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# Open English Translation of the Bible

# 1 Shmuel

### Introduction

This document tells about the people of the nation of Yisrael (called 'Israel' in older Bibles) at the time when Shmuel (commonly, but wrongly known as 'Samuel') was still their teacher through to when Sha'ul (commonly, but wrongly known as 'Saul') led them as their first king. It also reveals the reasons why Sha'ul lost his position as king and why God promised to replace him with David.
Long ago before Yisrael had a king, the people regarded their god as their ruler, but eventually they came to the point of asking God to give them a king to lead them. Both the king and the people were subject to God's leading and expected to obey God's laws.
The main theme of this document is showing how peace and prosperity came when the people obeyed God, and if not, it could lead to destruction. And then sometimes God used his people to apply his discipline to other people groups. It pays to note what's written in 2:30 that goes, "I will honour those who honour me, but those who despise me will be side-lined."

**Main components of this account**


Shmuel as Yisrael's judge *1:1–7:17*
Sha'ul becomes king *8:1–10:27*
The first years of Sha'ul's reign *11:1–15:35*
David and Sha'ul *16:1–30:31*
The death of Sha'ul and his sons *31:1-13*


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Lighter type marks additions. Underscores join parts of a single source word.
Struck words are untranslated. The ◘ sign marks a verse with no text.
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**Readers' Version**

**Elkanah and family at Shiloh**

**1:1** There was a man named Elkanah from Ramatayim-Tsofim who lived in the Efrati hill country. (He was an Efrati—the son of Yeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Tsuf.)[1] **2** He had two wives: Hannah (who had no children) and Peninah (who had several children).

**3** Every year he would take his family to Shiloh to offer sacrifices to Commander-in-chief Yahweh. Eli was Yahweh's priest there, and his two sons Hofni and Pinhas also served there.

**4** on the day that Elkanah made his sacrifice, he would give portions of the cooked meat to Peninah and to all her sons and daughters, **5** but he'd give a double portion to Hannah because he loved her, even though Yahweh had not enabled her to have children. **6** Then her rival would provoke her and try to make her angry, because Yahweh hadn't given her children. **7** And so it happened every year. Every time they went to Yahweh's tent, Peninah ridiculed him, and Hannah would weep and wouldn't eat. **8** Then Elkanah would ask her, "Hannah, why are you crying? And why aren't you eating? And why are you so upset? Isn't it better having me than having ten sons?"

**Hannah and Eli**

**9** One time Hannah got up after eating and drinking at Shiloh. (Eli the priest was sitting on the seat near the entrance of Yahweh's tent.) **10** Hannah was very upset, and she prayed to Yahweh and wept uncontrollably. **11** Then she made a vow, saying, "Commander Yahweh, if you would only notice the misery of your female servant and remember me. Don't ignore me. Help your female servant to give birth to a son, then I'll give him to you for his entire life, and he'll never have his hair cut."[2]

**12** As she continued praying to Yahweh, Eli was watching her mouth. **13** Now Hannah was praying from her heart, and her lips were moving but she wasn't speaking aloud. Eli thought she must be drunk, **14** and scolded her, "You shouldn't be getting drunk. Get rid of your wine."

**15** "No, my master," Hannah replied, "I'm a woman who's suffering deep down. I haven't drunk any wine or intoxicating drink, but rather I've been sharing my inner issues with Yahweh. **16** Don't think that your female servant is just a worthless woman, because just now I was praying as a result of my terrible anguish and frustration."

**17** "Then go in peace," Eli replied. "And may Yisrael's (Israel's) god grant your request that you presented to him."

**18** "Please assume the best of your female servant," said Hannah, then she went on her way and had something to eat, and

**Literal Version**

**1:1** And_he/it_was a_man one from the_Ramatayim Tsōfīm/(Zophim) from_hill of_'Efrayim and_his/its_name was_ _'Elqānāh the_son_of Yəroḥām/(Jeroham) the_son_of 'Elīhū the_son_of Toḥū the_son_of Tsūf/(Zuph) an_'Efrātī. **2** And_ _to/for_him/it two_of wives the_name_of one was_Ḥannāh and_name_of the_second(fs) was_Pəninnāh and_he/it_was to/for_Pəninnāh children and_to/for_Ḥannāh there_belonged_ _not children. **3** And_ the_man (the)_that _he/it_would_go_up from_city_of_his from_days to_days to_bow_down and_to_ _sacrifice to/for_**YHWH** soldiers/messengers in_Shiloh and_ _there the_two_of the_sons_of ʿĒlī Ḥofnī and_Pinehas were_ _priests to/for_**YHWH**. **4** And_ the_day _he/it_was and_ 'Elqānāh _he/it_sacrificed and_he/it_gave to/for_Pəninnāh his/its_wife/woman and_to/for_all her/its_sons/descendants and_her/its_daughters portions. **5** And_to/for_Ḥannāh he_gave a_portion one double if/because ~~DOM~~ Ḥannāh he_loved and_ _**YHWH** he_had_closed her_womb/uterus. **6** And_she_ _provoked_her rival_of_her also provocation in_account_of to_ _disconcert_her/it if/because **YHWH** he_had_closed behind her_womb/uterus. **7** And_thus/so/as_follows he_did a_year in_ _year from_sufficiency she_ascended in_house_of **YHWH** thus she/it_provoked_her/it and_she/it_wept and_not she_ate. **8** And_he/it_said to/for_her/it 'Elqānāh her/its_husband/man Oh_Ḥannāh to/for_what_(why) are_you_weeping and_to/for_ _what_(why) not are_you_eating and_to/for_what_(why) your(fs)_heart is_it_sad am_not am_I good to/for_you(fs) from_ _ten sons.

**9** And_ Ḥannāh _she/it_arose after had_eaten in_Shiloh and_ _after had_drunk and_ʿĒlī the_priest/officer was_sitting on the_ _seat at the_doorpost_of the_temple_of **YHWH**. **10** And_she was_bitter_of soul and_she/it_prayed to **YHWH** and_weeping she_wept. **11** And_she/it_vowed a_vow and_she/it_said Oh_ _**YHWH** soldiers/messengers if really_(look) you_will_look in_ _the_affliction your(ms)_female_slave and_you(ms)_will_ _remember_me and_not you_will_forget ~~DOM~~ your(ms)_female_ _slave and_you(ms)_will_give to/for_your(ms)_female_slave offspring_of men and_I_will_give_him/it to/for_**YHWH** all_of the_days_of his/its_life and_(a)_razor not it_will_go_up on his/its_head. **12** And_it_was if/because she_had_increased to_ _pray to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** and_ʿĒlī was_ _watching ~~DOM~~ her/its_mouth. **13** And_Ḥannāh she was_ _speaking to her/its_heart only her/its_lips were_quivering and_her/its_voice not it_was_heard and_he/it_considered_ _her/it ʿĒlī to_be_drunk(fs). **14** And_he/it_said to_her/it ʿĒlī until when will_you(fs)_be_drunk remove ~~DOM~~ wine_of_your from_with_you. **15** And_ Ḥannāh _she_answered and_she/it_ _said no my_master am_a_woman hard_of spirit I and_wine and_strong_drink not I_have_drunk and_I_have_poured_out ~~DOM~~ soul_of_my to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH**. **16** Do_not give ~~DOM~~ maidservant_of_your to_(the)_face_of/in_ _front_of/before a_daughter_of worthlessness if/because from_ _the_greatness_of my_complaint_of_my and_provocation_of_ _my I_have_spoken until now. **17** And_ ʿĒlī _he_answered and_ _he/it_said go to_peace and_the_god_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) may_

**1** **RV 1:1 · Cross-ref.** 1Ch 6:27,34.

**2** **RV 1:11 · Cross-ref.** Num 6:5.

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_he_grant ᴅᴏᴍ petition_of_your which you_have_asked from_
_with_him. **18** And_she/it_said maidservant_of_your may_she_
_find favour in_eyes_of_your and_ the_woman _she_went to_
_way_of_her and_she/it_ate and_face_of_her not they_were
to/for_her/it still.

**19** And_they_rose_early in_morning and_they_bowed_down to_
_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** and_they_returned
and_they_came to house_of_their to_(the)_Rāmāh and_
ʾElqānāh _he/it_knew ᴅᴏᴍ Ḥannāh his/its_wife/woman and_
_he_remembered_her **YHWH**. **20** And_he/it_was to_the_
_circuit(s)_of the_days and_ Ḥannāh _she/it_
_conceived/became_pregnant and_she/it_gave_birth a_son
and_she/it_called/named ᴅᴏᴍ his/its_name Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel)
if/because from_**YHWH** I_asked_for_him. **21** And_ the_man
ʾElqānāh and_all household_of_his _he/it_ascended to_sacrifice
to/for_**YHWH** ᴅᴏᴍ the_sacrifice_of the_days and_ᴅᴏᴍ vow_of_
_his. **22** And_Ḥannāh not she_went_up if/because she_said
to/for_her/its_man/husband until the_lad he_will_be_weaned
and_I_will_take_him and_he_will_present_himself with the_
_presence_of **YHWH** and_he_will_dwell there until perpetuity.
**23** And_he/it_said to/for_her/it ʾElqānāh her/its_husband/man
do the_good in_eyes_of_your remain until wean_you ᴅᴏᴍ_
_him/it only **YHWH** may_he_carry_out ᴅᴏᴍ message_of_his
and_ the_woman _she_remained and_she_nursed ᴅᴏᴍ son_of_
_her until she_had_weaned ᴅᴏᴍ_him/it. **24** And_she_brought_
_him_up with_her/it just_as she_had_weaned_him with_young_
_bulls three and_an_ʾēyfāh one flour and_a_jar_of wine and_
_she_took_him the_house_of **YHWH** Shiloh and_the_lad was_a_
_lad. **25** And_they_slaughtered ᴅᴏᴍ the_young_bull and_they_
_brought ᴅᴏᴍ the_lad to ʿĒlī. **26** And_she/it_said pardon_me
my_master by_the_life your_self_of_your my_master I the_
_woman who_stood with_you in_this_place to_pray to **YHWH**.
**27** Concerning the_lad the_this I_prayed and_ **YHWH** _he/it_
_gave to_me ᴅᴏᴍ petition_of_my which I_asked from_with_him.
**28** And_also I I_entrust_him to/for_**YHWH** all_of the_days
which he_has_been he is_asked to/for_**YHWH** and_he_bowed_
_down there to/for_**YHWH**.

**2:1** And_ Ḥannāh _she/it_prayed and_she/it_said heart_of_my
it_exults in_**YHWH** horn_of_my it_is_exalted in_**YHWH** mouth_
_of_my it_has_opened_wide on enemies_of_my if/because I_
_rejoiced in_deliverance_of_your. **2** There_is_not a_holy_one
like_**YHWH** if/because there_is_not except_you and_there_is_
_not a_rock like_god_of_our. **3** Do_not multiply you(pl)_will_
_speak haughty haughty arrogant_speech it_goes_out from_
_mouth_of_your(pl) if/because is_a_god_of knowledge(s)
**YHWH** and[4] deeds they_are_measured. **4** The_bow_of warriors
are_shattered and_those_who_stumble they_gird_on strength.
**5** Satisfied_people for_food they_hire_themselves_out and_
_hungry_people they_cease to a_barren_woman she_bears
seven_children and_a_woman_many_of sons she_languishes.
**6** **YHWH** is_killing and_he_is_restoring_to_life he_is_bringing_
_down Shəʾōl and_he_has_brought_up. **7** **YHWH** is_making_
_poor and_he_is_making_rich he_is_bringing_low also he_is_
_exalting. **8** He_is_raising_up from_the_dust the_poor from_

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something had changed in her demeanor.

**Shmuel's birth and dedication**

**19** They all gut up early the next morning and worshipped Yahweh again, then they returned to their home at Ramah. Then Elkanah slept with his wife Hannah, and Yahweh answered her prayer. **20** Hannah got pregnant, and in due course, she gave birth to a son. She named him 'Shmuel' (Samuel) (meaning 'heard by God', usually changed to 'Shmuel' in English) because she had requested him from Yahweh.

**21** At the usual time, Elkanah and all his household went to Shiloh to offer their sacrifices and fulfill their vows to Yahweh. **22** But Hannah didn't accompany them because she'd told her husband, "I'll come and bring him when he's weaned. Then he can be taken in to Yahweh and permanently remain there." **23** "Do what you think's best," her husband replied. "Stay until you've weaned him. May Yahweh do whatever he said to you." So she stayed behind and breastfed her son until she eventually weaned him.

**24** The next year, after she'd weaned him, she took the young boy with them, along with three bulls, a sack of flour, and a container of wine. Then she brought him to Yahweh's tent in Shiloh, **25** and after slaughtering the bull, they took the boy in to Eli. **26** "Please, my master," Hannah said. "As your spirit lives, my master, I'm the woman who was standing with you here to pray to Yahweh. **27** I prayed that Yahweh would give me a son, and he did, and this is him. **28** Also, I dedicated him to Yahweh all his life, so he's now given to Yahweh."

Then they worshipped Yahweh there.

**Hannah's praise**

**2:1** Then Hannah prayed, saying,
"I'm so happy with Yahweh.
My strength comes from Yahweh.
I can loudly refute my enemies.
Because I'm so pleased that you rescued me.[3]
**2** No one else is holy like Yahweh.
There's certainly no one else who's like you.
No one else is like a rock to me like our god is.
**3** You all shouldn't speak so proudly.
Don't let arrogance come out of your mouths.
Because Yahweh is a god of knowledge,
and all actions are weighed by him.
**4** Warriors have their bows shattered,
but those who stumbled are given extra strength.
**5** Those who had been satisfied now hire themselves out for

**3** **RV 2:1-10 · Cross-ref.** Luk 1:46-55.

**4** **LV 2:3 · Note** OSHB variant note: אֵל/וֹ: (x-qere) יְ/לֹ/וֹ: lemma_c/l/3808 morph_HC/R/Sp3ms id_09gXh יְ/לֹ/וֹ

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food,
but the hungry people no longer lack.
The woman who'd been childless, gives birth to seven,
but the woman with many sons is depressed.
**6** Yahweh puts to death and he makes alive.
He sends down to the grave and brings up.
**7** Yahweh makes poor and makes rich.
He humbles, and he also honours.
**8** He lifts the poor up from the dust,
and lifts up the needy from the ash heap
so they can sit with influential people
and be given the seat of honour.
The earth's foundations belong to Yahweh—
he was the one who placed the world on top of them.
**9** He watches over those who are loyal to him,
but wicked people will die in the darkness,
because we don't succeed through our own strength.
**10** It's Yahweh who shatters our enemies.
He thunders against them from the heavens.
Yahweh will judge the entire earth,
and will give strength to the king,
and will give victory to his chosen one."
**11** Then Elkanah and his family returned to their home in Ramah, but young Shmuel (Samuel) stayed to help Eli the priest serve Yahweh.

**Eli's greedy sons**

**12** Now Eli's sons were worthless scoundrels who didn't obey Yahweh. **13** It was the custom of those priests that when anyone was offering a sacrifice and as soon as the meat was boiling, the priest's servant would come along holding a three-pronged fork **14** and stick it into the pot or pan. The priest would then claim whatever the fork brought up. That's what they did to all the Israelis who came to Shiloh to offer sacrifices. **15** Also, before the fat was removed to burn, the priest's servant would say to the person sacrificing, "Give some meat to the priest—he doesn't want just boiled meat all the time—he'll take some raw meat as well to roast."
**16** But if the person tried to say, "Once the fat has all been burnt, then take whatever you want for yourself," then he'd assert, "No, you'd better give it right now or I'll take it by force."
**17** And so the actions of those young men were very wicked in Yahweh's mind because they just treated sacrifices to Yahweh with contempt.

**Young Shmuel starts serving at Shiloh**

**18** By now Shmuel (Samuel) was serving Yahweh, dressed in a priestly uniform made from linen. **19** Each year his mother would make a small robe for him and bring it when she came with her husband to

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_the_ash_heap he_lifts_up the_needy to_cause_them_to_dwell with noble_people and_a_throne_of honour he_makes_them_ _inherit if/because to/for_**YHWH** the_pillars_of the_earth and_ _he_set on_them the_world. **9** The_feet_of people[5] he_protects and_wicked_people in_darkness they_perish if/because not by_ _strength anyone he_prevails. **10** **YHWH** they_are_shattered mmm[6] mmm[7] in_heavens he_thunders **YHWH** he_judges the_ _ends_of the_earth and_he_gives strength to_king_of_his and_ _he_exalts the_horn_of his_anointed. **11** And_ 'Elqānāh _he/it_ _went to_(the)_Rāmāh on house_of_his and_the_lad he_was serving ~~DOM~~ **YHWH** with the_presence_of ʿĒlī the_ _priest/officer.

**12** And_the_sons of_ʿĒlī were_sons_of worthlessness not they_ _knew ~~DOM~~ **YHWH**. **13** And_the_custom_of the_priests with the_ _people every_of person who_was_sacrificing a_sacrifice and_ the_servant_of the_priest/officer _he_came just_as_boiled the_ _meat and_the_fork the_three the_prongs in_his/its_hand. **14** And_he_thrust_it in_pot or in_pot or in_caldron or in_pot all that the_fork it_brought_up the_priest/officer he_took in/on/over_him/it thus they_did to/from_all/each/any/every Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) the_(ones_who)_went there in_Shiloh. **15** Also before_before they_made_smoke ~~DOM~~ the_fat and_he_came the_ _servant_of the_priest/officer and_saying(ms) to_person who_ _was_sacrificing give meat to_roast to_priest and_not he_will_ _accept from_you meat boiled if/because (if) raw. **16** And_he/it_ _said to_him/it the_man surely_(make_smoke) let_them_make_ _smoke as_day the_fat and_take to/for_yourself(m) just_as appetite_of_your it_desires and_saying(ms) mmm[8] if/because now you_will_give_it and_if not I_take_it by_force. **17** And_it_ _became the_sin_of the_young_men great very with the_ _presence_of **YHWH** if/because the_men they_treated_with_ _contempt ~~DOM~~ the_offering_of **YHWH**.
**18** And_Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) was_serving ~~DOM~~ the_presence_of **YHWH** a_lad girded an_ephod_of linen. **19** And_a_robe small she_made for_him/it his/its_mother and_she_brought_it_up to_him/it from_days to_days when_she_went_up with her/its_ _husband/man to_sacrifice ~~DOM~~ the_sacrifice_of the_days.

**5** **LV 2:9 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/דיסח: (x-qere) יִדְיֻסֶּחָ: lemma_2623 n_1.1.0 morph_HAampc/Sp3ms id_09jaD יִדְיֻסֶּחָ
**6** **LV 2:10 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/בירמ: (x-qere) יִבְיֻרְמָ: lemma_7378 n_1.1.1 morph_HVhrmpc/Sp3ms id_09UXS יִבְיֻרְמָ
**7** **LV 2:10 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/לע: (x-qere) יִלְיֻלָּעַ: lemma_5921 a n_1.1.0 morph_HR/Sp3ms id_09Abd יִלְיֻלָּעַ
**8** **LV 2:16 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/ל: (x-qere) יֻאַלָּ: lemma_3808 n_0.1.1 morph_HTn id_09AFs יֻאַלָּ

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**20** And_ ´Ēlī _he_blessed ~~ĐOM~~ 'Elqānāh and_~~ĐOM~~ his/its_ _wife/woman and_saying(ms) **YHWH** may_he_appoint to/for_ _yourself(m) offspring from the_woman (the)_this in_place_of the_petition which someone_asked to/for_**YHWH** and_they_ _went to_place_of_his. **21** If/because **YHWH** he_visited ~~ĐOM~~ Ḥannāh and_she/it_conceived/became_pregnant and_she/it_ _gave_birth three sons and_two_of daughters and_ the_lad Shəmū'ēl _he_grew_up with **YHWH**.

**22** And_´Ēlī he_was_old exceedingly and_he_heard ~~ĐOM~~ all_of that they_did sons_of_his to/from_all/each/any/every Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_~~ĐOM~~ how they_were_lying with the_women who_were_serving the_opening_of the_tent_of_meeting. **23** And_he/it_said to/for_them to/for_what are_you_doing according_the_things the_these that I am_hearing ~~ĐOM~~ things_ _of_your(pl) wicked from_with all_of the_people these. **24** No my_sons_of_my if/because is_not good the_report which I am_ _hearing the_people_of **YHWH** are_spreading. **25** If a_person he_will_sin to_a_person and_he_will_mediate_for_him god and_ _if to/for_**YHWH** a_person he_will_sin who will_he_intercede to_him/it and_not they_listened to_sound/voice their_father_ _of_their if/because **YHWH** he_desired to_put_them_to_death. **26** And_the_lad Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) was_going and_was_ _growing_up and_he_was_good both with **YHWH** and_also with people.

**27** And_ a_man_of god _he_came to ´Ēlī and_he/it_said to_ _him/it thus **YHWH** he_says indeed_(reveal) did_I_reveal_ _myself to the_house_of your_ancestor_of_your on_their_being in_Miṣrayim/(Egypt) to_the_house_of Par´oh. **28** And_I_chose ~~ĐOM~~_him/it from_all the_tribes_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) to_me to_a_ _priest to_go_up on altar_of_my to_make_smoke incense to_ _bear an_ephod before_me and_I_gave to_the_house_of your_ _ancestor_of_your ~~ĐOM~~ all_of the_fire_offerings_of the_people_ _of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **29** To/for_what do_you(pl)_kick at_ _sacrifice_of_my and_at_offering_of_my which I_commanded a_dwelling_place and_do_you_honour ~~ĐOM~~ sons_of_your more_ _than_me by_making_yourselves_fat from_the_choicest_of every_of (the)_offering_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) of_people_of_my. **30** For_so/thus/hence the_utterance_of **YHWH** the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) indeed_(say) I_said house_of_your and_the_ _house_of your_ancestor_of_your they_will_walk_about to/for_ _my_face/front until perpetuity and_now the_utterance_of **YHWH** far_be_it to/for_me if/because those_of_who_honour_ _me I_will_honour and_those_of_who_despise_me they_will_ _be_insignificant. **31** HERE days are_coming and_I_will_cut_off ~~ĐOM~~ arm_of_your and_~~ĐOM~~ the_arm_of the_house_of your_ _ancestor_of_your from_ an_old_man _being in_house_of_your. **32** And_you_will_look_at the_distress_of a_dwelling_place in_all that he_will_do_good_to ~~ĐOM~~ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_not an_old_ _man he_will_be in_house_of_your all_of the_days. **33** And_a_ _man not I_will_cut_off to/for_yourself(m) from_with altar_of_ _my to_cause_to_fail ~~ĐOM~~ eyes_of_your and_to_cause_to_grieve

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offer their sacrifices. **20** Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, "May Yahweh give more children for you through this woman in place of the boy dedicated to Yahweh." Then they'd return home.

**21** So Yahweh visited Hannah and she went on to give birth to three other sons and two daughters. Meanwhile, young Shmuel grew up serving Yahweh.

**Eli and his children**

**22** Now Eli was very old and he had heard all about what his sons were doing to the Israeli people, and also that they were sleeping around with the women who worked at the sacred tent entrance. **23** "Why are you two doing all these things that I keep hearing about—these evil things affecting all those people?" he asked them. **24** "No, my sons. The reports that I keep hearing Yahweh's people passing on aren't good! **25** If someone sins against a person, then God will mediate for him, but if someone sins against Yahweh, who will speak up for that person?" But they wouldn't listen to their father's advice because Yahweh wanted to put them to death.

**26** Meanwhile the boy Shmuel (Samuel) was growing up, and his good behaviour pleased both Yahweh and the people.[9]

**The prophecy against Eli's family**

**27** One day one of God's prophets came to Eli and told him, "This is what Yahweh says, 'Didn't I clearly reveal myself to your ancestors when they were Par'oh's (Pharaoh's) slaves in Mitsrayim (Egypt)? **28** And out of all the Israeli tribes, I chose your ancestor to be a priest to me, to go up on my altar, to burn incense, and to wear the sacred apron in front of me.[10] Plus I gave your ancestors the rights to all the burnt offerings made by the Israelis.[11] **29** Why do you disrespect sacrifices and offerings that I commanded the people to bring to me at my residence. And why do you honour your sons more than me by fattening yourselves from the best of every offering of my people Yisrael (Israel)?'

**30** "Therefore, this is what Yahweh the god of Yisrael declares: 'I indeed said your ancestors and then your descendants would serve me forever.' But now I declare this instead: 'This cannot continue because I will honour those who honour me, but those who despise me will be side-lined. **31** Listen, the time is coming when I'll bring you and your relatives to an end—none of your men will die of old age **32** and you'll see distress in my residence. I'll do good for the rest of Yisrael, but there'll never be another old man in your home. **33** I won't finish them off near my altar. Your eyes will fail and you'll grieve inside, but your adult sons will die. **34** This will be the sign: it'll turn out that your two sons Hofni and Pinhas will both die on the same day.[12] **35** Then I'll se-

**9** **RV 2:26 · Cross-ref.** Luk 2:52.

**10** **RV 2:28 · Cross-ref.** Exo 28:1-4.

**11** **RV 2:28 · Cross-ref.** Lev 7:35-36.

**12** **RV 2:34 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 4:11.

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lect another man to be a faithful priest to me—he'll follow my desires and do what's in my mind. I'll make him and his faithful descendants to continue and to always serve me. **36** Any of your descendants who remain alive will have to go to him to request food and money and beg for some priestly work to earn something to eat.' "

**Yahweh calls Shmuel**

**3:1** Meanwhile young Shmuel (Samuel) was serving Yahweh under Eli. In those days, Yahweh rarely spoke to the people or sent visions.

**2** By that time, Eli's sight was very poor—he could barely see. One night when he was sleeping in his place,[14] **3** and Shmuel was lying down in Yahweh's tent (where the box was that contained the stone slabs), but God's lamp was still burning. **4** Yahweh called out to Shmuel, and he called back, "I'm here. Coming." **5** Then he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, because you called me."

"I didn't call," he said. "Go back and lie down." So he went back and laid down.

**6** Yahweh called again, "Shmuel."

Shmuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, because you called me."

"I didn't call, my son," he said, "Go back and lie down."

**7** (At this point, Shmuel didn't really know Yahweh, because Yahweh hadn't revealed himself to him before.) **8** Then Yahweh called Shmuel a third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, because you called me."

Then Eli realised that it was Yahweh who was calling the boy **9** and he told Shmuel, "Go and lie down. Then if he calls to you again, just answer, 'Speak, Yahweh, because your servant is listening.' " So Shmuel went and laid down again in his place.

**10** Then Yahweh came and stood nearby and called like he'd done the other times, "Shmuel, Shmuel."

"Speak," Shmuel said, "because your servant is listening."

**11** "Listen," Yahweh told him, "I'm about to do something in Yisrael (Israel) that will make everyone's ears tingle when they hear it. **12** When it happens, I'll do everything that I've said about Eli and his family, from the beginning to the end. **13** I've told him already that I'm about to eternally judge his household because he knew about the evil that was being done, because his sons were bringing curses on themselves and he didn't scold them. **14** That's why I've promised Eli's family that their disobe-

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~~DOM~~ self_of_your and_all the_increase_of your_house_of_your they_will_die men. **34** And_this for_you will_be_the_sign which it_will_come to the_two_of sons_of_your to Ḥofnī and_Pinḥāṣ in/on_day one both_of_of_them they_will_die. **35** And_I_will_ _raise_up to_me a_priest faithful just_as is_in_heart_of_my and_ _in_soul_of_my he_will_act and_I_will_build to_him/it a_house enduring and_he_will_walk_about[13] to_(the)_face_of/in_front_ _of/before my_of_anointed all_of the_days. **36** And_it_was every_of (the)_one_who_remains in_house_of_your he_will_ _come to_bow_down to_him/it for_a_payment_of silver and_a_ _round_loaf_of bread and_saying(ms) attach_me please to one of_the_priesthoods to_eat a_piece_of bread.

**3:1** And_the_lad Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) was_serving ~~DOM~~ **YHWH** to_ _(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before ʿĒlī and_the_message_of **YHWH** it_was rare in_the_days the_those there_was_not vision spread_out. **2** And_he/it_was in_the_day (the)_that and_ʿĒlī was_lying in_place_of_his[15] his[16] they_began dim not he_was_ _able to_see. **3** And_the_lamp_of god not_yet it_was_ _extinguished and_Shəmūʾēl was_lying in_(the)_palace of_ _**YHWH** where was_there the_box_of god. **4** And_ **YHWH** _ _he/it_called to Shəmūʾēl and_he/it_said here_I_am. **5** And_he_ _ran to ʿĒlī and_he/it_said here_I_am if/because you_ _summoned to/for_me and_he/it_said not I_summoned return lie_down and_he/it_went and_he_lay_down. **6** And_ **YHWH** _ _he_repeated to_call again Shəmūʾēl and_ Shəmūʾēl _he/it_rose_ _up and_he/it_went to ʿĒlī and_he/it_said here_I_am if/because you_summoned to_me and_he/it_said not I_summoned my_ _son_of_my return lie_down. **7** And_Shəmūʾēl not_yet he_knew ~~DOM~~ **YHWH** and_not_yet it_was_revealed to_him/it the_ _message_of **YHWH**. **8** And_ **YHWH** _he_repeated to_call Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) at_time and_he/it_rose_up and_he/it_went to ʿĒlī and_he/it_said here_I_am if/because you_summoned to_ _me and_ ʿĒlī _he_understood if/because_that **YHWH** was_ _summoning (to)_lad. **9** And_ ʿĒlī _he/it_said to_Shəmūʾēl go lie_ _down and_it_was if he_will_call to_you and_you_will_say speak Oh_**YHWH** if/because servant_of_your is_listening and_ Shəmūʾēl _he/it_went and_he_lay_down in_place_of_his. **10** And_ **YHWH** _he_came and_he_stood and_he/it_called as_ _time on_time Oh_Shəmūʾēl Oh_Shəmūʾēl and_ Shəmūʾēl _he/it_ _said speak if/because servant_of_your is_listening. **11** And_ **YHWH** _he/it_said to Shəmūʾēl HERE I am_about_to_do a_thing in_Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) which every_of one_of_who_hears_it the_ _two_of ears_of_his they_will_tingle. **12** In_the_day (the)_that I_ _will_carry_out against ʿĒlī ~~DOM~~ all_of that I_have_spoken against house_of_his beginning and_ending. **13** And_I_tell to_ _him/it if/because_that I am_about_to_judge ~~DOM~~ house_of_his until perpetuity for_the_iniquity_of which he_knew if/because were_bringing_a_curse to/for_them sons_of_his and_not he_ _rebuked (in)_them. **14** And_therefore I_swear to_the_house_of ʿĒlī if the_iniquity_of the_house_of ʿĒlī it_will_be_atoned_for

**13 LV 2:35 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more vowels in L differently from BHS.

**14 RV 3:2 · Note** Some translations use 'room' here instead of 'place', but it could easily be that he had a small bed in a corner somewhere.

**15 LV 3:2 · Note** OSHB note: BHS has been faithful to the Leningrad Codex where there might be a question of the validity of the form and we keep the same form as BHS.

**16 LV 3:2 · Note** OSHB variant note: וְ/נִיעַ: (x-qere) וְ/יָנִיעַ׳: lemma_c/5869 a n_0.1.0 morph_HC/Ncbdc/Sp3ms id_09Mdv וְ/יָנִיעַ׳

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by_sacrifice and_by_an_offering until perpetuity.

**15** And_ Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) _he_lay until the_morning and_he_ _opened ᴅᴏᴍ the_doors_of the_house_of **YHWH** and_Shəmū'ēl he_was_afraid from_telling ᴅᴏᴍ the_vision to ʿĒlī. **16** And_ ʿĒlī _ _he/it_called ᴅᴏᴍ Shəmū'ēl and_he/it_said Oh_Shəmū'ēl son_of_ _my and_he/it_said here_I_am. **17** And_he/it_said what was_ _the_message which he_spoke to_you do_not please hide_it from_me thus may_he_do to_you god and_thus may_he_add if you_will_hide from_me a_message from_all (the)_message which he_spoke to_you. **18** And_he_told to_him/it Shəmū'ēl ᴅᴏᴍ all_of the_words/messages and_not he_hid_them from_him/it and_he_said is_**YHWH** he the_good in_eyes_of_his[17] let_him_ _do. **19** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he_grew_up and_**YHWH** he_was with_ _him/it and_not he_made_fall from_all words/messages_of_his ground_to_the. **20** And_ all_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) from_Dān and_ _unto Bə'ēr Shevʿaʿ _he/it_knew if/because_that Shəmū'ēl was_ _established to_a_prophet to/for_**YHWH**. **21** And_ **YHWH** _he_ _repeated to_appear in_Shiloh if/because **YHWH** he_revealed_ _himself to Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) at_Shiloh by_the_message_of **YHWH**.

**4:1** And_ the_message_of Shəmū'ēl _he/it_was to/from_ _all/each/any/every Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _ _he/it_went_out to_meet the_Pəlishtiy for_battle and_they_ _encamped at (the)_Eben- ezer and_the_Pəlishtiy they_ _encamped at_'Afēq.

**2** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_deployed to_meet Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_ the_battle _it_spread_out and_ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _it_was_ _defeated to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before the_Pəlishtiy and_they_struck_down in_line in_the_field about_four_of thousand(s) man. **3** And_ the_people _it_came into the_camp and_ the_elders_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_said to/for_what has_ _he_defeated_us **YHWH** the_day to_(the)_face_of/in_front_ _of/before the_Pəlishtiy let_us_bring to_ourselves from_Shiloh ᴅᴏᴍ the_box_of the_covenant_of **YHWH** so_that_it_may_come in_midst_of_our and_so_that_it_may_deliver_us from_the_ _palm_of our_enemies_of_our. **4** And_ the_people _it_sent Shiloh and_they_brought from_there ᴅᴏᴍ the_box_of the_ _covenant_of **YHWH** soldiers/messengers who_sits_of the_ _cherubims and_there the_two_of the_sons_of ʿĒlī were_with the_box_of the_covenant_of the_'Elohīm Ḥofnī and_Piṇḥāṣ. **5** And_he/it_was just_ the_box_of the_covenant_of **YHWH** _as_ _came into the_camp and_ all_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_shouted a_shout great and_ the_earth/land _it_was_stirred. **6** And_ the_ _Pəlishtiy _they_heard ᴅᴏᴍ the_sound_of the_shout and_they_ _said what is_the_sound_of the_shout (the)_great (the)_this in_ _the_camp_of the_ʿIvrī/(Hebrews) and_they_knew if/because_ _that the_box_of **YHWH** it_had_come into the_camp. **7** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_saw if/because they_said a_god he_has_ _come into the_camp and_they_said woe to/for_us if/because

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dience can never be forgiven by means of sacrifices or offerings.

**Shmuel tells Eli what Yahweh said**

**15** Then Shmuel (Samuel) lay down again until the morning when he opened the doors of Yahweh's house as usual, but he was scared to tell Eli about the vision. **16** But Eli called him, "Shmuel, my son."

"Here I am," he answered.

**17** "What did he tell you?" Eli asked. "Don't hide it from me. May God punish you severely if you hide a single word from everything he told you." **18** So Shmuel told him everything without hiding anything. Then Eli answered, "It's Yahweh. May he do whatever he thinks best."

**19** As Shmuel grew up, Yahweh was with him and nothing he said failed to happen, **20** so all Yisrael (Israel) from Dan in the north and as far as Be'er-Sheva (Beersheba) in the south knew that Shmuel was a faithful prophet of Yahweh. **21** Over time, Yahweh continued to appear in Shiloh and to reveal his plans through Shmuel

**4:1** and Shmuel's messages went to all Yisrael.

**The capture of the box with the agreement**

At that time, Yisrael (Israel) went to war against the Pelishtim. They camped at Even-Ha'ezer (Ebenezer), and the Pelishtim camped at Afek. **2** Then the Pelishtim lined up to meet Yisrael and the battle spread. Yisrael was defeated by the Pelishtim and they killed about 4,000 warriors in the battle line in the countryside. **3** As the people[18] came into the camp, the Israeli elders asked themselves, "Why did Yahweh allow the Pelishtim to slaughter us today? Let's get the box from Shiloh that contains the stone slabs with Yahweh's agreement on them. Once it's amongst us, surely it'll save us from defeat by our enemies." **4** So the people sent men to Shiloh and from there they lifted the box containing Yahweh's agreement and the sacred platform with the winged creatures.[19][20] Eli's two sons, Hofni and Pinhas, were there with the box containing God's agreement.

**5** As the box with Yahweh's agreement was carried into the camp, all the Israelis shouted so loud that the ground shook. **6** When the Pelishtim heard the noise, they said, "What's that loud shout in the Ivrim' (Hebrews') camp?" Then they realised that the box with Yahweh's covenant had come into their camp **7** and they were afraid saying, "A god has come into the Israeli

**17 LV 3:18 · Note** OSHB note: We have abandoned or added a ketib/qere relative to BHS. In doing this we agree with L against BHS.

**18 RV 4:3 · Note** It seems that most translations assume that this is referring to the remainder of the warriors staggering back into the camp (which is certainly a possibility), but we've interpreted it as the people coming together (with their elders as it says), to try to figure out why they were defeated. (Similarly for v4.)

**19 RV 4:4 · Note** And with Commander Yahweh sitting on, above, or between them.

**20 RV 4:4 · Cross-ref.** Exo 25:22.

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camp." Then they said, "This means trouble, because it wasn't like this yesterday or the previous days. **8** Oh dear! Who will rescue us from these mighty gods? Those are the gods who struck the Mitsrim (Egyptians) with every plague in the wilderness. **9** Now we Pelishtim really need to fight with passion, because if we don't, we'll ending up serving the Ivrim just like they've had to serve us. Now, gather your courage and fight for your lives."

**10** So the Pelishtim fought hard, and Yisrael (Israel) was defeated. Many warriors fled back to their tents and it was a terrible slaughter—30,000 foot soldiers from Yisrael were killed. **11** As well as that, the box with God's agreement was taken, and Eli's two sons Hofni and Pinhas were killed.

**The death of Eli**

**12** A Benyamite man ran from the battle line back to Shiloh that day. His clothes were torn and he was covered in dirt. **13** When he arrived there, Eli was sitting on a roadside seat watching, because he was very concerned about the sacred chest. As the man entered the city with the news, all the people started wailing loudly. **14** As Eli heard the wailing, he asked, "What's that big commotion?" So the man ran over to Eli to tell him the news. **15** At that time, Eli was ninety-eight years old, and he stared straight ahead because he couldn't see. **16** The man told him, "I'm the one who's just come from the battle line. I had to fled from the battle line today."

"What was the issue, my son?" Eli asked.

**17** "Yisrael (Israel) fled defeated from the Pelishtim," said the messenger. "And also, there has been a terrible slaughter of our people. What's more, your two sons, Hofni and Pinhas, were killed, and the sacred chest has been captured."

**18** The moment he mentioned the capturing of God's box, Eli fell backwards off the seat beside the city gate. Because he was old and very heavy, his neck broke and he died. Eli had led Yisrael for forty years.

**The death of Pinhas' widow**

**19** Now Pinhas' wife (Eli's daughter-in-law) was pregnant—about to give birth—when she heard the news about the sacred chest being taken, and that both her father-in-law and her husband had died. At that moment, she knelt down and gave birth because the birth pains suddenly started. **20** But she was dying, and the women who stood over her said, "Don't be afraid, because you've given birth to a son." But she didn't answer or pay any attention. **21** She named the boy 'I-Kavod' (which means 'no glory'), saying, "The glory has departed from Yisrael (Israel)," about the sacred chest being taken, and about the deaths of her father-in-law and her husband. **22** Then she said, "The glory has departed from Yisrael, because the sacred chest has been taken."

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not like_this it_has_been yesterday three_days_ago. **8** Woe to/for_us who will_he_deliver_us from_the_hand_of the_ _'Elohīm (the)_mighty the_these these they the_'Elohīm who_ _struck ÐOM Mitsrayim/(Egypt) in_all plague in_wilderness. **9** Show_yourselves_strong and_become (into)_men Oh_ _Pəlishtiy lest you(pl)_should_serve (to)_ʻIvrī just_as they_ _have_served to/for_you(pl) and_you(pl)_will_be (into)_men and_you(pl)_will_fight. **10** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_fought and_ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _it_was_defeated and_they_fled each_man to_ _his_own_of_tents and_it_became the_defeat great exceedingly and_he_fell of_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) thirty thousand foot_soldier[s]. **11** And_the_box_of god it_was_taken and_the_two_of the_sons_ _of ʻĒlī they_died Ḥofnī and_Pinḥāṣ.

**12** And_ the_man_of Binyāmīn _he_ran from_the_battle_line and_he_came Shiloh in_the_day (the)_that and_garments_of_ _his were_torn and_earth was_on his/its_head. **13** And_he_ _came and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE ʻĒlī was_sitting on the_seat the_ _side_of[21] the_road watching if/because it_was his/its_heart trembling on the_box_of the_'Elohīm and_the_man he_came to_announce in_city and_ all_of the_city _it_cried_out. **14** And_ ʻĒlī _he/it_listened ÐOM the_sound_of the_outcry and_he/it_ _said what is_the_sound_of the_uproar the_this and_the_man he_hurried and_he_came and_he_told to_ʻĒlī. **15** And_ʻĒlī was_a_ _son_of ninety and_eight year[s] and_eyes_of_his it_was_set and_not he_was_able to_see. **16** And_ the_man _he/it_said to ʻĒlī I am_the_one_who_comes from the_battle_line and_I from the_ _battle_line I_have_fled the_day and_he/it_said what the_ _message was_it my_son_of_my. **17** And_ the_bearer_news _he_ _answered and_he/it_said Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) it_has_fled to_(the)_ _face_of/in_front_of/before the_Pəlishtiy and_also a_slaughter great it_has_been among_people and_also the_two_of sons_of_ _your they_have_died Ḥofnī and_Pinḥāṣ and_the_box_of the_ _'Elohīm it_has_been_taken. **18** And_he/it_was just_as_he_ _brought_to_remembrance ÐOM the_box_of the_'Elohīm and_ _he_fell from_under the_seat backwards behind the_side_of the_gate and_ neck_of_his _it_was_broken and_he/it_died if/because the_man he_was_old and_heavy and_he he_had_ _judged ÐOM Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) forty year[s].

**19** And_daughter-in-law_of_his the_wife_of Pinḥāṣ was_ _pregnant to_give_birth and_she_heard ÐOM the_report concerning of_the_box_of the_'Elohīm the_being_taken and_ father-in-law_of_her and_husband_of_her _he_had_died and_ _she_bowed_down and_she/it_gave_birth if/because they_ _turned on/upon_it(f) pangs_of_her. **20** And_about_the_time_of died_she and_ those_who_were_standing on/upon_it(f) _they_ _spoke do_not be_afraid if/because a_son you_have_borne and_ _not she_answered and_not she_set her/its_heart. **21** And_ _she/it_called/named (to)_lad I- chabod to_say glory it_has_ _gone_into_exile from_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) because_of the_box_of the_'Elohīm the_being_taken and_near/to father-in-law_of_her and_husband_of_her. **22** And_she/it_said glory it_has_gone_ _into_exile from_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) if/because the_box_of the_ _'Elohīm it_has_been_taken.

**21 LV 4:13 · Note** OSHB variant note: יְרֵי: (x-qere) 'יֶרִי': lemma_3027 morph_HNcbsc id_09KHf יֶרִי

**Literal Version**

**5:1** And_the_Pəlishtiy they_took ~~ḎOM~~ the_box_of the_'Elohīm and_they_brought_it from_Eben- ezer to_'Ashdōd. **2** And_ the_ _Pəlishtiy _they_took ~~ḎOM~~ the_box_of the_'Elohīm and_they_ _brought ~~ḎOM~~_him/it the_house_of Dāgōn and_they_placed ~~ḎOM~~_him/it beside Dāgōn. **3** And_ the_'Ashdōdites _they_rose_ _early from_the_next_day and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE Dāgōn was_ _lying to_face_of_its towards_land to_(the)_face_of/in_front_ _of/before the_box_of **YHWH** and_they_took ~~ḎOM~~ Dāgōn and_ _they_returned ~~ḎOM~~_him/it to_place_of_its. **4** And_they_rose_ _early in_morning from_the_next_day and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE Dāgōn was_lying to_face_of_its towards_land to_(the)_face_ _of/in_front_of/before the_box_of **YHWH** and_the_head_of Dāgōn and_the_two_of the_palms_of its_hands_of_his were_ _cut_off to the_threshold only Dāgōn it_remained on/upon/above_him/it. **5** Therefore yes/correct/thus/so not the_priests_of Dāgōn and_all the_(ones_who)_went the_house_ _of Dāgōn they_tread on the_threshold_of Dāgōn in_'Ashdōd until the_day (the)_this.

**6** And_ the_hand_of **YHWH** _it_was_heavy against the_ _'Ashdōdites and_he_devastated_them and_he_struck ~~ḎOM~~_ _them in/on/at/with[2223] ~~ḎOM~~ 'Ashdōd and_~~ḎOM~~ territories_of_ _its. **7** And_ the_people_of 'Ashdōd _they_saw if/because_that so and_they_said not the_box_of the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) it_ _will_remain with_us if/because his/its_hand it_is_hard on_us and_on Dāgōn god_of_our. **8** And_they_sent and_they_gathered ~~ḎOM~~ all_of the_rulers_of the_Pəlishtiy to_them and_they_said what will_we_do to_the_box_of the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_ _they_said Gat the_box_of the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) let_it_go_ _round and_they_brought_round ~~ḎOM~~ the_box_of the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **9** And_he/it_was after they_had_brought_ _round ~~ḎOM~~_him/it and_it_became the_hand_of **YHWH** on_city panic great exceedingly and_he_struck ~~ḎOM~~ the_men_of the_ _city both_young and_unto the_old and_they_broke_out to/for_ _them tumors[24]. **10** And_they_sent ~~ḎOM~~ the_box_of the_'Elohīm ʿEqrōn and_he/it_was just_ the_box_of the_'Elohīm _as_went ʿEqrōn and_ the_ʿEqrōnites _they_cried_out to_say they_have_ _brought_round to_me ~~ḎOM~~ the_box_of the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) to_kill_me and_~~ḎOM~~ people_of_my. **11** And_they_ _sent and_they_gathered ~~ḎOM~~ all_of the_rulers_of the_Pəlishtiy and_they_said send_away ~~ḎOM~~ the_box_of the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) so_that_it_may_return to_its_own_of_place and_not it_will_kill ~~ḎOM~~_me and_~~ḎOM~~ people_of_my if/because it_was panic_of death in_all the_city it_was_heavy exceedingly the_hand_of the_'Elohīm there. **12** And_the_men who not they_ _died they_were_struck in/on/at/with[2526] and_ the_cry_for_ _help_of the_city _it_went_up the_heavens.

**6:1** And_ the_box_of **YHWH** _he/it_was in_the_region_of the_ _Pəlishtiy seven months. **2** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_summoned (to)_priests and_(to)_diviners to_say what will_we_do to_the_ _box_of **YHWH** make_known_to_us how will_we_send_it to_its_

**Readers' Version**

**The sacred chest gets carried to Ashdod**

**5:1** Now the Pelishtim had taken the sacred chest, and they took it from Even-Ha'ezer (Ebenezer) to Ashdod **2** where they carried it into the temple of their god Dagon and placed it beside a statue of Dagon. **3** Early the next day when the Ashdodim got up, to their horror Dagon had fallen to the ground on its face in front of Yahweh's box. So they stood it up and returned it to its place. **4** But then the next morning, more shock: Dagon had fallen to the ground on its face in front of Yahweh's box but now its hands and head were cut off, and were lying on the threshold. Only its body remained intact. **5** (Because of that, until this day Dagon's priests and everyone who enters Dagon's temple in Ashdod won't tread on the threshold.)

**God punishes the Pelishti cities**

**6** Yahweh caused a lot of trouble for the people of Ashdod and he terrified them. He caused them and the people in the region to get lumpy growths on their skin. **7** When the leaders in Ashdod saw what was happening, they said, "The god of Yisrael's (Israel's) box mustn't stay with us because he's punishing both us and our god Dagon." **8** So they sent for all the Pelishti rulers, and when they'd assembled they asked, "What should we do with the god of Yisrael's box?"

"Let the god of Yisrael's box be taken around to Gat," they decided. So they moved it there. **9** After it arrived, Yahweh started punishing Gat and both young and old men in the city started getting growths on their skin, and it caused a huge panic. **10** So they sent God's box to Ekron, but as soon as it entered the city, the Ekronim cried out, "Hey! They've brought the god of Yisrael's box here to kill us and our people." **11** So they sent for the Pelishti rulers, and when they'd assembled they said, "Send the god of Yisrael's box away. Send it back to its place so it won't cause us and our people to die." Because there was a deadly panic all over the city as God's punishment there was severe **12** and the men who didn't die suffered with the growths. So the people's cry went up to the heavens.

**Sending the chest back to Yisrael**

**6:1** So it was that Yahweh's box was held in Pelishti territory for seven months, **2** then the Pelishtim called their priests and diviners and asked,

**22 LV 5:6 · Note** OSHB variant note: **סילפע/ב**: (x-qere) 'סְיִרְחֶט/ב': lemma_b/2914 n_0.1 morph_HRd/Ncmpa id_09J1i סְיִרְחֶט/ב

**23 LV 5:6 · Note** OSHB note: Adaptations to a Qere which L and BHS, by their design, do not indicate.

**24 LV 5:9 · Note** OSHB variant note: **סילפע**: (x-qere) 'סְיִרְחֶט': lemma_2914 n_0 morph_HNcmpa id_09Ypk סְיִרְחֶט

**25 LV 5:12 · Note** OSHB variant note: **סילפע/ב**: (x-qere) 'סֵיִרְחֶט/ב': lemma_b/2914 n_1 morph_HRd/Ncmpa id_09GVi סֵיִרְחֶט/ב

**26 LV 5:12 · Note** OSHB note: Adaptations to a Qere which L and BHS, by their design, do not indicate.

**Readers' Version**

"What should we do with Yahweh's box? Show us how we can get it back away to its place."

**3** "If you're going to send the god of Yisrael's (Israel's) box back," they responded, "don't send it back by itself, but definitely return it to him with a guilt offering. Then you'll all be healed, and you'll all understand why you've been suffering."

**4** "What guilt offering should we send with it?" they asked.

"Five gold replicas of the tumours, and five gold mice," they said. "That's the number of our rulers, because the same plague affected both them and the people. **5** Make replicas of the tumours and replicas of the mice that have been destroying the land, and it will honour Yisrael's god. Then perhaps he will less his punishment that's been on you and on your gods and on your land. **6** Why have you all been so stubborn just like the Mitsrim (Egyptians) when Par'oh (Pharaoh) made them stubborn? When Yisrael's god dealt severely with them, didn't the Mitsrim send the Israelis away and they went? **7** So now, get a brand new cart with two nursing cows which have never had a yoke on their necks. Hitch the cows to the cart but take their calves back to their pen. **8** Then pick up Yahweh's box and put it into the cart along with the gold objects that you are sending with it as a guilt offering put in another container beside the box. Finally, send the cart away and off it will go. **9** Then watch it. If it heads towards Beyt-Shemesh (Heliopolis) in Israeli territory, then it's their god that caused this terrible calamity. But if not, then we'll know that it wasn't the Israeli god, and that it all happened to us by chance."

**10** So they followed those instructions: they took two cows that had been feeding calves and hitched them to the new cart, but they shut their calves away in the stall. **11** Then they put Yahweh's box into the cart with the other container with the gold mice and the replicas of their tumours. **12** Amazingly, the cows went straight down the road going to Beyt-Shemesh. They stayed on that one highway, walking and mooing, and they never once deviated to the left or the right, and the Pelishti rulers followed them as far as the border of Beyt-Shemesh.

**13** Meanwhile in Beyt-Shemesh, the people were harvesting wheat in the valley, and when they looked up and saw the box, they were very happy. **14** The cart came into the field belonging to Yehoshua (Joshua) and then the cows just stood there. There was a large stone there, and the people split the sides of the wooden cart into pieces to start a fire, then offered the cows as a burnt sacrifice to Yahweh. **15** Then the Levites lifted down Yahweh's box and the other container that was with it with the gold objects in it, and they placed them on the large stone. Then the men of Beyt-Shemesh offered up more burnt offerings and sacrificed sacrifices to Yahweh on that day. **16** The five Pelishti rulers

**Literal Version**

_own_of_place. **3** And_they_said if you(pl)_are_about_to_send_ _away ÐǾM the_box_of the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) do_not send_ _away ÐǾM_him/it empty if/because certainly_(send_back) you(pl)_will_send_back to_him/it a_guilt_offering then you(pl)_ _will_be_healed and_it_will_be_known to/for_you(pl) to/for_ _what not his/its_hand does_it_turn_aside from_you(pl). **4** And_ _they_said what is_the_guilt_offering which we_will_send_back to_him/it and_they_said the_number_of the_rulers_of the_ _Pəlishtiy five tumors_of[27] gold and_five mice_of gold if/because a_plague one to/for_all_them and_to_rulers_of_ _your(pl). **5** And_you(pl)_will_make images_of mmm[28] and_ _images_of your(pl)_mice_of_your(pl) which_are_ruining ÐǾM the_earth/land and_you(pl)_will_give to_the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) honour perhaps he_will_lighten ÐǾM his/its_ _hand from_on_you(pl) and_from_on gods_of_your(pl) and_ _from_on land_of_your(pl). **6** And_for_what will_you(pl)_ _harden ÐǾM heart_of_your(pl) just_as Mitsrayim/(Egypt) and_ _Par'oh they_hardened ÐǾM heart_of_their am_not just_as he_ _dealt_wantonly (is)_in_them and_they_sent_them_away and_ _they_went. **7** And_now take and_make a_cart new one and_ _two_of cows nursing which not it_has_gone_up on_them a_ _yoke and_you(pl)_will_harness ÐǾM the_cows on_cart and_ _you(pl)_will_take_back ones_of_their_young from_after_them to_the_house. **8** And_you(pl)_will_take ÐǾM the_box_of **YHWH** and_you(pl)_will_put ÐǾM_him/it into the_cart and_ÐǾM the_ _articles_of the_gold which you(pl)_have_sent_back to_him/it a_guilt_offering you(pl)_will_put in_box from_side_of_its and_ _you(pl)_will_send_away ÐǾM_him/it and_it_will_go. **9** And_ _you(pl)_will_see if the_way_of its_own_territory_of_his it_will_ _go_up Bēyt Shemesh he he_has_done to/for_us ÐǾM the_harm (the)_great (the)_this and_if not and_we_will_know if/because_ _that not his/its_hand it_touched (in)_us chance it it_happened to/for_us. **10** And_ the_men _they_made thus and_they_took two_of cows nursing and_they_harnessed_them on_cart and_ _ÐǾM ones_of_their_young they_shut_up in_house. **11** And_ _they_put ÐǾM the_box_of **YHWH** into the_cart and_ÐǾM the_ _box and_ÐǾM the_mice_of the_gold and_ÐǾM the_images_of their_tumors_of_their. **12** And_they_were_straight[29] the_cows in_road on the_road_of Bēyt Shemesh on_a_highway one they_ _went going and_lowing and_not they_turned_aside right_hand and_left_hand and_the_rulers_of the_Pəlishtiy were_going after_them to the_border_of Bēyt Shemesh. **13** And_Bēyt-shemesh were_harvesting the_harvest_of wheat(s) in_valley and_they_lifted_up ÐǾM eyes_of_their and_they_saw ÐǾM the_ _box and_they_rejoiced to_see. **14** And_the_cart it_came to the_ _field_of Yəhōshūʻa/(Joshua) the Bēyt and_it_stopped there and_there a_stone large and_they_split ÐǾM the_wood(s)_of the_cart and_ÐǾM the_cows they_offered_up a_burnt_offering to/for_**YHWH**. **15** And_the_Lēviyyiy they_brought_down ÐǾM the_box_of **YHWH** and_ÐǾM the_box which with_him/it which in/on/over_him/it the_articles_of gold and_they_put_them to the_stone (the)_large and_the_people_of Bēyt Shemesh they_

**27 LV 6:4 · Note** OSHB variant note: **ילפע**: (x-qere) **יְרֹחָט**: lemma_2914 morph_HNcmpc id_09Fc9 **יְרֹחָט**

**28 LV 6:5 · Note** OSHB variant note: **סכ/ילפע**: (x-qere) **סָכ/ירֹחָט**: lemma_2914 n_1.1.1.0 morph_HNcmpc/Sp2mp id_092xG **סָכ/ירֹחָט**

**29 LV 6:12 · Note** OSHB note: BHS has been faithful to the Leningrad Codex where there might be a question of the validity of the form and we keep the same form as BHS.

**Literal Version**

_offered_up burnt_offerings and_they_sacrificed sacrifices in_
_the_day (the)_that to/for_**YHWH**. **16** And_five the_rulers_of
the_Pəlishtiy they_saw and_they_went_back ʹEqrōn in_the_day
(the)_that.
**17** And_these are_the_tumors_of the_gold which the_Pəlishtiy
they_sent_back a_guilt_offering to/for_**YHWH** for_ʾAshdōd
one[31] for_ʹAzzāh one for_ʾAshqəlōn one for_Gat one for_ʹEqrōn
one. **18** And_the_mice_of the_gold the_number_of all_of the_
_cities_of belonging_to_the_Pəlishtiy of_the_five_of the_rulers
from_a_city_of fortification and_unto (the)_village[s]_of the_
_hamlet-dweller[s] and_unto ʾĀvēl the_great which they_set_
_down on/upon_it(f) ÐOM the_box_of **YHWH** until the_day the_
_this in_the_field_of Yəhōshūʹa/(Joshua) the Bēyt. **19** And_he_
_struck_down among_the_people_of Bēyt Shemesh if/because
they_had_looked in_the_box_of **YHWH** and_he_struck_down
among_people seventy man fifty thousand man and_ the_
_people _they_mourned if/because **YHWH** he_had_struck (in)_
_people a_blow great[32]

**20** and_ the_people_of Bēyt Shemesh _they_said who is_he_able
to_stand to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** the_
_ʾElohīm (the)_holy the_this and_near/to whom will_it_go_up
from_with_us. **21** And_they_sent messengers to the_
_inhabitants_of Qiryat to_say the_Pəlishtiy they_have_brought_
_back ÐOM the_box_of **YHWH** come_down take_up ÐOM_him/it
to_you(pl).
**7:1** And_they_came the_people_of Qiryat and_they_took_up ÐOM
the_box_of **YHWH** and_they_brought ÐOM_him/it to the_
_house_of ʾAvīnādāvˇ on_hill and_ÐOM ʾElʹāzār his/its_son they_
_consecrated to_guard/protect ÐOM the_box_of **YHWH**.
**2** And_he/it_was from_the_day_of the_box dwelt at_Qiryat-
yəʹārīm/(jearim) and_ the_days _they_increased and_ twenty
year[s] _they_were and_ all_of the_house_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) _
_they_mourned after **YHWH**. **3** And_ Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) _he/it_
_said to all_of the_house_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) to_say if in_all
heart_of_your(pl) you(pl) are_turning_back to **YHWH** remove
ÐOM the_gods_of (the)_foreignness from_among_of_you(pl)
and_the_ʹAshtārōt and_direct heart_of_your(pl) to **YHWH** and_
_serve_him for_him/it_being_alone so_that_he_may_deliver
you(pl) from_the_hand_of the_Pəlishtiy. **4** And_ the_people_of
Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) _they_removed ÐOM the_Baʹal and_ÐOM the_
_ʹAshtārōt and_they_served ÐOM **YHWH** for_him/it_being_
_alone. **5** And_ Shəmūʾēl _he/it_said gather ÐOM all_of
Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) to_(the)_Mitspāh so_that_I_may_pray for_
_you(pl) to **YHWH**. **6** And_they_gathered_together to_(the)_
_Mitspāh and_they_drew water and_they_poured_it_out to_
_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** and_they_fasted in_
_the_day (the)_that and_they_said there we_have_sinned
to/for_**YHWH** and_ Shəmūʾēl _he_judged ÐOM the_people_of
Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) at_Mitspāh. **7** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_heard

**Readers' Version**

watched all this from a distance before returning to Ekron that same day.

**The gold replicas**

**17** The gold replicas of tumours that the Pelishtim sent back as a guilt offering to Yahweh were for the five cities: Ashdod, Azah (Gaza), Ashkelon, Gat, and Ekron. **18** And the gold mice were from the number of all the Pelishti cities under the five rulers, including fortified cities as well as the villages in the open country, and as far as the large stone that they sat Yahweh's box on. (It's still in Yehoshua's (Joshua's) field in Beyt-Shemesh (Heliopolis) until this day.)

**19** But some Beyt-Shemesh men looked into Yahweh's box, and he killed seventy[30] of them. The people mourned because Yahweh had caused such devastation among the people.

**The sacred chest is taken to Kiryat-Yearim**

**20** The Beyt-Shemesh (Heliopolis) men said, "Who can stand in front of the face of Yahweh, this holy God? And where should we send the box to from here?" **21** So they sent messengers to those living in Kiryat-Yearim, saying, "The Pelishtim have returned Yahweh's box. Come over here and get it."

**7:1** So the men from Kiryat-Yearim came and lifted up Yahweh's box and brought it into Avinadav's house on the hill.[33] They consecrated his son Eleazar to take care of it.

**Shmuel guides Yisrael**

**2** The sacred chest ended up staying in Kiryat-Yearim for twenty years but the Israelis longed sadly for Yahweh.

**3** Then Shmuel (Samuel) told all the Israelis, "If you all really want to return to Yahweh, remove the foreign gods and the Ashtarot from among you. Then decide firmly to serve Yahweh and no other, then he'll rescue you from the Pelishtim' oppression." **4** So the Israelis removed the Ba'al and Ashtoret idols, and began to serve Yahweh only.

**5** Then Shmuel called, "Gather all Yisrael (Israel) to Mitspah, and I'll pray to Yahweh for you all." **6** So they gathered at Mitspah, and drew water and poured it out in front of Yahweh, and they fasted on that day and said there, "We have sinned against Yahweh." And Shmuel guided the Israelis at Mitspah.

**7** When the Pelishtim heard that the Israelis had gathered at Mitspah, the Pelishti rulers decided to attack Yisrael. When the Israelis heard that, they were afraid of the Pelishtim **8** and begged Shmuel, "Don't stop crying out to our god Yahweh, so

**30** **RV 6:19 · Note** TC: The oldest Hebrew text has 50,070 men being killed here, making it hard to imagine how that many men kept clambering over dead bodies to look into the sacred chest. (But possibly we're not understanding the situation correctly?) We have followed later manuscripts here.

**31** **LV 6:17 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently than BHS. Often this notation indicates a typographical error in BHS.

**32** **LV 6:19 · Note** OSHB note: BHS has been faithful to the Leningrad Codex where there might be a question of the validity of the form and we keep the same form as BHS.

**33** **RV 7:1 · Cross-ref.** 2Sam 6:2-4; 1Ch 13:5-7.

**Readers' Version**

that he'll rescue us from the Pelishtim." **9** So Shmuel got a young lamb and offered it up—a whole burnt up offering to Yahweh. And he cried out to Yahweh for Yisrael, and Yahweh answered him. **10** While Shmuel was offering up that burnt offering, the Pelishtim approached to battle against Yisrael. But that day Yahweh made an intense sound like thunder that confused the Pelishtim and the Israelis were able to defeat them. **11** The Israeli men ran out from Mitspah and chased the Pelishtim—killing them all the way to Beyt-Kar.

**12** Shmuel took a single rock and stood it between Mitspah and Shen. He named it 'Even-Ha'ezer' (Ebenezer) (which means 'stone of help'), saying, "Yahweh helped us all the way up to here." **13** So the Pelishtim ended up being subdued and didn't invade Yisrael's border again, and Yahweh worked against the Pelishtim as long as Shmuel lived. **14** The cities that the Pelishtim had taken from Ekron and as far as Gat were returned to Yisrael. And so Yisrael rescued their territory from the Pelishtim, and there was peace between Yisrael and the Amorim.

**15** So Shmuel guided Yisrael while he lived. **16** Every year he did the circuit around Beyt-El (Bethel), Gilgal, and Mitspah, and he helped settled disputes for the people in all those places, **17** but he always returned to Ramah because his home was there. He would judge disputes there, and built an altar to Yahweh there.

**The Israelis request a king · Full kingdom**

**8:1** As Shmuel (Samuel) grew older, he appointed his two sons as judges over Yisrael (Israel). **2** The eldest was Yoel (Joel) and his brother was Aviyah. They were based in Be'er-Sheva (Beersheba). **3** However, they didn't take after time, but rather chased dishonest gain—accepting bribes and perverting justice.

**4** Eventually, the Israeli elders met together with Shmuel at Ramah **5** and requested, "Listen, you're old now, and your sons don't follow your example. So appoint a king for us now to lead us like all the other nations."[35] **6** But Shmuel thought that their request for a king was an evil request, so he prayed to Yahweh **7** who replied, "Listen to everything that the people are saying, because they're not rejecting *you*, but they're rejecting me from

**Literal Version**

if/because_that the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) they_had_ _gathered_together to_(the)_Mitspāh and_ the_rulers_of the_ _Pəlishtiy _they_went_up against Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_ the_ _people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_heard and_they_saw from_ _face/in_front_of the_Pəlishtiy. **8** And_ the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_said to Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) do_not keep_ _silent from_him/it from_crying_out to **YHWH** god_of_our so_ _that_he_may_deliver_us from_the_hand_of the_Pəlishtiy. **9** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_took a_lamb_of milk one and[34] a_burnt_ _offering a_whole_offering to/for_**YHWH** and_ Shəmū'ēl _he_ _cried_out to **YHWH** for Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_he **YHWH**. **10** And_ _he/it_was Shəmū'ēl offering_up the_burnt_offering and_the_ _Pəlishtiy they_drew_near for_battle in_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_ **YHWH** _he_thundered with_a_sound great in_the_day (the)_ _that on the_Pəlishtiy and_he_confused_them and_they_were_ _defeated to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **11** And_ the_men_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_went_out from (the)_Mitspāh and_they_pursued ĐOM the_Pəlishtiy and_they_ _defeated_them to from_under to_Bēyt- car. **12** And_ Shəmū'ēl _ _he/it_took a_stone one and_he/it_assigned between (the)_ _Mitspāh and_between (the)_Shēn and_he/it_called ĐOM his/its_name Eben- ezer and_he_said until now he_has_helped_ _us **YHWH**. **13** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_were_subdued and_not they_repeated again to_come in_the_territory_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_it_became the_hand_of **YHWH** on_Pəlishtiy all_of the_days_of Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel). **14** And_ the_cities which they_had_taken the_Pəlishtiy from_with Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_ _went_back to_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) from_ʿEqrōn and_unto Gat and_ _ĐOM territory_of_their Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) it_delivered from_the_ _hand_of the_Pəlishtiy and_he/it_was peace between Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_between the_'Amorī. **15** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he_ _judged ĐOM Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) all_of the_days_of his/its_life. **16** And_he_went from_sufficiency a_year in_a_year and_he_ _went_round Bēyt- 'ēl and_(the)_Gilgāl and_(the)_Mitspāh and_ _he_judged ĐOM Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) ĐOM all_of the_places the_ _these. **17** And_return_of_his was_to_(the)_Rāmāh if/because was_there house_of_his and_there he_judged ĐOM Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_he/it_built there an_altar to/for_**YHWH**.

**8:1** And_he/it_was just_as Shəmū'ēl he_was_old and_he/it_ _assigned ĐOM sons_of_his judges for_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **2** And_ _he/it_was the_name_of his/its_son the_firstborn Yō'ēl/(Joel) and_name_of his_second_of_his was_'Aviy$^{yāh}$ judges in_Bə'ēr-shevaʿ. **3** And_not sons_of_his they_walked his[36] and_they_ _turned_aside after (the)_unjust_gain and_they_took a_bribe and_they_turned_aside justice. **4** And_ all_of the_elders_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_gathered_together and_they_came to Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) to_(the)_Rāmāh. **5** And_they_said to_him/it HERE you you_have_become_old and_sons_of_your not they_ _have_walked in_ways_of_your now appoint to/for_ourselves a_ _king to_judge_us like_all_of the_nations. **6** And_ the_matter _ _it_was_displeasing in/on_both_eyes_of Shəmū'ēl just_as they_ _said give to/for_ourselves a_king to_judge_us and_ Shəmū'ēl _ _he_prayed to **YHWH**. **7** And_ **YHWH** _he/it_said to Shəmū'ēl

**34 LV 7:9 · Note** OSHB variant note: הלעי/ו: (x-qere) וּהְלָעֵי/ו': lemma_c/5927 morph_HC/Vhw3ms/Sp3ms id_09YS7 וּהְלָעֵי/ו

**35 RV 8:5 · Cross-ref.** Deu 17:14.

**36 LV 8:3 · Note** OSHB variant note: כרד/ב/ו: (x-qere) וּיְכָרְדִ/בְ/ו': lemma_b/1870 n_1.1 morph_HR/Ncbpc/Sp3ms id_09zuk וּיְכָרְדִ/בְ/ו

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listen to_the_voice_of the_people to_all/each/any/every that they_will_say to_you if/because not you they_have_rejected if/because ~~DOM~~_me they_have_rejected from_reigning over_ _them. **8** According_to_all_of the_deeds which they_have_done from_the_day_of I_brought_up ~~DOM~~_them from_ _Mitsrayim/(Egypt) and_unto the_day the_this and_they_have_ _abandoned_me and_they_have_served gods other so they are_ _doing also to/for_you(fs). **9** And_now listen to_voice_of_their nevertheless if/because certainly_(warn) you_will_warn (is)_in_ _them and_you_will_tell to/for_them the_right[s]_of the_king who he_will_reign over_them.

**10** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said ~~DOM~~ all_of the_words/messages_of **YHWH** to the_people who_were_asking from_with_him a_king. **11** And_he/it_said this it_will_be the_right[s]_of the_king who he_will_reign over_you(pl) ~~DOM~~ sons_of_your(pl) he_will_take and_he_will_appoint_them to_him/it in_chariot[s]_of_his and_ _among_horsemen_of_his and_they_will_run to_(the)_face_ _of/in_front_of/before chariot_of_his. **12** And_to_appoint_them to_him/it commanders_of thousands and_commanders_of fifties and_to_plow plowing_of_his and_to_harvest harvest_of_ _his and_to_make the_weapons_of his_warfare_of_his and_the_ _equipment(s)_of his_chariotry_of_his. **13** And_~~DOM~~ daughters_ _of_your(pl) he_will_take to_perfumers and_to_cooks and_to_ _bakers. **14** And_~~DOM~~ fields_of_your(pl) and_~~DOM~~ vineyards_of_ _your(pl) and_your(pl)_olive_of_groves (the)_good he_will_take and_he/it_gave to_servants_of_his. **15** And_seed(s)_of_your(pl) and_vineyards_of_your(pl) he_will_take_a_tithe and_he/it_gave to_officials_of_his and_to_servants_of_his. **16** And_~~DOM~~ servants_of_your(pl)_male and_~~DOM~~ servants_of_your(pl)_ _female and_~~DOM~~ men_of_your_young (the)_good and_~~DOM~~ donkeys_of_your(pl) he_will_take and_he_will_use_them for_ _work_of_his. **17** Flock[s]_of_your(pl) he_will_take_a_tithe and_ _you(pl) you(pl)_will_become to_him/it (into)_servants. **18** And_you(pl)_will_cry_out in_the_day (the)_that from_to/for_ _face/front/presence king_of_your(pl) whom you(pl)_have_ _chosen to/for_you(pl) and_not **YHWH** he_will_answer you(pl) in_the_day (the)_that. **19** And_ the_people _they_refused to_ _listen to_the_voice_of Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) and_they_said no if/because (if) a_king he_will_be over_us. **20** And_we_will_be also we like_all_of the_nations and_he_will_judge_us king_of_ _our and_he_will_go_out before_us and_he_will_fight ~~DOM~~ battles_of_our. **21** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_listened ~~DOM~~ all_of the_ _words/messages_of the_people and_he_spoke_them in_the_ _ears_of **YHWH**. **22** And_ **YHWH** _he/it_said to Shəmū'ēl listen to_voice_of_their and_you_will_make_king to/for_them a_king and_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said to the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) go each_man to_his_own_of_city.

**9:1** And_he/it_was a_man mmm wwww[3738] and_his/its_name was_Qīsh the_son_of 'Avī'ēl the_son_of Tsərōr/(Zeror) the_son_ _of Bəkōrat the_son_of 'Afīaḥ a_son_of a_man a_ _Yəmīnī/(Jamite) a_mighty_man_of wealth. **2** And_to/for_ _him/it a_son he_belonged and_his/its_name was_Shā'ūl/(Saul) a_young_man and_good and_there_was_not a_man from_(the)_

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reigning over them. **8** They're doing to you just what they've done to me every since I rescued them out of Mitsrayim (Egypt) and right up until today: deserting me and serving other gods. **9** So listen to what they're saying now, but certainly warn them about what kings require of their subjects."

**Advance warnings about having a king · Full kingdom**

**10** Then Shmuel (Samuel) passed on everything that Yahweh had said to the people who were requesting a king from him, **11** telling them, "If you all have a king reigning over you, this is what he'll demand: he will conscript your sons and appoint them as his cavalry or charioteers, or they'll run as foot-soldiers in front, of his chariot. **12** Others he'll appoint a commander of various units. Some will end up ploughing his fields or harvesting his crops, or manufacturing his weapons and chariots. **13** He'll take your daughters to manufacture perfumes, or to be cooks and bakers. **14** He'll confiscate your best fields and vineyards and olive orchards, and give to his servants to control. **15** Then he'll demand a tenth of your seeds and grape harvests for his officials and his servants. **16** He'll commandeer some of your best male and female servants and young men, and he'll impound some of your donkeys, then he'll use them all for his projects. **17** He'll expect a tenth of your sheep and goats, and you yourselves will end up being his slaves. **18** When that all happens, you'll all cry out in front of the king who you chose for yourselves, but Yahweh won't be answering you at that time."

**19** However, the people refused to consider Shmuel's (Samuel's) advice and they argued, "No, we want a king over us **20** so we'll be like all the other nations. Our king will judge us, and will lead out our warriors in battle." **21** Shmuel listened to everything the people said, and passed it on to Yahweh, **22** and Yahweh told him, "Do what they're asking and get them a king." So Shmuel told the people and then sent them all back to their homes.

**Sha'ul is chosen as king · Full kingdom**

**9:1** Now there was a Benyamite man named Kish (son of Aviel, son of Tseror, son of Bekorat, son of Afiah, the son of a Yemini man) who was strong and wealthy. **2** Kish had a son named Sha'ul (Saul) who was a handsome young man and good—in fact there wasn't any

**37 LV 9:1 · Note** OSHB variant note: יְמִינִ֔ב/מ: (x-qere) יְמִינִ֑י: lemma_m/1144 n_1.0.1 morph_HR/Np id_09EC9 יְמִינִ֔ב/מ

**38 LV 9:1 · Note** OSHB note: Adaptations to a Qere which L and BHS, by their design, do not indicate.

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Israeli man better than him, and he was head and shoulders taller than anyone else.

**3** One time, the female donkeys of Sha'ul's father Kish had gone missing, and Kish told his son, "Take one of the servants with you, and pack up and go and find those donkeys." **4** So they passed through the Efrati hill country, then through the Shalishah region, but they didn't find them. Then they went through the Sha'alim region, but there was nothing, so they continued on through the land of the Benyamites, but they didn't find them. **5** Finally, they entered the Tsuf area, and eventually Sha'ul said to his servant, "Come on. Let's go back home in case my father stops worrying about the donkeys and starts worrying about us."

**6** But he replied, "Listen, please. There's an honoured man of God in this city. Everything he says comes true. Let's go there now. Perhaps he'll tell us which way we should have gone."

**7** "Okay, then. We can go there," Sha'ul responded, "but what can we give the man? We don't have any more food in our bags, and we never brought along a gift. What else do we have?"

**8** "Look," answered the servant, "I've got a small silver coin. We can give that to the man and he'll tell us where to go." **9** (In Yisrael (Israel) before then, when people wanted an answer from God, they'd say, "Come and let us go to the 'seer'," because the prophet of today was called the 'seer' before.)

**10** "Good idea," Sha'ul told his servant. "Let's go then." So they went to the city there where the man of God was. **11** They were climbing up the rise towards the city when they met some young women going out to draw water, and they asked them, "Is the seer in town?" **12** "Yes he is," they answered. "Hurry though, because he's come to the city today to offer the sacrifice for the people at the high place. **13** You'll find him as soon as you enter the city, before he goes up to the high place to eat. The people won't eat until he gets there, because he himself will bless the sacrifice. Afterwards, those who've been invited will eat together there. So go up there now and you'll soon find him." **14** So they went on up into the city, and as they were entering, wow, there was Shmuel (Samuel) coming out towards them to go up to the high place.

**15** On the previous day, Yahweh had quietly told Shmuel, **16** "About this time tomorrow, I'll send a Benyamite man to you, and you should anoint him to be ruler over my people Yisrael. He will rescue my people from the Pelishtim, because I've noticed my people because I heard their cries."

**17** Then Shmuel saw Sha'ul, and Yahweh told him, "Look, that's the man that I you about. He will help control my people." **18** As Sha'ul approached Shmuel right there in the middle of the city gateway, he asked, "Please tell me, where's the seer's house?"

**19** "I am the seer," Shmuel answered, "Now, Go up to the high place ahead of me, and you'll eat with me today. In the morning, I'll tell you what you want to know, then I'll send you off. **20** As for your donkeys that were lost three days ago, don't worry anymore about them because they've been found. Now, all of Yisrael

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_sons of_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) good from_him/it from_shoulder_of_ _his and_upward_upwards he_was_tall from_all the_people. **3** And_ the_she-asses of_Qīsh the_father_of Shā'ūl _they_were_ _lost and_ Qīsh _he/it_said to Shā'ūl his/its_son take please with_you ÐOM one of_the_young_men and_arise go seek ÐOM the_she-asses. **4** And_he/it_passed_through in_the_hill_ _country_of 'Efrayim and_he/it_passed_through in_land_of Shalisha and_not they_found_them and_they_passed in_the_ _land_of Sha'alīm and_there_were_not and_he/it_passed_ _through in_land_of the_Jaminite[s] and_not they_found_them. **5** They they_came in_land of_Tsūf/(Zuph) and_Shā'ūl he_said to_servant_of_his who with_him/it come and_let_us_turn_back lest father_of_my he_should_cease from the_she-asses and_he_ _will_be_anxious to/for_us. **6** And_he/it_said to_him/it HERE please a_man_of god is_in_city (the)_this and_the_man is_ _honoured all that he_speaks actually_(come) it_comes now let_us_go there perhaps he_will_tell to/for_us ÐOM journey_of_ _our which we_have_walked on_it. **7** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_ _said to_servant_of_his and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE we_will_go and_ _what will_we_bring to_man if/because the_bread it_has_been_ _used_up from_bags_of_our and_a_gift there_is_not to_bring to_the_man_of the_'Elohīm what is_with_us. **8** And_ the_ _servant _he_repeated to_answer ÐOM Shā'ūl and_he/it_said HERE is_found in_hand_of_my a_fourth_part_of a_shekel_of silver and_I_will_give_it to_the_man_of the_'Elohīm and_he_ _will_tell to/for_us ÐOM journey_of_our. **9** Formerly_formerly in_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) thus the_man he_said when_went_he to_ _consult god come and_let_us_go to the_seer if/because to_ _prophet the_day it_was_called formerly_formerly the_seer. **10** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to_servant_of_his is_good message_ _of_your come let_us_go and_they_went to the_city where was_ _there the_man_of the_'Elohīm. **11** They were_going_up on_ _the_ascent_of the_city and_they they_found young_women who_were_coming_out to_draw water and_they_said to_them (there) in_this_place is_the_seer. **12** And_they_answered them and_they_said (there)_he_is THERE to_your_face hurry now if/because the_day he_has_come to_city if/because a_sacrifice_ _of the_day belongs_to_people at_place. **13** Just_as_you(pl)_ _come the_city thus you(pl)_will_find ÐOM_him/it before_ _before he_will_go_up to_the_high_place to_eat if/because not the_people it_will_eat until comes_he if/because he he_will_ _bless the_sacrifice after thus those_who_were_invited they_ _will_eat and_now go_up if/because ÐOM_him/it as_the_day you(pl)_will_find ÐOM_him/it. **14** And_they_went_up the_city they were_coming in_the_middle the_city and_ _BEHOLD/LO/SEE Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) was_coming_out to_meet_ _them to_go_up the_high_place. **15** And_**YHWH** he_had_ _uncovered ÐOM the_ear_of Shəmū'ēl a_day one to_(the)_face_ _of/in_front_of/before Shā'ūl/(Saul) came to_say. **16** About_ _time tomorrow I_will_send to_you a_man from_the_land_of Binyāmīn and_you_will_anoint_him to_ruler over people_of_ _my Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_he_will_deliver ÐOM people_of_my from_the_hand_of the_Pəlishtiy if/because I_have_seen ÐOM people_of_my if/because of_distress_of_its_cry it_has_come to_ _me. **17** And_Shəmū'ēl he_saw ÐOM Shā'ūl and_**YHWH** he_ _answered_him HERE the_man whom I_spoke to_you this_one he_will_rule over_people_of_my. **18** And_ Shā'ūl _he_ _approached ÐOM Shəmū'ēl in_the_middle of_the_gate and_

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_he/it_said tell please to_me where this is_the_house_of the_ _seer. **19** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he_answered ĐOM Shā'ūl and_he/it_ _said I am_the_seer go_up to/for_my_face/front the_high_place and_you(pl)_will_eat with_me the_day and_I_will_send_you_ _away in_morning and_all/each/any/every that is_in_heart_of_ _your I_will_tell to/for_you(fs). **20** And_to_she-asses which_ _were_lost to/for_yourself(m) the_day the_three_of the_days do_not set ĐOM heart_of_your to/for_them if/because they_ _have_been_found and_belongs_to_whom every_of (the)_ _desirable_thing_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) am_not to/for_yourself(m) and_to/for_all the_house_of your_father_of_your. **21** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he_answered and_he/it_said am_not a_Ben-_of jaminite am_I from_the_small_of[39] of_the_tribes_of of_ _Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_is_clan_of_my the_insignificant from_all the_clans_of the_tribes_of Binyāmīn and_for_what have_you_ _spoken to_me according_the_manner (the)_this. **22** And_ Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) _he/it_took ĐOM Shā'ūl and_ĐOM servant_of_ _his and_he/it_brought_them room_to_the and_he/it_gave to/for_them a_place at_the_head_of those_who_were_invited and_they were_about_thirty man. **23** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said to_cook give ĐOM the_portion which I_gave to/for_you(fs) which I_said to_you put ĐOM_her/it with_you. **24** And_ the_cook _he_lifted_up ĐOM the_thigh and_the_on_it and_he/it_assigned to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before Shā'ūl and_he/it_said HERE the_part_which_remains set_it to_your_face eat_it if/because to_time it_was_kept to/for_yourself(m) to_say the_people I_ _have_invited and_ Shā'ūl _he_ate with Shəmū'ēl in_the_day (the)_that.

**25** And_they_went_down from_the_high_place the_city and_ _he/it_spoke with Shā'ūl/(Saul) on the_roof. **26** And_they_rose_ _early and_he/it_was just_ the_dawn _as_came_up and_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_called to Shā'ūl the[41] to_say arise so_that_I_ _may_send_you_away and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_rose_up and_ both_of_ _them he and_Shəmū'ēl _they_went_out to_the. **27** They were_ _going_down at_the_edge_of the_city and_Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) he_said to Shā'ūl say to_servant so_that_he_may_pass_on before_us and_he_passed_on and_you(ms) remain as_day so_ _that_I_may_make_you_hear ĐOM the_message_of god.
**10:1** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_took ĐOM the_flask_of (the)_oil and_ _he_poured_it on his/its_head and_he_kissed_him and_he/it_ _said am_not that/for/because/then/when he_has_anointed_ _you **YHWH** over inheritance_of_his to_ruler. **2** When_go_you the_day from_with_me and_you_will_find two_of men near the_grave_of Rāḥēl in_the_territory_of Binyāmīn at_ _Tseltsaḥ/(Zelzah) and_they_will_say to_you the_she-asses which you_went to_seek they_have_been_found and_ _BEHOLD/LO/SEE father_of_your he_has_abandoned ĐOM the_ _matter(s)_of the_she-asses and_he_is_anxious to/for_you(pl) to_say what will_I_do for_son_of_my. **3** And_you_will_pass_on from_there and_beyond and_you_will_come to the_great_tree_ _of Tāvōr and_they_will_find_you there three men who_are_ _going_up to the_'Ĕlohīm Bēyt-'ēl one will_be_carrying three kids and_one will_be_carrying three_of round_loaves_of bread

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is wanting your father's household, and wanting you in particular." **21** "But I'm a Benyamite," Sha'ul responded, "That's the smallest tribe in Yisrael, and my clan's the lowliest of all the Benyamite clans. So why did you talk to me like that?"

**22** Then Shmuel took Sha'ul and his servant to the room where the meal had been prepared, and he gave them a place at the head of table—even above the invited guests. (There were about thirty men.) **23** And Shmuel told the cook, "Give the special piece of meat that I showed you and said to keep aside." **24** So the cook lifted the cooked leg and placed it in front of Sha'ul. Then Shmuel told Sha'ul, "Look, this has been reserved for you. Eat it, because it's been kept until the appointed time when I could call these people together."

**Shmuel anoints Sha'ul with oil · Full kingdom**

So Sha'ul (Saul) ate with Shmuel (Samuel) that day, **25** and then they went back from the high place down into the city, and Shmuel spoke with Sha'ul on his house roof.

**26** They rose early the next day. At dawn, Shmuel had called to Sha'ul on the roof, saying, "Get up and I will send you off." So Sha'ul got up, and the two of them went outside. **27** When they reached the edge of the city, Shmuel said to Sha'ul, "Tell your servant to go on ahead," and so he went on ahead. "But you stand here, and I'll give you the message from God."

**10:1** Then Shmuel took a flask of oil, and poured it on Sha'ul's head and kissed him, and told him, "It's Yahweh who has anointed you to be ruler over his chosen people. **2** After you leave me today and get back to Benyamite territory, then you'll see two men near Rahel's (Rachel's) tomb in Tseltsah, and they'll say to you, 'The donkeys that you went to look for have been found. But, wow, your father has stopped worrying about the donkeys and now he's worried about *you* and trying to figure out what he should do.' **3** Then further on from there, as you approach the oak tree at Tavor, you'll find three men going to Beyt-El (Bethel) to worship God. One will be taking three young goats, one will be carrying three rounds loaves of bread, and one

**39 LV 9:21 · Note** OSHB note: BHS has been faithful to the Leningrad Codex where there might be a question of the validity of the form and we keep the same form as BHS.

**41 LV 9:26 · Note** OSHB variant note: גב/ה: (x-qere) ה/בָּגַד/ה': lemma_d/1406 morph_HTd/Ncmsa/Sd id_09AJ9 ה/בָּגַד/ה

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will be carrying a wine in a container. **4** They'll ask about how you're doing and give you two loaves of bread which you should accept. **5** After that, you'll come to the hill of God (where there's a camp of Pelishti warriors). When you enter the town, you'll meet a group of prophets descending from the altar area, **6** and Yahweh's spirit will rush onto you. Then you'll join them in prophesying, and you'll be transformed into a different person. **7** When this all comes true, do whatever you think is correct because God will be helping you. **8** Then go ahead of me to Gilgal and wait there for seven days, until I get there and tell you what to do. I'll join you to offer burnt offerings and to sacrifice peace offerings.

**9** Then as Sha'ul (Saul) started to leave Shmuel (Samuel), God changed his thinking. Then all Shmuel's predictions came true that day, **10** so when Sha'ul and his servant came to the hill, a group of prophets met them and God's spirit rushed onto Sha'ul and he joined them in prophesying. **11** Then everyone who had known Sha'ul previously heard him prophesying with the prophets, they asked each other, "What's happened to Kish's son? Is Sha'ul really a prophet now?" **12** A man from there answered, "And who is *their* father?" So after that it became a common saying, "Has Sha'ul also become a prophet?"[40] **13** When he had finished prophesying, he ascended to the altar area.

**14** Later, Sha'ul's uncle asked him and his servant, "Where did you two take off to?"

"To look for the donkeys," Sha'ul replied. "But we couldn't find them, so we went to Shmuel."

**15** "And what did he tell you?" the uncle asked.

**16** "He assured us that the donkeys had been found," Sha'ul replied. But he didn't tell him anything that Shmuel had said about becoming king.

**Sha'ul is selected as king · Full kingdom**

**17** Then Shmuel (Samuel) summoned the people to come before Yahweh at Mitspah, **18** and he told them, "Yahweh, the god of Yisrael (Israel), says, 'I myself brought Yisrael out of Mitsrayim (Egypt). I rescued you from Mitsri (Egyptian) control, and from all the kingdoms that oppressed you.' **19** But since then, you all have rejected your god—the one who saves you from all your calamities and distresses. And you've all said to him, 'We'd rather have a king over

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and_one will_be_carrying a_jar_of wine. **4** And_they_will_ask to/for_yourself(m) to_welfare and_they_will_give to/for_ _yourself(m) two_of bread[s] and_you_will_take_them from_ _hand_of_their. **5** After thus you_will_come Giv˝āh_of the_ _'Elohīm where are_there the_garrisons_of the_Pəlishtiy and_ _let_it_be just_as_you_come there the_city and_you_will_meet a_company_of prophets who_are_coming_down from_the_ _high_place and_will_be_of_before_them lyre and_tambourine and_flute and_harp and_they will_be_prophesying. **6** And_it_ _will_rush on_you the_spirit_of **YHWH** and_you_will_prophesy with_them and_you_will_be_changed into_a_man another. **7** And_it_was if/because they_will_come[42] the_signs the_these to/for_you(fs) do to/for_yourself(m) that_which hand_of_your it_will_find if/because the_'Elohīm is_with_you. **8** And_you_ _will_go_down to/for_my_face/front (the)_Gilgāl and_ _BEHOLD/LO/SEE I am_about_to_come_down to_you to_offer_ _up burnt_offerings to_sacrifice sacrifices_of peace_offerings seven_of days you_will_wait until come_I to_you and_I_will_ _make_known to/for_yourself(m) ᴅᴏᴍ that_which you_will_do. **9** And_it_was just_as_he_turned shoulder_of_his to_go from_ _with Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) and_he_changed to_him/it god a_ _heart another and_ all_of the_signs the_these _they_came in_ _the_day (the)_that. **10** And_they_came there to_(the)_Giv˝āh and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE a_company_of prophets to_meet_him and_it_rushed on/upon/above_him/it the_spirit_of god and_ _he_prophesied among_them. **11** And_he/it_was every_of one_ _of_who_knew_him from_yesterday three_days_ago and_they_ _saw and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE with prophets he_was_prophesying and_ the_people _he/it_said each to his/its_neighbour what this has_it_happened to_the_son_of Qīsh also is_Shā'ūl/(Saul) among_prophets. **12** And_ a_man from_there _he_answered and_he/it_said and_who father_of_is_their therefore yes/correct/thus/so it_became (into)_a_proverb also is_Shā'ūl among_prophets. **13** And_they_were_ended/finished from_ _prophesying and_he_came the_high_place. **14** And_ the_uncle_ _of Shā'ūl _he/it_said to_him/it and_to servant_of_his where did_you(pl)_go and_he/it_said to_seek ᴅᴏᴍ the_she-asses and_ _we_saw if/because_that there_not and_we_went to Shəmū'ēl. **15** And_ the_uncle_of Shā'ūl _he/it_said tell please to_me what did_he_say to/for_you(pl) Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel). **16** And_ Shā'ūl _ _he/it_said to uncle_of_his indeed_(tell) he_told to/for_us if/because_that the_she-asses they_had_been_found and_ᴅᴏᴍ the_message_of the_royalty not he_told to_him/it which Shəmū'ēl he_had_said.

**17** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he_called_together ᴅᴏᴍ the_people to **YHWH** (the)_Mitspāh. **18** And_he/it_said to the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) thus **YHWH** the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) he_says I I_brought_up ᴅᴏᴍ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) from_Mitsrayim/(Egypt) and_I_delivered you(pl) from_the_hand_of Mitsrayim and_ _from_the_hand_of all_of the_kingdoms which_were_ _oppressing you(pl). **19** And_you(pl) the_day you(pl)_have_ _rejected ᴅᴏᴍ god_of_your(pl) who he is_a_deliverer to/for_ _you(pl) from_all calamities_of_your(pl) and_troubles_of_

**40 RV 10:12 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 19:23-24.

**42 LV 10:7 · Note** OSHB variant note: הניאבת: (x-qere) 'הָנָאָבְתָּ': lemma_935 n_1.0.0 morph_HVqi3fp id_09wn4 הָנָאָבְתָּ

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_your(pl) and_you(pl)_have_said to_him/it if/because a_king you_will_appoint over_us and_now present_yourselves to_ _(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** to_tribes_of_your(pl) and_to_families_of_your(pl). **20** And_ Shəmūʾēl _he_brought_ _near ÐOM all_of the_tribes_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) and_ the_tribe_of Binyāmīn _it_was_taken_by_lot. **21** And_he_brought_near ÐOM the_tribe_of Binyāmīn its[43] and_ the_clan_of (the)_Matri _it_ _was_taken_by_lot and_ Shāʾūl/(Saul) the_son_of Qīsh _he_was_ _taken_by_lot and_they_sought_him and_not he_was_found. **22** And_they_enquired again by_**YHWH** has_he_come yet here the_man and_ **YHWH** _he/it_said HERE he is_hiding_himself into the_vessels. **23** And_they_ran and_they_took_him from_ _there and_he_presented_himself in_the_middle the_people and_he_was_tall from_all the_people from_shoulder_of_his and_upward_upwards. **24** And_ Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) _he/it_said to all_of the_people do_you(pl)_see the_one_whom he_has_ _chosen in/on/over_him/it **YHWH** if/because there_is_not like_him in_all the_people and_ all_of the_people _they_ _shouted and_they_said the_king may_he_live. **25** And_ Shəmūʾēl _he/it_spoke to the_people ÐOM the_right[s]_of the_ _kingship and_he_wrote in_book and_he_set_it to_(the)_face_ _of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** and_ Shəmūʾēl _he_sent_away ÐOM all_of the_people each_man to_his_own_of_house. **26** And_ _also Shāʾūl he_went to_his_own_of_house to_Givʿāh and_they_ _went with_him/it the_army which god he_had_touched (in)_ _heart_of_their. **27** And_the_sons worthlessness they_said what will_he_deliver_us this_one and_they_despised_him and_not they_brought to_him/it a_gift and_he/it_was like_one_who_ _kept_silent.

**11:1** And_ Nāḥāsh the_ʿAmmōnī _he/it_ascended and_he_ _encamped on Yāvēsh/(Jabesh) Gilʿād and_ all_of the_men_of Yāvēsh _they_said to Nāḥāsh make to/for_us a_covenant and_ _we_will_serve_you. **2** And_he/it_said to_them Nāḥāsh the_ _ʿAmmōnī by_this I_will_make to/for_you(pl) by_gouging_out to/for_you(pl) every_of eye_of the_right_side and_I_will_make_ _it a_reproach on all_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel). **3** And_they_said to_ _him/it the_elders_of Yāvēsh refrain to/for_us seven_of days so_that_we_may_send messengers in_all_of the_territory_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) and_if there_is_not one_who_delivers us and_ _we_will_come_out to_you. **4** And_ the_messengers _they_came Givʿāh of_Shāʾūl/(Saul) and_they_spoke the_words/messages in_the_ears_of the_people and_ all_of the_people _they_lifted_ _up ÐOM voice_of_their and_they_wept. **5** And_BEHOLD/LO/SEE Shāʾūl was_coming after the_cattle from the_field and_ Shāʾūl _ _he/it_said what is_to_people that/for/because/then/when they_are_weeping and_they_recounted to_him/it ÐOM the_ _words/messages_of the_men_of Yāvēsh. **6** And_ the_spirit_of god _it_rushed on Shāʾūl in/on/at/with[45] ÐOM the_ _words/messages the_these and_ anger_of_his _it_ _glowed/burnt exceedingly. **7** And_he/it_took a_pair_of ox[en] and_he_cut_it_in_pieces and_he_sent_them in_all the_ _territory_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) by_the_hand_of the_messengers to_say one_who not_he is_coming_out after Shāʾūl and_after

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us.' So station yourselves now in front of Yahweh by your tribes and clans."

**20** Then Shmuel had all the Israeli tribes approach, and the tribe of Benyamin was selected. **21** Then he had all the Benyamite clans approach, and the Matri clan was selected. Then Kish's son, Sha'ul (Saul) was selected and they tried to find him, but they couldn't find him anywhere **22** so they asked Yahweh again, "Is that man around here anywhere?"

"Look, he's hiding among the supplies," Yahweh replied.

**23** So they ran and got him from there, and when he took his place among the people, he was head and shoulders taller than anyone else. **24** Then Shmuel announced to everyone, "Can you see the one that Yahweh has chosen? Certainly there's no one else like him among all the people."

All the people saw that and responded, "Long live the king."

**25** Then Shmuel explained how the kingship would work, and wrote it in a book and placed it in front of Yahweh. Then he sent everyone home. **26** Shmuel also went home to Giveah, accompanied by some of the powerful warriors whose hearts God had touched. **27** But some worthless men asked, "How can that one save us?" and they despised Sha'ul (Saul) and didn't bring him any gifts, but he made no comment.

**Sha'ul rescues Yavesh from the Amonim · Full kingdom**

**11:1** About a month later,[44] Nahash the Amoni took his men and camped around Yavesh-Gilead, and the leaders of Yavesh told him, "Make a treaty with us, and we'll serve you."

**2** "Yes, I'll make an treaty with you," Nahash replied, "by gouging out all of your right eyes in order to shame all Yisrael (Israel)."

**3** "Oh! Then leave us alone for seven days," the Yavesh elders responded, "so that we can send messengers through all the territory of Yisrael. If no one will come to rescue us, then we'll surrender to you."

**4** When the messengers arrived where Sha'ul (Saul) lived at Giveah and passed the news onto the people, everyone started wailing loudly. **5** At that time, Sha'ul was walking home behind the cattle and he asked, "What's with all the people wailing?" Then they told him what the messengers from Yavesh had said. **6** God's spirit rushed on Sha'ul as he heard the message, and he became very angry. **7** Then he took a pair of cattle and chopped them into pieces, and sent messengers to take them throughout Yisrael and announce, "This is what will be done to the cattle of

**43 LV 10:21 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/**תחפשמ/ל**: (x-qere) וְ/**יֻתְחַפְּשֵׂמְ/ל**ִ: lemma_l/4940 n_1.1 morph_HR/Ncfpc/Sp3ms id_09jXT וְ/**יֻתְחַפְּשֵׂמְ/ל**

**44 RV 11:1 · Note** This appears only in a few ancient documents.

**45 LV 11:6 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/**עמש/ב**: (x-qere) וְ/**עְמָשְׁ/כ**ִ: lemma_k/8085 n_1.0 morph_HR/Vqc/Sp3ms id_09eDt וְ/**עְמָשְׁ/כ**

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anyone who doesn't join Sha'ul and Shmuel (Samuel) in battle."

Then Yahweh caused the people to be afraid of him, and they united together. **8** When Sha'ul assembled them at Bezek, there were three hundred thousand warriors from Yisrael and thirty thousand from Yehudah (Judah), **9** and they told the original messengers, "Go and tell the leaders of Yavesh-Gilead, 'Tomorrow you'll all be rescued by the time that the sun's at its hottest.' " **10** So the Yavesh leaders told Nahash, "We'll surrender to you all tomorrow, then you can do to us whatever seems good to you all."

**11** The next day, Sha'ul divided his warriors into three divisions, and they attacked the Amoni camp before the sun rose. Then they slaughtered the Amonim until the hottest part of the day. Their remaining warriors were scattered so completely that no two of them were able to stay together.

**Sha'ul reaffirmed as king · Full kingdom**

**12** Then the people asked Shmuel (Samuel), "Who were the ones saying that Sha'ul (Saul) wasn't fit to reign over us? Bring them here and we'll execute them."

**13** "No one's going to be executed today," Sha'ul said, "because today Yahweh has rescued Yisrael (Israel)."

**14** "Come on then," said Shmuel. "Let's go to Gilgal and renew the kingship there." **15** So all the people when to Gilgal and in front of Yahweh they reaffirmed Sha'ul as king. Then they offered sacrifices as peace offerings to Yahweh, then Sha'ul and the people celebrated together.

**Shmuel's farewell speech · Full kingdom**

**12:1** Then Shmuel (Samuel) said to all Yisrael (Israel), "Listen to me now. I've listened to your voices and taken notice of everything that you all said to me. And I've appointed a king to reign over you all. **2** So look now and you can see your king walking here in front of you all. But as for me, I'm old and grey, and my sons are among you all. I've served you all openly from my youth right up to the present time, **3** and here I am now. Now with Yahweh listening, answer this truthfully: Have I ever taken anyone's ox or donkey? Did I cheat anyone? Have I oppressed anyone or taken a bribe to not see something? I'll pay back anything I owe anyone."

**4** "No, you haven't cheated us," they answered. "And you haven't oppressed us or taken any payments."

**5** "Yahweh is a your witness," he said. "And his anointed king is a witness today, that you have never found me taking anything that wasn't mine."

"We witness that," they agreed.

**6** "It was Yahweh who appointed Mosheh (Moses) and Aharon (Aaron)," Shmuel continued, "and who brought your ancestors

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Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) thus it_will_be_done to_ox[en]_of_his and_ the_dread_of **YHWH** _it_fell on the_people and_they_went_out like_a_man one. **8** And_he_mustered_them at_Bezeq and_ the_ _people_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) _they_were three hundred(s) thousand and_the_man_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) was_thirty thousand. **9** And_they_said to_messengers the_(ones_who)_ _went thus you(pl)_will_say to_the_man_of Yāvēsh/(Jabesh) tomorrow it_will_belong to/for_you(pl) deliverance in/on/at/with[46] of_the_sun and_ the_messengers _they_came and_they_told to_the_men_of Yāvēsh and_they_rejoiced. **10** And_ the_men_of Yāvēsh _they_said tomorrow will_we_go_ _out to_you(pl) and_you(pl)_will_do to/for_ourselves according_to_all_of the_good in_eyes_of_your(pl). **11** And_ _he/it_was from_the_next_day and_ Shāʾūl/(Saul) _he/it_ _assigned ÐOM the_people three companies and_they_came in_ _the_midst_of the_camp in_the_watch_of the_morning and_ _they_defeated ÐOM ʿAmmōn until the_heat_of the_day and_ _he/it_was those_who_remained and_they_were_scattered and_not they_remained among_them two together.

**12** And_ the_people _he/it_said to Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) who is_ _the_one_who_said Shāʾūl will_he_reign over_us deliver_up the_men so_that_we_may_put_them_to_death. **13** And_ Shāʾūl _ _he/it_said not anyone he_will_be_put_to_death in_the_day the_this if/because the_day **YHWH** he_has_done deliverance in_Yisrāʾēl/(Israel). **14** And_ Shəmūʾēl _he/it_said to the_people come and_let_us_go (the)_Gilgāl and_let_us_renew there the_ _royalty. **15** And_ all_of the_people _they_went (the)_Gilgāl and_ _they_made_king there ÐOM Shāʾūl to_(the)_face_of/in_front_ _of/before **YHWH** in_Gilgāl and_they_sacrificed there sacrifices peace_offerings to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** and_he_rejoiced there Shāʾūl and_all the_men_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) up_to muchness.

**12:1** And_ Shəmūʾēl _he/it_said to all_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) HERE I_ _have_listened to_voice_of_your(pl) to_all/each/any/every that you(pl)_have_said to_me and_I_have_made_king over_you(pl) a_king. **2** And_now HERE the_king is_walking_about before_ _you(pl) and_I I_am_old and_I_am_grey_haired and_sons_of_my here_they are_with_you(pl) and_I I_have_walked_about before_ _you(pl) since_youth(s)_of_my until the_day (the)_this. **3** Here_ _I_am testify against_me before **YHWH** and_before his_of_ _anointed ÐOM the_ox_of whom have_I_taken and_the_donkey_ _of whom have_I_taken and_ÐOM whom have_I_oppressed ÐOM whom have_I_crushed and_from_the_hand_of whom have_I_ _taken a_ransom and_I_will_hide eyes_of_my in/on/over_ _him/it and_I_will_restore_it to_you(pl). **4** And_they_said not you_have_oppressed_us and_not you_have_crushed_us and_not you_have_taken from_the_hand_of anyone anything. **5** And_ _he/it_said to_them is_a_witness **YHWH** on_you(pl) and_is_a_ _witness his_of_anointed the_day the_this if/because_that not you(pl)_have_found in_hand_of_my anything and_he/it_said he_is_a_witness. **6** And_ Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) _he/it_said to the_ _people **YHWH** who he_appointed ÐOM Mosheh and_ÐOM ʾAhₐron and_which he_brought_up ÐOM ancestors_of_your(pl) from_the_land_of Mitsrayim/(Egypt). **7** And_now present_ _yourselves and_I_will_enter_into_judgement with_you(pl) to_

**46 LV 11:9 · Note** OSHB variant note: **ב/מח**: (x-qere) 'כְּ/חָ': lemma_k/2527 morph_HR/Ncmsc id_09aUL כְּ/חָ

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_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** ~~ĐƠM~~ all_of the_ _righteousness(es)_of **YHWH** which he_did with_you(pl) and_ _~~ĐƠM~~ ancestors_of_your(pl). **8** When_when Ya´$_a$qoѵ/(Jacob) he_ _went Mitsrayim and_ ancestors_of_your(pl) _they_cried_out to **YHWH** and_ **YHWH** _he_sent ~~ĐƠM~~ Mosheh and_~~ĐƠM~~ 'Ah$_a$ron and_they_brought_out ~~ĐƠM~~ ancestors_of_your(pl) from_ _Mitsrayim and_they_caused_them_to_dwell in_place (the)_ _this. **9** And_they_forgot ~~ĐƠM~~ **YHWH** god_of_their and_he_sold ~~ĐƠM~~_them in_the_hand_of Ṣīṣərā' the_commander_of the_ _army_of Ḥātsōr and_in_the_hand_of the_Pəlishtiy and_in_the_ _hand_of the_king_of Mō'āѵ and_they_fought against_them. **10** And_they_cried_out to **YHWH** and[6061] we_have_sinned if/because we_have_abandoned ~~ĐƠM~~ **YHWH** and_we_have_ _served ~~ĐƠM~~ the_Ba´al and_~~ĐƠM~~ the_´Ashtārōt and_now deliver_ _us from_the_hand_of our_enemies_of_our so_that_we_may_ _serve_you. **11** And_ **YHWH** _he_sent ~~ĐƠM~~ Jerub-Ba´al and_~~ĐƠM~~ Bədān and_~~ĐƠM~~ Yiftāḥ/(Jephthah) and_~~ĐƠM~~ Shəmū'$^{ēl}$/(Samuel) and_he_delivered you(pl) from_the_hand_of your(pl)_enemies_ _of_your(pl) from_round_about and_you(pl)_dwelt security. **12** And_you(pl)_saw if/because_that Nāḥāsh the_king_of the_ _people_of ´Ammōn was_coming on_you(pl) and_you(pl)_said to_me no if/because a_king he_will_reign over_us and_**YHWH** god_of_your(pl) king_of_was_your(pl). **13** And_now HERE the_ _king whom you(pl)_have_chosen whom you(pl)_asked_for and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE **YHWH** he_has_set over_you(pl) a_king. **14** If you(pl)_will_fear ~~ĐƠM~~ **YHWH** and_you(pl)_will_serve ~~ĐƠM~~_ _him/it and_you(pl)_will_listen to_voice_of_his and_not you(pl)_will_rebel_against ~~ĐƠM~~ the_mouth_of **YHWH** and_ both you(pl) and_also the_king who he_has_become_king over_ _you(pl) _you(pl)_will_be after **YHWH** god_of_your(pl). **15** And_ _if not you(pl)_will_listen to_the_voice_of **YHWH** and_you(pl)_ _will_rebel_against ~~ĐƠM~~ the_mouth_of **YHWH** and_it_will_be the_hand_of **YHWH** on_you(pl) and_on_ancestors_of_your(pl). **16** Also now stand and_see ~~ĐƠM~~ the_thing (the)_great the_this which **YHWH** is_about_to_do to_eyes_of_your(pl). **17** Am_not is_ _the_harvest_of wheat(s) the_day I_will_call_out to **YHWH** and_ _he_will_give thunder_claps and_rain and_know and_see if/because_that evil_of_your(pl) is_great which you(pl)_have_ _done in/on_both_eyes_of **YHWH** by_asking to/for_you(pl) a_ _king. **18** And_ Shəmū'$^{ēl}$/(Samuel) _he/it_called to **YHWH** and_

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out of Mitsrayim (Egypt).[47] **7** Now present yourselves to Yahweh as I confront you all in front of him by telling you about his righteousness that he displayed to you all as well as to your ancestors before you: **8** After Ya'akov (Jacob) went to Mitsrayim and your ancestors cried out to Yahweh,[48] then Yahweh sent Mosheh and Aharon, and they brought your ancestors out of Mitsrayim and settled them into this place. **9** Then they forgot their god Yahweh, and he allowed them to be oppressed by Sisera (the commander of the army from Hatsor),[49] and the Pelishtim,[50] and the king of Moav (Moab).[51] Then they fought against them **10** and cried out to Yahweh, 'We have sinned, because we've abandoned Yahweh and have served the Baals and the Ashtarot. But if you rescue us now from our enemies, we will serve you.'[52] **11** Then Yahweh sent Gid'on,[53] Bedan,[54] Yiftah (Jephthah),[55] and Shimshon (Samson)[56] to rescue you all from your enemies all around you, and so you all have had times of living securely.[57] **12** But then you all saw Amoni King Nahash coming against you, and you demanded that you all wanted a king to reign over you rather than having your god Yahweh as your king.[58]

**13** So now, look, here's the king that you all chose to have. Yes, Yahweh has given you all a king. **14** If you all honour Yahweh and listen to his instructions and don't rebel against his commands, then both you and your king will indeed be following your god Yahweh. **15** But if you all don't listen to Yahweh, and you rebel against his commands, then he will work against you all just like he worked against your ancestors.[59] **16** So now stay there and you'll all see the incredible sign that Yahweh is about to do in front of you. **17** Now, isn't it the time of the wheat harvest right now? I'll call to Yahweh, and he'll send unseasonal thunder and rain, and then you'll all see and realise that in Yahweh's view, asking for a king was very evil."

**18** So Shmuel (Samuel) called to Yahweh and he sent thunder and rain that day, and all the people became very afraid of Yahweh and Shmuel **19** and begged Shmuel, "Pray to your god Yahweh for your servants, so that we won't die, because we've added more evil onto all our previous sins by requesting a king for our-

**47 RV 12:6 · Cross-ref.** Exo 6:26.

**48 RV 12:8 · Cross-ref.** Exo 2:23.

**49 RV 12:9 · Cross-ref.** Jdg 4:2.

**50 RV 12:9 · Cross-ref.** Jdg 13:1.

**51 RV 12:9 · Cross-ref.** Jdg 3:12.

**52 RV 12:10 · Cross-ref.** Jdg 10:10-15.

**53 RV 12:11 · Cross-ref.** Jdg 7:1.

**54 RV 12:11 · Cross-ref.** Jdg 4:6.

**55 RV 12:11 · Cross-ref.** Jdg 11:29.

**56 RV 12:11 · Note** TC: This list of four names varies between different ancient manuscripts so you might find variation in other translations.

**57 RV 12:11 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 3:20.

**58 RV 12:12 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 8:19.

**59 RV 12:15 · Note** TC: or (in the ancient Septuagint translation), ...against you all **and your king**.

**60 LV 12:10 · Note** OSHB variant note: רמאי/ו: (x-qere) וְיִרְמְאוּ/וְ; lemma_c/559 morph_HC/Vqw3mp id_09Es6 וְיִרְמְאוּ/ו

**61 LV 12:10 · Note** OSHB note: Adaptations to a Qere which L and BHS, by their design, do not indicate.

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selves."

**20** "Don't be afraid," Shmuel responded. "You yourselves have indeed done all this evil. However, don't make it worse by turning away from Yahweh, but rather, serve him with all your being. **21** And don't turn away from Yahweh and worship useless idols because they can't benefit you or rescue you, because they're empty of life. **22** Yahweh won't abandon his people because he has an excellent reputation to uphold, especially since he's declared you all to be his people. **23** Also, far be it from me to sin against Yahweh by not praying for you all, as well as instructing you all in the good and proper way. **24** Just honour Yahweh and serve him faithfully and sincerely—always remembering the incredible things he's done for you all. **25** But if you all continue to do evil, both you and your king will get swept away."

**Shmuel scolds Sha'ul · Full kingdom**

**13:1** Sha'ul (Saul) was thirty[62] years old when he began to reign over Yisrael (Israel), and when he'd reigned for two years, **2** he chose three thousand Israeli warriors for himself: two thousand were stationed with him in Mikmas, and one thousand were with his son Yonatan (Jonathan) in Benyamite Giveah. All the others, he sent back to their homes.

**3** Then Yonatan attacked and defeated the Pelishti unit that was at Geva, and the Pelishtim heard about it. So Sha'ul had a trumpet blown throughout the country, with the message, "Listen all you Ivrim (Hebrews)." **4** All of Yisrael heard the news that Sha'ul had wiped out a Pelishti outpost, and realised that Yisrael had become repulsive to the Pelishtim. So the people were summoned to join Sha'ul at Gilgal.

**5** The Pelishtim assembled themselves to fight Yisrael with thirty thousand chariots, six thousand mounted cavalry, and warriors as numerous as the sand on the beach. They went to Mikmas and camped there, east of Beyt-Aven. **6** But the Israeli warriors were very anxious because their troops were so outnumbered, so they hid in caves and thickets, among rocks, and in tombs and wells. **7** Some of them crossed the Yarden (Jordan) River to the Gad and Gilead regions.

Sha'ul stayed at Gilgal, but the people with him were trembling. **8** He waited seven days until the time when Shmuel (Samuel) had said that he'd get there,[63] but he didn't appear so Sha'ul's men began to desert him. **9** "Bring me the burnt offering

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**YHWH** _he/it_gave thunder_claps and_rain in_the_day (the)_ _that and_ all_of the_people _it_feared exceedingly ÐOM **YHWH** and_ÐOM Shəmū'ēl. **19** And_ all_of the_people _they_said to Shəmū'ēl pray for your_servants to **YHWH** god_of_your and_not we_will_die if/because we_have_added to all_of sins_of_our an_ _evil_thing by_asking to/for_us a_king. **20** And_ Shəmū'ēl _ _he/it_said to the_people do_not be_afraid you(pl) you(pl)_ _have_done ÐOM all_of the_evil (the)_this nevertheless do_not turn_aside from_after **YHWH** and_you(pl)_will_serve ÐOM **YHWH** in_all heart_of_your(pl). **21** And_not you(pl)_must_turn_ _aside if/because after (the)_emptiness which not they_will_ _benefit and_not they_will_rescue if/because are_emptiness they. **22** If/because not **YHWH** he_will_abandon ÐOM people_of_ _his in_account_of his/its_name (the)_great if/because **YHWH** he_was_determined for_doing you(pl) to_him/it into_a_people. **23** Also I far_be_it to/for_me from_sinning to/for_**YHWH** from_ _ceasing to_pray for_you(pl) and_I_will_teach you(pl) (in)_the_ _way_of (the)_good and_(the)_upright. **24** Only fear ÐOM **YHWH** and_you(pl)_will_serve ÐOM_him/it in_faithfulness in_all heart_ _of_your(pl) if/because consider ÐOM that_which he_has_done_ _great_things with_you(pl). **25** And_if still_(do_evil) you(pl)_ _will_do_evil both you(pl) as_well_as king_of_your(pl) you(pl)_ _will_be_swept_away.

**13:1** Was_a_son_of a_year Shā'ūl/(Saul) when_he_became_king and_two_of years he_reigned over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **2** And_he_ _chose to_him/it Shā'ūl three_of thousand(s) from_ _Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_they_were with Shā'ūl two_thousand at_ _Mikmāṣ and_in_the_hill_country_of Bēyt-'ēl and_one_ _thousand they_were with Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) at_Giv'āh of_Binyāmīn and_the_rest_of the_people he_sent_ _away each_man to_tents_of_his. **3** And_ Yōnātān _he_attacked ÐOM the_garrison_of the_Pəlishtiy which was_at_Gev'a' and_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_heard and_Shā'ūl he_gave_a_blast on_ _trumpet in_all the_earth/land to_say the_'Ivrī/(Hebrews) let_ _them_hear. **4** And_all Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) they_heard to_say Shā'ūl he_has_attacked ÐOM the_garrison_of the_Pəlishtiy and_also Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) it_has_made_itself_odious with_Pəlishtiy and_ the_people _they_were_summoned after Shā'ūl (the)_Gilgāl. **5** And_the_Pəlishtiy they_gathered to_fight with Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) thirty thousand chariot[s] and_six_of thousand(s) horsemen and_a_people like_sand which is_on the_ _shore_of the_sea to_increase_in_number and_they_came_up and_they_encamped at_Mikmāṣ the_east_of Bēyt Aven. **6** And_ _everyone_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) they_saw if/because_that it_was_ _distress to_him/it if/because the_people it_was_hard_pressed and_ the_people _they_hid_themselves in_caves and_in_ _thickets and_in_cliffs and_in_(the)_chambers and_in_cisterns. **7** And_'Ivrī they_passed_over ÐOM the_Yardēn/(Jordan) the_ _land_of Gād and_Gil'ād and_Shā'ūl/(Saul) still_he was_at_Gilgāl and_all the_people they_trembled after_him. **8** And[65] seven_of days to_time which Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) and_not Shəmū'ēl he_ _had_come (the)_Gilgāl and_he/it_scattered the_people from_

**62 RV 13:1 · Note** TC: There's some confusion around the numbers in this verse in the original manuscripts, so other translations might differ.

**63 RV 13:8 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 10:8.

**65 LV 13:8 · Note** OSHB variant note: לחיי/ו: (x-qere) לֶחְנֵי/ו': lemma_c/3176 n_1.1.1.0 morph_HC/Vhw3ms id_09mk1 לֶחְנֵי/ו

**Literal Version**

_with_him. **9** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said bring_near to_me the_ _burnt_offering and_the_peace_offerings and_he/it_ascended the_burnt_offering. **10** And_he/it_was just_as_he_finished to_ _offer_up the_burnt_offering and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE Shəmū'ēl was_coming and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_went_out to_meet_him to_ _bless_him. **11** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said what have_you_done and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said if/because I_saw if/because_that the_ _people it_was_scattered from_with_me and_you(ms) not you_ _had_come to_the_appointed_time_of the_days and_the_ _Pəlishtiy were_gathering Mikmāṣ. **12** And_I_said now the_ _Pəlishtiy they_will_come_down to_me (the)_Gilgāl and_the_ _face_of **YHWH** not I_have_entreated and_I_forced_myself and_ _I_offered_up the_burnt_offering. **13** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said to Shā'ūl you_have_acted_foolishly not you_have_kept ĐOM the_ _command_of **YHWH** god_of_your which he_commanded_you if/because now **YHWH** he_established ĐOM kingdom_of_your to Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) until perpetuity. **14** And_now kingdom_of_your not it_will_endure **YHWH** he_has_sought to_him/it a_man according_to_of_his_own_heart and_he_has_appointed_him **YHWH** to_ruler over people_of_his if/because not you_have_ _kept ĐOM that_which he_commanded_you **YHWH**. **15** And_ Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) _he/it_rose_up and_he/it_ascended from (the)_Gilgāl Giv῾āh of_Binyāmīn and_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he_ _mustered ĐOM the_people who_were_found with_him/it about_six hundred(s) man. **16** And_Shā'ūl and_ _Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) his/its_son and_the_people which_was_found with_them were_remaining in_Gev῾a῾ of_ _Binyāmīn and_the_Pəlishtiy they_encamped in_Mikmāṣ. **17** And_ the_destroyer _he/it_went_out from_the_camp_of the_ _Pəlishtiy three companies the_company one it_turned to the_ _direction_of ῾Ofrāh to the_land_of Shū῾āl. **18** And_the_company one it_turned the_direction_of Bēyt Ḥōrōn and_the_company one it_turned the_direction_of the_border which_looks_down over the_valley_of Tsəv῾o῾īm/(Zeboim) to_the_wilderness. **19** And_a_craftsman not he_was_found in_all_of the_land_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) if/because they_said[6667] the_Pəlishtiy lest the_ _῾Ivrī/(Hebrews) they_should_make a_sword or a_spear. **20** And_ all_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_went_down the_Pəlishtiy to_sharpen each_man ĐOM plowshare_of_his and_ĐOM mattock_ _of_his and_ĐOM axe_of_his and_ĐOM plowshare_of_his. **21** And_ _it_was the_charge two_thirds_of_a_shekel for_plowshares and_ _for_mattocks and_for_three fork and_for_the_axes and_to_ _make_straight the_goad[s]. **22** And_it_was in/on_day battle and_not a_sword and_a_spear it_was_found in_the_hand_of all_ _of the_people which was_with Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_ĐOM Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) and_it_was_found to_Shā'ūl and_to_Yōnātān his/its_son. **23** And_ the_garrison_of the_ _Pəlishtiy _he/it_went_out to the_pass_of Mikmāṣ.

**14:1** And_ the_day _he/it_was and_ Yōnātān the_son_of Shā'ūl _ _he/it_said to the_young_man the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_ _his come and_let_us_pass_over to the_garrison_of the_ _Pəlishtiy which is_from_the_other_side_of this and_to_father_ _of_his not he_told. **2** And_Shā'ūl was_remaining at_the_edge_

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and the peace offerings," Sha'ul commanded, then he offered up the burnt offering. **10** Just as he'd finished, wow, Shmuel arrived at last, and Sha'ul went over to greet him. **11** "What have you done?" Shmuel asked.

"When I saw the people leaving me," Sha'ul replied "and you, you didn't get here when you said you would, and the Pelishtim were gathering at Mikmas, **12** then I thought, 'The Pelishtim are about to attack us at Gilgal, and I haven't offered any gift to Yahweh.' So I forced myself, and offered up the burnt up offering."

**13** "That was stupid of you," Shmuel responded. "You haven't obeyed what your god Yahweh instructed, because if you had, then Yahweh would have established your reign over Yisrael (Israel) forever. **14** But now your kingdom won't survive. Yahweh has found a man who's loyal to him and he's commanded that man to lead his people,[64] because you haven't obeyed him.

**15** Then Shmuel left Gilgal and went to Giveah in Benyamite territory. Meanwhile, Sha'ul counted up the warriors with him—around six hundred of them. **16** Sha'ul and his son Yonatan (Jonathan) and the people with them, were staying in Geva, whereas the Pelishtim were camped at Mikmas, **17** and they sent out three raiding parties—one went north to Ofrah in the Shual region, **18** one went west to Beyt-Horon, and one went towards the wilderness where the border overlooks the Tsevoeim valley.

**19** At that time, there were no blacksmiths in Yisrael (Israel) because the Pelishtim didn't want the Israelis to be able to make swords or spears, **20** so all the Israelis had to go to the Pelishtim to get their axes and plough blades, etc., sharpened. **21** (They were charged two-thirds of a shekel for larger things like plough blades, and one-third for picks and axes, and for straightening ox goads.) **22** So on the day of battle, Sha'ul and his son Yonatan had a sword and spear each, but none of their warriors had any.

**23** Now one Pelishti unit had been sent out to guard the pass at Mikmas.

**Yonatan's bravery · Full kingdom**

**14:1** Then one day, Sha'ul's (Saul's) son Yonatan (Jonathan) said to the young man who carried his equipment, "Come on, let's cross over to the Pelishti unit that's over on the opposite side." But he didn't tell his

**64 RV 13:14 · Cross-ref.** Acts 13:22.

**66 LV 13:19 · Note** OSHB variant note: **רמא**: (x-qere) **'וְרָמָא'**; lemma_559 morph_HVqp3cp id_09Y4x **וְרָמָא**

**67 LV 13:19 · Note** OSHB note: Adaptations to a Qere which L and BHS, by their design, do not indicate.

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father. **2** Meanwhile, Sha'ul was still waiting under the pomegranate tree in Migron on the outskirts of Geva with around six-hundred warriors. **3** Ahiyah the priest was also there wearing a sacred apron. (He was son of Ahituv the brother of I-Kavod, son of Pinhas, son of Eli, Yahweh's priest at Shiloh.) But the people didn't know that Yonatan had gone.

**4** Meanwhile, for Yonatan to get to the Pelishti garrison, they had to go through a narrow pass between two cliffs. (The cliff on one side was named Botsets, and the other was named Seneh. **5** One cliff faced north toward Mikmas, and the other side faced south toward Geva.)

**6** Yonatan said to his servant carrying his equipment, "Come on. Let's pass over to that group of these uncircumcised ones. Perhaps Yahweh will help us, because it doesn't matter to him whether he saves using many people or just a few."

**7** "Do everything that you feel is right," he responded. "Go on ahead and be confident that I'll be there supporting you."

**8** "Now listen," Yonatan said. "We'll cross over and then reveal ourselves to them. **9** Then if they tell us, 'Stay there until we get down to you,' then we'll stay where we are and not go up to them. **10** But if they say, 'Come on up to us,' then we'll go up, because that'll be the sign to us that Yahweh will help us overpower them."

**11** So the two of them revealed themselves to the Pelishti unit, and the soldiers said, "Hey, look! The Ivrim (Hebrews) are coming out from the holes there where they've hidden themselves." **12** Then some of the men called to Yonatan and his servant, "Come on up here to us and we'll teach you a thing or two."

"Come on up behind me," Yonatan told his servant, "because Yahweh has already declared Yisrael (Israel) to be the victor." **13** So Yonatan climbed up on his hands and feet, with his servant following behind him. Then at the top, Yonatan struck them down with his sword while his servant followed behind and killed them. **14** In that first offensive, Yonatan and his servant killed about twenty men in an area of around 30m square. **15** At that time, Pelishtim in the camp started getting the jitters, then all the people, and even raiding parties. Then the ground shook, and it turned into a god-given panic.

**Yisrael defeats the Pelishtim · Full kingdom**

**16** Sha'ul's (Saul's) lookouts in Giveah (in Benyamite territory) saw to their surprise that their opponents were starting to scatter in every direction. **17** "Count our people and see who's missing," Sha'ul commanded, so they called the roll and wow, it was Yonatan (Jonathan) and his servant who weren't accounted for. **18** "Bring the sacred chest here," Sha'ul told Ahiyah the priest, because the Israelis had control of it again at that time. **19** But

**Literal Version**

_of (the)_Giv˝āh under (the)_pomegranate_tree which is_in_ _Migrōn and_the_people which with_him/it was_about_six hundred(s) man. **3** And_'Aḥiy$^{yāh}$ the_son_of 'Aḥītūv the_ _brother_of 'Ī-kāvōd the_son_of Piṇḥāṣ the_son_of ´Ēlī the_ _priest_of **YHWH** in_Shiloh was_bearing an_ephod and_the_ _people not it_knew if/because_that Yōnātān he_had_gone. **4** And_between the_passes which Yōnātān he_sought to_pass_ _over to the_garrison_of the_Pəlishtiy the_tooth_of the_rock from_the_other_side from_this and_the_tooth_of the_rock from_the_other_side from_this and_name_of the_one was_ _Bōtsēts and_name_of the_one was_Ṣenneh. **5** The_tooth the_ _one a_pillar was_from_the_north opposite_to Mikmāṣ and_ _the_one_tooth was_from_the_south opposite_to Gev˝a´. **6** And_ Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) _he/it_said to the_young_ _man the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his come and_let_us_ _pass_over to the_garrison_of the_uncircumcised_men the_ _these perhaps **YHWH** he_will_act to/for_us if/because there_ _is_not to/for_**YHWH** limitation to_save by_many or by_few. **7** And_he/it_said to_him/it the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his do all_of that is_in_heart_of_your turn_aside to/for_you(fs) here_I am_with_you according_to_of_your_heart. **8** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_said HERE we are_about_to_pass_over to the_ _men and_we_will_reveal_ourselves to_them. **9** If thus they_ _will_say to_us be_still until reach_we (to)_you(pl) and_we_will_ _remain in_our_place and_not we_will_go_up to_them. **10** And_ _if thus they_will_say come_up to_us and_we_will_go_up if/because he_has_given_them **YHWH** in_hand_of_our and_this to/for_ourselves will_be_the_sign. **11** And_ both_of_them _ _they_revealed_themselves to the_garrison_of the_Pəlishtiy and_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_said HERE ´Ivrī/(Hebrews) are_ _coming_out from the_holes where they_have_hidden_ _themselves there. **12** And_ the_men_of the_garrison _they_ _answered ĐOM Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) and_ĐOM the_ _bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his and_they_said come_up to_us and_we_will_make_known_to you(pl) something and_ Yōnātān _he/it_said to the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his come_up after_me if/because he_has_given_them **YHWH** in_the_hand_of Yisrā'$^{ēl}$/(Israel). **13** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_ascended on hands_of_ _his and_on feet_of_his and_the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his was_behind_him and_they_fell to_(the)_face_of/in_front_ _of/before Yōnātān and_the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his was_killing behind_him. **14** And_it_became the_slaughter (the)_ _first which Yōnātān and_the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his he_struck_down about_twenty man about_in_half_of a_furrow an_acre_of a_field. **15** And_it_became trembling in_camp in_ _field and_on/over_all the_people the_garrison and_the_ _destroyer also they they_trembled and_ the_earth/land _it_ _quaked and_it_became (into)_a_trembling_of god.

**16** And_ the_watchmen of_Shā'ūl/(Saul) at_Giv˝āh of_Binyāmīn _they_saw and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE the_multitude it_melted_away and_he/it_went and_here. **17** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to_people which with_him/it muster please and_see who has_he_gone from_with_us and_they_mustered and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE were_ _not Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) and_the_bearer_of his_ _armour(s)_of_his. **18** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to_'Aḥiy$^{yāh}$ bring_ _near the_box_of the_'Elohīm if/because it_was the_box_of the_ _'Elohīm in_the_day (the)_that and_the_sons of_

**Literal Version**

_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **19** And_he/it_was until Shā'ūl he_spoke to the_priest/officer and_the_tumult which was_in_the_camp_of the_Pəlishtiy and_he/it_went going and_great and_ Shā'ūl _ _he/it_said to the_priest/officer withdraw hand_of_your. **20** And_ Shā'ūl and_all the_people which with_him/it _he_was_ _called_together and_they_came to the_battle and_ _BEHOLD/LO/SEE it_was the_sword_of each_man in_ _neighbour_of_his confusion was_great very. **21** And_the_ _'Ivrī/(Hebrews) who_they_had_belonged to_Pəlishtiy as_ _yesterday three_days_ago who they_had_gone_up with_them in_camp all_around and_also they to_be with Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) which was_with Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_Yōnātān. **22** And_ _all/each/any/every (the)_person_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) who_had_ _hidden_themselves in_the_hill_country_of 'Efrayim they_ _heard if/because_that the_Pəlishtiy they_had_fled and_ also they _they_pursued_closely after_them in_battle. **23** And_ **YHWH** _he_delivered in_the_day (the)_that ĐOM Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_the_battle it_passed_beyond ĐOM Bēyt Aven.

**24** And_the_man_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) he_was_hard_pressed in_ _the_day (the)_that and_ Shā'ūl _he_had_put_under_oath ĐOM the_people to_say the_man who he_will_eat food until the_ _evening be_cursed and_I_will_avenge_myself from_enemies_ _of_my and_not all_of the_people it_tasted food. **25** And_all the_ _earth/land they_went in_forest and_he/it_was honey on the_ _surface_of the_field. **26** And_ the_people _it_came into the_ _forest and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE a_flowing_of honey and_there_ _was_not one_who_reached his/its_hand to mouth_of_his if/because the_people it_feared ĐOM the_oath. **27** And_ _Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) not he_had_heard when_ his/its_father _made_to_swear_an_oath ĐOM the_people and_ _he_stretched_out ĐOM the_end_of the_staff which in_his/its_ _hand and_he_dipped it in_the_honeycomb_of the_honey and_ _he_brought_back his/its_hand to mouth_of_his and[70] eyes_of_ _his. **28** And_ a_person of_the_people _he_answered and_he/it_ _said indeed_(swear_an_oath) father_of_your he_made_to_ _swear_an_oath ĐOM the_people to_say the_man who he_will_ _eat food the_day be_cursed and_ the_people _it_was_weary. **29** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_said father_of_my he_has_troubled ĐOM the_earth/land see please if/because_that eyes_of_my they_brightened if/because I_tasted a_little_of honey (the)_ _this. **30** Indeed if/because if indeed_(eat) it_had_eaten the_day the_people any_of_the_plunder_of its_enemies_of_his which it_ _found if/because now not defeat among_Pəlishtiy it_has_ _been_great. **31** And_they_defeated in_the_day (the)_that (in)_ _Pəlishtiy from_Mikmās to_'Ayyālōn and_ the_people _it_was_ _weary exceedingly. **32** And[71] the_people to the_plunder[72] and_ _they_took sheep and_cattle and_the_sons the_herd and_they_ _slaughtered_them ground_to_the and_ the_people _it_ate_ _them with blood. **33** And_people_told to_Shā'ūl/(Saul) to_say THERE the_people are_sinning to/for_**YHWH** by_eating with the_blood and_he/it_said you(pl)_have_acted_treacherously roll to_me the_day a_stone great. **34** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said be_

**Readers' Version**

even as Sha'ul was speaking to him, the confusion in the Pelishti camp was continually increasing, and Sha'ul told him, "Oh, don't worry about it." **20** Then he called his warriors together and they went forward to battle. To their surprise, the Pelishtim were fighting each other in total confusion. **21** Now before that time, some Ivrim (Hebrews) had joined the Pelishti camp, but now they switched alliance back to Yisrael (Israel) with Sha'ul and Yonatan. **22** Also, there had been some Israeli deserters who'd hidden in the Efrati hill country heard that the Pelishtim were fleeing, and so they too also chased and attacked them. **23** So Yahweh saved Yisrael that day, and the fighting went as far as Beyt-Aven.

**Yonatan eats honey · Full kingdom**

**24** Now the Israeli warriors were getting exhausted that day, but Sha'ul (Saul) had made the them promise, "We need to avenge our enemies. Anyone who eats food before the evening is cursed." **25** But when they reached the forest, there was honeycomb on the ground. **26** Although the warriors entered the forest and saw the honey, none of them tasted any because they were afraid of the curse. **27** But Yonatan (Jonathan) hadn't heard his father's oath, so he dipped his staff into the honeycomb and ate some honey and felt rejuvenated. **28** However, someone noticed it and mentioned, "Your father made the people promise, 'Anyone who eats food today will be cursed.' So the people are faint."

**29** "My father's caused trouble for us," Yonatan responded. "See how much better I feel now because I tasted a little bit of this honey. **30** Actually, if the troops had eaten what they'd found from the plunder of their enemies today, how much better it would have been because we might have had an even more decisive victory over the Pelishtim."

**31** That day they killed Pelishtim from Mikmas to Ayalon, but the fighters were totally exhausted. **32** They rushed greedily at the plunder, grabbing sheep, cattle, and calves which they slaughtered right there and ate with the blood still in them. **33** Then King Sha'ul (Saul) was told, "Look, the people are sinning against Yahweh by eating meat with the blood still in it."[68]

"You've all acted treacherously," he responded, "Now, roll a big stone over to me." **34** Then he said, "Go out among the warriors and tell them to bring their animals over here to slaughter and to eat, so they don't sin against Yahweh by eating meat with the blood still in it." So the people brought their animals over and slaughtered them there. **35** Then Sha'ul built an altar to Yah-

**68 RV 14:33 · Cross-ref.** Gen 9:4; Lev 7:26-27; 17:10-14; 19:26; Deu 12:16,23; 15:23.

**70 LV 14:27 · Note** OSHB variant note: הנארת/ו: (x-qere) 'הָנַרְאָת/ו': lemma_c/215 n_0.0 morph_HC/Vqw3fp id_09xwi הָנַרְאָת/ו

**71 LV 14:32 · Note** OSHB variant note: שעי/ו: (x-qere) 'טַעַי/ו': lemma_c/5860 b morph_HC/Vqw3ms id_09B7n טַעַי/ו

**72 LV 14:32 · Note** OSHB variant note: לולש: (x-qere) 'לֻלָּשׁ/ה': lemma_d/7998 n_1.1 morph_HTd/Ncmsa id_09cMk לֻלָּשׁ/ה

**Readers' Version**

weh—it was the first one he built.

**36** Then Sha'ul said, "Let's go after the Pelishtim tonight and plunder them until the light of morning. Let's not leave any of them alive."

"Do what you feel is right," they responded.

But the priest said, "Let's ask God here first."

**37** So Sha'ul asked God, "Should we go after the Pelishtim? Will you give Yisrael (Israel) victory over them?" But Yahweh didn't answer him that day. **38** Then Sha'ul commanded, "All you leaders of the warriors. Gather here so we can find out what sin was committed today. **39** As Yahweh who saves Yisrael lives, even if it's my own son Yonatan (Jonathan), whoever sinned today will certainly die." But the people didn't volunteer any information. **40** "You all can be on one side, and my son Yonatan and I will be on the other side," Sha'ul said.

"Do whatever feels right to you," the people replied.

**41** Then Sha'ul asked Yisrael's god Yahweh, "Show us the truth." And Sha'ul and Yonatan were selected—not the people.[69] **42** Then Sha'ul asked again, "Choose between me and my son Yonatan." And Yonatan was selected. **43** Sha'ul demanded from Yonatan, "Tell me what you've done."

"Actually," Yonatan answered, "I did taste some honey from the end of my staff, so take me—I'm ready to die."

**44** "May God do to me whatever he wants," Sha'ul said. "because you will certainly die, Yonatan."

**45** But the people stood up to Sha'ul, "Should Yonatan die? Wasn't it him who saved Yisrael today? We won't stand for it. As Yahweh lives, not even a hair on his head will be touched because he worked with God today." And so the people rescued Yonatan and he wasn't executed.

**46** Then Sha'ul stopped chasing the Pelishtim and went home, and the Pelishtim also returned to their place.

**Sha'ul's kingdom, and his family details · Full kingdom**

**47** After Sha'ul (Saul) had taken on the kingship of Yisrael (Israel), he fought against their enemies from all around: against the Moavim, the Amonim, the Edomim, the kings of Tsovah, and against the Pelishtim. Wherever he turned, he punished his enemies. **48** He acted bravely and defeated even the Amalekim, always rescuing Yisrael from those who came in to plunder it.

**Literal Version**

_scattered among_people and_you(pl)_will_say to/for_them bring_near to_me each_one ox_of_his and_each_one sheep_of_ _his and_you(pl)_will_slaughter_it in_this_place and_you(pl)_ _will_eat_it and_not you(pl)_will_sin to/for_**YHWH** by_eating with the_blood and_ all_of the_people _they_brought_near each_one ox_of_his by_hand_of_his the_night and_they_ _slaughtered_it there. **35** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_built an_altar to/for_**YHWH** ~~ḎǪM~~_him/it he_began to_build an_altar to/for_ _**YHWH**. **36** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said let_us_go_down after the_ _Pəlishtiy night and_let_us_plunder in/among_them until the_ _light_of the_morning and_not let_us_leave (is)_in_them anyone and_they_said all_of the_good in_eyes_of_your do and_ the_priest/officer _he/it_said let_us_draw_near here to the_ _'Elohīm. **37** And_ Shā'ūl _he_enquired by_god will_I_go_down after the_Pəlishtiy will_you_give_them in_the_hand_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_not he_answered_him in_the_day (the)_ _that. **38** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_said draw_near here Oh_all_ _of the_corners_of the_people and_know and_see how the_sin (the)_this has_it_happened the_day. **39** If/because by_the_life of_**YHWH** who_delivers ~~ḎǪM~~ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) if/because if (there)_it is_in_Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) son_of_my if/because surely_(die) he_will_die and_there_was_not one_of_ _who_answered_him from_all the_people. **40** And_he/it_said to all_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) you(pl) you(pl)_will_be to_a_side one and_I and_Yōnātān son_of_my we_will_be to_a_side one and_ the_people _they_said to Shā'ūl the_good in_eyes_of_your do. **41** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to **YHWH** the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) come_NOW a_blameless_lot and_ Yōnātān and_Shā'ūl _he_was_ _taken_by_lot and_the_people they_went_out. **42** And_ Shā'ūl _ _he/it_said make_fall between_me and_between Yōnātān son_ _of_my and_ Yōnātān _he_was_taken_by_lot. **43** And_ Shā'ūl _ _he/it_said to Yōnātān tell to/for_me what have_you_done and_he_told to_him/it Yōnātān and_he/it_said indeed_(taste) I_tasted with_the_end_of the_staff which was_in_hand_of_my a_little_of honey here_I I_will_die. **44** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_ _said thus god may_he_do and_thus may_he_add if/because surely_(die) you_will_die Oh_Yōnātān. **45** And_ the_people _ _he/it_said to Shā'ūl Yōnātān who he_has_done the_ _deliverance (the)_great (the)_this in_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) will_he_ _die far_be_it by_the_life of_**YHWH** if one_of_the_hair[s]_of his/its_head it_will_fall towards_land if/because with god he_ _has_acted the_day the_this and_ the_people _they_redeemed ~~ḎǪM~~ Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) and_not he_died. **46** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_ascended from_after the_Pəlishtiy and_ _the_Pəlishtiy they_went to_their_own_of_place.

**47** And_Shā'ūl he_had_taken the_royalty over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_he_waged_war all_around in_all enemies_of_his against_ _Mō'āv and_against_the_people_of ʹAmmōn and_against_'Edōm and_against_the_kings_of Tsōvāh/(Zobah) and_against_ _Pəlishtiy and_in_every where he_turned he_acted_wickedly. **48** And_he/it_made strength and_he_defeated ~~ḎǪM~~ ʹAmālēq and_he_delivered ~~ḎǪM~~ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) from_the_hand_of those_ _who_plundered_it. **49** And_ the_sons_of Shā'ūl _they_were Yōnātān and_Yishvī/(Ishvi) and_Malkī- shūʹa and_name_of the_

**69 RV 14:41 · Cross-ref.** Num 27:21; 1Sam 28:6.

**Literal Version**

_two_of daughters_of_his the_name_of the_firstborn was_ _Mērāv and_name_of the_young_one was_Mīkāl. **50** And_name_ _of the_wife_of Shā'ūl/(Saul) was_'Aḥīno'am the_daughter_of 'Aḥīma'ats and_name_of the_commander_of his_army_of_his was_'Avnēr the_son_of Nēr the_uncle_of Shā'ūl. **51** And_Qīsh was_the_father_of Shā'ūl and_Nēr the_father_of 'Avnēr was_ _the_son_of 'Avī'ēl. **52** And_it_became the_war severe on the_ _Pəlishtiy all_of the_days_of Shā'ūl and_ Shā'ūl _he_saw every_ _of man mighty and_all son_of strength and_he_gathered_him to_him/it.

**15:1** And_ Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) _he/it_said to Shā'ūl ÐOM_me **YHWH** he_sent to_anoint_you to_king over people_of_his over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_now listen to_sound/voice of_the_ _words/messages_of of_**YHWH**. **2** Thus **YHWH** soldiers/messengers he_says I_have_paid_attention_to ÐOM that_which ´Amālēq it_did to_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) that_which it_set to_him/it on_way when_it_came_up from_Mitsrayim/(Egypt). **3** Now go and_you_will_attack ÐOM ´Amālēq and_you(pl)_will_ _totally_destroy ÐOM all_of that to_him/it and_not you_must_ _have_compassion on/upon/above_him/it and_you_will_put_ _to_death from_man unto a_woman from_a_child and_unto a_ _sucking_child from_an_ox and_unto a_sheep from_a_camel and_unto a_donkey. **4** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he_summoned ÐOM the_people and_he_mustered_them at_Ṭəlā'īm two_hundred thousand foot_soldier[s] and_ten_of thousand(s) with (the)_ _man_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah). **5** And_ Shā'ūl _he_came to the_city_ _of ´Amālēq and_he_lay_in_wait in_wadi. **6** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_ _said to the_Qēynī[s] go depart go_down from_among_of the_ _´Amālēqite[s] lest I_should_destroy_you with_him/it and_ _you(ms) you_did loyalty with all_of the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) when_they_came_up from_Mitsrayim and_ the_ _Qēynī[s] _it_departed from_among_of ´Amālēq. **7** And_ Shā'ūl _ _he_defeated ÐOM ´Amālēq from_Ḥavīlāh come_you Shūr which is_on the_face_of Mitsrayim. **8** And_he_seized ÐOM 'Agag the_ _king_of ´Amālēq alive and_ÐOM all_of the_people he_totally_ _destroyed to_the_mouth_of the_sword. **9** And_ Shā'ūl and_the_ _people _he_had_compassion on 'Agag and_on the_best_of the_ _sheep and_the_cattle and_the_second and_on the_lambs and_ _on all_of the_good and_not they_were_willing to_totally_ _destroy_them and_all the_property despised and_worthless ÐOM_her/it they_totally_destroyed.

**10** And_ the_message_of **YHWH** _he/it_was to Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) to_say. **11** I_regret if/because_that I_have_ _made_king ÐOM Shā'ūl/(Saul) to_king if/because he_has_ _turned_back from_after_me and_ÐOM words/messages_of_my not he_has_carried_out and_it_glowed/burnt to_Shəmū'ēl and_ _he_cried_out to **YHWH** all_of the_night. **12** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he_ _rose_early to_meet Shā'ūl in_morning and_it_was_told to_ _Shəmū'ēl to_say Shā'ūl he_came to_(the)_Karmel/(Carmel) and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE he_was_setting_up to_him/it a_ _monument and_he_turned and_he_passed_on and_he/it_ _descended (the)_Gilgāl. **13** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he_came to Shā'ūl and_he/it_said to_him/it Shā'ūl you be_blessed to/for_**YHWH** I_have_carried_out ÐOM the_message_of **YHWH**. **14** And_

**Readers' Version**

**49** Sha'ul's sons were Yonatan (Jonathan), Yishvi, and Malkishua. His oldest daughter was Merav, and the younger one was Mikal. **50** His wife's name was Ahinoam (daughter of Ahima'ats). His army commander was Avner (son of Sha'ul's uncle Ner— **51** Kish was Sha'ul's father, and Avner's father Ner was Aviel's son).

**52** The conflict with the Pelishtim was intensive for all of Sha'ul's life, so whenever he saw a good warrior or any strong, young man, then he would conscript them.

**Sha'ul destroys the Amalekim · Full kingdom**

**15:1** One day Shmuel (Samuel) said to Sha'ul (Saul), "It was Yahweh who sent me to anoint you as king over his people Yisrael (Israel) back then,[73] so now, listen to what he has to say. **2** Commander Yahweh says, 'I've noticed what the Amalekim did to Yisrael when they came out of Mitsrayim (Egypt)—they attacked them as they passed by.[74] **3** So go now and attack Amalek and destroy them completely without compassion, putting men and women, children and infants to death, along with their cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.' "

**4** So Sha'ul summoned the people to Telaim and counted them: two hundred thousand foot soldiers as well as ten thousand warriors from Yehudah (Judah). **5** Then Sha'ul took them to Amalek city, and they lay in wait in the valley. **6** Then he warned the Keynim, "You all need to move out from among the Amalekim, so that you all won't be attacked along with them. That's because you all were kind to our ancestors when they came out of Mitsrayim." So the Keynim moved out from among the Amalekim.

**7** Then Sha'ul slaughtered the Amalekim from Havilah to Shur (near Mitsrayim), **8** and they captured King Agag alive but killed everyone else with swords. **9** However, as well as sparing Agag, they took the best sheep and cattle

**God rejects Sha'ul · Full kingdom**

**10** Then Yahweh told Shmuel (Samuel), **11** "I regret that I've appointed Sha'ul (Saul) as king because he's turned away from following me and hasn't obeyed my instructions." That really upset Shmuel and he cried out to Yahweh all night. **12** Early the next morning, Shmuel got up to meet Sha'ul, but someone told him, "Sha'ul went to Karmel, and wow, he set up a monument to himself. Then he turned around and went to Gilgal." **13** When Shmuel caught up with Sha'ul, Sha'ul told him, "May Yahweh bless you. I've followed Yahweh's instructions."

**14** "Then what's that bleating of sheep that I can hear?" asked

**73 RV 15:1 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 10:1.

**74 RV 15:2 · Cross-ref.** Exo 17:8-14; Deu 25:17-19.

**Readers' Version**

Shmuel. "And I'm sure I can hear cattle sounds too?"

**15** "Ah, the warriors took them from the Amalekim," Sha'ul answered. "They wanted to save the best of the sheep and the cattle in order to sacrifice to your god Yahweh. But we completely destroyed the rest."

**16** "Stop," said Shmuel, "and let me tell you what Yahweh told me last night."

"Go ahead," Sha'ul responded.

**17** So Shmuel told him, "Although you consider yourself insignificant, aren't you the head of the tribes of Yisrael (Israel)? Yahweh anointed you as king over Yisrael, **18** then sent you off with the task of completely destroying the sinful Amalekim—fighting until they were all destroyed. **19** So why didn't you obey Yahweh's command? Instead, you headed straight for the plunder and disobeyed Yahweh."

**20** "I did listen to Yahweh's instructions," Sha'ul insisted. "and I did what he asked. So now I've brought Amaleki King Agag here and I've completely destroyed the Amalekim. **21** Yes, the people kept some of the best sheep and cattle to sacrifice to your god Yahweh here at Gilgal."

**22** But Shmuel asked,

"Is Yahweh happier with burnt offerings and sacrifices
than with those who follow his instructions?
Listen, obedience is better than sacrifice—
paying attention is worth more than the fat of rams.
**23** Rebellion is as sinful as doing sorcery,
and being stubborn is as sinful as worshipping idols.
Because you have rejected Yahweh's instructions,
he has rejected you as king."

**24** "Yes, I've sinned," Sha'ul (Saul) responded. "I can see that I've disobeyed Yahweh's instruction, and yours too, because I feared the people and did what they were requesting. **25** But now, please forgive my sin and come back with me so I can worship Yahweh."

**26** "No, I won't return with you." Shmuel (Samuel) replied. "You've rejected Yahweh's instructions, and Yahweh has already rejected you as Yisrael's (Israel's) king."

**27** As Shmuel turned around to go, Sha'ul grabbed the edge of his robe and it tore.[75] **28** "Today, Yahweh has torn the kingdom of Yisrael away from you," Shmuel told him. "And he's given it to another man who's better than you. **29** And by the way, Yisrael's powerful God doesn't go back on his word, and doesn't change his mind like people tend to do.

**30** "It's true that I've sinned," Sha'ul said, "but please honour me now in front of the Israeli people and their elders. And then return with me, so I can worship your god Yahweh." **31** So Shmuel followed Sha'ul back, and Sha'ul worshipped Yahweh.

**32** Then Shmuel commanded, "Bring the Amaleki King Agag over here to me."

**Literal Version**

Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said and_what is_the_sound_of the_sheep the_ _this in_ears_of_my and_the_sound_of the_cattle which I am_ _hearing. **15** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said from_the_´Amālēqite[s] people_brought_them that the_people it_had_compassion on the_best_of the_sheep and_the_cattle so_as to_sacrifice_them to/for_**YHWH** god_of_your and_ĐØM the_rest we_totally_ _destroyed. **16** And_he/it_said Shəmū'ēl to Shā'ūl be_quiet so_ _that_I_may_tell to_you ĐØM that_which **YHWH** he_said to_me the_night and[78] to_him/it speak. **17** And_ Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) _ _he/it_said am_not though were_small you in_your_two's_own_ _of_eyes the_chief_of the_tribes_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) are_you and_he_anointed_you **YHWH** to_king over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **18** And_he_sent_you **YHWH** on_a_journey and_he/it_said go and_you_will_totally_destroy ĐØM the_sinners ĐØM ´Amālēq and_you_will_wage_war in_him/it until destroy_they ĐØM_ _them. **19** And_for_what not did_you_listen to_the_voice_of **YHWH** and_did_you_rush to the_plunder and_did_you_do the_ _evil in/on_both_eyes_of **YHWH**. **20** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_ _said to Shəmū'ēl which/who I_listened to_the_voice_of **YHWH** and_I_went on_journey which he_sent_me **YHWH** and_I_ _brought ĐØM 'Agag the_king_of ´Amālēq and_ĐØM ´Amālēq I_ _totally_destroyed. **21** And_ the_people _he/it_took from_the_ _plunder sheep and_cattle the_choicest_of the_object[s]_for_ _destruction to_sacrifice_them to/for_**YHWH** god_of_your in_ _Gilgāl. **22** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said does_delight to/for_ _**YHWH** in_burnt_offerings and_sacrifices like_listening to_the_ _voice_of **YHWH** HERE to_obey more_than_sacrifice is_good to_ _pay_attention more_than_the_fat_of rams. **23** If/because is_ _the_sin_of divination rebellion and_is_wickedness and_ _teraphim presumption because you_have_rejected ĐØM the_ _message_of **YHWH** and_he_has_rejected_you from_king. **24** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) I_have_sinned if/because I_have_transgressed ĐØM the_mouth_of **YHWH** and_ _ĐØM words/messages_of_your if/because I_feared ĐØM the_ _people and_I_listened to_voice_of_their. **25** And_now forgive please ĐØM sin_of_my and_return with_me so_that_I_may_bow_ _down to/for_**YHWH**. **26** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said to Shā'ūl/(Saul) not I_will_return with_you if/because you_have_ _rejected ĐØM the_message_of **YHWH** and_he_has_rejected_you **YHWH** from_being king over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **27** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he_turned_round to_go and_he_took_hold on_the_skirt_of his_ _robe_of_his and_it_tore. **28** And_he/it_said to_him/it Shəmū'ēl **YHWH** he_has_torn ĐØM the_kingship_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) from_ _with_you the_day and_he_will_give_it to_neighbour_of_your (the)_good more_than_you. **29** And_also the_eminence_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) not he_will_deal_falsely and_not he_will_regret if/because not is_a_man he to_regret. **30** And_he/it_said I_ _have_sinned now honour_me please before the_elders_of my_ _people_of_my and_before Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_return with_me and_I_will_bow_down to/for_**YHWH** god_of_your. **31** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he_returned after Shā'ūl and_ Shā'ūl _he_bowed_ _down to/for_**YHWH**. **32** And_ Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) _he/it_said bring_near to_me ĐØM 'Agag the_king_of ´Amālēq and_he/it_ _went to_him/it 'Agag bonds and_ 'Agag _he/it_said truly the_

**75 RV 15:27-28 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 28:17; 1Ki 11:30-31.

**78 LV 15:16 · Note** OSHB variant note: ורמאי/ו: (x-qere) רֶמְאָי/ו: lemma_c/559 morph_HC/Vqw3ms id_09ExA רֶמְאָי/ו

**Literal Version**

_bitterness_of (the)_death it_has_departed. **33** And_ Shəmū'ēl _ _he/it_said just_as sword_of_your it_has_made_childless women so she_will_become_childless from_women mother_of_ _your and_ Shəmū'ēl _he_cut_to_pieces ĐOM 'Agag to_(the)_face_ _of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** in_Gilgāl. **34** And_ Shəmū'ēl _ _he/it_went to_(the)_Rāmāh and_Shā'ūl/(Saul) he_went_up to house_of_his Giv̌'āh of_Shā'ūl. **35** And_not Shəmū'ēl he_ _repeated to_see ĐOM Shā'ūl until the_day_of his_death_of_his if/because Shəmū'ēl he_mourned concerning Shā'ūl and_**YHWH** he_regretted if/because_that he_had_made_king ĐOM Shā'ūl over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel).

**16:1** And_ **YHWH** _he/it_said to Shəmū'ēl until when are_you mourning to Shā'ūl and_I I_have_rejected_him from_reigning over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) fill horn_of_your oil and_go I_will_send_ _you to Yishay/(Jesse) the_Bēyt- lehemite if/because I_have_ _seen among_sons_of_his to_me a_king. **2** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_ _said how will_I_go and_ Shā'ūl _he_will_hear and_he_will_kill_ _me and_ **YHWH** _he/it_said a_heifer_of cattle you_will_take in_hand_of_your and_you_will_say to_sacrifice to/for_**YHWH** I_ _have_come. **3** And_you_will_invite (to)_Yishay at_sacrifice and_I I_will_make_known_to_you(pl) ĐOM that_which you_will_ _do and_you_will_anoint to_me ĐOM the_one_whom I_will_say to_you. **4** And_ Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) _he/it_made ĐOM that_which **YHWH** he_said and_he_came Bēyt- leḥem and_ the_elders_of the_city _they_trembled to_meet_him and_he/it_said peace is_ _your_coming. **5** And_he/it_said peace to_sacrifice to/for_ _**YHWH** I_have_come consecrate_yourselves and_you(pl)_will_ _come with_me at_sacrifice and_he/it_consecrated ĐOM Yishay and_ĐOM sons_of_his and_he/it_called to/for_them to_sacrifice. **6** And_he/it_was when_came_they and_he/it_saw ĐOM 'Elī'āv̌ and_he/it_said surely is_before **YHWH** his_of_anointed. **7** And_ **YHWH** _he/it_said to Shəmū'ēl do_not look to appearance_of_ _his and_near/to the_height_of his_stature_of_his if/because I_ _have_rejected_him if/because not that_which the_humankind he_sees if/because the_humankind he_sees to_eyes and_**YHWH** he_sees to_heart. **8** And_ Yishay/(Jesse) _he/it_called to 'Av̌īnādāv̌ and_he_made_him_pass_by to_(the)_face_of/in_ _front_of/before Shəmū'ēl and_he/it_said also (in)_this_one not **YHWH** he_has_chosen. **9** And_ Yishay _he_made_pass_by Shammāh and_he/it_said also (in)_this_one not **YHWH** he_has_ _chosen. **10** And_ Yishay _he_made_pass_by seven_of his_sons_ _of_his to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) and_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said to Yishay not **YHWH** he_has_chosen (in)_these. **11** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said to Yishay are_ the_ _young_men _they_finished and_he/it_said still the_young_one he_remains and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE he_is_shepherding (in)_flock and_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said to Yishay send and_bring_him if/because not we_will_turn_round until comes_he here. **12** And_he_sent and_he_brought_him and_he was_red with beautiful_of eyes and_good appearance and_ **YHWH** _he/it_said

**Readers' Version**

So they brought him over, and trembling,[76] he said, "I've faced up to death now."[77]

**33** Then Shmuel told him,

"Just as your sword has made women childless,

so too will your mother be made childless among women."

And Shmuel hacked Agag to pieces in front of Yahweh there at Gilgal.

**34** Then Shmuel went home to Ramah, and Sha'ul (Saul) returned to his house in Giveah. **35** After that, Shmuel never saw Sha'ul again, but he mourned for him, and Yahweh regretted that he'd made Sha'ul king over Yisrael (Israel).

**Shmuel anoints David as King · Full kingdom**

**16:1** Then Yahweh spoke to Shmuel (Samuel), "How long are you going to keep mourning for Sha'ul (Saul) for, when I myself have rejected him as king over Yisrael (Israel)? Fill your horn with oil and go. I'll send you to Yishay (Jesse) from Beyt-Lehem (Bethlehem), because I've seen one of his sons who'd make a good king for me."

**2** "How can I do that?" asked Shmuel. "Sha'ul would kill me if he heard about it."

"Take a heifer with you," Yahweh said, "and say, 'I've come to sacrifice to Yahweh.' **3** Invite Yishay to the sacrifice, and I'll show you what do to from there, and you should anoint the one I tell you to."

**4** So Shmuel did what Yahweh had told him, and went to Beyt-Lehem. The town elders trembled when they met him, and asked, "Do you come in peace?"

**5** "Yes, in peace," he answered "I've come to sacrifice to Yahweh. Purify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he purified Yishay and his sons and called them to the sacrifice.

**6** When they arrived, Shmuel saw Eliav and thought, "Surely this man's the one that Yahweh wants to anoint." **7** But Yahweh told him, "Don't look at his height or outward appearance, because I've rejected him. Because it isn't what a person sees with their eyes, but Yahweh sees their motives and values."

**8** Then Yishay called for Avinadav to walk across in front of Shmuel, but he said again, "Yahweh hasn't chosen that one." **9** Then Yishay made Shamah walk across in front, but again he said, "Yahweh hasn't chosen that one." **10** So all up, Yishay made seven of his sons walk across in front of Shmuel, but Shmuel told him, "Yahweh hasn't chosen any of them." **11** Then Shmuel asked Yishay, "Is this all your sons?"

"Well, there's just the youngest," he answered "but you see, he's out looking after the flock."[79]

"Send for him," Shmuel instructed him, "because we won't do anything else until he gets here." **12** So he sent for him and

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**76 RV 15:32 · Note** The meaning of the original word here is unclear and so there'll be different interpretations.

**77 RV 15:32 · Note** Some translations interpret the original words as Agag thinking (or saying to himself) that he was going to be spared, but he surely knew Shmuel.

**79 RV 16:11 · Note** We deliberately left the word 'flock' here (rather than 'sheep'), because although young David is always thought of as 'the shepherd boy' in English culture, in the middle-East, **goats** are probably a more important part of the flock than sheep.

**Readers' Version**

brought him in. He was a good-looker with beautiful eyes and red colouring, and Yahweh said, "Stand up and anoint him, because he's the one." **13** So Shmuel took the horn full of olive oil and anointed him right there with his brothers, and Yahweh's spirit rushed onto David from that day onwards. Then Shmuel left and went home to Ramah.

**Sha'ul employs David · Full kingdom**

**14** Meanwhile, Yahweh's spirit left Sha'ul (Saul), and instead an evil spirit from Yahweh tormented him, **15** and his servants told him, "Look, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. **16** Let our master please get your servants to find a man who knows how to play the harp. Then, whenever the evil spirit from God is on you, then he'll play it and it'll be good for you."

**17** "Okay," Sha'ul responded, "Find a man for me who's good at playing it, and bring him to me."

**18** Then one of his servants spoke up, "Listen, I've noticed one of the sons of Yishay (Jesse) in Beyt-Lehem (Bethlehem) who knows how to play. He's also a very powerful warrior, as well as being good looking and wise in what he says. And Yahweh is with him."

**19** So Sha'ul sent messengers to Yishay to tell him, "Your son David who looks after your flock, send him to me." **20** So Yishay loaded a donkey with bread, a skin of wine, and a young goat, and sent them to King Sha'ul with his son David. **21** When David got to the king, he became his servant, and he was liked so much that he was appointed as the one who carried the king's equipment. **22** Sha'ul sent a message back to Yishay, saying, "Let David remain in my service, because I really like him." **23** Then whenever the spirit from God tormented Sha'ul, David would take the harp and play it. That would bring relief to Sha'ul and make him feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

**Galyat Challenges the Israelis · Full kingdom**

**17:1** At that time, the Pelishtim gathered their army divisions together ready for battle. They assembled at Sokoh in Yehudah (Judah), and camped between Sokoh and Azekah in Efes-Damim. **2** Sha'ul (Saul) and the Israeli warriors gathered and camped in the Elah valley, then they arranged themselves for battle against the Pelishtim. **3** So the Pelishtim stood on one hill and the Israelis on the opposite hill, with the valley between them.

**4** Then the Pelishtim sent a champion out from their camp to represent them. His name was Galyat (Goliath) and he came from Gat, and he was almost three metres[80] tall. **5** He wore a bronze helmet, and his body armour had overlapping plates weighing a total of some fifty-five kilograms. **6** He had bronze armour on his legs, and a bronze plate[81] between his shoulders. **7** The wooden shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam and his

**Literal Version**

arise anoint_him if/because this is_he. **13** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_ _took ÐOM the_horn_of (the)_oil and_he_anointed ÐOM_him/it in_the_midst_of his_brothers_of_his and_ the_spirit_of **YHWH** _ _it_rushed to Dāvid from_the_day (the)_that and_onwards and_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_rose_up and_he/it_went to_(the)_Rāmāh.

**14** And_spirit of_**YHWH** it_departed from_with Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_it_terrified_him a_spirit evil from_with **YHWH**. **15** And_ the_servants_of Shā'ūl _they_said to_him/it HERE please a_ _spirit_of god evil is_terrifying_of_you. **16** Let_him_say please master_of_our your_servants to_your_face let_them_seek a_ _person who_knows playing on_harp and_it_was when_is on_ _you a_spirit_of god evil and_he_will_play in_his/its_hand and_ _good to/for_you(fs). **17** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to servants_of_ _his see please to_me a_person who_does_well to_play and_ _you(pl)_will_bring_him to_me. **18** And_ one of_the_young_men _he_answered and_he/it_said HERE I_have_seen a_son of_ _Yishay/(Jesse) the_Bēyt- lehemite who_knows to_play and_a_ _mighty_man_of strength and_a_man_of war and_one_ _discerning_of message and_a_man_of form and_**YHWH** with_ _him/it. **19** And_ Shā'ūl _he_sent messengers to Yishay and_ _he/it_said send to_me ÐOM Dāvid son_of_your who is_with_ _flock. **20** And_ Yishay _he/it_took a_donkey bread and_a_ _skin-bottle_of wine and_a_kid_of goats one and_he_sent_them by_the_hand_of Dāvid his/its_son to Shā'ūl/(Saul). **21** And_ Dāvid _he_came to Shā'ūl and_he_stood before_him and_he_ _loved_him exceedingly and_he/it_was to_him/it a_bearer_of armour(s). **22** And_ Shā'ūl _he_sent to Yishay to_say let_him_ _stand please Dāvid to/for_my_face/front if/because he_has_ _found favour in_eyes_of_my. **23** And_it_was when_ a_spirit_of god _was to Shā'ūl and_ Dāvid _he/it_will_take ÐOM the_harp and_he_played_it in_his/its_hand and_it_was_relief to_Shā'ūl and_good to_him/it and_it_departed from_on_him the_spirit_ _of (the)_evil.

**17:1** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_gathered ÐOM armies_of_their for_battle and_they_were_gathered Sōkoh which belongs_to_ _Yəhūdāh/(Judah) and_they_encamped between Sōkoh and_ _between ʿAzēqāh in_Ephes- dammim. **2** And_Shā'ūl and_the_ _man_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) they_were_gathered and_they_ _encamped in_valley_of 'Ēlāh and_they_deployed battle to_ _meet the_Pəlishtiy. **3** And_the_Pəlishtiy were_standing to the_ _mountain from_this and_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) were_standing to the_mountain from_this and_the_valley was_between_them. **4** And_ the_man_of the_champions _he/it_went_out from_the_ _camps_of the_Pəlishtiy was_Golyat his/its_name from_Gat height_of_his was_six cubits and_a_span. **5** And_a_helmet_of bronze was_on his/its_head and_body_armour_of scales he was_clothed and_the_weight_of the_body_armour was_five_of thousand(s) shekels bronze. **6** And_leg_armour_of bronze was_ _on feet_of_his and_a_javelin_of bronze was_between shoulders_of_his. **7** And[82] his_spear_of_his was_like_a_beam_of weavers and_the_blade_of his_spear_of_his was_six hundred(s)

**80 RV 17:4 · Note** Some Greek sources have a height closer to two metres.

**81 RV 17:6b · Note** It's not totally clear what's being described in the second part of this sentence, so other interpretations might differ.

**82 LV 17:7 · Note** OSHB variant note: יְחִ֑ידוֹ: (x-qere) יְעָרְג֖וֹ: lemma_c/6086 morph_HC/Ncmsc id_09vQR יְעָרְג֖וֹ

**Literal Version**

shekels iron and_the_bearer_of the_body_shield was_walking before_him. **8** And_he_stood and_he/it_called to the_battle_ _lines_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_he/it_said to/for_them to/for_ _what do_you(pl)_come_out to_deploy battle am_not am_I the_ _Philistine and_are_you(pl) servants of_Shā'ūl/(Saul) commission to/for_you(pl) a_man and_let_him_come_down to_ _me. **9** If he_will_be_able to_fight with_me and_he_will_strike_ _me_down and_we_will_become to/for_you(pl) (into)_slaves and_if I I_will_prevail to_him/it and_I_will_strike_him_down and_you(pl)_will_be to/for_us (into)_slaves and_you(pl)_will_ _serve us. **10** And_ the_Philistine _he/it_said I I_defy ᴅᴏᴍ the_ _battle_lines_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) the_day the_this give to_me a_ _man so_that_we_may_fight together. **11** And_ Shā'ūl and_all Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _he/it_listened ᴅᴏᴍ the_words/messages_of the_Philistine the_these and_they_were_dismayed and_they_ _saw exceedingly.

**12** And_Dāvid was_a_son_of a_man an_'Efrātī the_this from_ _Bēyt- food/grain/bread Yəhūdāh/(Judah) and_his/its_name was_Yishay/(Jesse) and_to/for_him/it eight sons and_the_man in_the_days_of Shā'ūl he_was_old he_had_gone among_men. **13** And_ the_three_of the_sons_of Yishay the_big(pl) _they_had_ _gone they_had_gone after Shā'ūl to_battle and_name_of the_ _three_of his_sons_of_his who they_had_gone in_battle was_ _'Elī'āv the_firstborn and_second_of_his was_'Avīnādāv and_ _the_third was_Shammāh. **14** And_Dāvid he was_the_young and_three the_big(pl) they_had_gone after Shā'ūl/(Saul). **15** And_Dāvid was_going and_was_returning from_under Shā'ūl to_shepherd ᴅᴏᴍ the_flock_of his/its_father Bēyt- leḥem. **16** And_ the_Philistine _he_drew_near rising_early and_doing_ _in_the_evening and_he_took_his_stand forty day[s]. **17** And_ Yishay _he/it_said to_Dāvid his/its_son take please to_ _brothers_of_your the_'ēyfāh_of (the)_roasted_grain the_this and_ten bread[s] the_this and_bring_them_quickly the_camp to_brothers_of_your. **18** And_ᴅᴏᴍ the_ten_of the_portions_of (the)_milk the_these you_will_bring to_the_commander_of the_ _thousand and_ᴅᴏᴍ brothers_of_your you_will_pay_attention to_welfare and_ᴅᴏᴍ pledge_of_their you_will_take. **19** And_ _Shā'ūl and_they and_all (the)_man_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) were_in_ _valley_of 'Ēlāh they_were_fighting with the_Pəlishtiy. **20** And_ Dāvid _he_rose_early in_morning and_he_left ᴅᴏᴍ the_flock with a_watchman and_he_lifted_up and_he/it_went just_as he_ _had_commanded_him Yishay/(Jesse) and_he_came to_the_ _camp and_the_army which_was_going_out to the_battle_line and_they_shouted_a_war_cry in_battle. **21** And_ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_the_Pəlishtiy _it_deployed battle_line to_meet battle_line. **22** And_ Dāvid _he_left ᴅᴏᴍ the_vessels from_with_him on the_ _hand_of the_keeper_of the_vessels and_he_ran the_battle_line and_he_came and_he_asked of_brothers_of_his to_welfare. **23** And_he was_speaking with_them and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE the_ _man_of the_champions was_coming_up was_Golyat the_ _Philistine his/its_name Gat mmm[8687] the_Pəlishtiy and_he/it_ _spoke according_the_words/messages the_these and_ Dāvid _

**Readers' Version**

spear time weighed around seven kilograms. His shield-bearer walked in front of him. **8** Galyat stood there and called out to the Israeli warriors, "Why have you all come out to line up for battle? Now, I'm down here as a Pelishti, and all of you are Sha'ul's slaves, so choose a man for yourselves and let him come down here to fight me. **9** If he's able to fight with me and kill me, then we'll become your slaves. But if I'm the winner and kill him, then you'll all become our slaves and work for us." **10** Then he said, "I personally scoff at Yisrael's (Israel's) lines today. Give me a man so we can fight together." **11** When Sha'ul and the Israelis heard all that, they were discouraged and very afraid.

**David and Galyat · Full kingdom**

**12** [83]Now David was the son of Yishay (Jesse) (from the Efrat clan, he lived in Beyt-Lehem (Bethlehem) in Yehudah (Judah)) who had eight sons, and by Sha'ul's (Saul's) time, was quite old compared to other men.[84] **13** Yishay's three oldest sons (Eliav, Avinadav, and Shamah) had gone to the battle with Sha'ul, **14** but David was the youngest. While the three oldest were with Sha'ul, **15** David went back and forth between Sha'ul's camp and looking after his father's flock at Beyt-Lehem.

**16** For forty days, the Pelishti champion came out and presented himself in the early morning and again in the evening.

**17** One day Yishay said to his son David, "Here's a sack of roasted grain and ten loaves of bread. Take them straight away to your brothers at the camp. **18** And take these ten cuts of cheese to the commander of their unit. Find out how your brothers are doing and bring back anything they want to send to me. **19** Sha'ul and them and the other warriors are in the Elah valley, fighting against the Pelishtim."

**20** So David got up early in the morning and left the flock with a shepherd, and set out just like Yishay had told him to. When he got to the battleground and the camp, the warriors were just going out to the battle line and they were shouting the battle cry. **21** The Israelis and the Pelishtim arranged themselves—battle line to battle line. **22** David left what he'd brought with a guard, and ran into the battle line. Then he caught up with his brothers and asked them how they were doing. **23** While he was talking with them, look, the Pelishti champion from Gat was coming out with his challenge. Galyat (Goliath) spoke like he had before and David heard it all. **24** But when the Israelis saw the champion, they were terrified and fled away from him. **25** saying to each other, "Have you seen this man who's coming out? He's certainly coming to mock Yisrael (Israel)! Any man who can de-

**83 RV 17:12 · Note** Verses 12–31 aren't included in every ancient Greek translation.

**84 RV 17:12 · Note** There's a small variation in the original manuscripts at the end of the verse, but it has minimal effect on the essential story-line.

**86 LV 17:23 · Note** OSHB variant note: תורעמ/מ: (x-qere) 'תֹּוְכְרַעַמ/מ': lemma_m/4634 morph_HR/Ncfpc id_09d4o תֹּוְכְרַעַמ/מ

**87 LV 17:23 · Note** OSHB note: Adaptations to a Qere which L and BHS, by their design, do not indicate.

**Readers' Version**

feat him will be made very wealthy by the king, and he'll give his daughter to him, plus his extended family will be exempt from paying taxes."

**26** "What was it that'll be done for the man who kills this Pelishti and take's Yisrael's disgrace away?" David asked some of the men standing around him. "Because who does that uncircumcised Pelishti think he is that he would taunt the army of the living God?" **27** Then the men told him again what would be given to the man who defeats him.

**28** But when David's oldest brother Eliav heard him talking to the men, he got very angry and scolded him, "Why have you come down here? Who's looking after those few sheep that you left in the desert? I know you have a big head and you're just a troublemaker—you just want to watch the battle."

**29** "What have I done now?" David asked. "Wasn't it just a question?" **30** Then he went over to another group and asked the same question and got the same answer.

**31** So it got around what David was saying, and when Sha'ul (Saul) heard about it, he sent for him.[85] **32** David told the king, "Don't be discouraged. Your servant will go and fight against this Pelishti."

**33** "You can't go against this Pelishti and fight him," Sha'ul told David. "You're still a lad, but he's been a professional warrior since he was young."

**34** "Your servant has been working for his father tending the flock," David replied. "Sometimes a lion or a bear has come and taken a sheep from the flock **35** and I would go after it and beat it and rescue the sheep from its mouth. If it went to attack me, then I'd grasp it by the jaw and beat it and kill it. **36** Your servant has killed both a lion and a bear, and that uncircumcised Pelishti will end up just like them, because he's insulted the army of the living God." **37** Then he added, "Yahweh who has saved me from the lion and from the bear, *he* will be the one to save me from that Pelishti."

"Go then, and Yahweh be with you." Sha'ul assented. **38** Then Sha'ul had David dressed in his own battle attire, and then in body armour with a bronze helmet. **39** David strapped his sword over the top and then tried to walk because he hadn't been trained in wearing it. But he told Sha'ul, "I couldn't walk in all that without practice," so he took it all off. **40** Then he picked up his staff, and selected five smooth stones from the riverbed. He placed them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag, and picked up his sling and headed towards the Pelishti champion.

**Literal Version**

_he/it_listened. **24** And_all/each/any/every (the)_man_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) when_saw_they ÐOM the_man and_they_fled from_before_of_him and_they_were_afraid exceedingly. **25** And_he/it_said the_man_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) have_you(pl)_ _seen the_man who_comes_up the_this if/because to_defy ÐOM Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) he_is_coming_up and_it_was the_man who he_ _will_strike_him_down he_will_make_him_rich the_king rich[es] great and_ÐOM daughter_of_his he_will_give to_him/it and_ÐOM the_house_of his/its_father he_will_make free in_ _Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **26** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to the_men who_ _were_standing with_him/it to_say what will_it_be_done for_ _man who he_will_strike_down ÐOM the_Philistine this and_he_ _will_remove reproach from_under Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) if/because who is_the_Philistine (the)_uncircumcised the_this that/for/because/then/when he_has_defied the_battle_lines_ _of god living. **27** And_he/it_said to_him/it the_people according_the_manner the_this to_say thus it_will_be_done for_man who he_will_strike_him_down. **28** And_ 'Elī'āv his/its_ _brother (the)_old _he/it_listened when_spoke_he to the_men and_ the_anger of_'Elī'āv _it_glowed/burnt on_Dāvid and_ _he/it_said to/for_what this have_you_come_down and_with whom have_you_left the_fewness_of the_sheep (the)_those in_ _wilderness I I_know ÐOM presumption_of_your and_ÐOM the_ _wickedness_of your_heart_of_your if/because_that so_as to_ _see the_battle you_have_come_down. **29** And_ Dāvid _he/it_ _said what have_I_done now am_not a_message was_it. **30** And_ _he_turned_away from_beside_him to the_front another_ _person and_he/it_said according_the_manner the_this and_ _they_brought_him_back the_people message according_the_ _message the_former. **31** And_they_were_heard[88] the_ _words/messages which Dāvid he_spoke and_people_told to_ _(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_he_sent_ _for_him. **32** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to Shā'ūl not the_heart_of anyone let_it_fall on/upon/above_him/it servant_of_your he_ _will_go and_he_will_fight with the_Philistine (the)_this. **33** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to Dāvid not you_will_be_able to_go against the_Philistine the_this to_fight with_him/it if/because are_a_youth you and_he is_a_man_of war since_youth(s)_of_his. **34** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to Shā'ūl a_shepherd servant_of_your he_has_been for_father_of_his among_flock and_ the_lion and_ _ÐOM the_bear _it_came and_it_carried_off a_sheep from_the_ _flock. **35** And_I_went_out after_it and_I_struck_it and_I_ _rescued_it from_mouth_of_its and_he/it_rose_up on_me and_ _I_took_hold on_beard_of_its and_I_struck_it and_I_killed_it. **36** Both ÐOM the_lion as_well_as the_bear servant_of_your he_ _has_struck_down and_it_was the_Philistine (the)_ _uncircumcised the_this like_one from_them if/because he_ _has_defied the_battle_lines_of god living. **37** And_ Dāvid _ _he/it_said **YHWH** who he_delivered_me from_the_hand_of the_lion and_from_the_hand_of the_bear he he_will_deliver_me from_the_hand_of the_Philistine the_this and_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _ _he/it_said to Dāvid go and_**YHWH** he_will_be with_you. **38** And_ Shā'ūl _he_clothed ÐOM Dāvid garments_of_his and_

**85 RV 17:31 · Note** Verses 12–31 aren't included in every ancient Greek translation.

**88 LV 17:31 · Note** OSHB note: BHS has been faithful to the Leningrad Codex where there might be a question of the validity of the form and we keep the same form as BHS.

**Literal Version**

_he/it_gave a_helmet_of bronze on his/its_head and_he_
_clothed ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~_him/it body_armour. **39** And_ Dāvid _he_girded
~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ sword_of_his from_under (to)_garments_of_his and_he_
_undertook to_go if/because not he_had_put_to_the_test and_
Dāvid _he/it_said to Shā'ūl not I_will_be able to_go in_these_
_things if/because not I_have_put_to_the_test and_he_
_removed_them Dāvid from_on_himself. **40** And_he/it_took
staff_of_his in_his/its_hand and_he_chose to_him/it five
smooth_ones_of stones from the_wadi and_he/it_assigned ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~_
_them in_the_bag_of (the)_shepherds which to_him/it and_in_
_pouch and_sling_of_his was_in_hand_of_his and_he_drew_near
to the_Philistine.
**41** And_ the_Philistine _he/it_went coming and_approaching to
Dāvid and_the_man the_bearer of_the_body_shield was_before_
_of_him. **42** And_ the_Philistine _he_looked and_he_saw ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~
Dāvid and_he_despised_him if/because he_was a_youth and_
_red with handsome_of appearance. **43** And_ the_Philistine _
_he/it_said to Dāvid a_dog am_I that/for/because/then/when
you are_coming to_me with_staves and_ the_Philistine _he_
_cursed ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ Dāvid by_gods_of_his. **44** And_ the_Philistine _
_he/it_said to Dāvid come to_me so_that_I_may_give ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ flesh_
_of_your to_the_bird[s]_of the_heavens and_to_the_animal[s]_
_of the_field. **45** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to the_Philistine you
are_coming to_me with_sword and_with_spear and_with_
_javelin and_I am_coming against_you in/on_name_of **YHWH**
soldiers/messengers the_god_of the_battle_lines_of
Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) whom you_have_defied. **46** The_day the_this
he_will_deliver_you_up **YHWH** in_hand_of_my and_I_will_
_strike_you_down and_I_will_remove ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ head_of_your from_
_on_you and_I_will_give the_corpse[s]_of the_army_of the_
_Pəlishtiy the_day the_this to_the_bird[s]_of the_heavens and_
_to_the_animal[s]_of the_earth/land and_ all_of the_earth/land
_they_will_know if/because_that there_is a_god for_
_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **47** And_ all_of the_assembly the_this _they_
_will_know if/because_that not by_sword and_by_spear **YHWH**
he_saves if/because to/for_**YHWH** the_battle and_he/it_gave
you(pl) in_hand_of_our. **48** And_it_was if/because the_Philistine
he_arose and_he/it_went and_he_drew_near to_meet Dāvid
and_ Dāvid _he_hurried and_he_ran the_battle_line to_meet
the_Philistine. **49** And_ Dāvid _he_stretched_out ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ his/its_
_hand into the_bag and_he/it_took from_there a_stone and_he_
_slung_it and_he_struck ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ the_Philistine to forehead_of_his
and_ the_stone _it_sank in_forehead_of_his and_he_fell on
his/its_faces/face ground_to_the. **50** And_ Dāvid _he_was_
_strong more_than the_Philistine with_sling and_with_stone
and_he_struck_down ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ the_Philistine and_he_killed_him
and_a_sword there_was_not in_the_hand_of Dāvid. **51** And_
Dāvid _he_ran and_he_stood to the_Philistine and_he/it_took
~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ sword_of_his and_he_drew_it_out from_sheath_of_its and_
_he_killed_him and_he_cut_off with_it ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ his/its_head and_
the_Pəlishtiy _they_saw if/because_that their_mighty_of_man
he_had_died and_they_fled. **52** And_ the_men_of
Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_Yəhūdāh/(Yihudah) _they_arose and_they_
_shouted_a_war_cry and_they_pursued ~~ᴅᴏᴍ~~ the_Pəlishtiy until
come_you a_valley and_unto the_gates_of ʿEqrōn and_ those_

**89** **RV 17:50 · Cross-ref.** 2Sam 21:19.

**90** **RV 17:51 · Cross-ref.** 2Sam 21:19.

**Readers' Version**

**David fronts up to Galyat · Full kingdom**

**41** Then Galyat (Goliath) came closer and closer to David, with his shield-bearer walking in front of him. **42** When he looked and realised that David was a reddish, good-looking lad, he despised him **43** and asked him, "Are you coming to me with a stick because you think I'm a dog?" Then the Pelishti cursed David by his gods. **44** "Come over here," he told David, "and let me give your flesh to the vultures and wild animals."

**45** "You're coming to me with a sword and spear and dagger," David shouted back. "But I'm coming to you in the name of Commander-in-chief Yahweh, the god of Yisrael's (Israel's) army that you've been taunting. **46** Today, Yahweh will help me defeat you and I'll knock you down and cut off your head. What's more, I'll give the Pelishti army corpses to the vultures and wild animals today, then everyone will know that there's a god in Yisrael. **47** Everyone here will learn that Yahweh doesn't save with swords or spears, because he's in charge of the battle and will help us defeat you all."

**48** Then as Galyat went closer to meet David, David ran quickly towards him at the battle line. **49** He slipped his hand into his bag and took out a single stone and slung it towards the Pelishti—striking him on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead and he collapsed forwards onto the ground, **50** and so David defeated the Pelishti with a sling and a stone—knocking him down and killing him.[89] Not having a sword with him, **51** David ran and stood over the Pelishti—drawing Galyat's sword out of its sheath to kill him and cut off his head.[90]

When the Pelishtim saw that their powerful champion was dead, they fled **52** and the Israeli warriors started yelling and they chased the Pelishtim into the valley and as far as the gates of Ekron. The dead bodies of the Pelishtim could be seen on the road all the way from Sha'arayim to Gat and Ekron. **53** When the Israelis returned from chasing the Pelishtim, they raided the valuables from their camp. **54** David put Galyat's equipment into his own tent, then he carried his head to Yerushalem (Jerusalem).

**Readers' Version**

**Sha'ul asks about David · Full kingdom**

55 When Sha'ul (Saul) had seen David going out to meet Galyat (Goliath), he'd asked Avner, the army commander, "Whose son is this lad, Avner?"

"As surely as you live, your majesty," replied Avner, "I don't know."

56 "Find out whose son he is," the king had commanded.

57 Then when David had returned from killing the Pelishti, Avner brought him to stand in front of Sha'ul, and he was holding Galyat's head. 58 "Whose son are you, lad?" Sha'ul asked.

"I'm the son of your servant Yishay (Jesse), who lives in Beyt-Lehem (Bethlehem)," replied David.

**David's friendship with Yonatan · Full kingdom**

18:1 After David had finished speaking to the king, him and Yonatan (Jonathan) became close friends, in fact Yonatan really loved him. 2 From that day, Sha'ul (Saul) kept David with him, and wouldn't allow him to return home. 3 Then Yonatan and David made an agreement together, because Yonatan loved him as much as he loved himself. 4 Yonatan took off the cloak that he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his armour, his sword and bow, and even his belt. 5 David went on missions wherever Sha'ul sent him and always succeeded. Sha'ul put him in charge of the warriors, and that pleased all the people, as well as Sha'ul's servants.

**Sha'ul becomes envious of David · Full kingdom**

6 When they'd all come back after killing the Pelishti, the women from the Israeli cities had come out to meet King Sha'ul (Saul) with singing and dancing—playing tambourines and other instruments with great happiness. 7 However, as they danced they sang,

"Sha'ul has killed his thousands,
and David his tens of thousands."[92]

8 Sha'ul found that offensive and it made him very angry. "They've attributed tens of thousands to David," he complained, "but only thousands to me. Next thing he'll end up as king." 9 So from that day onwards, Sha'ul remained wary of David and kept an eye on him.

10 Then the next day, an evil spirit from God rushed on Sha'ul

**Literal Version**

_slain_of the_Pəlishtiy _they_fell on_the_way_of Sha'$_a$rayim and_unto Gat and_unto 'Eqrōn. 53 And_ the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_returned from_hotly_pursuing after the_ _Pəlishtiy and_they_plundered ÐØM camps_of_their. 54 And_ Dāvid _he/it_took ÐØM the_head_of the_Philistine and_he_ _brought_it Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_ÐØM weapons_of_his he_put in_his_own_of_tent.

55 And_just_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _as_saw ÐØM Dāvid going_out to_ _meet the_Philistine he_said to 'Avnēr the_commander_of the_ _army son_of whom this is_the_youth Oh_'Avnēr and_ 'Avnēr _ _he/it_said by_the_life your_self_of_your the_king if I_know. 56 And_ the_king _he/it_said you ask son_of whom this is_the_ _young_man. 57 And_just_ Dāvid _as_returned from_when_ _struck_down ÐØM the_Philistine and_ 'Avnēr _he/it_took ÐØM_ _him/it and_he_brought_him to_(the)_face_of/in_front_ _of/before Shā'ūl and_the_head_of the_Philistine in_his/its_ _hand. 58 And_he/it_said to_him/it Shā'ūl son_of whom are_ _you Oh_youth and_ Dāvid _he/it_said the_son_of your_ _servant_of_your Yishay/(Jesse) the_Bēyt- lehemite.

18:1 And_he/it_was just_as_he_finished to_speak to Shā'ūl and_ _the_self_of Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) it_was_bound with_the_self_of Dāvid and[91] Yōnātān like_his_own_of_self. 2 And_he_took_him Shā'ūl in_the_day (the)_that and_not he_ _permitted_him to_return the_house_of his/its_father. 3 And_ Yōnātān and_Dāvid _he_made a_covenant because_he_of_loved ÐØM_him/it like_his_own_of_self. 4 And_ Yōnātān _he_stripped_ _himself ÐØM the_robe which on/upon/above_him/it and_he_ _gave_it to_Dāvid and_garments_of_his and_unto sword_of_his and_unto bow_of_his and_unto belt_of_his. 5 And_ Dāvid _ _he/it_went_out in_every where he_sent_him Shā'ūl/(Saul) he_ _prospered and_he_appointed_him Shā'ūl over the_men_of (the)_war and_it_was_good in/on_both_eyes_of all_of the_ _people and_also in/on_both_eyes_of the_servants_of Shā'ūl.

6 And_he/it_was when_came_they when_ Dāvid _returned from_when_struck_down ÐØM the_Philistine and_ the_women _ _they_came_out from_all the_cities_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) mmm[94] and_the_dancing(s) to_meet Shā'ūl the_king with_tambourines with_joy and_with_three-stringed_instruments. 7 And_ the_ _women who_were_playing _they_sang and_they_said Shā'ūl he_has_struck_down in/on/at/with[95] and_Dāvid (on)_his_ten_ _of_thousands. 8 And_it_glowed/burnt to_Shā'ūl exceedingly and_it_was_displeasing in_eyes_of_his the_matter the_this and_ _he/it_said they_have_ascribed to_Dāvid ten_thousands and_ _to_me they_have_ascribed the_thousands and_yet to_him/it only the_royalty. 9 And_he/it_was Shā'ūl looking_suspiciously_ _at[96] ÐØM Dāvid from_the_day (the)_that and_onwards. 10 And_ _he/it_was from_the_next_day and_it_rushed a_spirit_of god evil to Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_he_prophesied in_the_midst_of the_ _house and_Dāvid was_playing in_his/its_hand as_a_day in/on_

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**91 LV 18:1 · Note** OSHB variant note: וּבְהַאי/ו: (x-qere) 'וּבְהֵאָי/ו': lemma_c/157 morph_HC/Vqw3ms/Sp3ms id_097PM וּבְהֵאָי/ו

**92 RV 18:7 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 21:11; 29:5.

**94 LV 18:6 · Note** OSHB variant note: רוּשׁ/ל: (x-qere) 'רֵישׁ/ל': lemma_l/7891 morph_HR/Vqc id_09UWS רֵישׁ/ל

**95 LV 18:7 · Note** OSHB variant note: ב/פלא/ו: (x-qere) 'ב/פְּלָא/ו': lemma_b/505 n_0.1 morph_HR/Acbpc/Sp3ms id_09RJK ב/פְּלָא/ו

**96 LV 18:9 · Note** OSHB variant note: וע/ו: (x-qere) 'וָיוֹע': lemma_5770 morph_HVqrmsa id_09BVU וָיוֹע

**Literal Version**

_day and_the_spear was_in_the_hand_of Shā'ūl. **11** And_ Shā'ūl _he_hurled ĐOM the_spear and_he/it_said I_will_strike (on)_ _Dāvid and_(on)_wall and_ Dāvid _he_went_around from_ _before_of_him two_times. **12** And_ Shā'ūl _he_was_afraid from_ _to/for_face/front/presence Dāvid if/because he_was **YHWH** with_him/it and_from_with Shā'ūl he_had_turned_aside. **13** And_he/it_removed_him Shā'ūl from_with_him and_he_ _appointed_him to_him/it a_commander_of a_thousand and_ _he/it_went_out and_he_came to_(the)_face_of/in_front_ _of/before the_people. **14** And_he/it_was Dāvid to/from_ _all/each/any/every way_of_his[97] being_successful and_**YHWH** with_him/it. **15** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_saw which/who he was_ _being_successful exceedingly and_he_was_afraid of_him. **16** And_all Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_Yəhūdāh/(Yihudah) was_loving ĐOM Dāvid if/because he was_going_out and_was_coming before_them.

**17** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to Dāvid HERE daughter_of_my (the)_old Mērāv ĐOM_her/it I_will_give to/for_yourself(m) to/for_(a)_woman only become to/for_me (into)_a_son_of strength and_fight the_battles_of **YHWH** and_Shā'ūl/(Saul) he_ _said not let_it_be hand_of_my in/on/over_him/it and_let_it_ _be in_him/it the_hand_of the_Pəlishtiy. **18** And_ Dāvid _he/it_ _said to Shā'ūl who am_I and_who kinsfolk_of_are_my the_ _clan_of my_father_of_my in_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) that/for/because/then/when I_will_be a_son-in-law of_king. **19** And_he/it_was at_the_time_of gave ĐOM Mērāv the_ _daughter_of Shā'ūl to_Dāvid and_she she_was_given to_'Adrī'ēl the_Məḥolātī to/for_(a)_woman. **20** And_ Mīkāl the_daughter_ _of Shā'ūl _she_loved ĐOM Dāvid and_people_told to_Shā'ūl and_ the_matter _it_was_pleasing in_eyes_of_his. **21** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said I_will_give_her for_him/it so_that_she_may_ _become to_him/it (into)_a_snare and_so_that_it_may_be in_ _him/it the_hand_of the_Pəlishtiy and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to Dāvid in_two_times you_will_be_a_son-in-law to_me the_day. **22** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_commanded ĐOM servant_of_his[98] speak to Dāvid in_secrecy to_say HERE he_delights in_you the_king and_all servants_of_his they_love_you and_now be_son-in-law to_king. **23** And_ the_servants_of Shā'ūl/(Saul) _they_spoke in_ _the_ears_of Dāvid ĐOM the_words/messages the_these and_ Dāvid _he/it_said trifling in_eyes_of_your(pl) is_to_be_ _son-in-law to_king and_I am_a_man poor and_lightly_ _esteemed. **24** And_ the_servants_of Shā'ūl _they_told to_him/it to_say according_the_words/messages the_these Dāvid he_ _spoke. **25** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said thus you(pl)_will_say to_ _Dāvid there_is_not delight to/for_the_king in_bride-price if/because for_a_hundred foreskins_of Pəlishtiy to_avenge_ _himself on_the_enemies_of the_king and_Shā'ūl he_planned to_make_fall ĐOM Dāvid by_the_hand_of the_Pəlishtiy. **26** And_ servants_of_his _they_told to_Dāvid ĐOM the_words/messages the_these and_ the_matter _it_was_pleasing in/on_both_eyes_ _of Dāvid to_be_son-in-law to_king and_not the_days they_ _were_completed. **27** And_ Dāvid _he/it_rose_up and_he/it_

**Readers' Version**

and even in the middle of the house he started prophesying. As David was playing near him (as he did every day), Sha'ul was holding a spear **11** and he suddenly hurled it, saying, "I'll pin that David to the wall." But twice when he did that, David managed to elude him.

**12** So Sha'ul ended up afraid of David because Yahweh was with him, but was no longer with the king. **13** Then Sha'ul sent him out of the room and appointed him as the commander of a thousand warriors, so he came and went in front of the people.[93] **14** Yahweh was with David and he was succeeding in everything he did. **15** Sha'ul knew about his successes and couldn't stand looking at him, **16** but all the people of Yisrael (Israel) and Yehudah (Judah) loved David because they observed his comings and goings.

**David wins Mikal as his wife · Full kingdom**

**17** One day Sha'ul (Saul) told David, "Look, here's my oldest daughter Merav—I'll give her to you for a wife. The only condition is that you become a powerful warrior for me and fight Yahweh's battles." (Sha'ul had said to himself, "I don't need to hurt him physically—I'll let the Pelishtim do that for me.") **18** "Who am I," David asked, "and who are my relatives in my father's clan in Yisrael (Israel), that I should become the king's son-in-law?"

**19** However, when it was the time for Sha'ul to give his daughter Merav to David, she was given to Adriel the Meholati to marry.

**20** Now Sha'ul's other daughter Mikal loved David, and when they told the king, he was pleased about it, **21** saying to himself, "I'll give her to him so she can become a trap for him so the Pelishtim could be the ones to attack him." So he said a second time, "You'll become a son-in-law of mine today." **22** Then Sha'ul commanded his servants, "Tell David privately, 'Listen, the king is pleased with you, and all of us his servants love you. So now we think that you should become the king's son-in-law.' "

**23** So they told David privately, but he responded, "Something that significant isn't likely to happen. I'm hard up and without much honour."

**24** When Sha'ul's servants told him what David had said, **25** he replied, "Pass this onto David, 'The king doesn't want an expensive bride price—only a hundred Pelishti foreskins taken from the king's enemies.' " But Sha'ul was still wanting the Pelishtim to be the ones to kill David. **26** Now when David heard this from the servants, he decided that he could indeed marry the king's daughter within the time period that had been given, **27** so he and his men got ready and went and killed *two* hundred Pelishti men. He brought them to the king and had them counted to ful-

**93 RV 18:13 · Note** It's not entirely clear what the implications of this coming and going were (and similarly at the end of v16). It could easily refer to him returning successfully from military excursions.

**97 LV 18:14 · Note** OSHB note: We have abandoned or added a ketib/qere relative to BHS. In doing this we agree with L against BHS.

**98 LV 18:22 · Note** OSHB note: We have abandoned or added a ketib/qere relative to BHS. In doing this we agree with L against BHS.

**Readers' Version**

fill the pledge, and so Sha'ul had to give his daughter Mikal to become his wife.

**28** But when Sha'ul realised that Yahweh was helping David, and that his daughter loved him, **29** he became more afraid of David, so he remained hostile to David from then on.

**30** Whenever the Pelishti commanders decided to attack, David was more successful than any other of Sha'ul's commanders, so he became very famous.

**Sha'ul persecutes David · Full kingdom**

**19:1** Then Sha'ul (Saul) urged his son Yonatan (Jonathan) and all his servants to kill David, but Yonatan really liked David **2** and told him, "My father Sha'ul wants to get rid of you, so please watch out in the morning. Find a hiding place and stay there. **3** And what I'll do, I'll go out and stand by my father in the countryside where you're hiding, and I'll bring you into the conversation to see what he'll say about you."

**4** So the next morning, Yonatan spoke well of David to his father Sha'ul, saying, "Don't let the king sin against his servant, against David, because he hasn't sinned against you, and actually, he's been a big help to you. **5** He took his life into his hands when he fought against Galyat (Goliath), and Yahweh used it to save all Yisrael (Israel). So why would you sin against innocent blood by putting David to death for no reason."

**6** Sha'ul listened to Yonatan, then he promised, "As surely as Yahweh lives, he won't be put to death." **7** Afterwards, Yonatan called David and told him what had been said. Then he brought David back to work for Sha'ul and things carried on as before.

**8** Then war broke out again, and David went out and battled against the Pelishtim and defeated them so badly that they fled away from him.

**9** One day as Sha'ul was sitting in his house, an evil spirit from Yahweh came on him. He had his spear in his hand, and David was playing the harp. **10** Sha'ul tried to hit David with the spear, but David eluded him and the spear went into the wall. Then David slipped away and fled that night.

**11** Sha'ul sent messengers to watch David's house to kill him in the morning,[99] but his wife Mikal told him, "If you don't do something to save your life tonight, you'll be dead by tomorrow." **12** So Mikal lowered David out through the window, and he was able to slip out and take off. **13** Then she took a household idol and put it in the bed, putting a goats' hair quilt where the head should be and covering it with the bed-clothes. **14** When Sha'ul sent messengers to arrest David, she told them, "He's sick." **15** Sha'ul sent the messengers back, telling them, "Bring him up to me bed and all so I can kill him." **16** But when the messengers

**Literal Version**

_went he and_men_of_his and_he_struck_down among_ _Pəlishtiy two_hundred man and_ Dāvid _he/it_brought ÐOM foreskins_of_their and_people_gave_them_in_full to/for_the_ _king to_be_son-in-law to_king and_he_gave to_him/it Shā'ūl ÐOM Mīkāl daughter_of_his to/for_(a)_woman. **28** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_saw and_he/it_knew if/because_that **YHWH** was_with Dāvid and_Mīkāl the_daughter_of Shā'ūl she_ _loved_him. **29** And_ Shā'ūl _he_increased to_be_afraid from_ _face/in_front_of Dāvid again and_he/it_was Shā'ūl an_enemy ÐOM Dāvid all_of the_days. **30** And_ the_commanders_of the_ _Pəlishtiy _they_went_out and_he/it_was from_sufficiency they_went_out Dāvid he_was_successful from_all the_servants_ _of Shā'ūl and_ his/its_name _it_was_esteemed exceedingly.

**19:1** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_spoke to Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) his/its_son and_near/to all_ _of servants_of_his to_kill ÐOM Dāvid and_Yōnātān the_son_of Shā'ūl he_delighted in_Dāvid exceedingly. **2** And_ Yōnātān _he_ _told to_Dāvid to_say Shā'ūl father_of_my is_seeking to_kill_ _you and_now take_care please in_morning and_you_will_ _remain in_place and_you_will_hide_yourself. **3** And_I I_will_ _go_out and_I_will_stand to_the_side_of my_father_of_my in_ _the_field where you are_there and_I I_will_speak in_you to father_of_my and_I_will_see whatever and_I_will_tell to/for_ _you(fs). **4** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_spoke in_Dāvid good to Shā'ūl/(Saul) his/its_father and_he/it_said to_him/it not the_ _king let_him_sin against_servant_of_his against_Dāvid if/because not he_has_sinned to/for_you(fs) and_ _because/when deeds_of_his are_good to/for_yourself(m) exceedingly. **5** And_he/it_assigned ÐOM life_of_his in_palm_of_ _his and_he_struck_down ÐOM the_Philistine and_ **YHWH** _ _he/it_made a_deliverance great to/from_all/each/any/every Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) you_saw and_you_rejoiced and_for_what will_ _you_sin against_blood innocent by_killing ÐOM Dāvid without_ _cause. **6** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_listened to_the_voice_of Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) and_ Shā'ūl _he_swore_an_ _oath by_the_life of_**YHWH** if he_will_be_put_to_death. **7** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_called to_Dāvid and_he_told to_him/it Yōnātān ÐOM all_of the_words/messages the_these and_ Yōnātān _he/it_ _brought ÐOM Dāvid to Shā'ūl and_he/it_was before_him as_ _yesterday three_days_ago. **8** And_ the_war _it_repeated to_be and_ Dāvid _he/it_went_out and_he_fought against_Pəlishtiy and_he_defeated (is)_in_them a_defeat great and_they_fled from_before_of_him. **9** And_it_became a_spirit_of **YHWH** evil to Shā'ūl and_he in_house_of_his was_sitting and_spear_of_his in_ _his/its_hand and_Dāvid was_playing with_hand. **10** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_sought to_strike with_spear (on)_Dāvid and_(on)_wall and_he_escaped from_face/in_front_of Shā'ūl and_he_struck ÐOM the_spear in_wall and_Dāvid he_fled and_ _he_escaped in_night that. **11** And_ Shā'ūl _he_sent messengers to the_house_of Dāvid to_watch_for_him and_to_kill_him in_ _morning and_she_told to_Dāvid Mīkāl his/its_wife/woman to_ _say if not_you are_delivering ÐOM life_of_your the_night tomorrow you will_be_put_to_death. **12** And_ Mīkāl _she_let_ _down ÐOM Dāvid through the_window and_he/it_went and_ _he_fled and_he_escaped. **13** And_ Mīkāl _she/it_took ÐOM the_

**99 RV 19:11 · Cross-ref.** Psa 59 header.

**Literal Version**

_teraphim and_she_put_it into the_bed and_ĐOM (the)_quilt_of (the)_goat_hair(s) she_put of_its_head_of_the_place and_she_ _covered_it with_garment. **14** And_ Shā'ūl _he_sent messengers to_take/accept/receive ĐOM Dāvid and_she/it_said he is_sick. **15** And_ Shā'ūl _he_sent ĐOM the_messengers to_see ĐOM Dāvid to_say bring_up ĐOM_him/it on_bed to_me to_kill_him. **16** And_ the_messengers _they_came and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE the_ _teraphim was_to the_bed and_the_quilt_of (the)_goat_hair(s) place_of_its_head_of_was_the. **17** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_said to Mīkāl to/for_what thus have_you_deceived_me and_you_ _have_let_go ĐOM enemy_of_my and_he_has_escaped and_ Mīkāl _she/it_said to Shā'ūl he he_said to_me let_me_go why will_I_kill_you. **18** And_Dāvid he_fled and_he_escaped and_he_ _went to Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) to_(the)_Rāmāh and_he_told to_ _him/it ĐOM all_of that he_had_done to_him/it Shā'ūl and_ he and_Shəmū'ēl _he/it_went and_they_lived in/on/at/with[101]. **19** And_it_was_told to_Shā'ūl to_say THERE Dāvid in/on/at/with[102] in_Rāmāh. **20** And_ Shā'ūl _he_sent messengers to_take/accept/receive ĐOM Dāvid and_he/it_saw ĐOM the_company_of the_prophets prophesying and_Shəmū'ēl was_standing chief over_them and_it_became on the_ _messengers_of Shā'ūl the_spirit_of god and_ also they _they_ _prophesied. **21** And_people_told to_Shā'ūl and_he_sent messengers other and_ also they _they_prophesied and_ Shā'ūl _he_repeated and_he_sent messengers third and_ also they _ _they_prophesied. **22** And_ also he _he/it_went to_(the)_Rāmāh and_he_came to a_cistern_of (the)_great which is_in_Sēkū and_ _he_asked and_he/it_said where are_Shəmū'ēl and_Dāvid and_ _he/it_said THERE in/on/at/with[103] in_Rāmāh. **23** And_he/it_ _went there to Nāvīt[104] in_Rāmāh and_it_became on/upon/above_him/it also he the_spirit_of god and_he/it_ _went steadily_(go) and_he_prophesied until came_he in/on/at/with[105] in_Rāmāh. **24** And_ also he _he_stripped_off clothes_of_his and_ also he _he_prophesied to_(the)_face_of/in_ _front_of/before Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) and_he_fell_down naked all_of the_day (the)_that and_all the_night therefore yes/correct/thus/so people_say also is_Shā'ūl/(Saul) among_ _prophets.

**20:1** And_ Dāvid _he_fled mmm[109] in_Rāmāh and_he_went and_ _he/it_said to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) what have_I_done what my_ _perversity/evil/guilt/punishment and_what sin_of_is_my to_ _(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before father_of_your that/for/because/then/when he_is_seeking ĐOM life_of_my. **2** And_he/it_said to_him/it far_be_it not you_will_die HERE mmm wwww[110] father_of_my anything great or anything small

**Readers' Version**

returned, look, it was a household idol in the bed with a goats' hair quilt as its head. **17** Sha'ul had Mikal brought in and questioned, "Why did you deceive me like that and sent my enemy off, so that he slipped away?"

"He told me that he'd kill me," Mikal answered Sha'ul, "if I didn't help him escape."

**18** After David had slipped away, he went to Shmuel (Samuel) in Ramah and told him everything that Sha'ul had done to him, then the two of them went and stayed in Navit. **19** But Sha'ul was told that David was in Navit near Ramah, **20** so he sent messengers to capture David. When they saw a group of prophets prophesying and Shmuel standing as head over them, God's spirit came onto Sha'ul's messengers and they also prophesied. **21** They told Sha'ul and he sent more messengers and they also prophesied. He sent messengers a third time, and they started prophesying as well. **22** Finally Sha'ul himself headed towards Ramah and got as far as the large water cistern in Seku. He asked around about Shmuel and David, and was told that they were in Navit near Ramah. **23** So he went to Navit, and God's spirit came on him as well. As he walked, he kept prophesying until he entered Navit. **24** He took off his outer clothes and prophesied in front of Shmuel. He lay undressed all that day and all night, so that's why people ask, "Is Sha'ul a prophet as well?"[100]

**Yonatan helps David · Full kingdom**

**20:1** Then David fled from Navit near Ramah and went to Yonatan (Jonathan) and asked, "What have I done? What did I do wrong? What sin has made your father so angry that he wants to take my life?"

**2** "Far from it," Yonatan responded. "You won't die. Listen, my father doesn't do anything, big or small, without telling me. So why would my father hide this from me if it was his plan? No,

**100 RV 19:24 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 10:11-12.

**101 LV 19:18 · Note** OSHB variant note: תיונ/ב: (x-qere) 'תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/ב': lemma_b/5121 n_0 morph_HR/Np id_09MHW תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/ב

**102 LV 19:19 · Note** OSHB variant note: תיונ/ב: (x-qere) 'תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/ב': lemma_b/5121 n_0.0 morph_HR/Np id_09y2D תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/ב

**103 LV 19:22 · Note** OSHB variant note: תיונ/ב: (x-qere) 'תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/ב': lemma_b/5121 morph_HR/Np id_09gp2 תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/ב

**104 LV 19:23 · Note** OSHB variant note: תיונ: (x-qere) 'תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ': lemma_5121 n_1.0 morph_HNp id_098Ge תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ

**105 LV 19:23 · Note** OSHB variant note: תיונ/ב: (x-qere) 'תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/ב': lemma_b/5121 morph_HR/Np id_09RaU תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/ב

**109 LV 20:1 · Note** OSHB variant note: תוונ/מ: (x-qere) 'תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/מ': lemma_m/5121 n_1.0 morph_HR/Np id_09eLB תֹוָנֶ֫ךָּ/מ

**110 LV 20:2 · Note** OSHB variant note: השע־ו/ל: (x-qere) 'אֹל': lemma_3808 morph_HTn id_09uGu אֹל־ הֶֽשֵּׁעִי': lemma_6213 a morph_HVqi3ms id_09dRu הֶֽשֵּׁעִי

**Readers' Version**

you're wrong."

3 "For sure, your father knows that you've taken a liking to me," said David, "and he would have decided not to tell you so you wouldn't be upset." Then David made an oath again, "Indeed, as Yahweh is alive, and as your soul is alive, death is definitely only a step away from me."

4 "I'll do anything for you—whatever you say," Yonatan confirmed.

5 "Listen, the new moon celebration is tomorrow,[106] and I'll definitely be expected to sit with the king to eat," David told him. "But you should let me go, and I'll hide myself in the countryside until the third evening. 6 If your father misses me, then tell him, 'David begged me to let him go to his home in Beyt-Lehem (Bethlehem), to join his clan for their yearly sacrifice.' 7 If your father says, 'That's fine,' then your servant can relax. But if he gets really angry, you'll know that he's planning evil. 8 If that's the case, it'll be up to you to do what's right with your servant in terms of our agreement before Yahweh. If I've been disloyal to the king, kill me yourself—no need to drag me to him.

9 "Don't even think of it," Yonatan responded. "If I find out that my father has decided to harm you, I'll certainly tell you."

10 "If your father does have a cruel plan, who'll tell me?" David asked Yonatan.

11 "Come with me out to the countryside." Yonatan replied. So they went out to the countryside together 12 and he promised David, "By Yahweh the god of Yisrael (Israel), I will definitely sound out my father around this time tomorrow, or soon after. If it looks good for you, then I'll certainly send a message to let you know. 13 But if he's planning evil for you, may Yahweh punish me similarly or even worse if I don't inform you, and send you away so you can leave in peace. And may Yahweh be with you just like he used to be with my father. 14 But as long as I'm still alive, please keep our agreement of faithfulness before Yahweh so I won't die. 15 Don't ever terminate that agreement of faithfulness towards my family,[107] even when Yahweh destroys your enemies wherever they are. 16 So Yonatan made a multi-generational agreement with David, adding, "And may Yahweh punish David's enemies."

17 Then Yonatan got David to promise again because he loved him as much as he loved his own life, 18 and he told him, "The new moon celebration is tomorrow, and you'll be missed because your seat will be empty. 19 The following day, go to the place where you hid before and stay by the big rock. 20 I'll shoot three arrows to the side of it, as if trying to hit a target. 21 Then I'll send my boy to find the arrows. If I tell him that they're on my side, then just as Yahweh lives it'll be safe for you to come out. 22 But if I tell the boy that they're on the far side, go because Yahweh is sending you away. 23 As for our pact, Yahweh will

**Literal Version**

and_not he_uncovers ĐOM ear_of_my and_why father_of_my will_he_hide from_me ĐOM the_thing the_this is_not this. 3 And_he_swore_an_oath again Dāvid and_he/it_said well_ _(know) father_of_your he_knows if/because_that I_have_found favour in_eyes_of_your and_he/it_said not Yōnātān let_him_ _know this lest he_should_be_grieved and_but by_the_life of_ _**YHWH** and_by_the_life your_self_of_your if/because about_a_ _step is_between_me and_between (the)_death. 4 And_ Yōnātān _he/it_said to Dāvid whatever self_of_your it_will_say and_I_ _will_do for_you. 5 And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to Yōnātān HERE a_ _new_moon will_be_tomorrow and_I really_(sit) I_will_sit with the_king to_eat and_you_will_let_me_go and_I_will_hide_ _myself in_field until the_evening (the)_third. 6 If actually_ _(miss) he_will_miss_me father_of_your and_you_will_say urgently_(ask) he_asked_for_himself from_me Dāvid to_run Bēyt- leḥem city_of_his if/because the_sacrifice_of the_days is_ _there to/from_all/each/any/every the_clan. 7 If thus he_will_ _say good safety belongs_to_servant_of_your and_if really_ _(burn) it_will_burn to_him/it know if/because_that (the)_ _harm it_has_been_determined from_with_him. 8 And_you_ _will_do covenant_loyalty towards servant_of_your if/because in_(the)_covenant_of **YHWH** you_have_brought ĐOM servant_ _of_your with_you and_if there_is in_me iniquity put_me_to_ _death you and_unto father_of_your to/for_what this will_you_ _bring_me. 9 And_ Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) _he/it_ _said far_be_it to_you if/because if ever_(know) I_will_know if/because_that (the)_harm it_has_been_determined from_with father_of_my to_come on_you and_not ĐOM_her/it will_I_tell to/for_you(fs). 10 And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to Yōnātān who will_ _he_tell to_me or what will_he_answer_you father_of_your hard. 11 And_ Yōnātān _he/it_said to Dāvid come and_let_us_ _go_out the_field and_ both_of_them _they_went_out the_field. 12 And_ Yōnātān _he/it_said to Dāvid **YHWH** the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) if/because_that I_will_sound_out ĐOM father_ _of_my about_time tomorrow the_third and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE good is_to Dāvid and_not then will_I_send to_you and_I_will_ _uncover ĐOM ear_of_your. 13 Thus **YHWH** may_he_do to_ _Yōnātān and_thus may_he_add if/because it_will_make_good to father_of_my ĐOM (the)_harm on_you and_I_will_uncover ĐOM ear_of_your and_I_will_send_you_away and_you_will_go to_peace and_let_it_be **YHWH** with_you just_as he_has_been with father_of_my. 14 And_not if still_I am_alive and_not you_ _will_do with_me the_covenant_loyalty_of **YHWH** and_not I_ _will_die. 15 And_not you_must_cut_off ĐOM loyalty_of_your_ _covenant from_with house_of_my until perpetuity and_not when_ **YHWH** _cuts_off ĐOM the_enemies_of Dāvid everyone from_under the_surface_of the_soil. 16 And_ Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) _he_made with the_house_of Dāvid and_ **YHWH** _he_will_require from_the_hand_of the_ _enemies_of Dāvid. 17 And_ Yōnātān _he_repeated to_make_ _swear_an_oath ĐOM Dāvid because_he_of_loved ĐOM_him/it if/because the_loving_of his_own_self_of_his he_loved_him. 18 And_he/it_said to_him/it Yōnātān will_be_tomorrow a_new_ _moon and_you_will_be_missed if/because seat_of_your it_will_ _be_empty. 19 And_you_will_do_on_the_third_day you_will_

**106 RV 20:5 · Cross-ref.** Num 28:11.

**107 RV 20:15 · Cross-ref.** 2Sam 9:1.

**Literal Version**

_come_down exceedingly and_you_will_come to the_place where you_hid_yourself there in/on_day of_the_deed and_you_ _will_stay beside the_stone (the)_Ezel. **20** And_I the_three_of the_arrows side_of_its I_will_shoot to_send_them to_me to_a_ _target. **21** And_BEHOLD/LO/SEE I_will_send ᵭᵯᵯ the_lad go find ᵭᵯᵯ the_arrows if explicitly_(say) I_will_say to_lad THERE the_arrows are_from_you and_hither fetch_it and_come if/because safety to/for_yourself(m) and_there_is_not anything by_the_life of_**YHWH**. **22** And_if thus I_will_say to_man THERE the_arrows are_from_you and_beyond go if/because he_has_ _sent_you_away **YHWH**. **23** And_the_matter which I and_you we_have_spoken HERE **YHWH** will_be_between_me and_ _between_you until perpetuity. **24** And_ Dāvid _he_hid_himself in_the_field and_ the_new_moon _he/it_was and_ the_king _ _he/it_sat_down//remained//lived to[111] the_food to_eat. **25** And_ the_king _he/it_sat_down//remained//lived on seat_ _of_his as_time on_time to the_seat_of the_wall and_ Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) _he/it_rose_up and_ ʾAvnēr _ _he/it_sat_down//remained//lived from_the_side_of Shāʾūl/(Saul) and_ the_place_of Dāvid _it_was_empty. **26** And_ _not Shāʾūl he_spoke anything in_the_day (the)_that if/because he_said is_chance it not is_clean he if/because not clean. **27** And_he/it_was from_the_next_day_of the_new_moon the_ _second and_ the_place_of Dāvid _it_was_empty and_ Shāʾūl _ _he/it_said to Yōnātān his/its_son why not the_son_of Yishay/(Jesse) has_he_come both yesterday as_well_as the_day to the_food. **28** And_ Yōnātān _he_answered ᵭᵯᵯ Shāʾūl urgently_(ask) Dāvid he_asked_for_himself from_with_me to Bēyt- leḥem. **29** And_he/it_said let_me_go please if/because a_ _sacrifice_of the_clan to/for_us in_city and_he he_has_ _commanded to_me my_brother/kindred and_now if I_have_ _found favour in_eyes_of_your let_me_slip_away please so_ _that_I_may_see ᵭᵯᵯ brothers_of_my therefore yes/correct/thus/so not he_has_come to the_table_of the_king. **30** And_ the_anger of_Shāʾūl _it_glowed/burnt on_Yōnātān and_he/it_said to_him/it Oh_son_of (the)_perverse_woman_of (the)_rebelliousness am_not do_I_know if/because_that you are_choosing (to)_the_son_of Yishay to_your_own_of_shame and_to_the_shame_of the_nakedness_of your_mother_of_your. **31** If/because all_of the_days which the_son_of Yishay he_lives on the_soil not you and_kingdom_of_your you_will_be_ _established and_now send and_fetch ᵭᵯᵯ_him/it to_me if/because is_a_son_of death he. **32** And_ Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) _he_answered ᵭᵯᵯ Shāʾūl/(Saul) his/its_father and_he/it_said to_him/it to/for_ _what will_he_be_put_to_death what has_he_done. **33** And_ Shāʾūl _he_hurled ᵭᵯᵯ the_spear on/upon/above_him/it to_ _strike_him and_ Yōnātān _he/it_knew if/because_that it_had_ _been_determined it from_with his/its_father to_kill ᵭᵯᵯ Dāvid. **34** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_rose_up from_with the_table in_ _the_heat_of anger and_not he_ate in/on_day of_the_new_ _moon the_second food if/because he_was_grieved concerning Dāvid if/because he_had_put_him_to_shame his/its_father.

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watch over us and our descendants."

**24** So David hid himself in the countryside, and at the new moon celebrations, the king sat down to eat— **25** sitting at his usual seat by the wall. Yonatan sat opposite, and Avner sat beside Sha'ul (Saul). No one was sitting in David's seat **26** but Sha'ul didn't say anything that day, thinking, "Something must have happened that made him ceremonially unclean." **27** However, the next day of the celebration when David was still missing, Sha'ul asked his son Yonatan, "Why didn't Yishay's (Jesse's) son come to the meal yesterday or today?"

**28** "David begged me to let him go to Beyt-Lehem (Bethlehem)," Yonatan answered. **29** "He requested, 'Please release me because our clan's sacrifice will be in the city, and my brother has told me to be there. So now, if I've found favour in your eyes, please let me slip away and go to see my brothers.' That's why he hasn't come to the king's table."

**30** Sha'ul was furious at Yonatan and yelled at him, "You son of a perverse, rebellious woman! Do you think that I don't know that you're taking the side of Yishay's son? It's to your detriment and to the shame of your mother's nakedness, **31** because as long as that son of Yishay stays alive on this earth, you and your kingdom will never be established. Now, send men and arrest him, because he's on his way to the grave!"

**32** "Why should he be put to death?" Yonatan retorted. "What wrong has he done?"

**33** Then Sha'ul hurled his spear at him to kill him, and Yonatan knew then that his father had already determined to kill David. **34** Yonatan angrily got up from the table. He didn't eat any food that second day of the celebration—he was upset about David because his father had dishonoured him.[108] **35** So it was that the following morning, Yonatan went out to the countryside at the time agreed with David, taking a small boy with him. **36** "Run ahead—find the arrows that I'm about to shoot," he told his boy. The boy ran and he shot the arrow to go over his head. **37** The boy went to where the arrow was, but Yonatan called out, "Isn't the arrow further past you?" **38** Then he added, "Hurry up! Don't mess around." So the boy picked up the arrow and brought it back to his master, **39** but the boy didn't realise what had just happened—only Yonatan and David knew. **40** Then Yonatan gave his equipment to the boy and sent him back to the city.

**41** When the boy was gone, David came up from the side and dropped onto his knees, bowing three times with his face to the ground. Then they greeted each other with a kiss and cried together, although David cried the most. **42** Then Yonatan told David, "Go in peace, because us two have made a pact together in Yahweh's name, agreeing, 'Yahweh will watch between me and you, and between my descendants and your descendants forever.' " Then David set off and Yonatan went back to the city.

**108 RV 20:34 · Note** It's not entirely clear who this 'him' was (as Sha'ul had seriously dishonoured Yonatan as well), so we've left it ambiguous (although David was certainly the last name mentioned).

**111 LV 20:24 · Note** OSHB variant note: לע: (x-qere) לְאָ: lemma_413 morph_HR id_09Gd9 לְאָ

**Readers' Version**

**David stays at Nov · Full kingdom**

**21:1** David went to the priest Ahimelek at Nov, but Ahimelek trembled when he saw David and asked him, "Why are you here by yourself? How come you don't have a companion?"[114]

**2** "The king sent me on an errand," David replied, "but he told me not to tell anyone about the matter that he sent me on. Plus I've told my young men where to meet me. **3** Now, what food do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread or whatever you can find."

**4** "There is no ordinary bread on hand," the priest answered. "But there is the sacred bread, if only the young men have kept themselves from women."

**5** "There's definitely been no women near us for three days," David told the priest. "That's how I always do missions. The men[115] have been pure, even though it was a common journey, and today even more so."

**6** So the priest gave him the sacred bread, because there was

**Literal Version**

**35** And_he/it_was in_morning and_ Yōnātān _he/it_went_out the_field to_the_appointed_time_of Dāvid and_a_lad small with_him/it. **36** And_he/it_said to_lad_of_his run find please ~~ÐOM~~ the_arrows which I am_about_to_shoot the_lad he_ran and_he he_shot the_arrow to_make_it_pass_beyond_him. **37** And_ the_lad _he_came to the_place_of the_arrow which Yōnātān he_had_shot and_ Yōnātān _he/it_called after the_lad and_he/it_said am_not is_the_arrow from_you and_beyond. **38** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_called after lad quickly make_haste do_ _not delay and_ the_lad_of Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) _ _he_picked_up ~~ÐOM~~ the[112] and_he_came to master(s)_of_his. **39** And_the_lad not he_knew anything only Yōnātān and_Dāvid they_knew ~~ÐOM~~ the_matter. **40** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_gave ~~ÐOM~~ weapons_of_his to the_lad who to_him/it and_he/it_said to_ _him/it go take_them the_city. **41** The_lad he_went and_Dāvid he_arose from_beside the_south and_he_fell to_face_of_his towards_land and_he_bowed_down three times and_they_ _kissed each ~~ÐOM~~ his/its_neighbour and_they_wept_for each ~~ÐOM~~ his/its_neighbour until Dāvid he_did_great_things. **42** And_ Yōnātān _he/it_said to_Dāvid go to_peace that the_two_of_of_ _us we we_have_sworn_an_oath in/on_name_of **YHWH** to_say **YHWH** he_will_be between_me and_between_you and_between offspring_of_my and_between your(ms)_seed/fruit until perpetuity.

**21:1** [113] And_he/it_rose_up and_he_went and_Yōnātān he_went the_city.

**2** [118] And_ Dāvid _he_went to_Nov to 'Aḥīmelek the_ _priest/officer and_ 'Aḥīmelek _he_trembled to_meet Dāvid and_he/it_said to_him/it why are_you you_alone and_anyone there_is_not with_you. **3** [119] And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to_ _'Aḥīmelek the_priest/officer the_king he_commanded_me a_ _matter and_he/it_said to_me anyone not let_him_know anything ~~ÐOM~~ the_matter which I am_sending_of_you and_ _which I_have_commanded_you and_~~ÐOM~~ the_young_men I_ _have_directed to a_place_of a_certain_one a_certain_one. **4** [120] And_now what is_there under hand_of_your five bread[s] give in_hand_of_my or the_that_which_is_found. **5** [121] And_ the_ _priest/officer _he_answered ~~ÐOM~~ Dāvid and_he/it_said there_ _is_not bread_of profaneness to under hand_of_my if/because (if) bread_of holiness there_is if the_young_men they_have_ _kept_themselves only from_a_woman. **6** [122] And_ Dāvid _he_ _answered ~~ÐOM~~ the_priest/officer and_he/it_said to_him/it if/because (if) woman is_withheld to/for_us as_yesterday three_days_ago when_I_go_out and_ the_vessels_of the_young_ _men _they_were holiness and_he is_a_journey_of profaneness

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**112 LV 20:38 · Note** OSHB variant note: יצח/ה: (x-qere) 'ם֫יְצִֽחָ/ה': lemma_d/2678 n_0.1 morph_HTd/Ncmpa id_09nbe ם֫יְצִֽחָ/ה

**113 LV 21:1 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.20.42

**114 RV 21:1-6 · Cross-ref.** Mat 12:3-4; Mrk 2:25-26; Luk 6:3.

**115 RV 21:5 · Note** The Hebrew says 'the men's vessels' (or 'containers'). It's not culturally clear if that referred to their 'bodies' (as this translation implies) or to something they carried.

**118 LV 21:2 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.1

**119 LV 21:3 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.2

**120 LV 21:4 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.3

**121 LV 21:5 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.4

**122 LV 21:6 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.5

**Literal Version**

and_indeed if/because the_day it_is_holy in_vessel. **7** [123] And_ _he_gave to_him/it the_priest/officer a_holy_thing if/because not it_was there bread if/because (if) the_bread_of the_ _presence which_had_been_removed from_to/for_ _face/front/presence **YHWH** to_put bread_of heat in/on_day it_was_taken_away. **8** [124] And_there a_man one_of_the_ _servants_of Shā'ūl/(Saul) in_the_day (the)_that he_was_ _detained to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before **YHWH** and_ _his/its_name was_Do'ēg the_'Edōmite the_mighty_one_of the_ _shepherds who belonged_to_Shā'ūl. **9** [125] And_ Dāvid _he/it_ _said to_'Aḥīmelek and_not there_is here under hand_of_your a_spear or a_sword if/because both sword_of_my and_also weapons_of_my not I_took in_hand_of_my if/because it_was the_matter_of the_king urgent. **10** [126] And_ the_priest/officer _ _he/it_said the_sword_of Golyat the_Philistine whom you_ _struck_down in_valley_of 'Ēlāh HERE it is_wrapped in_cloak behind the_ephod if ~~ḎǪM~~_her/it you_will_take to/for_ _yourself(m) take_it if/because there_is_not another except_it in_this_place and_ Dāvid _he/it_said there_is_not like_it give_it to/for_me.

**11** [130] And_ Dāvid _he/it_rose_up and_he_fled in_the_day (the)_ _that from_face/in_front_of Shā'ūl and_he_went to 'Akīsh the_ _king_of Gat. **12** [131] And_ the_servants_of 'Akīsh _they_said to_ _him/it am_not is_this Dāvid the_king_of the_earth/land am_ _not of_this_one do_people_sing in_dancing(s) to_say Shā'ūl/(Saul) he_has_struck_down in/on/at/with[132] and_Dāvid in/on/at/with[133]. **13** [134] And_ Dāvid _he/it_assigned ~~ḎǪM~~ the_ _words/messages the_these in_heart_of_his and_he_was_afraid exceedingly from_face/in_front_of 'Akīsh the_king_of Gat. **14** [135] And_he_changed_it ~~ḎǪM~~ sense_of_his in_eyes_of_their and_he_acted_like_a_madman in_hand_of_their and[136] on the_ _doors_of the_gate and_he_made_to_flow_down spittle_of_his to beard_of_his. **15** [137] And_ 'Akīsh _he/it_said to servants_of_ _his THERE you(pl)_see a_man behaving_like_a_madman to/for_what do_you(pl)_bring ~~ḎǪM~~_him/it to_me. **16** [138] Lacking_of mad_men am_I that/for/because/then/when

**Readers' Version**

no other bread there other than the previous day's bread of the presence which had been removed from in front of Yahweh to be replaced by fresh bread.[116]

**7** Now it so happened that one of Sha'ul's (Saul's) servants was there that day presenting himself to Yahweh. He was Doeg the Edomi, a leader of Sha'ul's herdsmen.

**8** David asked Ahimelek, "Do you have any spear or sword here? I didn't have time to grab my sword or my weapons when I left, because the king's matter was urgent."

**9** "I've only got Galyat's (Goliath's) sword," replied the priest. "From the Pelishti who you killed in the Elah valley.[117] Look, it's wrapped in the cloak behind the sacred apron. If you want to take it for yourself, take it, because there's no other sword around here."

"Yes, there's no other sword like it," said David. "Get it for me."

**David flees to Gat · Full kingdom**

**10** Then David left and continued moving to distance himself from Sha'ul (Saul), and he went to King Akish of Gat. **11** But Akish's servants complained to him, "Isn't that David who'll become king of Yisrael (Israel)? Isn't he the one they sing about when they dance, chanting, 'Sha'ul has killed his thousands, and David his tens of thousands?' "[127]

**12** David listened to those words without any reaction because he was very afraid of what King Akish might do,[128] **13** so he changed his behaviour when he was with them and pretended to be insane.[129] He scratched on wooden doors and let his saliva dribble down his beard. **14** Then King Akish complained to his servants, "Look, that man's insane. Why did you all bring him to me? **15** Don't I already have enough madmen around here—why

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**116 RV 21:6 · Cross-ref.** Lev 24:5-9.

**117 RV 21:9 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 17:51.

**123 LV 21:7 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.6

**124 LV 21:8 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.7

**125 LV 21:9 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.8

**126 LV 21:10 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.9

**127 RV 21:11 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 18:7; 29:5.

**128 RV 21:12 · Cross-ref.** Psa 56 header.

**129 RV 21:13 · Cross-ref.** Psa 34 header.

**130 LV 21:11 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.10

**131 LV 21:12 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.11

**132 LV 21:12 · Note** OSHB variant note: ב/פלא/ו: (x-qere) ב/וַיִּפָּלֶא/ו: lemma_b/505 n_0.1 morph_HR/Acbpc/Sp3ms id_09VGa ב/וַיִּפָּלֶא/ו

**133 LV 21:12 · Note** OSHB variant note: ב/תבבר/ו: (x-qere) ב/וַיִּתְבַּבַּר/ו: lemma_b/7233 n_0 morph_HR/Ncfpc/Sp3ms id_099dP ב/וַיִּתְבַּבַּר/ו

**134 LV 21:13 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.12

**135 LV 21:14 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.13

**136 LV 21:14 · Note** OSHB variant note: ותי/ו: (x-qere) וַיָּתִּי/ו: lemma_c/8427 n_0.1.0 morph_HC/Vpw3ms id_09bst וַיָּתִּי/ו

**137 LV 21:15 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.14

**138 LV 21:16 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.21.15

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add another? Must that man come into my house?"

**David moves around but gains followers · Full kingdom**

**22:1** So David left there and slipped away to the cave at Adulam.[139] When his brothers and other relatives found out, they went and joined him there. **2** Over time, any man who was in trouble, or in debt, or discontented gathered around him, and he became their leader—some four hundred men in all.

**3** From there, David went to Mitspah in Moav (Moab), and he asked the king of Moav, "Please let my parents stay here in the palace with you until I find out what God will do for me." **4** So he took them to the king where they stayed with him the entire time that David lived in the fortress.

**5** Then the prophet Gad told David, "Don't stay in the fortress. Leave it and come back to Yehudah's (Judah's) region." So David left and went to the Heret forest in Yehudah.

**The slaughter of the priests · Full kingdom**

**6** One day, Sha'ul (Saul) was sitting holding his spear underneath the tamarisk tree on a hill near Giveah with all his servants stationed around him, when he heard where David and his men were, **7** and he accused his servants, "Listen now, you Benyamites. Will Yishay's (Jesse's) son also[140] give fields and vineyards to all of you? Will he make all of you commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds? **8** Yes, all of you have conspired against me. Not one of you informed me when my own son made a pact with that son of Yishay. And none of you took my side or even informed me that my son has encouraged my servant to lie in ambush against me as he is today!"

**9** Now Doeg the Edomi was stationed there with Sha'ul's servants, and he spoke up, "I saw Yishay's son go to Nov and talk with Ahimelek the priest,[141] **10** and the priest asked Yahweh for directions for him, and gave him food and Galyat's (Goliath's) sword."

**11** Then the king summoned Ahituv's son Ahimelek and all his relatives who were priests to Nov, and they all came to the king. **12** "Listen now, son of Ahituv," said Sha'ul.

"Go ahead my master," answered Ahimelek.

**13** "Why have you all conspired against me?" asked Sha'ul. "You gave bread to Yishay's son, and a sword, and you asked guidance from God for him, so now he's risen up against me—lying in ambush this very day?"

**14** "Isn't David one of your most faithful servants?" Ahimelek answered the king. "He's the king's son-in-law and commander

**Literal Version**

you(pl)_have_brought ~~ḎOM~~ this_one to_behave_like_a_madman on_me this_one will_he_come into house_of_my.

**22:1** And_ Dāvid _he/it_went from_there and_he_escaped to the_cave_of ʼAdullām and_ brothers_of_his and_all the_ _household_of his/its_father _they_heard and_they_went_ _down to_him/it to_(to). **2** And_they_gathered_together to_ _him/it every_of man distress and_all man whom to_him/it a_ _creditor and_all man bitter_of soul and_he/it_was over_them (into)_a_commander and_they_were with_him/it about_four hundred(s) man. **3** And_ Dāvid _he/it_went from_there Mitspāh of_Mōʾāv and_he/it_said to the_king_of Mōʾāv let_him_go_out please father_of_my and_mother_of_my with_you(pl) until that I_will_know what will_he_do to/for_me god. **4** And_he_led_ _them with the_presence_of the_king_of Mōʾāv and_they_lived with_him/it all_of the_days_of the_being of_Dāvid in_ _stronghold. **5** And_ Gād the_prophet _he/it_said to Dāvid not you_must_remain in_stronghold go and_you_will_go (for)_ _yourself the_land_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) and_ Dāvid _he/it_went and_he_came the_forest_of Ḥeret.

**6** And_ Shāʾūl/(Saul) _he/it_listened if/because_that Dāvid and_ _the_men who with_him/it he_was_known and_Shāʾūl was_ _sitting at_Givʿāh under the_tamarisk_tree at_place and_spear_ _of_his was_in_hand_of_his and_all servants_of_his were_ _standing on/upon/above_him/it. **7** And_ Shāʾūl _he/it_said to_ _servants_of_his who_were_standing on/upon/above_him/it listen please Oh_Ben-_of jaminites also to_all_of_you(pl) the_ _son_of Yishay/(Jesse) will_he_give fields and_vineyards (to)_ _all_of_you(pl) will_he_appoint commanders_of thousands and_ _commanders_of hundreds. **8** That/for/because/then/when of_you_of_all you(pl)_have_conspired on_me and_there_is_not one_who_opens ~~ḎOM~~ ear_of_my when_ son_of_my _makes with the_son_of Yishay and_there_is_not one_who_feels_pain from_ _of_you(pl) on_me and_opening ~~ḎOM~~ ear_of_my if/because_that son_of_my he_has_raised_up ~~ḎOM~~ servant_of_my on_me to_an_ _ambusher as_day (the)_this. **9** And_ Doʾēg the_ʾEdōmite _he_ _answered and_he was_standing with the_servants_of Shāʾūl and_he_said I_saw ~~ḎOM~~ the_son_of Yishay coming to_Novʿ to ʾAḥīmelek the_son_of ʾAḥīṭūvʿ. **10** And_he_enquired to_him/it by_**YHWH** and_provision[s] he_gave to_him/it and_~~ḎOM~~ the_ _sword_of Golyat the_Philistine he_gave to_him/it. **11** And_ the_king _he_sent to_call ~~ḎOM~~ ʾAḥīmelek the_son_of ʾAḥīṭūvʿ the_priest/officer and_~~ḎOM~~ all_of the_house_of his/its_father the_priests who were_at_Novʿ and_ of_them_of_all _they_came to the_king. **12** And_ Shāʾūl/(Saul) _he/it_said listen please Oh_ _son_of ʾAḥīṭūvʿ and_he/it_said here_I_am my_master. **13** And_ _he/it_said him[142] Shāʾūl to/for_what have_you(pl)_conspired on_me you and_the_son_of Yishay/(Jesse) when_gave_you[143] to_him/it bread and_a_sword and_you_enquired to_him/it by_ _god to_rise_up to_me to_an_ambusher as_day (the)_this.

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**139 RV 22:1 · Cross-ref.** Psa 57 header; Psa 142 header.

**140 RV 22:7 · Note** See note on 'גַּם' ('gam') at https://www.sil.org/resources/publications/entry/99313.

**141 RV 22:9-10 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 21:7-9; Psa 52 header.

**142 LV 22:13 · Note** OSHB variant note: וְ/לֹא: (x-qere) וְ/יֵלֵא: lemma_413 n_1.2.0 morph_HR/Sp3ms id_09hya וְ/יֵלֵא

**143 LV 22:13 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently than BHS. Often this notation indicates a typographical error in BHS.

**Literal Version**

**14** And_ ʾAḥīmelek _he_answered ÐOM the_king and_he_said and_who among_all_of your_servants like_Dāvid is_faithful and_the_son-in-law_of the_king and_one_who_turns_aside to bodyguard_of_your and_one_who_is_honoured in_household_ _of_your. **15** The_day did_I_begin mmm[144] to_him/it by_god far_be_it to/for_me not the_king let_him_put against_servant_ _of_his anything in_all the_house_of my_father_of_my if/because not servant_of_your he_knew in_all this anything small or great. **16** And_ the_king _he/it_said surely_(die) you_ _will_die Oh_ʾAḥīmelek you and_all the_house_of your_father_ _of_your. **17** And_ the_king _he/it_said to_runners who_were_ _standing on/upon/above_him/it turn_round and_put_to_ _death the_priests_of **YHWH** if/because also hand_of_their is_ _with Dāvid and_because/when they_knew if/because_that he was_fleeing and_not they_uncovered ÐOM mmm[145] and_not the_servants_of the_king they_were_willing to_stretch_out ÐOM hand_of_their to_fall on_the_priests_of **YHWH**. **18** And_ the_ _king _he/it_said mmm[146] you turn_round and_fall on_priests and_he_turned_round Doʾēg[147] the_ʾEdōmite and_ he _he_fell on_priests and_he_killed in_the_day (the)_that eighty and_five man who_bore an_ephod_of linen. **19** And_ÐOM Novʿ the_city_of the_priests he_struck_down to_the_mouth_of the_sword from_ _man and_unto woman from_a_child and_unto a_sucking_child and_ox[en] and_donkey[s] and_sheep to_the_mouth_of the_ _sword. **20** And_ a_son one of_ʾAḥīmelek the_son_of ʾAḥīṭūvʿ _ _he_escaped and_his/its_name was_ʾEvyātār and_he_fled after Dāvid. **21** And_ ʾEvyātār _he_told to_Dāvid if/because_that Shāʾūl/(Saul) he_had_killed ÐOM the_priests_of **YHWH**. **22** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to_ʾEvyātār I_knew in_the_day (the)_that if/because was_there Doʾēg[148] the_ʾEdōmite if/because_that surely_(tell) he_will_tell to_Shāʾūl I I_have_turned in_all life_of the_house_of your_father_of_your. **23** Remain with_me do_not be_afraid if/because the_one_who he_seeks ÐOM life_of_my he_ _seeks ÐOM life_of_your if/because are_in_good_care you with_ _me.

**23:1** And_people_told to_Dāvid to_say THERE the_Pəlishtiy are_ _fighting against_Qəʿīlāh and_they are_plundering ÐOM the_ _threshing_floors. **2** And_ Dāvid _he_enquired by_**YHWH** to_say will_I_go and_will_I_attack (in)_Pəlishtiy the_these and_ **YHWH** _he/it_said to Dāvid go and_you_will_attack (in)_Pəlishtiy and_ _you_will_deliver ÐOM Qəʿīlāh. **3** And_ the_men_of Dāvid _they_ _said to_him/it HERE we here in_Yəhūdāh/(Judah) are_fearful and_indeed if/because we_will_go Qəʿīlāh against the_battle_ _lines_of the_Pəlishtiy. **4** And_he_repeated again Dāvid to_ _enquire by_**YHWH** and_he_answered_him **YHWH** and_he/it_ _said arise go_down Qəʿīlāh if/because I am_about_to_give ÐOM the_Pəlishtiy in_hand_of_your. **5** And_he/it_went Dāvid his[149] Qəʿīlāh and_he_fought against_Pəlishtiy and_he_drove_away ÐOM livestock_of_their and_he_defeated (is)_in_them a_defeat great and_ Dāvid _he_delivered ÐOM the_inhabitants_of Qəʿīlāh.

**Readers' Version**

over your guards, and isn't he honoured in your house? **15** Did I begin to inquire for him from God today? Far be it from me! Don't let the king accuse his servant or any of my father's household, because your servant doesn't know about any of this—nothing at all."

**16** "For certain, Ahimelek," the king declared. "you and all your father's household will certainly die for that!" **17** Then the king commanded his messengers who were stationed beside him, "Turn around and put Yahweh's priests to death because they've taken David's side. And because they knew he was fleeing, but they didn't inform me." But the king's servants weren't willing to attack Yahweh's priests. **18** So the king commanded Doeg the Edomi, "You turn around and attack the priests." So Doeg turned and he himself attacked the priests. He killed eighty-five men that day who wore sacred linen aprons. **19** Also at Nov (the city of priests) he killed men and women with his sword, children and infants, cattle, donkeys, and sheep.

**20** But one of Ahimelek's sons was able to slip away. His name was Evyatar and he fled to join David, **21** and informed him that Sha'ul (Saul) had commanded Doeg to kill Yahweh's priests. **22** "I knew on that day," David responded, "when Doeg the Edomi was there, that he would probably tell Sha'ul. It's my fault that your father and all his family were murdered. **23** Stick with me—don't be afraid, because the one who wants to kill me would kill you as well. You'll be safe with me."

**David rescues Ke'ilah · Full kingdom**

**23:1** Some time later, David was told, "Listen, the Pelishtim are fighting against the city of Ke'ilah and they are stealing grain from the threshing floors," **2** so he asked Yahweh, "Should I go and attack those Pelishtim?"

"Go and attack the Pelishtim and save Ke'ilah," Yahweh responded.

**3** But David's men warned him, "Listen, we're afraid here in Yehudah (Judah), and we'd be even more afraid if we went to Ke'ilah against the Pelishtim' battle lines." **4** So David double-checked with Yahweh who answered, "Get ready and go to Ke'ilah, because I'm about to give you victory over the Pelishtim." **5** Then David and his men went to Ke'ilah and battled

**144 LV 22:15 · Note** OSHB variant note: לואש/ל: (x-qere) לְאִשׁ/ל: lemma_l/7592 morph_HR/Vqc id_09g86 לְאִשׁ/ל

**145 LV 22:17 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/נזא: (x-qere) י/נָזָא: lemma_241 n_1 morph_HNcfsc/Sp1cs id_09Cb1 י/נָזָא

**146 LV 22:18 · Note** OSHB variant note: גיוד/ל: (x-qere) גָּאוֹד/ל: lemma_l/1673 n_1.2 morph_HR/Np id_09aNE גָּאוֹד/ל

**147 LV 22:18 · Note** OSHB variant note: גיוד: (x-qere) גָּאוֹד: lemma_1673 morph_HNp id_09u2Q גָּאוֹד

**148 LV 22:22 · Note** OSHB variant note: גיוד: (x-qere) גָּאוֹד: lemma_1673 morph_HNp id_09bme גָּאוֹד

**149 LV 23:5 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/שנא/ו: (x-qere) ו/יֹשַׁנָּא/ו: lemma_c/376 morph_HC/Ncmpc/Sp3ms id_09kPr ו/יֹשַׁנָּא/ו

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against the Pelishtim—thoroughly defeating them and taking their livestock, thus saving the inhabitants of Ke'ilah.

**6** Now when Ahimelek's son Evyatar had fled to David at Ke'ilah, he'd brought a sacred apron with him.

**7** Sha'ul (Saul) was told that David had gone to Ke'ilah, so he said, "Ah, God has deserted him and given him to me because he's shut himself in by going into a walled city with doors that can be barred shut." **8** So Sha'ul initiated preparations to go to Ke'ilah to entrap David and his men.

**9** But David discovered that Sha'ul was planning to destroy him, so he summoned Evyatar the priest, "Bring the sacred apron here." **10** Then David prayed, "Yahweh, God of Yisrael (Israel), your servant has heard that Sha'ul is intending to come to Ke'ilah—to destroy the city because of me. **11** Will Sha'ul come here, just as your servant has heard? Will the masters of Ke'ilah turn me over to him? Yahweh, God of Yisrael, please tell your servant."

"Yes, he will go there," Yahweh answered.

**12** "And will the masters of Ke'ilah hand me and my men over to Sha'ul?" David asked again.

And Yahweh said, "They will deliver up."

**13** So David and his men (about 600 of them), left Ke'ilah and moved around from place to place. When Sha'ul was told that David had slipped away from Ke'ilah, he didn't continue with his plans.

**Sha'ul pursues David · Full kingdom**

**14** David stayed in various fortresses in the wilderness, and sometimes he stayed in the hill country in the Zif wilderness. Sha'ul (Saul) kept searching for them, but God didn't allow him to capture them. **15** Once David was staying in the Zif wilderness and he saw that Sha'ul had arrived there to try to kill him. **16** Then Sha'ul's son Yonatan (Jonathan) went to David at Horesh and encouraged him to keep trusting God, **17** saying, "Don't be afraid, because my father Sha'ul won't capture you. As for you, you'll reign over Yisrael (Israel), and I'll be your second in command. Even my father knows that." **18** Again, the two of them made an agreement before Yahweh.[150] Then David stayed at Horesh and Yonatan returned home.

**19** Some men from Zif went to Sha'ul at Giveah, saying, "We're pretty sure that David's hiding himself among us in the fortresses in Horesh, on the Hakilah hill south of Yeshimon.[151] **20** So now, your majesty, come over whenever you want, and we'll make sure he's handed over to you."

**21** "May you all be blessed by Yahweh," Sha'ul responded, "because you've had compassion on me. **22** Please go back and double-check and find out who's seen him there. Learn more and look at the place yourselves, because I've been told that he's

**Literal Version**

**6** And_he/it_was when_ 'Evyātār the_son_of 'Aḥīmelek _fled to Dāvid Qə'īlāh an_ephod it_came_down in_his/its_hand. **7** And_ _it_was_told to_Shā'ūl/(Saul) if/because_that Dāvid he_had_ _gone Qə'īlāh and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said god he_has_alienated ᵭᵯ_him/it in_hand_of_my if/because he_has_shut_himself_up by_going in_a_city_of doors and_bar[s]. **8** And_ Shā'ūl _he_ _summoned ᵭᵯ all_of the_people for_battle to_go_down Qə'īlāh to_lay_siege against Dāvid and_near/to men_of_his. **9** And_ Dāvid _he/it_knew if/because_that on/upon/above_ _him/it Shā'ūl was_plotting the_evil and_he/it_said to 'Evyātār the_priest/officer bring_near the_ephod. **10** And_ Dāvid _he/it_ _said Oh_**YHWH** the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) certainly_(hear) servant_of_your he_has_heard if/because_that Shā'ūl is_ _seeking to_come to Qə'īlāh to_destroy (to)_city because_of_me. **11** Will_they_deliver_me_up the_citizens_of Qə'īlāh in_hand_of_ _his will_ Shā'ūl _he_come_down just_as servant_of_your he_ _has_heard Oh_**YHWH** the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) tell please to_servant_of_your and_ **YHWH** _he/it_said he_will_come_ _down. **12** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said will_ the_citizens_of Qə'īlāh _ _they_deliver_up ᵭᵯ_me and_ᵭᵯ men_of_my in_the_hand_of Shā'ūl and_ **YHWH** _he/it_said they_will_deliver_you(pl)_up. **13** And_ Dāvid and_men_of_his about_six hundred(s) man _ _he/it_rose_up and_they_went_out from_Qə'īlāh and_they_ _went_about at_where they_went_about and_to_Shā'ūl/(Saul) it_was_told if/because_that Dāvid he_had_escaped from_Qə'īlāh and_he_ceased to_go_forth.

**14** And_ Dāvid _he/it_sat_down//remained//lived in_ _wilderness in_strongholds and_he/it_sat_ _down//remained//lived in_country in_the_wilderness_of Zīf and_he_sought_him Shā'ūl all_of the_days and_not he_gave_ _him god in_his/its_hand. **15** And_ Dāvid _he/it_saw[152] if/because_that Shā'ūl he_had_come_forth to_seek ᵭᵯ life_of_ _his and_Dāvid was_in_the_wilderness_of Zīf at_Ḥoresh. **16** And_ Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) the_son_of Shā'ūl _ _he/it_rose_up and_he/it_went to Dāvid Ḥoresh and_he_ _strengthened ᵭᵯ his/its_hand in_god. **17** And_he/it_said to_ _him/it do_not be_afraid if/because not it_will_find_you the_ _hand_of Shā'ūl father_of_my and_you(ms) you_will_reign over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_I I_will_become to_you (into)_second_in_ _rank and_also Shā'ūl father_of_my is_knowing right. **18** And_ both_of_them _they_made a_covenant to_(the)_face_of/in_ _front_of/before **YHWH** and_ Dāvid _he/it_sat_ _down//remained//lived at_Ḥoresh and_Yōnātān he_went to_ _house_of_his. **19** And_ Zīfī _they_went_up to Shā'ūl/(Saul) to_ _(the)_Giv˝āh to_say am_not is_Dāvid hiding_himself with_us in_strongholds at_Ḥoresh on_the_hill_of (the)_Hakilah which is_from_the_south_of (the)_Yəshimōn/(Jeshimon). **20** And_now to/from_all/each/any/every the_desire_of your_self_of_your the_king to_come_down come_down and_belongs_to_us to_ _deliver_him_up in_the_hand_of the_king. **21** And_ Shā'ūl _ _he/it_said you(pl) be_blessed to/for_**YHWH** if/because

**150** **RV 23:18 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 18:3.

**151** **RV 23:19 · Cross-ref.** Psa 54 header.

**152** **LV 23:15 · Note** OSHB note: BHS has been faithful to the Leningrad Codex where there might be a question of the validity of the form and we keep the same form as BHS.

**Literal Version**

you(pl)_have_had_compassion on_me. **22** Go please prepare still and_know and_see ᴅᴏᴍ place_of_his where foot_of_his it_is who has_he_seen_him there if/because someone_has_said to_me very_(be_crafty) he he_is_crafty. **23** And_see and_know from_all the_hiding_places where he_hides_himself there and_you(pl)_ _will_return to_me to a_certain_thing and_I_will_go with_ _you(pl) and_it_was if (there)_he in/on_the_earth and_I_will_ _search_out ᴅᴏᴍ_him/it among_all_of the_thousands_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah). **24** And_they_arose and_they_went to_Zīf to_ _(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before Shā'ūl and_Dāvid and_men_ _of_his were_in_the_wilderness_of Mā'ōn in_ʿArāvāh to the_ _south_of (the)_Yəshimōn. **25** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_men_of_ _his _he/it_went to_seek_him and_people_told to_Dāvid and_ _he/it_descended the_rock and_he/it_sat_ _down//remained//lived in_the_wilderness_of Mā'ōn and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_listened and_he_pursued after Dāvid the_ _wilderness_of Mā'ōn. **26** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_went from_the_ _side_of the_mountain from_this and_Dāvid and_men_of_his were_from_the_side_of the_mountain from_this and_he/it_was Dāvid hurrying_away to_go from_face/in_front_of Shā'ūl and_ _Shā'ūl and_men_of_his were_surrounding (to) Dāvid and_ _near/to men_of_his to_catch_them. **27** And_a_messenger he_ _came to Shā'ūl to_say make_haste and_come if/because the_ _Pəlishtiy they_have_made_a_raid on the_earth/land. **28** And_ Shā'ūl _he_turned_back from_pursuing after Dāvid and_he/it_ _went to_meet the_Pəlishtiy therefore yes/correct/thus/so people_called (to)_place (the)_that Sela Hammahlekoth. **24:1** **153** And_ Dāvid _he/it_ascended from_there and_he/it_sat_ _down//remained//lived in_the_strongholds_of ʿĒyn.

**2** **157** And_he/it_was when_just_as Shā'ūl he_returned from_ _after the_Pəlishtiy and_people_told to_him/it to_say THERE Dāvid is_in_the_wilderness_of ʿĒyn. **3** **158** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _ _he/it_took three_of thousand(s) man chosen from_all Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_he/it_went to_seek ᴅᴏᴍ Dāvid and_men_ _of_his on the_face_of the_rocks_of the_mountain_goats. **4** **159** And_he_came to the_folds_of the_sheep on the_way and_there a_cave and_ Shā'ūl _he_went to_cover ᴅᴏᴍ feet_of_his and_ _Dāvid and_men_of_his in_the_innermost_parts_of the_cave were_sitting. **5** **160** And_ the_men_of Dāvid _they_said to_him/it HERE the_day which **YHWH** he_said to HERE I am_about_to_ _give ᴅᴏᴍ mmm[161] in_hand_of_your and_you_will_do for_ _him/it just_as it_will_be_good in_eyes_of_your and_ Dāvid _ _he/it_rose_up and_he_cut_off ᴅᴏᴍ the_skirt_of the_robe which belonged_to_Shā'ūl in_secrecy. **6** **162** And_he/it_was after thus and_ the_heart_of Dāvid _it_struck ᴅᴏᴍ_him/it on that he_had_ _cut_off ᴅᴏᴍ the_skirt which belonged_to_Shā'ūl. **7** **163** And_

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very crafty. **23** Find out all the other places where he hides himself. Return to me with definite information, then I'll go with you all, and if he's there in that region, then I'll search for him among the population of Yehudah (Judah)."

**24** So they left and returned to Zif ahead of Sha'ul. At that time, David and his men were in the Maeon wilderness south of Yeshimon **25** when Sha'ul and his men came to search for them. When David was told, he went further south to a rocky hill therein that wilderness, but Sha'ul also heard that and followed them. **26** At one point, Sha'ul was on one side of a hill, and David and his men were on the other side. David was hurrying to get away from Sha'ul, but Sha'ul and his men were trying to surround David and his men to capture them. **27** Just then, a messenger arrived for Sha'ul, saying, "Come quickly because the Pelishtim have raided our region." **28** So Sha'ul had to give up chasing David and went to repel the Pelishtim. **29** David also left that area and stayed in the fortresses around Eyn-Gedi.

**David refuses to kill Sha'ul · Full kingdom**

**24:1** After Sha'ul (Saul) returned from repelling the Pelishtim, they told him that David was now in the Eyn-Gedi wilderness. **2** So Sha'ul chose three thousand Israeli warriors and went searching for David and his men at Wild Goats Rocks. **3** On the way, as they reached the sheep yards, Sha'ul went into a cave to relieve himself, but David and his men were hiding there further inside the cave.[154] **4** David's men whispered to him, "Wow, today what Yahweh told you is coming true when he said, 'Listen, I'm about to give victory over your enemy, and you will do to him whatever you think is right.' " Then David sneaked up and quietly cut a piece off the edge of Sha'ul's robe. **5** Afterwards however, David felt bad because he'd cut a piece off Sha'ul's clothes **6** and he said to his men, "By Yahweh, I shouldn't have done that to my master—to Yahweh's anointed king—to do him harm because he's

**153** **LV 24:1 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.23.29

**154** **RV 24:3 · Cross-ref.** Psa 57 header; Psa 142 header.

**157** **LV 24:2 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.1

**158** **LV 24:3 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.2

**159** **LV 24:4 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.3

**160** **LV 24:5 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.4

**161** **LV 24:5 · Note** OSHB variant note: **יבי/ך**: (x-qere) **בִּיאָ/הּ**: lemma_341 n_1.2.0 morph_HVqrmsc/Sp2ms id_09vNC **בִּיאָ/הּ**

**162** **LV 24:6 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.5

**163** **LV 24:7 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.6

**Readers' Version**

the one Yahweh anointed."[155] **7** He restrained his men with a few quiet words and wouldn't allow them to attack Sha'ul.

Then Sha'ul left the cave and headed down the path. **8** After waiting a few moment, David went out of the cave and called out behind Sha'ul, "My master the king." When Sha'ul turned and looked behind him, David bowed **9** and said, "Why do you listen to people when they say that I'm wanting to harm you? **10** Look, you can see for yourself that Yahweh gave me the opportunity to harm you today in the cave, and some of my men wanted me to kill you, but I showed you compassion and told them that I wouldn't do harm to my master, because he's Yahweh's chosen king. **11** Your majesty, look of this piece of your robe that I'm holding, because when I cut it off, I didn't kill you. So now you can see for yourself that I have no evil plans, and I haven't do you any wrong, even though you're ambushing me so you can kill me. **12** May Yahweh judge between you and me because I'll let Yahweh repay you for any harm against me—it won't be me who works against you. **13** As the ancient proverb says, 'Evil things are done by evil people.' But it won't be me who harms you. **14** Who has Yisrael's (Israel's) king come to find? Who are you chasing after? A dead dog? A flea?[156] **15** May Yahweh take his judgement seat and judge between me and you, and may he see my case and find me innocent and save me from you."

**16** When David finished saying that to Sha'ul, Sha'ul called back, "Is that your voice, my son David?" Then he cried loudly **17** and told David, "You're more righteous than I am, because you were good to me even when I did evil things to you. **18** You've stated that you've treated me well—how Yahweh gave you the advantage over me, yet you didn't kill me. **19** Now if a man finds his enemy unprepared, does he just send him off happily? Well, may Yahweh reward you for your mercy towards me today. **20** Now listen, I know for certain that you're going to become king and that the kingdom of Yisrael will prosper under your leadership. **21** Now promise me by Yahweh that you won't destroy my name from my family line by killing my descendants." **22** David promised that to Sha'ul, then Sha'ul went back home and David and his men returned to their fortress.

**Literal Version**

_he/it_said to_men_of_his far_be_it to/for_me from_**YHWH** if I_ _will_do ÐOM the_thing the_this to_master_of_my to_the_one_ _anointed_of **YHWH** by_stretching_out hand_of_my in/on/over_him/it if/because is_the_one_anointed_of **YHWH** he. **8** [164] And_ Dāvid _he_reprimanded ÐOM men_of_his by_ _words/messages and_not he_permitted_them to_rise_up against Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_Shā'ūl he_arose from_the_cave and_ _he/it_went on_way. **9** [165] And_ Dāvid _he/it_rose_up after thus and_he/it_went_out wwww the[166] and_he/it_called after Shā'ūl to_say my_master the_king and_ Shā'ūl _he_looked behind_him and_ Dāvid _he_bowed_low face towards_land and_he_bowed_ _down. **10** [167] And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to_Shā'ūl to/for_what do_ _you_listen_to ÐOM the_words/messages_of someone to_say THERE Dāvid is_seeking harm_of_your. **11** [168] HERE the_day the_this eyes_of_your_own they_have_seen ÐOM how he_gave_ _you **YHWH** the_day in_hand_of_my in_cave and_saying(ms) to_kill_you and_it_looked_with_compassion on_you and_I_said not I_will_stretch_out hand_of_my on_master_of_my if/because is_the_one_anointed_of **YHWH** he. **12** [169] And_Oh_ _of_my_father see also see ÐOM the_skirt_of your_robe_of_your in_hand_of_my if/because when_I_cut_off ÐOM the_skirt_of your_robe_of_your and_not I_killed_you know and_see if/because_that there_is_not in_hand_of_my evil and_ _transgression and_not I_have_sinned to/for_you(fs) and_ _you(ms) are_lying_in_wait_for ÐOM life_of_my to_take_it. **13** [170] **YHWH** may_he_judge between_me and_between_you and_he_ _will_avenge_me **YHWH** from_you and_hand_of_my not it_will_ _be on/over_you(fs). **14** [171] Just_as the_proverb_of the_ _ancient[s] it_says from_wicked_people wickedness it_comes_ _forth and_hand_of_my not it_will_be on/over_you(fs). **15** [172] After whom the_king_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) has_he_come_out after whom are_you pursuing after a_dog dead after a_flea one. **16** [173] And_it_was **YHWH** (into)_a_judge and_he_will_judge between_ _me and_between_you and_may_he_see and_may_he_conduct ÐOM case_of_my and_may_he_vindicate_me from_your(ms)_ _hand. **17** [174] And_he/it_was just_ Dāvid _as_finished to_speak ÐOM the_words/messages the_these to Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said voice_of_your is_this my_son_of_my Dāvid and_ Shā'ūl _he_lifted_up voice_of_his and_he_wept. **18** [175] And_ _he/it_said to Dāvid are_righteous you more_than_I if/because you you_have_dealt_out_to_me (the)_good and_I I_have_dealt_

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**155** **RV 24:6 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 26:11.

**156** **RV 24:14 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 26:20.

**164** **LV 24:8 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.7

**165** **LV 24:9 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.8

**166** **LV 24:9 · Note** OSHB variant note: הרעמ/ה־ן: (x-qere) הָרָעְמִ/הֵ/מ: lemma_m/d/4631 n_1.1 morph_HR/Td/Ncfsa id_098Qr הָרָעְמִ/הֵ/מ

**167** **LV 24:10 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.9

**168** **LV 24:11 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.10

**169** **LV 24:12 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.11

**170** **LV 24:13 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.12

**171** **LV 24:14 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.13

**172** **LV 24:15 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.14

**173** **LV 24:16 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.15

**174** **LV 24:17 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.16

**175** **LV 24:18 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.17

**Literal Version**

_out_to_you (the)_evil. **19** [176] And[177] you_have_told the_day ÐOM how you_have_done with_me good ÐOM how he_delivered_ _me_up **YHWH** in_hand_of_your and_not you_killed_me. **20** [178] And_because/when anyone he_will_find ÐOM enemy_of_his and_will_he_send_him_away on_a_journey good and_**YHWH** may_he_reward_you good in_place_of the_day the_this that_ _which you_have_done to_me. **21** [179] And_now HERE I_know if/because_that certainly_(reign) you_will_reign and_it_will_ _be_established in_hand_of_your the_kingdom_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **22** [180] And_now swear_an_oath to/for_me by_ _**YHWH** if you_will_cut_off ÐOM offspring_of_my after_me and_ _if you_will_destroy ÐOM name_of_my from_the_house_of my_ _father_of_my. **23** [181] And_ Dāvid _he_swore_an_oath to_ _Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_went to house_of_his and_ _Dāvid and_men_of_his they_went_up to the_stronghold.

**25:1** And_ Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) _he/it_died and_ all_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_gathered_together and_they_mourned to_him/it and_they_buried_him at_house_of_his in_Rāmāh and_ Dāvid _he/it_rose_up and_he/it_descended to the_ _wilderness_of Pā'rān. **2** And_a_man was_in_Mā'ōn and_ _business_of_his was_in_Karmel/(Carmel) and_the_man was_ _great very and_to/for_him/it sheep three_of thousand(s) and_ _one_thousand goats and_he/it_was when_sheared ÐOM his/its_ _flock_of_sheep/goats in_Karmel/(Carmel). **3** And_name_of the_man was_Nāvāl and_name_of his/its_wife/woman was_ _'Avīgayil and_the_woman was_good_of insight and_beautiful_ _of form and_the_man was_hard and_evil_of deeds and_he mmm[183]. **4** And_ Dāvid _he/it_listened in_wilderness if/because_that Nāvāl was_shearing ÐOM his/its_flock_of_ _sheep/goats. **5** And_ Dāvid _he_sent ten young_men and_ Dāvid _he/it_said to_men go_up to_Karmel/(Carmel) and_ _you(pl)_will_go to Nāvāl and_you(pl)_will_ask to_him/it in_ _name_of_my to_welfare. **6** And_you(pl)_will_say thus to_one and_you(ms) peace and_house_of_your peace and_ _all/each/any/every that to/for_yourself(m) peace. **7** And_now I_have_heard if/because_that shearers to/for_you(fs) now the_ _shepherds who to/for_yourself(m) they_have_been with_us not we_have_humiliated_them and_not it_has_been_missing to/for_them anything all_of the_days_of their_being in_ _Karmel/(Carmel). **8** Ask ÐOM servants_of_your_own and_they_ _will_tell to/for_you(fs) and_ the_young_men _let_them_find favour in_eyes_of_your if/because on a_day good we_have_ _come give please ÐOM that_which hand_of_your it_will_find to_servants_of_your and_to_son_of_your to_Dāvid. **9** And_ the_ _young_men_of Dāvid _they_came and_they_spoke to Nāvāl according_to_all_of the_words/messages the_these in/on_ _name_of Dāvid and_they_rested. **10** And_ Nāvāl _he_answered ÐOM the_servants_of Dāvid and_he/it_said who is_Dāvid and_ _who is_the_son_of Yishay/(Jesse) the_day servants who_

**Readers' Version**

**David, Naval, and Abigil · Full kingdom**

**25:1** Later on, Shmuel (Samuel) died and all the Israelis gathered and mourned for him, then they buried him at his house in Ramah.

Then David left and went to the Paran wilderness. **2** Now there was a man in Maeon whose business was in Karmel. He owned three thousand sheep and one thousand goats, and was busy shearing his sheep at Karmel. **3** The man's name was Naval, and his wife was Avigayil. The wife was wise and very good-looking, whereas the man (who was a Kalevi) was harsh and cruel.

**4** While David was in the wilderness, he heard that Naval was shearing his sheep, **5** so he told ten young men, "Go to Naval at Karmel and greet him in my name. **6** Then tell him, 'Make you live long. Peace to you and your household and everything that belongs to you. **7** Now I've heard those shearers are working for you, and your shepherds have been living with us. We haven't harmed them or taken anything of theirs while they've been in Karmel. **8** Ask your servants and they'll confirm this. May these young men enjoy your favour because harvesting the wool is a prosperous time, so I request a gift for your servants and for your 'son', David.' "

**9** So David's men went and passed all that onto Naval, and then waited for his response. **10** But Naval answered them, "Why should I care about David? Yishay's (Jesse's) son isn't anyone important. There's lot of servants these days who are on the run from their masters. **11** This bread and water, and the meat that I've butchered, is for my shearers. Why should I give it to men when I don't even know where they're from?"

**12** David's men left and returned to inform him what Naval had been said. **13** Then David told his men, "Strap on your swords." So David took around four hundred men, leaving around two

**176 LV 24:19 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.18

**177 LV 24:19 · Note** OSHB variant note: וְ/תַּ֣אמֶר: (x-qere) וְ/הָתַּ֣אמֶר: lemma_c/859 c n_1.1.0 morph_HC/Pp2ms id_09YQH וְ/הָתַּ֣אמֶר

**178 LV 24:20 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.19

**179 LV 24:21 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.20

**180 LV 24:22 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.21

**181 LV 24:23 · Note** Note: KJB: 1Sam.24.22

**183 LV 25:3 · Note** OSHB variant note: וְ/בַל/כ: (x-qere) יִבְלָכְ: lemma_3614 n_0 morph_HNgmsa id_09Cyq יִבְלָכְ

**Readers' Version**

hundred with their gear.

**14** Meanwhile, Naval's wife Avigayil had been informed by a servant, "Listen, David sent messengers from the wilderness to greet our master, but he yelled at them. **15** Their men had been very good to us—we were never harmed or had anything go missing when we were in the countryside. **16** They protected us both day and night for the whole time that we were tending the sheep. **17** So now you should think about it and decide what you can do, because no doubt disaster is about to hit our master and all his household. He's a terrible man who listens to no one."

**18** So Avigayil quickly collected two hundred loaves of bread, two skins of wine, five butchered sheep, a large basket of roasted grain, a hundred bunches of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs. She loaded it all on donkeys **19** and told her servants, "Go ahead with the donkeys. I'll come along behind you all." But she didn't say a word to her husband Naval.

**20** As she rode down a hill and into the ravine, suddenly she encountered David and his men coming down to meet her. **21** David had told them, "Well it was certainly a waste of time looking after that fellow in the wilderness, and taking such care not to take anything of his. Then all he did was to return insults for our good behaviour. **22** May God preserve my enemies, if I don't eliminate all of the older and young men in his household before the morning.

**23** When Avigayil saw David, she quickly dismounted from the donkey and fell to her knees in front of David and bowed her face to the ground. **24** She clutched his feet and said, "My master, let the guilt be on me myself. Please let your female servant explain to you—please listen to what your female servant has to say. **25** My master, please don't remain angry at that worthless man, Naval. His name means 'fool' and so he is. He's a senseless man, but my master, your female servant didn't see the young men you sent. **26** And now, my master, as Yahweh lives and as your spirit lives, it's Yahweh who's prevented you from spilling blood and taking his punishment into your own hands. And now may your enemies and anyone who makes plans against my master be like Naval. **27** Now let this gift that your servant has brought to my master be given to the young men who serve my master. **28** Please forgive your female servant for being forward because Yahweh will certain advance my master's reputation. My master is fighting Yahweh's battles and all your life, you haven't broken the law. **29** Even if someone decides to chase you and try to kill you my master, your god Yahweh will keep you wrapped in his bundle of the living, whereas your enemies will be slung away like stones from a sling. **30** If Yahweh does all the good things he's promised for my master, then in time you'll become Yisrael's (Israel's) ruler. **31** It would be good not to have someone's unnecessary death as an obstacle for you or to be

**Literal Version**

_break_away each_one from_face/in_front_of master(s)_of_his they_are_many. **11** And_will_I_take ᴅᴏᴍ bread_of_my and_ᴅᴏᴍ water_of_my and_ᴅᴏᴍ slaughter_of_my which I_have_ _slaughtered for_shearers_of_my and_will_I_give_them to_men who not I_know where from_this are_they. **12** And_ the_young_ _men_of Dāvid _they_turned_round to_way_of_their and_they_ _returned and_they_came and_they_told to_him/it according_ _to_all_of the_words/messages the_these. **13** And_ Dāvid _ _he/it_said to_men_of_his gird_on everyone ᴅᴏᴍ sword_of_his and_they_girded_on everyone ᴅᴏᴍ sword_of_his and_ also Dāvid _he_girded_on ᴅᴏᴍ sword_of_his and_they_went_up after Dāvid about_four hundred(s) man and_two_hundreds they_ _remained with the_vessels. **14** And_to_'Avīgayil the_wife_of Nāvāl a_young_man one of_the_young_men he_told to_say THERE Dāvid he_sent messengers from_the_wilderness to_bless ᴅᴏᴍ master(s)_of_our and_he_shouted at_them. **15** And_the_ _men were_good to/for_us very and_not we_were_humiliated and_not we_missed anything all_of the_days_of (of)_which_we_ _went_about with_them when_were_we in_field. **16** A_wall they_were with_us both night as_well_as by_day all_of the_ _days_of our_being with_them shepherding the_flock. **17** And_ _now know and_see what will_you_do if/because (the)_evil it_ _has_been_determined against master(s)_of_our and_on all_of household_of_his and_he is_a_son_of worthlessness from_ _speaking to_him/it. **18** And_she_made_haste 'Avīgayil[184] and_ _she/it_took two_hundred bread[s] and_two jars_of wine and_ _five sheep prepared[185][186] and_five seahs roasted_grain and_a_ _hundred bunches_of_raisins and_two_hundreds fig_cakes and_ _she_put_them on the_donkeys. **19** And_she/it_said to_ _servants_of_her pass_on to/for_my_face/front HERE_I after_ _you(pl) will_be_coming and_to_husband_of_her Nāvāl not she_told. **20** And_it_was she was_riding on the_donkey and_ _she_was_going_down in_the_cover_of the_mountain and_ _BEHOLD/LO/SEE Dāvid and_men_of_his were_going_down to_ _meet_her and_she_met ᴅᴏᴍ_them. **21** And_Dāvid he_had_said surely to_deception I_have_guarded ᴅᴏᴍ all_of that belongs_to_ _this_man in_wilderness and_not it_has_been_missing from_all that to_him/it anything and_he_has_returned to_me evil in_ _place_of good. **22** Thus god may_he_do to_the_enemies_of Dāvid and_thus may_he_add if I_will_leave from_all that to_ _him/it until the_morning one_who_urinates on_a_wall. **23** And_ 'Avīgayil _she/it_saw ᴅᴏᴍ Dāvid and_she_made_haste and_she_came_down from_under the_donkey and_she_fell to_ _the_face_of Dāvid on face_of_her and_she_bowed_down the_ _ground. **24** And_she_fell at feet_of_his and_she/it_said be_on_ _me I my_master the_iniquity and_let_her_speak please maidservant_of_your in_ears_of_your and_hear ᴅᴏᴍ the_ _words/messages_of your_maidservant_of_your. **25** Not please my_master let_him_set ᴅᴏᴍ his/its_heart to the_man_of (the)_ _worthlessness the_this on Nāvāl if/because like_name_of_his is_so he is_Nāvāl his/its_name and_disgraceful_folly with_ _him/it and_I maidservant_of_your not I_saw ᴅᴏᴍ the_young_ _men_of my_master whom you_sent. **26** And_now my_master

**184 LV 25:18 · Note** OSHB variant note: **לינובא**: (x-qere) **לִנֻּבָא**: lemma_26 n_1.1.2.1 morph_HNp id_093Gj **לִנֻּבָא**

**185 LV 25:18 · Note** OSHB variant note: **תוושע**: (x-qere) **תְּוֹשַׁע**: lemma_6213 a n_1.1.1 morph_HVqsfpa id_09wWW **תְּוֹשַׁע**

**186 LV 25:18 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more consonants in L differently from BHS.

**Literal Version**

by_the_life of_**YHWH** and_by_the_life your_self_of_your that he_has_restrained_you **YHWH** from_coming in_blood(s) and_ _from_delivering hand_of_your to/for_you(fs) and_now may_ _they_be like_Nāvāl enemies_of_your and_those_who_seek against my_master evil. **27** And_now the_blessing (the)_this which maidservant_of_your he_has_brought to_master_of_my and_it_will_be_given to_men who_go_about at_the_feet_of my_ _master. **28** Forgive please to_the_transgression_of your(ms)_ _female_slave if/because surely_(make) **YHWH** he_will_make for_master_of_my a_house enduring if/because the_battles_of **YHWH** my_master is_fighting and_evil not it_will_be_found in_ _you(ms) from_days_of_your. **29** And_ a_man _he/it_rose_up to_ _pursue_you and_to_seek ᵭᵒᵐ life_of_your and_it_will_be the_ _life_of my_master bound_up in_the_bundle_of the_living with **YHWH** god_of_your and_ᵭᵒᵐ the_life_of your(pl)_enemies_of_ _your he_will_sling_it_out in_the_middle of_the_hollow_of of_ _(the)_sling. **30** And_it_was if/because **YHWH** he_will_do to_ _master_of_my according_to_all that he_has_spoken ᵭᵒᵐ the_ _good on_you and_he_has_appointed_you to_ruler over Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **31** And_not it_will_become this to/for_ _yourself(m) (into)_staggering and_(into)_stumbling_of heart for_master_of_my and_(into)_pouring_out blood without_cause and_to_ my_master _deliver to_him/it and_ **YHWH** _he_will_ _do_good to_master_of_my and_you_will_remember ᵭᵒᵐ maidservant_of_your. **32** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to_'Avīgayil **YHWH** the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) who he_has_sent_you the_ _day the_this to_meet_me be_blessed. **33** And_be_ discernment_ _of_your _blessed and_be_ you who you_have_restrained_me the_day the_this from_coming in_blood(s) and_from_delivering hand_of_my to_me _blessed. **34** And_but by_the_life of_**YHWH** the_god_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) who he_has_restrained_me from_ _doing_harm_to you if/because if_not you_had_made_haste and[187] to_meet_me if/because if he_has_been_left to_Nāvāl until the_light_of the_morning one_who_urinates on_a_wall. **35** And_ Dāvid _he/it_took from_hand_of_her ᵭᵒᵐ that_which she_had_brought to_him/it and_to_her he_said go_up to_peace to_house_of_your see I_have_listened to_voice_of_your and_I_ _have_lifted_up face_of_your. **36** And_ 'Avīgayil _she_went to Nāvāl and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE to_him/it a_feast in_house_of_his like_the_feast_of the_king and_the_heart_of Nāvāl it_was_good on/upon/above_him/it and_he was_drunk up_to muchness and_not she_told for_him/it anything small and_great until the_light_of the_morning. **37** And_he/it_was in_morning when_ the_wine _had_gone_out from_Nāvāl and_she_told to_him/it his/its_wife/woman ᵭᵒᵐ the_things the_these and_ his/its_ _heart _he/it_died in_his_inward_of_part[s] and_he he_became to_stone. **38** And_he/it_was about_the_ten_of the_days and_ **YHWH** _he_struck ᵭᵒᵐ Nāvāl and_he/it_died. **39** And_ Dāvid _ _he/it_listened if/because_that Nāvāl he_had_died and_he/it_ _said **YHWH** who he_has_conducted ᵭᵒᵐ the_case_of my_ _disgrace_of_my from_the_hand_of Nāvāl and_ᵭᵒᵐ servant_of_ _his he_has_restrained from_evil be_blessed and_ᵭᵒᵐ the_evil_ _of Nāvāl **YHWH** he_has_turned_back on_his_own_of_head and_ Dāvid _he_sent and_he/it_spoke with_'Avīgayil to_take_ _her to_him/it to/for_(a)_woman. **40** And_ the_servants_of

**Readers' Version**

seen as my master just saving his own skin. Then Yahweh will bless my master, and you will appreciate your female servant."

**32** "May Yisrael's god Yahweh be blessed," David responded. "The one who sent you to meet me today. **33** And blessed be your discernment and blessed be you yourself, because you've prevented me from shedding blood today and from taking my own revenge. **34** Yes indeed, as Yahweh lives, Yisrael's god prevented me from harming you. If you hadn't hurried here to meet me, certainly neither Naval nor any of his older or young men would have survived to see the morning light. **35** Then David accepted the gifts that she had brought for him, and said, "Go back to your house in peace. See, I've listened to what you said and granted your request."

**36** When Avigayil got home to Naval, wow, he had put on a celebration at his house with a feast fit for a king. He was feeling very contented and was quite drunk, so she didn't tell him anything at all until it was light in the morning. **37** And so it was in the morning, when Naval's wine had worn off, his wife told him what she'd done. In his rage, he had a stroke and became totally paralysed **38** for about then days. Then Yahweh struck Naval and he died.

**39** When David heard that Naval had died, he said, "Blessed be Yahweh, who has judged the case of Naval's insult and has prevented his servant from doing the wrong thing. And Yahweh has repaid Naval for his own evil."

Then David sent messengers to Avigayil about taking her as a wife. **40** His servants went to her at Karmel and told her, "David sent us to take you back to become his wife."

**41** She knelt down with her face to the ground and replied, "See, your female servant is ready for washing the feet of my master's servants like a slave woman." **42** Then Avigayil and five of her servant girls quickly got ready, and she mounted the donkey. She followed the messengers to where David was and became a wife for him.

**43** David had also married Ahinoam from Yizre'el (Jezreel), so both of them became his wives. **44** (Meanwhile Sha'ul (Saul) had given his daughter, David' wife Mikal, to Palti, Layish's son from Galim.)[182]

**182 RV 25:44 · Cross-ref.** 2Sam 3:14-16.

**187 LV 25:34 · Note** OSHB variant note: יתאבת/ו: (x-qere) תאבת/וֹ: lemma_c/935 n_0.1.0 morph_HC/Vqw2fs id_09vDG תאבת/וֹ

**Readers' Version**

**David spares Sha'ul again · Full kingdom**

**26:1** One time some Zifim went to Sha'ul (Saul) at Giveah and told him, "Isn't David hiding himself on the Hakilah hill opposite Yeshimon?"[188] **2** So Sha'ul got ready with three thousand chosen Israeli warriors and went to the Zif wilderness to search for David. **3** They camped at Hakilah hill (opposite Yeshimon) by the path, but David stayed in the wilderness when he saw the Sha'ul was there trying to get him. **4** (He'd sent some spies and knew that Sha'ul had definitely arrived.) **5** That night, David moved out and got to the place where Sha'ul had camped. He could see where Sha'ul was sleeping, along with Ner's son Avner, his army commander. Sha'ul was asleep in the secure centre with his warriors all around him.

**6** David spoke to Ahimelek (the Hiti) and to Avishay (son of Yoav's (Joab's) brother Tseruyah) asking, "Who'll go into the camp with me to Sha'ul?"

Avishay answered, "I will. I'll go with you."

**7** So that night David and Avishay crept into the camp. Sha'ul was asleep there in the centre with his spear stuck into the ground near his head, and Avner and others were lying in a circle around him. **8** Avishay whispered to David, "Today God has arranged for you to defeat your enemy. So please let me pierce him now with the spear through him and into the ground. Only one strike will do it—I won't have to strike him a second time.

**9** "Don't kill him," David responded, "because who can attack Yahweh's anointed king and be considered innocent?" **10** As Yahweh lives, he will certainly strike him, or else his time will come and he'll die, or maybe he'll go into battle and be swept away. **11** May Yahweh prevent me from harming Yahweh's anointed one.[189] Just grab the spear that's by his head, and the jug of water, then we can get out of here." **12** So David took the spear and water jug that were near Sha'ul's head and then got out of there.

**Literal Version**

Dāvid _they_came to 'Avīgayil to_(the)_Karmel/(Carmel) and_ _they_spoke to_her/it to_say Dāvid he_has_sent_us to_you to_ _take_you to_him/it to/for_(a)_woman. **41** And_she/it_arose and_she_bowed_down face ground_to_the and_she/it_said HERE maidservant_of_your will_become_(into)_a_maid to_wash the_feet_of the_servants_of my_master. **42** And_she_made_ _haste and_ 'Avīgayil _she/it_arose and_she_rode on the_ _donkey and_five maids_of_her who_walked to_foot_of_her and_she_went after the_messengers_of Dāvid and_it_became to_him/it to/for_(a)_woman. **43** And_DOM 'Aḥīno'am Dāvid he_ _had_taken from_Yizrə'ē[l]/(Jezreel) and_ also both_of_of_them _ _they_became to_him/it (into)_wives. **44** And_Shā'ūl/(Saul) he_ _had_given DOM Mīkāl daughter_of_his the_wife_of Dāvid to_ _Palṭī/(Palti) the_son_of Layish who was_from_Gallim.

**26:1** And_ the_Zīfī _they_came to Shā'ūl to_(the)_Giv'āh to_say am_not is_Dāvid hiding_himself on_the_hill_of (the)_Hakilah on the_face_of (the)_Yəshimōn/(Jeshimon). **2** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_ _rose_up and_he/it_descended to the_wilderness_of Zīf and_ _were_with_him three_of thousand(s) man chosen_of Yisrā'ē[l]/(Israel) to_seek DOM Dāvid in_the_wilderness_of Zīf. **3** And_ Shā'ūl _he_encamped on_the_hill_of (the)_Hakilah which was_on the_face_of (the)_Yəshimōn on the_way and_ _Dāvid was_dwelling in_wilderness and_he/it_saw if/because_ _that Shā'ūl he_had_come after_him to_the_wilderness. **4** And_ Dāvid _he_sent spies and_he/it_knew if/because_that Shā'ūl he_had_come to a_certain_thing. **5** And_ Dāvid _he/it_rose_up and_he_went to the_place where he_had_encamped there Shā'ūl and_ Dāvid _he/it_saw DOM the_place where he_lay there Shā'ūl and_'Avnēr the_son_of Nēr the_commander_of his_ _army_of_his and_Shā'ūl was_lying in_camp and_the_people were_encamping him[191]. **6** And_ Dāvid _he_answered and_ _he/it_said to 'Aḥīmelek the_Hittite and_near/to 'Avīshay the_ _son_of Tsərūy[āh]/(Zeruiah) the_brother_of Yō'āv/(Joab) to_say who will_he_go_down with_me to Shā'ūl/(Saul) into the_camp and_ 'Avīshay _he/it_said I I_will_go_down with_you. **7** And_ Dāvid and_'Avīshay _he_went to the_people night and_ _BEHOLD/LO/SEE Shā'ūl was_lying sleeping in_camp and_ _spear_of_his was_thrust in/on_the_earth mmm[192] and_'Avnēr and_the_people were_lying mmm[193]. **8** And_ 'Avīshay _he/it_ _said to Dāvid god he_has_delivered_up the_day DOM enemy_of_ _your in_hand_of_your and_now let_me_strike_him please with_spear and_in_ground a_time one and_not I_will_repeat to_ _him/it. **9** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to 'Avīshay do_not destroy_ _him if/because who has_he_stretched_out his/its_hand on_ _the_one_anointed_of **YHWH** and_will_he_be_free_from_guilt. **10** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said by_the_life of_**YHWH** if/because (if) **YHWH** he_will_strike_him or day_of_his it_will_come and_he_ _will_die or in_battle he_will_go_down and_he_will_be_carried_ _away. **11** Far_be_it to/for_me from_**YHWH** from_stretching_ _out hand_of_my on_the_one_anointed_of **YHWH** and_now

**188 RV 26:1 · Cross-ref.** Psa 54 header.

**189 RV 26:11 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 24:6.

**191 LV 26:5 · Note** OSHB variant note: ותביבס/: (x-qere) וְיִתְבִיבְס': lemma_5439 n_0 morph_HNcbpc/Sp3ms id_09jP6 וְיִתְבִיבְם

**192 LV 26:7 · Note** OSHB variant note: ותשארמ/: (x-qere) וְיִתְשַׁאֲרְמ': lemma_4763 n_1 morph_HNcfpc/Sp3ms id_09xGy וְיִתְשַׁאֲרְמ

**193 LV 26:7 · Note** OSHB variant note: ותביבס/: (x-qere) וְיִתְבִיבְס': lemma_5439 n_0 morph_HNcbpc/Sp3ms id_09giL וְיִתְבִיבְס

**Literal Version**

take please ~~DOM~~ the_spear which is_the[194] and_~~DOM~~ the_jug_of the_waters and_let_us_go to/for_ourselves. **12** And_ Dāvid _ _he/it_took ~~DOM~~ the_spear and_~~DOM~~ the_jug_of the_waters the_ _place_of_the_head_of Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_they_went to/for_ _them and_there_was_not one_who_saw and_there_was_not one_who_knew and_there_was_not one_who_awoke if/because of_them_of_all were_sleeping if/because (the)_deep_sleep_of **YHWH** it_had_fallen on_them. **13** And_ Dāvid _he/it_passed_ _through the_other_side and_he_stood on the_top_of the_hill from_a_distance was_great the_place between_them. **14** And_ Dāvid _he/it_called to the_people and_near/to 'Avnēr the_son_ _of Nēr to_say am_not will_you_answer Oh_'Avnēr and_ 'Avnēr _he_answered and_he/it_said who are_you who_you_have_ _called_out to the_king. **15** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to 'Avnēr am_not a_man are_you and_who is_like_you in_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_for_what not did_you_guard (to) master(s)_of_your the_ _king if/because one of_the_people he_came to_destroy ~~DOM~~ the_king master(s)_of_your. **16** Not is_good the_thing the_this which you_have_done by_the_life of_**YHWH** if/because are_ _sons_of death you(pl) that not you(pl)_watched over master(s)_of_your(pl) over the_one_anointed_of **YHWH** and_ _now see where is_the_spear_of the_king and_~~DOM~~ the_jug_of the_waters which was_the[195]. **17** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he_ _recognized ~~DOM~~ the_voice_of Dāvid and_he/it_said voice_of_ _your is_this my_son_of_my Dāvid and_ Dāvid _he/it_said my_ _sound/voice my_master the_king. **18** And_he/it_said to/for_ _what this my_master pursuing after servant_of_his if/because what have_I_done and_what is_in_hand_of_my evil. **19** And_ _now let_him_hear please my_master the_king ~~DOM~~ the_ _words/messages_of his_servant_of_his if **YHWH** he_has_ _incited_you against_me may_he_smell an_offering and_if the_ _sons_of the_humankind they be_cursed to_(the)_face_of/in_ _front_of/before **YHWH** if/because they_have_driven_me_out the_day from_having_a_share in_the_inheritance_of **YHWH** to_ _say go serve gods other. **20** And_now not blood_of_my let_it_ _fall towards_land from_before the_presence_of **YHWH** if/because the_king_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) he_has_come_out to_ _seek ~~DOM~~ a_flea one just_as someone_pursues the_partridge in_mountains. **21** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said I_have_sinned return my_son_of_my Dāvid if/because not I_will_do_harm to/for_ _yourself(m) again because that life_of_my it_was_precious in_ _eyes_of_your the_day the_this HERE I_have_behaved_foolishly and_I_have_gone_astray greatly very. **22** And_ Dāvid _he_ _answered and_he/it_said HERE the[196] the_king and_ one of_ _the_young_men _let_him_pass_over and_let_him_take_it. **23** And_**YHWH** he_will_return to_everyone ~~DOM~~ righteousness_ _of_his and_~~DOM~~ faithfulness_of_his that he_gave_you[197] **YHWH** the_day in_a_hand and_not I_was_willing to_stretch_out hand_ _of_my on_the_one_anointed_of **YHWH**. **24** And_ _BEHOLD/LO/SEE just_as life_of_your it_was_great the_day the_

**Readers' Version**

No one saw them, and no one woke up or realised, because Yahweh had caused them all to fall into a deep sleep.

**13** Then David crossed the valley and stood on the top of the opposite hill—quite a distance away **14** and called out to Avner and the camp, "Won't you answer, Avner?"

"Who are you that's shouting to the king?" Avner answered.

**15** "Aren't you a warrior?" David called out. "And who in Yisrael (Israel) is as good as you? But why didn't you watch over your master the king? Because one of the people came to destroy the king your master. **16** Your performance wasn't good. As Yahweh lives, all of you who were supposed to be watching over your master, over Yahweh's anointed one, deserve to be executed. Look around, where's the king's spear and water jug that were by his head?"

**17** Then Sha'ul recognised David's voice and called back, "Is that your voice, my son David?"

"Yes, it is my voice, my master the king." David replied. **18** Then he asked, "Why is my master chasing his servant? What have I done? What wrong am I guilty of? **19** Now please listen, my master the king, to your servant's words. If it's Yahweh who's incited you against me, may he accept an offering, but if it's people, may they be cursed in front of Yahweh because they've driven me away from enjoying Yahweh's inheritance for me,[190] saying, 'Go away and serve other gods.' **20** So now, don't let me die far from Yahweh's presence. It seems that Yisrael's king has come all this way to chase a flea, just like someone chases a wild bird in the hills."

**21** Sha'ul responded, "Yes, I've sinned. Go home, my son David. I won't wrong you again, because you spared my life today. Yes, I've acted foolishly and been following the wrong path."

**22** "Look, here's your spear." David called back. "Get one of your young men to come across and get it. **23** May Yahweh repay each person for their obedience and faithfulness. Yahweh put you in a vulnerable position today, but I wasn't willing to hurt Yahweh's anointed king. **24** Just as I honoured your life today, so to may Yahweh honour my life and rescue me from all my difficulties.

**25** "May you be blessed, my son David," Sha'ul told David. "You certainly have both ability and the skill to use it."

Then David went on his way and Sha'ul went back home.

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**190 RV 26:19 · Note** This is possibly referring to David not being able to enjoy his piece of land, but we haven't said that in the translation because it's not certain. (It could be referring to having a peaceful or prosperous life, for example.)

**194 LV 26:11 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/תשארמ: (x-qere) 'ו/יְתִשְּׁאֲרֻמ': lemma_4763 n_0.0.0 morph_HNcfpc/Sp3ms id_09iHE ו/יְתִשְּׁאֲרֻמ

**195 LV 26:16 · Note** OSHB variant note: ו/תשארמ: (x-qere) 'ו/יְתִשְּׁאֲרֻמ': lemma_4763 n_0 morph_HNcfpc/Sp3ms id_09na6 ו/יְתִשְּׁאֲרֻמ

**196 LV 26:22 · Note** OSHB variant note: תינח/ה: (x-qere) 'תִּינָּח': lemma_2595 morph_HNcfsa id_09YNp תִּינָּח

**197 LV 26:23 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently than BHS. Often this notation indicates a typographical error in BHS.

**Readers' Version**

**David among the Pelishtim · Full kingdom**

**27:1** But David thought to himself, "One of these days, I'm going to be caught off-guard by Sha'ul's (Saul's) actions. There's no future for me here, so I definitely need to slip away to the Pelishtim region. Then hopefully Sha'ul will give up looking for me again across all Yisrael (Israel), and I'll slip be able to stay under his radar." **2** So he left Yisrael and crossed over with his six hundred men to Gat and King Akish (Maeok's son). **3** Then David and his men settled with Akish in Gat. David had his two wives Ahinoam (from Yizre'el (Jezreel)) and Avigayil (widow of Naval from Karmel) with him. **4** When Sha'ul was told that David had fled to Gat, he stopped searching for him.

**5** One day, David asked Akish, "If I've found favour in your eyes, ask them to give me a place in one of the cities in the countryside so I can live there. There's no need for us to bludge on you here in the royal city." **6** So Akish gave Tsiklag to David that day, and as a result, it still belongs to Yehudah's (Judah's) kings until today.

**7** David ended up living in the Pelishti countryside for around sixteen months, **8** and during that time, he would take his men to raid the Geshurim, the Gizrim, and the Amalekim. They had lived in that region from long before—from Shur all the way to Mitsrayim (Egypt). **9** When David attacked a place, he would take the sheep and cattle, donkeys and camels, and clothes, but he didn't leave anyone alive. Then he'd return home and visit Akish. **10** The king would ask him, "Which place did you raid today?"

David would tell him, "In southern Yehudah," or "South of the Yerahme'elim," or "In the southern Keyni region". **11** David never allowed any man or woman to live to be able to go back to Gat and report on what he'd really been doing. That was how he handled things for the entire time that he lived in the Pelishti countryside. **12** But King Akish was trusting David, thinking, "He'll definitely be hated now by his people in Yisrael (Israel), so he'll be forced to remain here as my servant."

**Sha'ul consults a medium · Full kingdom**

**28:1** Some time later, the Pelishtim gathered their forces getting ready to battle against Yisrael (Israel), and King Akish complimented David, "We'll definitely want you and your men to join with our forces."

**Literal Version**

_this in_eyes_of_my so life_of_my may_it_be_great in/on_both_ _eyes_of **YHWH** and_may_he_deliver_me from_all trouble. **25** And_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_said to Dāvid you be_blessed my_ _son_of_my Dāvid both certainly_(do) you_will_do and_also certainly_(prevail) you_will_prevail and_ Dāvid _he/it_went to_ _way_of_his and_Shā'ūl he_returned to_place_of_his.

**27:1** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to his/its_heart now I_will_be_ _swept_away a_day one by_the_hand_of Shā'ūl there_is_not to_ _me good if/because really_(escape) I_will_escape to the_land_ _of the_Pəlishtiy and_he_will_desist from_me Shā'ūl to_seek_ _me again in_all the_territory_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_I_will_be_ _delivered from_hand_of_his. **2** And_ Dāvid _he/it_rose_up and_ he and_six hundred(s) man who with_him/it _he/it_passed_ _through to 'Akīsh the_son_of Mā'ōk the_king_of Gat. **3** And_ Dāvid _he/it_sat_down//remained//lived with 'Akīsh in_Gat he and_men_of_his each_one and_his/its_house(hold) Dāvid and_ _the_two_of wives_of_his 'Aḥīno'am the_Jezreelite_woman and_ _'Avīgayil the_wife_of Nāvāl the_Karməlī/(Carmelite)_woman. **4** And_it_was_told to_Shā'ūl if/because_that Dāvid he_had_fled Gat and_not he_repeated[198] again to_seek_him. **5** And_ Dāvid _ _he/it_said to 'Akīsh if please I_have_found favour in_eyes_of_ _your let_people_give to_me a_place in_one_of the_cities_of the_field so_that_I_may_dwell there and_for_what servant_of_ _your will_he_dwell in_the_city_of (the)_royalty with_you. **6** And_he_gave to_him/it 'Akīsh in_the_day (the)_that ĐØM Tsiqlag/(Ziklag) for_so/thus/hence Tsiqlag it_has_belonged to_ _the_kings_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) until the_day (the)_this. **7** And_ _he/it_was the_number_of the_days which Dāvid he_dwelt in_ _the_region_of the_Pəlishtiy days and_four months. **8** And_ Dāvid and_men_of_his _he/it_ascended and_they_made_raids against the_Geshurite[s] and_the[199] and_the_'Amālēqite[s] if/because they were_dwelling the_earth/land which from_ _long_ago/eternity come_you to_Shūr and_unto the_land_of Mitsrayim/(Egypt). **9** And_ Dāvid _he_attacked ĐØM the_ _earth/land and_not he_let_live a_man and_a_woman and_ _he/it_will_take sheep and_cattle and_donkeys and_camels and_clothes and_he_returned and_he_went to 'Akīsh. **10** And_ 'Akīsh _he/it_said not did_you(pl)_make_a_raid the_day and_ Dāvid _he/it_said on the_Negev_of Yəhūdāh and_on the_ _Negev_of the_Jerahmeelite[s] and_near/to the_Negev_of the_ _Qēynī[s]. **11** And_a_man and_a_woman not Dāvid he_let_live to_bring Gat to_say lest they_should_tell on_us to_say thus Dāvid he_has_done and_was_thus practice_of_his all_of the_ _days which he_dwelt in_the_region_of the_Pəlishtiy. **12** And_ 'Akīsh _he_trusted in_Dāvid to_say surely_(become_odious) he_ _has_become_odious among_people_of_his among_ _Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_it_was to_me (into)_a_servant_of perpetuity.

**28:1** And_he/it_was in_the_days the_those and_ the_Pəlishtiy _ _they_gathered_together ĐØM armies_of_their for_war to_fight against_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_ 'Akīsh _he/it_said to Dāvid surely_ _(know) you_will_know if/because_that with_me you_will_go_ _out in_camp you and_men_of_your. **2** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to 'Akīsh for_so/thus/hence you you_will_know ĐØM that_

**198 LV 27:4 · Note** OSHB variant note: תסוי: (x-qere) 'תָּסְיָ': lemma_3254 morph_HVqp3ms id_09VoX תָּסְיָ

**199 LV 27:8 · Note** OSHB variant note: יזרג/ה/ו: (x-qere) 'יִרְזְגִ֥/ה/ו': lemma_c/d/1511 n_1.0 morph_HC/Td/Ngmsa id_09oSi יִרְזְגִ֥/ה/ו

**Literal Version**

_which servant_of_your he_will_do and_ 'Akīsh _he/it_said to Dāvid for_so/thus/hence a_watchman of_head_of_my I_will_ _make_you all_of the_days. **3** And_Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) he_had_ _died and_they_had_mourned to_him/it all_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_they_had_buried_him in_Rāmāh (and)_in_his_own_of_city and_Shā'ūl/(Saul) he_had_removed the_necromancers and_ĐOM the_soothsayers from_the_land. **4** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_ _gathered_together and_they_came and_they_encamped at_ _Shūnēm and_ Shā'ūl _he_gathered ĐOM all_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_they_encamped at_Gilbo'a. **5** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_saw ĐOM the_camp_of the_Pəlishtiy and_he_was_afraid and_ his/its_ _heart _it_trembled exceedingly. **6** And_ Shā'ūl _he_enquired by_**YHWH** and_not he_answered_him **YHWH** neither by_ _dreams nor by_Urim nor by_prophets. **7** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_ _said to_servants_of_his seek to_me a_woman_of (of)_a_ _mistress_of necromancy so_that_I_may_go to_her/it and_so_ _that_I_may_consult (in)_her and_ servants_of_his _they_said to_him/it THERE a_woman_of (of)_a_mistress_of necromancy is_Endor Endor. **8** And_ Shā'ūl _he_disguised_himself and_he_ _was_clothed garments other and_ he and_two_of men with_ _him/it _he/it_went and_they_came to the_woman night and_ _he/it_said divine[204] please[205] to_me by_necromancy and_ _bring_up to_me ĐOM the_one_whom I_will_say to_you. **9** And_ the_woman _she/it_said to_him/it HERE you you_know ĐOM that_which Shā'ūl/(Saul) he_has_done which/who he_has_cut_ _off ĐOM the_necromancers and_ĐOM the_soothsayer from the_ _earth/land and_why are_you setting_traps on_life_of_my to_ _cause_me_to_die. **10** And_he_swore to/for_her/it Shā'ūl by_ _**YHWH** to_say by_the_life of_**YHWH** if it_will_happen_to_you punishment in_matter (the)_this. **11** And_ the_woman _she/it_ _said ĐOM whom will_I_bring_up for_you and_he/it_said ĐOM Shəmū'ēl/(Samuel) bring_up to_me. **12** And_ the_woman _ _she/it_saw ĐOM Shəmū'ēl and_she_cried_out with_a_voice great and_ the_woman _she/it_said to Shā'ūl to_say to/for_ _what have_you_deceived_me and_you(ms) are_Shā'ūl. **13** And_ _he/it_said to/for_her/it the_king do_not fear if/because what have_you_seen and_ the_woman _she/it_said to Shā'ūl gods I_ _have_seen coming_up from the_earth/land. **14** And_he/it_said to/for_her/it what appearance_of_is_his and_she/it_said a_ _man old is_coming_up and_he is_wrapped a_robe and_ Shā'ūl _ _he/it_knew if/because_that was_Shəmū'ēl it and_he_bowed_ _low face towards_land and_he_bowed_down. **15** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said to Shā'ūl to/for_what have_you_disturbed_me by_ _bringing_up ĐOM_me and_ Shā'ūl/(Saul) _he/it_said it_is_ _distress to_me exceedingly and_the_Pəlishtiy are_fighting against_me and_god he_has_turned_aside from_with_me and_ _not he_has_answered_me yet neither by_the_hand_of (the)_ _prophets nor by_dreams and_I_have_summoned to/for_ _yourself(m) to_make_known_to_me what will_I_do. **16** And_ Shəmū'ēl _he/it_said and_for_what do_you_ask_me and_**YHWH** he_has_turned_aside from_with_you and_he/it_was enemy_of_ _your. **17** And_ **YHWH** _he/it_made to_him/it just_as he_spoke

**Readers' Version**

**2** "Sounds good," David replied, "because you'll be able to see for yourself what your servant can do."

"I'll appoint as my permanent bodyguard," Akish told him.

**3** By now, Shmuel (Samuel) was long dead and all Yisrael had mourned for him and had buried him in his town of Ramah,[200] and Sha'ul (Saul) had had expelled all the mediums from the country, along with those who contacted the spirits.

**4** Then the Pelishtim went to Shunem and camped there. Meanwhile Sha'ul gathered all Yisrael's warriors and they camped at Gilboa, **5** but when he saw the Pelishti camp, he was afraid and trembled inside. **6** He asked Yahweh for direction, but Yahweh didn't answer him either through a dream, nor by use of the sacred pouch,[201] nor through any prophet. **7** Then Sha'ul instructed his servants, "Find a woman for me who talks to the spirits of dead people, so I can go to her and ask her something."

"Sure," his servants told him, "there's a woman in Eyn-Dor who can do that."

**8** So Sha'ul put on different clothes to disguise himself, and went off in the night with two of his men. They went to the woman and he asked, "Please divine for me with a spirit of the dead and bring up the person that I tell you."

**9** "Listen," said the woman, "surely you're aware of what Sha'ul has done—he's expelled anyone out of the country brings back the dead or converses with the spirits. So why are you trying to trap me? Are you trying to get me killed?"

**10** Sha'ul promised her in front of Yahweh, "As Yahweh lives, you won't be punished for doing this."

**11** "Okay then, who do you want me to bring up for you?"

"Bring Shmuel (Samuel) up for me." he replied.

**12** When the woman saw Shmuel, she yelled out and said to Sha'ul, "Oh no, you've tricked me! You're Sha'ul!"

**13** "Don't be afraid," said the king, "but what have you seen?"

"I saw gods coming up out of the ground," she replied.

**14** "What does he look like?" he asked.

"An old man's appearing," she said, "wearing a robe."

Sha'ul knew it was Shmuel, and he knelt down and bowed his face to the ground.

**15** "Why've you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Shmuel asked.

"I'm very distressed," Sha'ul replied, "and the Pelishtim are about to go to war against me. And God has turned away from me and doesn't answer me anymore—he hasn't sent me any prophets or given me any dreams, So I've called to you so you can tell me what I should do."

**16** "If Yahweh's turned away from you and become your enemy," Shmuel responded, "what's the point in asking me?"

**17** He's simply done what he told me to tell you that he'd do. He's

**200 RV 28:3 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 25:1.

**201 RV 28:6 · Cross-ref.** Num 27:21.

**204 LV 28:8 · Note** OSHB variant note: יְמוֹסֵק: (x-qere) יְמָסֵק: lemma_7080 morph_HVqv2fs id_09wCL יְמָסֵק.

**205 LV 28:8 · Note** OSHB note: Yathir readings in L which we have designated as Qeres when both Dothan and BHS list a Qere.

**Readers' Version**

ripped the kingdom away from you and given it to your neighbour David.[202] **18** You didn't do what Yahweh instructed and you didn't execute his anger against Amalek,[203] so that's why Yahweh is doing that to you today. **19** He will also allow Yisrael (Israel) to be defeated by the Pelishtim, and tomorrow you and your sons will be here with me. Yahweh will also allow Yisrael's entire camp of warriors to be captured by the Pelishtim."

**20** Sha'ul, who'd been standing immediately toppled right over and crashed to the ground—he was very scared by Shmuel's words, plus he didn't have much strength because he hadn't eaten for twenty-four hours. **21** The woman knelt over Sha'ul and saw that he was terrified, and told him, "Listen to me. Your female servant has risked my life to do what you said and follow your instructions. **22** So now, although you're the king, please listen to your female servant. Let me get you some food, and then eat it to regain your strength for the journey home.

**23** But he refused, saying, "No, I won't eat anything." However his servants and also the woman urged him, and he decided to take their advice so he got up from the ground and sat on the bed. **24** Now the woman had a calf in a stall at the house, and she quickly slaughtered it, She took flour and kneaded it and baked flat bread. **25** She placed the food in front of Sha'ul and his servants, and they ate before getting up and going out into the night.

**The Pelishtim don't trust David · Full kingdom**

**29:1** Meanwhile, the Pelishtim had gathered in their camp at Afek, while the Israelis were camped near the Yizre'el (Jezreel) spring. **2** As the Pelishti leaders marched out groups of hundreds and thousands, David and his men were behind them with King Akish. **3** But the Pelishti commanders asked, "What are those Ivrim (Hebrews) doing here?"

"That's David," Akish replied. "He was the servant of King Sha'ul (Saul) of Yisrael (Israel), but he's been with me for over a year, and I haven't found anything distrustful in him from when he lost favour until today?"

**4** But the Pelishti commanders were furious at him and told him, "Send that man back to whatever place you've given him! There's no way he's joining us in the battle! What if he turned against us during the fight? What better way could he have to win back his master's favour than by killing our men? **5** Isn't this the David that when they dance they sing,

'Sha'ul has struck down his thousands,

**Literal Version**

by_hand_of_my and_ **YHWH** _he_has_torn_away ~~ĐOM~~ the_ _kingdom from_hand_of_your and_he_has_given_it to_ _neighbour_of_your to_Dāvid. **18** Just_as not you_listened to_ _the_voice_of **YHWH** and_not you_executed the_burning_of his_anger_of_his on_ʼAmālēq therefore yes/correct/thus/so the_thing the_this he_has_done to/for_yourself(m) **YHWH** the_ _day (the)_this. **19** And_ **YHWH** _he_will_give also ~~ĐOM~~ Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) with_you in_the_hand_of the_Pəlishtiy and_ _tomorrow you and_sons_of_your will_be_with_me also ~~ĐOM~~ the_camp_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) **YHWH** he_will_give in_the_hand_ _of the_Pəlishtiy. **20** And_ Shāʾūl/(Saul) _he_made_haste and_ the_fullness_of his_stature_of_his _he_fell towards_land and_ _he_was_afraid exceedingly from_the_words/messages_of Shəmūʾēl/(Samuel) also strength not it_was in_him/it if/because not he_had_eaten food all_of the_day and_all the_ _night. **21** And_ the_woman _she_came to Shāʾūl and_she/it_ _saw if/because_that he_was_terrified exceedingly and_she/it_ _said to_him/it HERE maidservant_of_your she_has_listened to_ _voice_of_your and_I_have_put life_of_my in_palm_of_my and_ _I_have_listened_to ~~ĐOM~~ words/messages_of_your which you_ _have_spoken to_me. **22** And_now listen please also you to_the_ _voice_of your_maidservant_of_your and_let_me_set to_your_ _face a_piece_of bread and_eat and_let_it_be in_you(ms) strength if/because you_will_go on_way. **23** And_he_refused and_he/it_said not I_will_eat and_they_urged in_him/it servants_of_his and_also the_woman and_he/it_listened to_ _voice_of_their and_he/it_rose_up from_the_ground and_he/it_ _sat_down//remained//lived to the_bed. **24** And_belonged_to_ _woman a_calf_of the_stall in_house and_she_made_haste and_ _she_slaughtered_it and_she/it_took flour and_she_kneaded_it and_she_baked_it unleavened_bread(s). **25** And_she_brought_ _them_near to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before Shāʾūl/(Saul) and_before_of servants_of_his and_they_ate and_they_arose and_they_went on_night (the)_that.

**29:1** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_gathered ~~ĐOM~~ all_of armies_of_ _their to_ʾAfēq and_Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) were_encamping at_spring which is_in_Yizrəʿʾēl/(Jezreel). **2** And_the_rulers_of the_Pəlishtiy were_passing_along to_hundreds and_to_thousands and_Dāvid and_men_of_his were_passing_along at_last with ʾAkīsh. **3** And_ the_commanders_of the_Pəlishtiy _they_said what are_the_ _ʿIvrī/(Hebrews) the_these and_ ʾAkīsh _he/it_said to the_ _commanders_of the_Pəlishtiy am_not is_this Dāvid the_ _servant_of Shāʾūl the_king_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) who he_has_ _been with_me this days or this years and_not I_have_found in_ _him/it anything from_the_day_of fell_he until the_day (the)_ _this. **4** And_they_were_angry on/upon/above_him/it the_ _commanders_of the_Pəlishtiy and_they_said to_him/it the_ _commanders_of the_Pəlishtiy send_back ~~ĐOM~~ the_man so_ _that_he_may_return to place_of_his where you_assigned_him there and_not he_will_go_down with_us in_battle and_not he_ _will_become to/for_ourselves (into)_an_adversary in_battle and_how this_one will_he_make_himself_acceptable to master(s)_of_his am_not by_the_heads_of the_men the_those. **5** Am_not is_this Dāvid whom people_sing to_him/it in_

**202 RV 28:17 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 15:28.

**203 RV 28:18 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 15:3-9.

**Literal Version**

_dancing(s) to_say Shā'ūl/(Saul) he_has_struck_down (on)_his_ _of_thousands and_Dāvid in/on/at/with[207]. **6** And_ 'Akīsh _ _he/it_called (to) Dāvid and_he/it_said to_him/it by_the_life of_**YHWH** if/because are_upright you and_good in_eyes_of_my your_going_out[208] and_coming_your with_me in_camp if/because not I_have_found in_you(ms) evil from_the_day_of came_you to_me until the_day the_this and_in_the_eyes_of the_rulers not are_good you. **7** And_now turn_back and_go in_ _peace and_not you_will_do evil in/on_both_eyes_of the_ _rulers_of the_Pəlishtiy. **8** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to 'Akīsh if/because what have_I_done and_what have_you_found in_ _servant_of_your from_the_day when I_was to_your_face until the_day the_this that/for/because/then/when not I_will_go and_I_will_fight against_the_enemies_of my_master the_king. **9** And_ 'Akīsh _he_answered and_he/it_said to Dāvid I_know if/because_that are_good you in_eyes_of_my like_an_ _messenger_of god nevertheless the_commanders_of the_ _Pəlishtiy they_have_said not he_will_go_up with_us in_battle. **10** And_now rise_early in_morning and_the_servants_of your(pl)_master(s)_of_your who they_have_come with_you and_you(pl)_will_rise_early in_morning and_it_will_be_light to/for_you(pl) and_go. **11** And_ Dāvid he and_men_of_his _he_ _rose_early to_go in_morning to_return to the_land_of the_ _Pəlishtiy and_the_Pəlishtiy they_went_up Yizrə'ēl/(Jezreel).

**30:1** And_he/it_was when_ Dāvid and_men_of_his _came Tsiqlag/(Ziklag) in_the_day the_third and_the_'Amālēqite[s] they_had_made_a_raid against the_Negev and_near/to Tsiqlag and_they_had_attacked ÐOM Tsiqlag and_they_had_burnt ÐOM_ _her/it with_fire. **2** And_they_had_taken_captive ÐOM the_ _women who were_in_it from_small and_unto great not they_ _had_killed anyone and_they_had_driven_them_away and_ _they_had_gone to_way_of_their. **3** And_ Dāvid and_men_of_his _he_came to the_city and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE it_was_burnt with_ _fire and_wives_of_their and_sons_of_their and_daughters_of_ _their they_had_been_taken_captive. **4** And_ Dāvid and_the_ _people which with_him/it _he_lifted_up ÐOM voice_of_their and_they_wept until that there_was_not (is)_in_them strength to_weep. **5** And_the_two_of the_wives_of Dāvid 'Aḥīno'am the_ _Jezreelite_woman and_'Avīgayil the_wife_of Nāvāl the_ _Karməlī/(Carmelite) they_had_been_taken_captive. **6** And_it_ _was_distress to_Dāvid exceedingly if/because the_people they_said to_stone_him if/because the_soul_of all_of the_ _people it_was_bitter everyone on mmm[211] and_on daughters_ _of_his and_ Dāvid _he_strengthened_himself in_**YHWH** his/its_god. **7** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said to 'Evyātār the_ _priest/officer the_son_of 'Aḥīmelek bring_near please to_me the_ephod and_ 'Evyātār _he_brought_near ÐOM the_ephod to Dāvid. **8** And_ Dāvid _he_enquired by_**YHWH** to_say will_I_ _pursue after the_marauding_band the_this will_I_overtake_it and_he/it_said to_him/it pursue if/because certainly_

**Readers' Version**

and David his ten thousands'?"[206]

**6** So Akish called David and told him, "As Yahweh lives, you've definitely been honest, and everything I've seen of your activities has been good, because I haven't seen you do anything wrong since the day you first arrived. However, these rulers don't approve of you, **7** so turn back and go in peace so that you don't do anything to displease them."

**8** "But what have I done?" David rebutted. "What wrong have you found in your servant from the day I arrived at your place until now? Why can't I come and fight against the enemies of my master the king?"

**9** "All I know, is that as far as I'm concerned you're as reliable as a messenger from God." Akish responded. "Nevertheless, the Pelishti commanders have said, 'He can't join our side in the battle.' **10** So you and your master's servants who came with you should get up with the early morning light and leave."

**11** So David and his men packed up early in the morning to return to the Pelishtim region, but the Pelishti warriors headed towards Yizre'el (Jezreel).

**David pursues the Amalekim · Full kingdom**

**30:1** David and his men got back to Tsiklag three days later and found that the Amalekim had raided Tsiklag and other parts of the wilderness in southern Yehudah (Judah). They had attacked Tsiklag then burnt it down, **2** capturing the women and children and everyone else. They hadn't killed anyone, but had taken them away with them, **3** so when David and his men arrived at the town, wow, it had been burnt down and their wives, and sons and daughters had been taken captive. **4** David and his men cried loudly until they didn't have the strength to cry any more. **5** David's two wives, Ahinoam (from Yizre'el (Jezreel)) and Avigayil (Naval's widow from Karmel),[209] had been taken captive along with the others.

**6** David was in a tight spot because the men were considering throwing rocks at him to kill him, because they were very upset about their children, but he found strength in his god Yahweh. **7** Then David asked the priest Evyatar (Ahimelek's son),[210] "Please get the sacred apron and come back to me." So Evyatar got the sacred apron and went back to David. **8** Then David asked Yahweh, "If I chase after these raiders, will I catch up to them?"

"Chase them because you'll definitely catch up and you'll certainly be able to rescue the captives," Yahweh answered.

**9** So David and the six hundred men who were with him took

**206** **RV 29:5 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 18:7; 21:11.

**207** **LV 29:5 · Note** OSHB variant note: **ב/תבבר/ו**: (x-qere) **ב/יִתְבְּבֵר/ו**: lemma_b/7233 n_0 morph_HR/Ncfpc/Sp3ms id_09hSt **ב/יִתְבְּבֵר/ו**

**208** **LV 29:6 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently than BHS. Often this notation indicates a typographical error in BHS.

**209** **RV 30:5 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 25:42-43.

**210** **RV 30:7 · Cross-ref.** 1Sam 22:20-23.

**211** **LV 30:6 · Note** OSHB variant note: **נב/ו**: (x-qere) **ב/יָנֻב/ו**: lemma_1121 a morph_HNcmpc/Sp3ms id_09gLX **ב/יָנֻב/ו**

**Readers' Version**

off and they reached the Besor riverbed, where some of the slower ones remained. **10** David and four hundred men continued, but two hundred more of the men who were exhausted stopped at the far end of the Besor riverbed. **11** They found an Mitsri (Egyptian) man in the countryside and took him to David. They gave him water to drink and bread to eat, **12** along with a slice of fig cake and two raisin clusters. He ate it and felt stronger again because he hadn't eaten or drunk for three full days. **13** "Who do you belong to?" David asked. "And where are you from?"

"I am an Mitsri," he replied. "I'm an Amaleki man's slave but my master left me three days ago because I got sick. **14** We'd raided the southern area of the Kereti as well as part of Yehudah (Judah) and the south of Kalev (Caleb). And we burnt down Tsiklag."

**15** David asked him, "Can you lead us to them?"

"I'll take you to them," he answered, "if you promise by God that you won't kill me and won't hand me back over to my master." **16** So he took David down to the plain, and sure enough, there were the Amalekim spread out, eating and drinking and celebrating because of all the plunder that they had taken from the Pelishti and Yehudah regions. **17** David attacked them from twilight until the evening of the next day, and none of the Amalekim were able to escape except for four hundred young men who jumped on camels and fled. **18** So David was able to rescue everyone that the Amalekim had taken, including his two wives. **19** None of their sons or daughters were missing, and they also recovered all the animals and all the plunder—nothing was missing—big or small. **20** David took all the flocks and herds and they drove them in front of the other livestock, saying, "This is David's spoil."

**21** Then David got back to the two hundred men who'd been too exhausted to go all the way with them. They'd stayed at the Besor riverbed, and they went out to meet David and his men. As David approached to greet them, **22** all the evil and worthless men who'd gone with David complained, "Because they didn't go with us, we won't give them any of the plunder that we recovered, except that each man can get his wife and children then take them away and leave."

**23** "No, my brothers," David said. "You won't do that with what Yahweh has given to us. He's protected us and helped us defeat the raiders who came against us. **24** Who'll listen to you all when you talk like that? The portion for the ones who went and fought will be the same as for those who stayed with the equipment. They'll all share alike. **25** So from that time onwards, it's been a custom and law in Yisrael (Israel).

**Literal Version**

_(overtake) you_will_overtake_it and_certainly_(rescue) you_ _will_rescue_them. **9** And_he/it_went Dāvid he[212] and_six hundred(s) man who with_him/it and_they_came to the_wadi_ _of (the)_Bəsōr and_those_who_were_left_behind they_ _remained. **10** And_ Dāvid he and_four hundred(s) man _he_ _pursued and_ two_hundred man who they_were_too_ _exhausted for_passing_over ÐOM the_wadi_of (the)_Bəsōr _ _they_stood. **11** And_they_found a_man from_ _Mitsrayim/(Mitsrayim/(Egypt)) in_the_field and_they_took ÐOM_him/it to Dāvid and_they_gave to_him/it bread and_he_ _ate and_they_gave_him_to_drink water. **12** And_they_gave to_ _him/it a_slice_of fig_cake and_two_of bunches_of_raisins and_ _he_ate and_ his/its_breath/wind/spirit _it_returned to_him/it if/because not he_had_eaten food and_not he_had_drunk water three days and_three nights. **13** And_he/it_said to_him/it Dāvid belong_to_whom you and_where from_this are_you and_ am_a_ _young_man from_Mitsrayim/(Mitsrayim) _he/it_said I a_slave of_a_man ʹAmālēqite and_he_abandoned_me my_master if/because I_was_sick the_day (the)_three. **14** We we_had_ _made_a_raid the_Negeʋ_of the_Kerethite[s] and_on that_ _which belongs_to_Yəhūdāh/(Judah) and_on the_Negeʋ_of Kālēʋ/(Caleb) and_ÐOM Tsiqlag/(Ziklag) we_had_burnt with_ _fire. **15** And_he/it_said to_him/it Dāvid will_you_take_me_ _down to the_marauding_band the_this and_he/it_said swear to/for_me by_god if you_will_kill_me and_if you_will_deliver_ _me_up in_the_hand_of my_master and_I_will_take_you_down to the_marauding_band (the)_this. **16** And_he_took_him_down and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE they_were_spread_out over the_surface_ _of all_of the_earth/land eating and_drinking and_celebrating in_all_of the_plunder (the)_great which they_had_taken from_ _the_land_of the_Pəlishtiy and_from_the_land_of Yəhūdāh. **17** And_he_struck_them_down Dāvid from_the_twilight and_ _unto the_evening of_their_next_of_day and_not he_escaped from_them anyone if/because (if) four hundred(s) man young_ _man who they_rode on the_camels and_they_fled. **18** And_ Dāvid _he_rescued ÐOM all_of that ʹAmālēq they_had_taken and_ÐOM the_two_of wives_of_his Dāvid he_rescued. **19** And_not it_was_missing to/for_them from the_small(sg) and_unto the_ _great and_unto sons and_daughters and_from_the_booty and_ _unto all_of that they_had_taken to/for_them (the)_everything Dāvid he_brought_back. **20** And_ Dāvid _he/it_took ÐOM all_of the_sheep and_the_cattle they_drove_them to_(the)_face_ _of/in_front_of/before the_livestock (the)_that and_they_said this is_the_booty_of Dāvid. **21** And_ Dāvid _he_came to two_ _hundred the_men who they_had_been_too_exhausted for_ _going after Dāvid and_they_had_left_them_behind at_the_ _wadi_of (the)_Bəsōr and_they_went_out to_meet Dāvid and_ _to_meet the_people which with_him/it and_ Dāvid _he_ _approached ÐOM the_people and_he_asked to/for_them to_ _welfare. **22** And_ every_of man evil and_worthlessness of_the_ _men who they_had_gone with Dāvid _he_answered and_they_ _said because that not they_went with_me not we_will_give to/for_them any_of_the_booty which we_have_recovered if/because (if) everyone ÐOM his/its_wife/woman and_ÐOM children_of_his and_they_will_lead_them_away and_they_will_ _go. **23** And_ Dāvid _he/it_said not you(pl)_must_do thus my_

**212 LV 30:9 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently than BHS. Often this notation indicates a typographical error in BHS.

**Literal Version**

_brothers_of_my ĐOM that_which **YHWH** he_has_given to/for_ _us and_he_has_kept us and_he/it_gave ĐOM the_marauding_ _band which_came on_us in_hand_of_our. **24** And_who will_he_ _listen to/for_you(pl) to_the_message/thing/matter the_this if/because like_the_share of_the_one_who_went_down in_ _battle and_like_the_share_of the_one_who_remained with the_ _vessels alike they_will_share. **25** And_he/it_was from_the_day (the)_that and_onwards and_he_made_it into_a_regulation and_into_a_judgement for_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) until the_day (the)_ _this.

**26** And_ Dāvid _he_came to Tsiqlag/(Ziklag) and_he_sent some_ _of_the_booty to_the_elders_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) to_friend_of_ _his to_say HERE to/for_you(pl) a_blessing from_the_booty_of the_enemies_of **YHWH**. **27** For_those_who in_house_of 'ēl and_ _for_those_who were_in_Ramoth_of the_Negev and_for_those_ _who were_in_Yattir/(Jattir). **28** And_for_those_who were_in_ _ʹArōʹēr and_for_those_who were_in_Sifmōt and_for_those_who were_in_'Eshtəmoʹa. **29** And_for_those_who were_in_Rākāl and_ _for_those_who were_in_the_cities_of the_Jerahmeelite[s] and_ _for_those_who were_in_the_cities_of the_Qēynī[s]. **30** And_for_ _those_who were_in_Ḥormāh and_for_those_who were_in_Bor-ashan and_for_those_who were_in_ʹAtāk. **31** And_for_those_ _who were_in_Ḥevrōn and_to/for_all the_places where he_ _had_gone_about there Dāvid he and_men_of_his.

**31:1** And_the_Pəlishtiy were_fighting against_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_ the_men_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _they_fled from_face/in_ _front_of the_Pəlishtiy and_they_fell slain on_the_mountain_of (the)_Gilboʹa. **2** And_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_pursued_closely ĐOM Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_ĐOM sons_of_his and_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_ _struck_down ĐOM Yōnātān/(Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan)) and_ĐOM 'Avīnādāv and_ĐOM Malkī- Shūʹa the_sons_of Shā'ūl. **3** And_ the_battle _it_was_heavy against Shā'ūl and_they_found_him the_archers men with_bow and_he_was_in_severe_pain exceedingly from_the_archers. **4** And_ Shā'ūl _he/it_said to_ _the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his draw sword_of_your and_ _pierce_me_through with_it lest the_uncircumcised_men the_ _these they_should_come and_they_will_pierce_me_through and_they_will_deal_wantonly with_me and_not the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his he_was_willing if/because he_was_afraid exceedingly and_ Shā'ūl _he/it_took ĐOM the_ _drought//sword/knife and_he_fell on_it. **5** And_ the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his _he/it_saw if/because_that Shā'ūl he_ _had_died and_ also he _he_fell on sword_of_his and_he/it_died with_him/it. **6** And_ Shā'ūl and_three_of his_sons_of_his and_ _the_bearer_of his_armour(s)_of_his also all_of men_of_his _ _he/it_died in_the_day (the)_that together. **7** And_they_saw the_men_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) who were_on_the_other_side_of the_valley and_which were_on_the_other_side_of the_ _Yardēn/(Jordan) if/because_that the_men_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) they_had_fled and_because/when Shā'ūl/(Saul) and_sons_of_ _his they_had_died and_they_abandoned ĐOM the_cities and_ _they_fled and_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_came and_they_lived in_ _them. **8** And_he/it_was from_the_next_day and_ the_Pəlishtiy _they_came to_strip ĐOM the_ones_slain and_they_found ĐOM

**Readers' Version**

**David distributes gifts · Full kingdom**

**26** When David got back to Tsiklag, he sent a gift from some of the plunder to the elders in Yehudah (Judah), telling them, "Look, here's a blessing for you—some of the spoil from Yahweh's enemies." **27** Gifts were sent to: those in Beyt-El (Bethel), Ramot-Negev, Yatir, **28** Aroer, Sifmot, Eshtemoa, **29** Rakal, the cities of the Yerahme'elim and the Keynim, **30** Hormah, Bor-Ashan, Atak, **31** Hevron, and all the places where David and his men had been to.

**The death of Sha'ul and his sons · Full kingdom[213]**

**31:1** Meanwhile, the Pelishtim were battling against Yisrael (Israel), and the Israelis fled from the Pelishtim but many were killed on Mt. Gilboa. **2** The Pelishtim stayed hard on the tail of Sha'ul (Saul) and his sons, and they killed his sons Yonatan (Jonathan), Avinadav, and Malkishua. **3** Then the battle was fierce around Sha'ul, then the Pelishti archers sighted him and he writhed in terrible pain from the arrows. **4** He said to the man carrying his equipment, "Draw out your sword and pierce me through with it, lest these uncircumcised Pelishtim come and pierce me through then torture me as I'm dying." But the man who carried his equipment was very scared and wouldn't do it, so Sha'ul took his sword and fell on it. **5** When the man carrying his equipment saw that the king was dead, he too fell on his sword and died with him. **6** So Sha'ul, three of his sons, and the man carrying his equipment all died on that same day, along with all his warriors. **7** When the Israelis on the north side of the Yizre'el (Jezreel) valley and on the east side of the Yarden (Jordan) saw that the Israeli warriors had fled and that Sha'ul and his sons had been killed, they left their cities and fled, and the Pelishtim came and lived in them.

**8** The next day when the Pelishtim came to strip anything valuable from the bodies, they found the bodies of Sha'ul and his three sons there on Mt. Gilboa. **9** They cut off the king's head and took all his gear. Then they sent messengers all around the Pelishti region to spread their good news to the temples of their idols and to all their people. **10** They Sha'ul's armour and

**213 RV 31:1 · Parallel** 1 Chr. 10:1-12

**Readers' Version**

weapons in the temple of the Ashtarot, and hung his body on the Beyt-Shean city wall.

**11** When the residents of Yavesh-Gilead heard what the Pelishtim had done to Sha'ul's body, **12** all their warriors walked all night to take Sha'ul's body and those of his sons, off the wall at Beyt-Shean. They took them back to Yavesh and burnt them there. **13** Then they took their bones and buried them under the tamarisk tree in Yavesh, and fasted for seven days.

SA1 · OET-RV v0.2.5

**Literal Version**

Shā'ūl and_~~ḌOM~~ the_three_of sons_of_his fallen on_the_ _mountain_of (the)_Gilbo´a. **9** And_they_cut_off ~~ḌOM~~ his/its_ _head and_they_stripped_off ~~ḌOM~~ armour(s)_of_his and_they_ _sent in_the_land_of the_Pəlishtiy all_around to_bear_the_news the_house_of their_idols_of_their and_~~ḌOM~~ the_people. **10** And_ _they_put ~~ḌOM~~ armour(s)_of_his the_house_of ´Ashtārōt and_ _~~ḌOM~~ corpse_of_his they_fixed on_the_wall_of Bēyt Shan. **11** And_they_heard to_him/it the_inhabitants_of Yāvēsh/(Jabesh) ~~ḌOM~~ that_which the_Pəlishtiy they_had_done to_Shā'ūl. **12** And_ every_of man_of strength _they_arose and_ _they_went all_of the_night and_they_took ~~ḌOM~~ the_corpse_of Shā'ūl and_~~ḌOM~~ the_corpses_of his_sons_of_his from_the_wall_ _of Bēyt Shan and_they_came to_Yāvēsh and_they_burnt ~~ḌOM~~_ _them there. **13** And_they_took ~~ḌOM~~ bones_of_their and_they_ _buried_them under the_tamarisk_tree in_Yāvēsh and_they_ _fasted seven_of days.

SA1 · OET-LV v0.2.0 (OT set)

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