gibeáh, and the embushment <sup>^</sup>drewe them selves along, and smote all the citie with the edge of the sworde.

38 Also the men of Israël had appointed a certaine time with the embushments, that they shulde make a great flame, *and* smoke rise up out of the citie.

25 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., all they drawing the sword.

27 <sup>m</sup> To wit, in Shiloh.

28 <sup>n</sup> Or, served in the Priest's office at those days: for the Jews write, that he lived three hundred years.

31 <sup>o</sup> By the policy of the children of Israel.

32 <sup>p</sup> Meaning, cross ways or, paths to divers places.

34 <sup>q</sup> They knew not, that God's judgement was at hand to destroy them.

36 <sup>r</sup> Retired, to draw them after.

37 <sup>^</sup>Or, made along sound with a trumpet.

## Judges 20:21 –21:6

Benjamín.

39 And when the men of Israël retired in the battel, Benjamín began to <sup>s</sup>smite & kil of the men of Israël about thirtie persones: for they said, Surely they are striken downe before us, as in the first battel.

40 But when the flame began to arise out of the citie, as a pillar of smoke, the Benjamites loked backe, and beholde, the flame of the citie began to ascende up to heaven.

41 Then the men of Israël turned <sup>^</sup>againe, & the men of Benjamín were astonied: for they saw that evil was nere unto them.

42 Therefore they fled before the men of Israël unto the way of the wildernes, but the battel overtoke them: also they which *came out* of the cities, slewe them <sup>^</sup>among them.

43 *Thus* they compassed the Benjamites about, *and* chased them <sup>^</sup>at ease, and overran them, even over against Gibeáh on the Eastside.

44 And there were slaine of Benjamín eightene thousand men, which were all men of warre.

45 And they turned and fled to the wildernes unto the rocke of Rimmón: and the *Israelites* <sup>x</sup>glained of them by the way five thousand men, and pursued after them unto Gidóm, and slewe two thousand men of them,

46 So that all that were slaine that day of Benjamín, were <sup>y</sup>five and twentie thousand men that drewe sworde, which were all men of warre:

47 But six hundreth men turned and fled to the wildernes, unto the rocke of Rimmón and abode in the rocke of Rimmón foure moneths.

48 Then the men of Israël returned unto the children of Benjamín, and smote them with the edge of the sworde from the men of the citie unto the beasts, and all that came to hand: also they set on fire all the <sup>z</sup>cities that they colde come by.

## CHAP. 21

*1 The Israelites swear that they wil not mary their daughters to the Benjamites. 10 They slay them of Jabésh Gileád, and give their virgines to the Benjamites. 21 The Benjamites take the daughters of Shiloh.*

**M**oreover the men of Israël <sup>a</sup>sware in Mizpéh, saying, None of us shal give his daughter unto the Benjamites to wife.

2 And the people came unto the house of God and abode there til even before God, and lift up their voices, and wept with great lamentacion,

3 And said, ô Lord God of Israël, why is this come to passe in Israël, that this day one tribe of Israël shulde want?

4 ¶ And on the morowe the people rose up and made there an <sup>b</sup>altar, and offred burnt offrings and peace offrings.

5 Then the children of Israël said, Who is he among all the tribes of Israël, that came not up with the Congregation unto the Lord? for they had made a great othe concerning him that came not up to the Lord to Mizpéh, saying, Let him dye the death.

6 And the children of Israël <sup>c</sup>were sorie for Benjamín their brother, and said, There is one tribe cut of from Israël this day.

39 <sup>s</sup> For they were waxen hardy by the two former victories.

41 <sup>t</sup> And withstood their enemies.

42 <sup>u</sup> For they were compassed in on every side.

43 <sup>^</sup>Or, drove them from their rest.

45 <sup>x</sup> They slew them by one and one, as they were scattered abroad.

46 <sup>y</sup> Beside eleven hundred that had been slain in the former battles.

48 <sup>z</sup> If they belonged to the Benjamites.

## Chapter 21

1 <sup>a</sup> This oath came of rashness & not of judgement: for after they broke it, in showing secretly the means to marry with certain of their daughters.

4 <sup>b</sup> According to their custom, when they would consult with the Lord.

6 <sup>c</sup> Or, repented that they had destroyed their brethren, as appears in verse 15.

## Wives

7 How shal we do for wives to them that remaine, seing we have sworne by the Lord, that we wil not give them of our daughters to wives?

8 Also they said, Is there anie of the tribes of Israél that <sup>d</sup>came not up to Mizpéh to the Lord? and beholde, there came none of Jabésh Gileád unto the hoste *and* to the Congregacion.

9 For when the people were vewed, beholde, none of the inhabitants of Jabésh Gileád were there.

10 Therefore the Congregacion sent thether twelve thousand men of the <sup>^</sup>most valiant, and commanded them, saying, Go, and smite the inhabitants of Jabésh Gileád with the edge of the sworde, both women and children.

11 \*And this is it that ye shal do: ye shal utterly destroy all the males and all the women that have lien by men.

12 And they founde among the inhabitants of Jabésh Gileád foure hundreth maides, virgins that had knowen no man by lying with anie male: and they broght them unto the hoste to Shilóh, which is in the land of Canáan.

13 ¶ Then the whole Congregacion <sup>e</sup>sent and spake with the children of Benjamín that were in the rocke of Rimmón, and called <sup>^</sup>peaceably unto them.

14 And Benjamín came againe at that time, and they gave them wives which they had saved alive of the women of Jabésh Gileád: but they had not <sup>f</sup>so ynough for them:

15 And the people were sory for Benjamín, because the Lord had made a breache in the tribes of Israél.

16 Therefore the Elders of the Congregacion said, How shal we do for wives to the remnant? for the women of Benjamín are destroyed.

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8 d Condemning them to be fauters of vice, which would not put their hand to punish it.

10 <sup>^</sup>Ebr., children of strength.

11 \*Num. 31.17.

13 e To wit, about four months after the discomfiture, Ch. 20.47.

13 \*Or, friendly.

14 f For there lacked two hundred.

## Judges 21:7 –21:25

for Benjamín.

17 And they said, *There must be* an <sup>g</sup>inheritance for them that be escaped of Benjamín, that a tribe be not destroyed out of Israél.

18 Howbeit we may not give them wives of our daughters: for the children of Israél had sworne, saying, Cursed be he, that giveth a wife to Benjamín.

19 Therefore they said, Beholde, there is a feast of the Lord everie yere in Shilóh *in a place*, which is on the <sup>h</sup>Northside of Beth-él, and on the Eastside of the way that goeth up from Beth-él to Shechém, and on the South of Lebonáh.

20 Therefore thei commanded the children of Benjamín, saying, Go, and lye in waite in the vineyardes.

21 And when ye se that the daughters of Shilóh come out to dance in dances, then come ye out of the vineyardes, & catche you every man a wife of the daughters of Shilóh, and go into the land of Benjamín.

22 And <sup>i</sup>when their fathers or their brethren come unto us to complaine, we wil say unto them, Have pitie on them for our sakes, because we reserved not to eche man his wife in the warre, and because ye have not given unto them hetherto, ye have sinned.

23 And the children of Benjamín did so, and toke wives of them that danced according to their <sup>k</sup>number: which they toke, and went away, and returned to their inheritance, and repaired the cities and dwelt in them.

24 So the children of Israél departed thence at that time, every man to his tribe, and to his familie, and went out from thence everie man to his inheritance,

25 \*In those dayes there was no King in Israél, *but* everie man did that which was good in his eyes.

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17 g Benjamin must be reserved to have the twelfth portion in the inheritance of Jacob.

19 h He describes the place where the maids used yearly to dance, as the manner then was, and to sing Psalms and songs of God's works among them.

22 i Though they thought hereby to persuade men that they kept their oath, yet before God it was broken.

23 k Meaning, two hundred.

25 \*Chap. 17.6., 18.1. and 19.1.