THE OLD TESTAMENT ISAIAH-MALACHI

ABOUT THIS EDITION

This edition of THE OLD TESTAMENT increases readability by modernizing the page layout. The text is formatted into standard paragraphs and white space and other modern tools (section headers, bullet lists, etc.) are used to help with readability. Chapter and verse references are visually subdued so as to not distract from the message.

Words that are part of the actual scriptural record appear in serif font. Anything not part of that record (verse numbers, section numbers, and section headers) appears in this sans-serif font. Anything in a sans-serif font is an addition of men and can be treated accordingly.

This edition uses the text from the Inspired Version, or Joseph Smith Translation (JST), of the Bible, while using King James Version verse numbers for consistency. Significant changes in wording between the KJV text and the JST text are indicated by an <u>underline</u>, and the KJV text appears in the margin. Significant additions not found in the KJV text are indicated by a dashed underline.

Many textual differences between the JST and the KJV have little to no impact on the meaning, such as:

JST KJV

<u>And</u> blessed are <u>all</u> they <u>that</u> do hunger and thirst after righteousness

Blessed are they <u>which</u> do hunger and thirst after righteousness

Because the goal of this version is to increase readability, simple differences such as these are not indicated. When a change is indicated, there is a significant difference that should be given attention.

In the Hebrew text, the name of God is 717, often transliterated as YHVH or YHWH. In the KJV, that name is represented as LORD or GOD, in all capitals. The JST did not use this method, so textual additions do not have these names in all capitals even though surrounding usage would indicate they were appropriate. There are two significant variations that are used frequently in the Old Testament:

Hebrew	Transliteration	English	
יהוה אלהים	Jehovah Elohim	LORD God	
אדני יהוה	Adonai Jehovah	Lord GOD	

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit:

http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/

You are free to:

Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material

Under the following terms:

Attribution — You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.

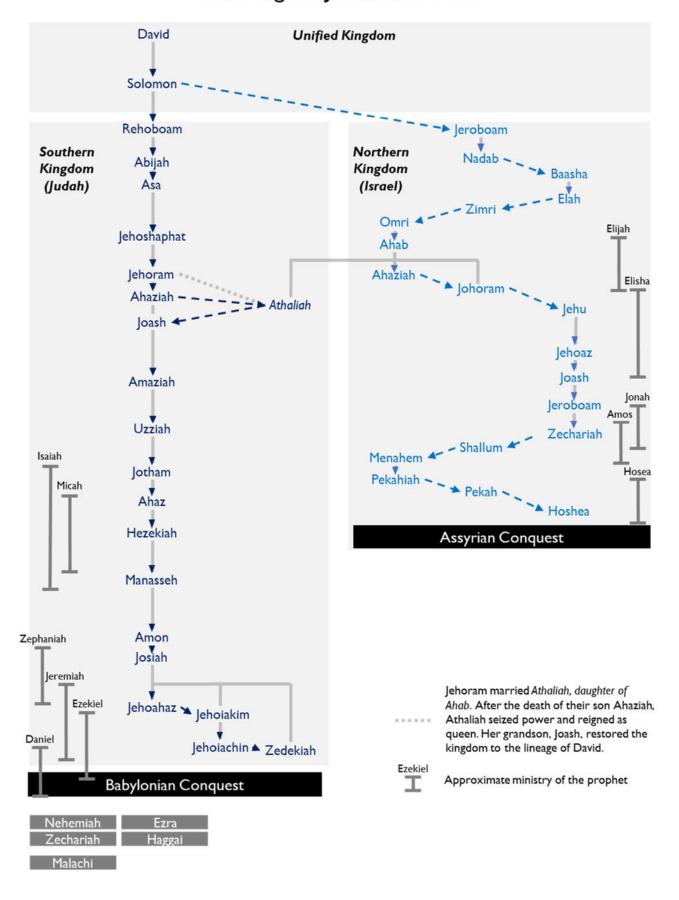
NonCommercial — You may not use the material for commercial purposes.

November 2019 Edition measuringdoctrine.com md@measuringdoctrine.org

CONTENTS

ISAIAH	I
JEREMIAH	95
THE LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH	181
EZEKIEL	191
DANIEL	255
HOSEA	273
JOEL	287
AMOS	293
OBADIAH	303
JONAH	305
MICAH	308
NAHUM	317
HABAKKUK	321
ZEPHANIAH	326
HAGGAI	331
ZECHARIAH	333
MALACHI	345

The Kings of Judah and Israel



I ISAIAH I

ISAIAH

The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

A sinful nation

²Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the LORD hath spoken,
"I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

³The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib; but Israel doth not know,

4Ah sinful nation,

a people laden with iniquity,

my people doth not consider."

a seed of evildoers,

children that are corrupters;

they have forsaken the LORD,

they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

⁵Why should ye be stricken anymore?

Ye will revolt more and more.

The whole head is sick,

and the whole heart faint.

⁶From the sole of the foot even unto the head

there is no soundness in it;

but wounds, and bruises,

and putrifying sores;

they have not been closed; neither bound up,

neither mollified with ointment.

⁷Your country is desolate,

your cities are burned with fire;

your land, strangers devour it in your presence,

and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

8 And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard,

as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

⁹Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant,

we should have been as Sodom,

and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

Meaningless offerings

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom.

Give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.

"To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me?" saith the LORD;

"I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts;

and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

ISAIAH I

¹²When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts? ¹³Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and Sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. ¹⁴Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth; they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them. ¹⁵And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood. 16Wash ye, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; ¹⁷learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow." 18"Come now, and let us reason together," saith the LORD. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. 19If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land; ²⁰but if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword;" for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. Zion is corrupted ²¹How is the faithful city become a harlot! It was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. ²²Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water; ²³thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves; everyone loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards; they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. ²⁴Therefore saith the LORD, the LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, "Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies. ²⁵And I will turn my hand upon thee; and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin;

²⁶ and I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counselors as at the beginning; afterward thou shalt be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city."

²⁷Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.

²⁸And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed.

²⁹For they shall be ashamed of the oaks which ye have desired, and ye shall be confounded for the gardens that ye have chosen.

³⁰For ye shall be as an oak whose leaf fadeth, and as a garden that hath no water.

³¹And the strong shall be as tow,

and the maker of it as a spark,

and they shall both burn together,

and none shall quench them.

The mountain of the LORD in the last days

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²And it shall come to pass in the last days:

When the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established

in the top of the mountains,

and shall be exalted above the hills,

and all nations shall flow unto it.

³And many people shall go and say,

"Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

to the house of the God of Jacob;

and he will teach us of his ways,

and we will walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth the law,

and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem;

4and he shall judge among the nations,

and shall rebuke many people;

and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,

and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war anymore.

House of Jacobs's wicked ways

⁵O house of Jacob, come ye,

and let us walk in the light of the LORD;

yea, come, for ye have all gone astray,

everyone to his wicked ways.

⁶Therefore, O LORD, thou hast forsaken thy people

the house of Jacob,

because they be replenished from the east,

and <u>hearken unto the</u> soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers.

are

ISAIAH 2 4

 Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither is there any end of their treasures.
 Their land is also full of horses, neither is there any end of their chariots.

8Their land also is full of idols;

they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made.

⁹And the mean man boweth <u>not</u> down, and the great man humbleth himself <u>not</u>; therefore forgive them not.

¹⁰O ye wicked ones, enter into the rock, and hide ye in the dust; for the fear of the LORD and his majesty shall smite thee.

And it shall come to pass that the lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of man shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

Yea, upon everyone; yea, upon the proud and lofty, and upon everyone who is lifted up, and he shall be brought low.

¹³Yea, and the day of the LORD shall come upon all the cedars of Lebanon, for they are high and lifted up; and upon all the oaks of Bashan;

¹⁴and upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills, and upon all the nations which are lifted up;

15and upon every people,

and upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall,

and upon all the ships of the sea, and upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures.

¹⁷And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low; and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

¹⁸And the idols he shall utterly abolish.

¹⁹And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth,

for the fear of the LORD shall come upon them, and the glory of his majesty shall smite them, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

²⁰In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which he hath made for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats;

 2 to go into the clefts of the rocks,

and into the tops of the ragged rocks,

for the fear of the LORD shall come upon them, and the majesty of the LORD shall smite them, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

²²Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils; for wherein is he to be accounted of?

Loss of leadership

3 For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff,

the whole staff of bread, and the whole stay of water,

2the mighty man, and the man of war,

the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient,

3the captain of fifty, and the honorable man,

and the counselor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator.

⁴And I will give children unto them to be their princes,

and babes shall rule over them.

⁵And the people shall be oppressed,

everyone by another, and everyone by his neighbor.

The child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honorable.

⁶When a man shall take hold of his brother

of the house of his father, and shall say, "Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler,

and let not this ruin come under thy hand!"

7In that day shall he swear, saying,

"I will not be a healer;

for in my house there is neither bread nor clothing; make me not a ruler of the people."

8For Jerusalem is ruined,

and Judah is fallen;

because their tongues and their doings have been against the LORD, to provoke the eyes of his glory.

The show of their countenance doth witness against them;

and doth declare their sin to be even as Sodom, they cannot hide it.

Woe unto their souls,

for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.

¹⁰Say unto the righteous, that it is well with them;

for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

Woe unto the wicked! For they shall perish;

for the reward of their hands shall be upon them.

¹²And as for my people, children are their oppressors,

and women rule over them.

O my people, they who lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.

13The LORD standeth up to plead,

and standeth to judge the people.

¹⁴The LORD will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof;

for ye have eaten up the vineyard;

and the spoil of the poor is in your houses.

15"What mean ye? Ye beat my people to pieces,

and grind the faces of the poor," saith the LORD God of hosts.

ISAIAH 4 6

The daughters of Zion

¹⁶Moreover the LORD saith, "Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched-forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go,

and making a tinkling with their feet;

¹⁷therefore the LORD will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion,

and the LORD will discover their secret parts."

¹⁸In that day the LORD will take away the bravery of tinkling ornaments, and cauls, and round tires like the moon, ¹⁹the chains, and the bracelets, and the mufflers, ²⁰the bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings, ²¹the rings, and nose jewels, ²²the changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins, ²³the glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the veils.

²⁴And it shall come to pass, instead of sweet smell there shall be stink;

and instead of a girdle a rent;

and instead of well-set hair, baldness;

and instead of a stomacher a girding of sackcloth,

burning instead of beauty.

²⁵Thy men shall fall by the sword,

and thy mighty in the war.

²⁶And her gates shall lament and mourn;

and she shall be desolate, and shall sit upon the ground.

And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, "We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel;

only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach."

The branch of the LORD

²In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely to them that are escaped of Israel. ³And it shall come to pass, they that are left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even everyone that is written among the living in Jerusalem; ⁴when the LORD shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.

⁵And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shinning of a flaming fire by night; for upon all the glory of Zion shall be a defense. ⁶And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain.

The song of the vineyard

And then will I sing to my well-beloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard:

My well-beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill;

2And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine,

and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein; and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.

³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah,

judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard.

⁴What could have been done more to my vineyard,

that I have not done in it?

Wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes,

it brought forth wild grapes.

⁵And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard;

I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up;

and I will break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down;

6and I will lay it waste;

it shall not be pruned, nor digged;

but there shall come up briers and thorns;

I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,

and the men of Judah his pleasant plant;

and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression;

for righteousness, but behold a cry.

Woes

⁸Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there can be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!

⁹"In mine ears," said the LORD of hosts, "of a truth many houses shall be desolate, and great and fair cities without inhabitant.

¹⁰Yea, ten acres of vineyard shall yield one ⁸bath, and the seed of a ⁵homer shall yield an ⁵ephah."

Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink,

and that continue until night,

and wine inflame them!

¹²And the harp and the viol,

the tabret and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts;

but they regard not the work of the LORD,

neither consider the operation of his hands.

13Therefore my people are gone into captivity,

because they have no knowledge;

and their honorable men are famished,

and their multitude dried up with thirst.

¹⁴Therefore hell hath enlarged herself,

and opened her mouth without measure;

and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp,

and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.

^a 5.5 gal or 22 liter

^b 55 gal or 220 liter

^c 5.5 gal or 22 liter

```
ISAIAH 5
<sup>15</sup>And the mean man shall be brought down,
    and the mighty man shall be humbled,
    and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled;
<sup>16</sup>But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment,
    and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness.
<sup>17</sup>Then shall the lambs feed after their manner,
    and the waste places of the fat ones shall strangers eat.
<sup>18</sup>Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity,
    and sin as it were with a cart rope;
19that say, "Let him make speed, and hasten his work, that we may see it;
    and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw nigh and come, that we may know
    it!"
<sup>20</sup>Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil;
    that put darkness for light, and light for darkness;
    that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!
<sup>21</sup>Woe unto the wise in their own eyes,
    and prudent in their own sight!
<sup>22</sup>Who unto the mighty to drink wine,
    and men of strength to mingle strong drink;
<sup>23</sup>Which justify the wicked for reward,
    and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!
<sup>24</sup>Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble,
    and the flame consumeth the chaff,
so their root shall be as rottenness,
    and their blossom shall go up as dust;
because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts,
    and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.
<sup>25</sup>Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people,
    and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them;
and the hills did tremble,
    and their carcasses were torn in the midst of the streets.
For all this his anger is not turned away,
    but his hand is stretched out still.
<sup>26</sup>And he will lift up an ensign to the nations from far,
    and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth;
    and, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly.
<sup>27</sup>None shall be weary nor stumble among them;
    none shall slumber nor sleep;
neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed,
    nor the latchet of their shoes be broken;
<sup>28</sup>whose arrows shall be sharp,
    and all their bows bent,
and their horses' hooves shall be counted like flint,
    and their wheels like a whirlwind.
<sup>29</sup>Their roaring shall be like a lion,
    they shall roar like young lions;
```

yea, they shall roar, and lay hold of the prey,

and shall carry away safe, and none shall deliver.

³⁰And in that day they shall roar against them like the roaring of the sea; and if they look unto the land, behold darkness and sorrow; and the light is darkened in the heavens thereof.

Isaiah's commission

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the LORD sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. ²Above it stood the seraphim; each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. ³And one cried unto another, and said, "Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." ⁴And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

⁵Then said I, "Woe is me! For I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

⁶Then flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar; ⁷and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, "Lo, this has touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged."

8 Also I heard the voice of the LORD, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then said I, "Here am I; send me."

9And he said, "Go, and tell this people, 'Hear ye indeed, but they understood not;

and see ye indeed, but they perceived not.'

¹⁰Make the heart of this people fat,

and make their ears heavy,

and shut their eyes;

lest they see with their eyes,

and hear with their ears,

and understand with their hearts,

and convert, and be healed."

Then said I, "LORD, how long?" And he said,

"Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant,

and the houses without man,

and the land be utterly desolate.

12And the LORD have removed men far away,

for there shall be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.

13But yet in it there shall be a tenth,

and they shall return,

and shall be eaten; as a teil tree, and as an oak,

whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves;

so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof."

King Ahaz receives a sign

7 And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it.

²And it was told the house of David, saying, Syria is confederate with Ephraim. And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the tress of the wood are moved with the wind.

³Then said the LORD unto Isaiah:

Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shear-jashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool, in the highway of the fuller's field; 4and say unto him, "Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah. 5Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying, 6'Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, yea, even the son of Tabeal."

⁷Thus saith the Lord GOD: It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass. ⁸For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people. ⁹And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established.

¹⁰Moreover the LORD spake again unto Ahaz, saying:

¹¹Ask thee a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above.

Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the LORD himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and shall bear a son, and shall call his name ³Immanuel. ¹⁵Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and to choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings. ¹⁷The LORD shall bring upon thee, and upon thy people, and upon thy father's house, days that have not come, from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah; even the king of Assyria.

a.God Is With Us

¹⁸And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall hiss for the fly that is in the uttermost part of the rivers of Egypt, and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria. ¹⁹And they shall come, and shall rest all of them in the desolate valleys, and in the holes of the rocks, and upon all thorns, and upon all bushes. ²⁰In the same day shall the LORD shave with a razor that is hired, namely, by them beyond the river, by the king of Assyria, the head, and the hair of the feet; and it shall also consume the beard.

²¹And it shall come to pass in that day, that a man shall nourish a young cow and two sheep. ²²And it shall come to pass, for the abundance of milk that they shall give, he shall eat butter; for butter and honey shall everyone eat that is left in the land.

²³And it shall come to pass in that day that every place shall be, where there were a thousand vines at a ^bthousand silverlings, which shall even be for briers and thorns. ²⁴With arrows and with bows shall men come thither; because all the land shall become briers and thorns. ²⁵And on all hills that shall be digged with the mattock, there shall not come thither the fear of briers and thorns; but it shall be for the sending forth of oxen, and for the treading of lesser cattle.

^b 25 lb or 12 kg

II ISAIAH 8

Assyrian conquest will be like a flood

¹Moreover the word of the LORD said unto me, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen concerning ^aMaher-shalal-hash-baz. ²And I took unto me faithful witnesses to record, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah.

^a-Hasten the Plunder, Hurry the Spoil

³And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the LORD to me:

Call his name Maher-shalal-hash-baz. ⁴For behold, the child shall not have knowledge to cry, "My father," and "my mother," before the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria shall be taken away before the king of Assyria.

5The LORD spake also unto me again, saying:

⁶Forasmuch as this people refuseth the waters of Shiloah that go softly and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah's son; ⁷now therefore, behold, the LORD bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory; and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks; ⁸and he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he shall reach even to the neck; and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel.

9Associate yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces; and give ear, all ye of far countries: gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces; gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces.
10Take counsel together, and it shall come to naught; speak the word, and it shall not stand;

for God is with us.

For the LORD spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying:

¹²Say ye not, "A confederacy,"

to all them to whom this people shall say, "A confederacy."

Neither fear ye their fear,

nor be afraid.

¹³Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself;

and let him be your fear,

and let him be your dread.

¹⁴And he shall be for a sanctuary;

but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offense to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

15 And many among them shall stumble,

and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken.

¹⁶Bind up the testimony,

seal the law among my disciples.

¹⁷And I will wait upon the LORD,

that hideth his face from the house of Jacob,

and I will look for him.

¹⁸Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

Dimness and darkness

¹⁹And when they shall say unto you, "Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep and that mutter;" should not a people seek unto their God for the living to hear from the dead? ²⁰To the law and to the testimony; and if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. ²¹And they shall pass through it, hardly bestead and hungry; and it shall come to pass, that when they shall be hungry, they shall fret themselves, and curse their king and their God, and look upward. ²²And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and they shall be driven to darkness.

Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun, and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the Red Sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.

Unto us a child is born

²The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light;

they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

³Thou hast multiplied the nation,

and increased the joy; and they joy before thee, according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

⁴For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden,

and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

⁵For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise,

and garments rolled in blood;

but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

⁶For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder;

and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the mighty God,

The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the increase of his government and peace there is no end,

upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it,

and to establish it with judgment

and with justice from henceforth even forever.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Hand of anger against Israel's pride and hypocrisy

⁸The LORD sent his word unto Jacob,

and it hath lighted upon Israel.

9And all the people shall know,

even Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria,

that say in the pride and stoutness of heart,

10"The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones;

the sycamores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars.

Therefore the LORD shall set up the adversaries of Rezin against him, and join his enemies together;

¹²The Syrians before, and the Philistines behind;

and they shall devour Israel with open mouth.

For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

¹³For the people turneth not unto him that smiteth them, neither do they seek the LORD of hosts.

¹⁴Therefore the LORD will cut off from Israel head and tail, branch and rush, in one day.

¹⁵The ancient and honorable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.

¹⁶For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed.

¹⁷Therefore the LORD shall have no joy in their young men, neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows;

for every one of them is a hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth speaketh folly.

For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

¹⁸For wickedness burneth as the fire; it shall devour the briers and thorns, and shall kindle in the thickets of the forest,

and they shall mount up like the lifting up of smoke.

¹⁹Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire; no man shall spare his brother.

²⁰And he shall snatch on the right hand, and be hungry; and he shall eat on the left hand, and they shall not be satisfied; they shall eat every man the flesh of his own arm;

²¹Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh; and they together shall be against Judah.

For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Woe to unrighteous leaders

Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness which they have prescribed; 2to turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless!

3And what will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the desolation which shall come from far?

To whom will ye flee for help?

And where will ye leave your glory?

4Without me they shall bow down under the prisoners, and they shall fall under the slain.

For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Invasion of Zion

⁵O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger,

and the staff in their hand is mine indignation.

6I will send him against a hypocritical nation,

and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge,

to take the spoil, and to take the prey,

and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

⁷Howbeit he meaneth not so,

neither doth his heart think so;

but in his heart it is to destroy

and cut off nations not a few.

8For he saith, "Are not my princes altogether kings?

9Is not Calno as Carchemish? Is not Hamath as Arpad? Is not Samaria as Damascus?

¹⁰As my hand hath founded the kingdoms of the idols,

and whose graven images did excel them of Jerusalem and of Samaria;

II shall I not, as I have done unto Samaria and her idols,

so do to Jerusalem and to her idols?"

¹²Wherefore it shall come to pass, that, when the LORD hath performed his whole work upon Mount Zion and upon Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks. ¹³For he saith:

"By the strength of my hand,

and by my wisdom I have done these things, for I am prudent;

and I have moved the borders of the people,

and have robbed their treasures,

and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man.

¹⁴And my hand hath found as a nest the riches of the people;

and as one gathereth eggs that are left, have I gathered all the earth;

and there was none that moved the wing,

or opened the mouth, or peeped."

15 Shall the axe boast itself against him that heweth therewith?

Or shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it?

As if the rod should shake itself against them that lift it up,

or as if the staff should lift up itself, as if it were no wood.

¹⁶Therefore shall the LORD, the LORD of hosts, send among his fat ones leanness;

and under his glory he shall kindle a burning like the burning of a fire.

¹⁷And the light of Israel shall be for a fire,

and his Holy One for a flame;

and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day;

18and shall consume the glory of his forest,

and of his fruitful field, both soul and body;

and they shall be as when a standard-bearer fainteth.

¹⁹And the rest of the trees of his forest shall be few,

that a child may write them.

A remnant of Israel

²⁰And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth. ²¹The remnant shall return, yea even the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God. ²²For though thy people Israel be as the sand

ISAIAH I I

of the sea, yet a remnant of them shall return; the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness. ²³For the LORD God of hosts shall make a consumption, even determined, in all the land.

²⁴Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Hosts:

"O my people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian; he shall smite thee with a rod, and shall lift up his staff against thee, after the manner of Egypt. ²⁵For yet a very little while, and the indignation shall cease, and mine anger in their destruction."

²⁶And the LORD of hosts shall stir up a scourge for him according to the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb; and as his rod was upon the sea, so shall he lift it up after the manner of Egypt. ²⁷And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

²⁸He is come to Aiath, he is passed to Migron; at Michmash he hath laid up his carriages; ²⁹they are gone over the passage; they have taken up their lodging at Geba; Ramah is afraid; Gibeah of Saul is fled. ³⁰Lift up thy voice, O daughter of Gallim; cause it to be heard unto Laish, O poor Anathoth. ³¹Madmenah is removed; the inhabitants of Gebim gather themselves to flee. ³²As yet shall he remain at Nob that day; he shall shake his hand against the mount of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.

³³Behold, the LORD, the LORD of hosts, shall lop the bough with terror; and the high ones of stature shall be hewn down, and the haughty shall be humbled.

³⁴And he shall cut down the thickets of the forest with iron,

A rod from the stem of Jesse

and Lebanon shall fall by a mighty one.

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots;

and the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

and shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD.

And he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes,
neither reprove after the hearing of his ears;

4but with righteousness shall he judge the poor,
and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

5And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins,
and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

⁶The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp,

and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

⁹They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

A root of Jesse

¹⁰And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek; and his rest shall be glorious. ¹¹And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

12And he shall set up an ensign for the nations,

and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel,

and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

13The envy also of Ephraim shall depart,

and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off;

Ephraim shall not envy Judah,

and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.

¹⁴But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west;

they shall spoil them of the east together;

they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab;

and the children of Ammon shall obey them.

15And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea;

and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river,

and shall smite it in the seven streams,

and make men go over dry-shod.

¹⁶And there shall be a highway for the remnant of his people which shall be left from Assyria;

like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

And in that day thou shalt say:

O LORD, I will praise thee; though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. ²Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid; for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. ³Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

⁴And in that day shall ye say:

Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. ⁵Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things; this is known in all the earth. ⁶Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion; for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

A prophecy against Babylon

The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz did see.

²Lift ye up my banner upon the high mountain,

exalt the voice unto them,

shake the hand,

that they may go into the gates of the nobles.

I7 ISAIAH I3

³I have commanded my sanctified ones, I have also called my mighty ones, for mine anger is not upon them that rejoice in my highness. ⁴The noise of the multitude in the mountains like as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together; the LORD of hosts mustereth the hosts of the battle. ⁵They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, yea, the LORD, and the weapons of his indignation, to destroy the whole land. 6Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. ⁷Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt; 8And they shall be afraid; pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth; they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames. ⁹Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. ¹⁰For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light; the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. ¹²I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir. 13Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger. ¹⁴And it shall be as the chased roe, and as a sheep that no man taketh up; they shall every man turn to his own people, and flee everyone into his own land. ¹⁵Everyone that is proud shall be thrust through; and everyone that is joined to the wicked shall fall by the sword. ¹⁶Their children also shall be dashed to pieces before their eyes; their houses shall be spoiled, and their wives ravished. ¹⁷Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, which shall not regard silver;

and as for gold, they shall not delight in it.

¹⁸Their bows also shall dash the young men to pieces; and they shall have no pity on the fruit of the womb; their eye shall not spare children.

¹⁹And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.

²⁰It shall never be inhabited,

neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation;

neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there;

neither shall the shepherds make their fold there.

²¹But wild beasts of the desert shall lie there;

and their houses shall be full of doleful creatures;

and owls shall dwell there,

and satyrs shall dance there.

²²And the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses,

and dragons in their pleasant palaces;

and her time is near to come,

and her days shall not be prolonged;

for I will destroy her speedily;

yea, for I will be merciful unto my people,

but the wicked shall perish.

Israel will be restored

¹For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land; and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob. ²And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place; yea, from far, unto the end of the earth, and they shall return to their land of promise, and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the LORD for servants and handmaids; and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors.

The death of the king of Babylon

³And it shall come to pass in that day that the LORD shall give thee rest from thy sorrow and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve. ⁴And it shall come to pass in that day that thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say:

How hath the oppressor ceased!

The golden city ceased!

⁵The LORD hath broken the staff of the wicked

and the scepters of the rulers.

⁶He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke,

he that ruled the nations in anger is persecuted, and none hindereth.

⁷The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet;

they break forth into singing.

8Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and also the cedars of Lebanon, saying,

"Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us."

⁹Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming;

it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth;

it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.

10All they shall speak and say unto thee,

"Art thou also become weak as we?

Art thou become like unto us?" Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols; the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee. ¹²How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 13For thou hast said in thine heart, "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north; 14I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High." ¹⁵Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. ¹⁶They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and shall consider thee, and shall say, "Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; ¹⁷and made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; and opened not the house of his prisoners?" ¹⁸All the kings of the nations, yea all of them, lie in glory, every one of them in his own house. ¹⁹But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and the remnant of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, raiment that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcass trodden under feet. ²⁰Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people; the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned. ²¹Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquities of their fathers; that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities. ²²"For I will rise up against them," saith the LORD of hosts, "and cut off from Babylon the name, and remnant, and son, and nephew," saith the LORD. ²³"I will also make it a possession for the bittern, and pools of water; and I will sweep it with the besom of destruction," saith the LORD of hosts. ²⁴The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, "Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand; ²⁵That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him underfoot; then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders."

ISAIAH 15 20

26This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth;
and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations.
27For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannual it?
And his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?

Palestina will be dissolved

²⁸In the year the king Ahaz died was this burden.

²⁹Rejoice not thou, whole Palestina,

because the rod of him that smote thee is broken;

for out of the serpent's root shall come forth a cockatrice,

and his fruit shall be a fiery flying serpent.

30 And the first-born of the poor shall feed,

and the needy shall lie down in safety;

and I will kill thy root with famine,

and he shall slay thy remnant.

³¹Howl, O gate; cry, O city;

thou, whole Palestina, art dissolved;

for there shall come from the north a smoke,

and none shall be alone in his appointed times.

32 What shall then answer the messengers of the nation?

That the LORD hath founded Zion,

and the poor of his people shall trust in it.

A prophecy against Moab

| 📘 | The burden of Moab.

Because in the night Ar of Moab is laid waste,

and brought to silence;

because in the night Kir of Moab is laid waste,

and brought to silence;

²He is gone up to Bajith, and to Dibon, the high places, to weep;

Moab shall howl over Nebo, and over Medeba.

On all their heads shall be baldness,

and every beard cut off.

³In their streets they shall gird themselves with sackcloth;

on the tops of their houses, and in their streets,

everyone shall howl,

weeping abundantly.

⁴And Heshbon shall cry, and Elealeh;

their voice shall be heard even unto Jahaz;

therefore the armed soldiers of Moab shall cry out;

his life shall be grievous unto him.

5My heart shall cry out for Moab;

his fugitives shall flee unto Zoar,

a heifer of three years old;

for by the mounting up of Luhith with weeping shall they go it up;

for in the way of Horonaim they shall raise up a cry of destruction.

⁶For the waters of Nimrim shall be desolate;

for the hay is withered away,

the grass faileth,

there is no green thing.

⁷Therefore the abundance they have gotten,

and that which they have laid up, shall they carry away to the brook of the willows.

⁸For the cry is gone round about the borders of Moab;

the howling thereof unto Eglaim, and the howling thereof unto Beer-elim.

9For the waters of Dimon shall be full of blood;

for I will bring more upon Dimon,

lions upon him that escapeth of Moab,

and upon the remnant of the land.

Send ye the lamb to the ruler of the land

from Sela to the wilderness, unto the mount of the daughter of Zion.

²For it shall be, that, as a wandering bird cast out of the nest,

so the daughters of Moab shall be at the fords of Arnon.

³Take counsel,

execute judgment;

make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday;

hide the outcasts; bewray not him that wandereth.

⁴Let mine outcasts dwell with thee, Moab;

be thou a covert to them from the face of the spoiler.

For the extortioner is at an end, the spoiler ceaseth,

the oppressors are consumed out of the land.

⁵And in mercy shall the throne be established;

and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David,

judging, and seeking judgment,

and hasting righteousness.

⁶We have heard of the pride of Moab;

of his haughtiness and his pride,

for he is very proud;

and his wrath, his lies, and all his evil works.

⁷Therefore shall Moab howl for Moab,

everyone shall howl;

for the foundations of Kir-Hareseth shall ye mourn;

surely they are stricken.

8For the fields of Heshbon languish,

and the vine of Sibmah;

the lords of the heathen have broken down the principal plants thereof,

they are come even unto Jazer,

they wandered through the wilderness;

her branches are stretched out,

they are gone over the sea.

⁹Therefore I will bewail with the weeping of Jazer the vine of Sibmah;

I will water thee with my tears, O Heshbon, and Elealeh;

for the shouting for thy summer fruits and for thy harvest is fallen.

¹⁰And gladness is taken away, and joy out of the plentiful field;

and in the vineyards there shall be no singing, neither shall there be shouting;

the treaders shall tread out no wine in their presses;

I have made their vintage shouting to cease.

ISAIAH 17 22

Wherefore my bowels shall sound like a harp for Moab,

and mine inward parts for Kir-Haresh.

¹²And it shall come to pass, when it is seen that Moab is weary on the high place, that he shall come to his sanctuary to pray; but he shall not prevail.

¹³This is the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning Moab since that time. ¹⁴But now the LORD hath spoken, saying, "Within three years, as the years of a hireling, and the glory of Moab shall be contemned, with all that great multitude; and the remnant shall be very small and feeble."

A prophecy against Damascus

| **7** □The burden of Damascus.

"Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city,

and it shall be a ruinous heap.

²The cities of Aroer are forsaken;

they shall be for flocks,

which shall lie down,

and none shall make them afraid.

³The fortress also shall cease from Ephraim,

and the kingdom from Damascus,

and the remnant of Syria;

they shall be as the glory of the children of Israel," saith the LORD of hosts.

4"And in that day it shall come to pass, that the glory of Jacob shall be made thin, and the fatness of his flesh shall wax lean.

⁵And it shall be as when the harvestman gathereth the corn,

and reapeth the ears with his arm;

and it shall be as he that gathereth ears in the valley of Rephaim.

6Yet gleaning grapes shall be left in it,

as the shaking of an olive tree,

two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough,

four or five in the outmost fruitful branches thereof," saith the LORD God of Israel.

7At that day shall a man look to his Maker,

his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel.

8And he shall not look to the altars,

the work of his hands,

neither shall respect that which his fingers have made,

either the groves, or the images.

⁹In that day shall his strong cities be as a forsaken bough,

and an uppermost branch,

which they left because of the children of Israel;

and there shall be desolation.

¹⁰Because thou hast forgotten the God of thy salvation,

and hast not been mindful of the Rock of thy strength,

therefore shalt thou plant pleasant plants,

and shalt set it with strange slips;

□In the day shalt thou make thy plant to grow,

and in the morning shalt thou make thy seed to flourish;

but the harvest shall be a heap in the day of grief and of desperate sorrow.

¹²Woe to the multitude of many people,

which make a noise like the noise of the seas;

and to the rushing of nations,

that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters!

¹³The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters;

but God shall rebuke them,

and they shall flee far off,

and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.

14And behold at eveningtide trouble;

and before the morning he is not.

This is the portion of them that spoil us,

and the lot of them that rob us.

A prophecy against Ethiopia

Woe to the land shadowing with wings,

which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia;

²That sendeth ambassadors by the sea,

even in vessels of bulrushes upon the waters,

saying, "Go, ye swift messengers, to a nation scattered and peeled,

to a people terrible from their beginning hitherto;

a nation meted out and trodden down,

whose land the rivers have spoiled!"

³All ye inhabitants of the world

and dwellers on the earth,

see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains;

and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.

⁴For so the LORD said unto me, "I will take my rest,

and I will consider in my dwelling place like a clear heat upon herbs, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.

⁵For afore the harvest, when the bud is perfect,

and the sour grape is ripening in the flower,

he shall both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks,

and take away and cut down the branches.

⁶They shall be left together unto the fowls of the mountains,

and to the beasts of the earth;

and the fowls shall summer upon them,

and all the beasts of the earth shall winter upon them.

 ${\ensuremath{^{7}}} In$ that time shall the present be brought unto the LORD of hosts

of a people scattered and peeled,

and from a people terrible from their beginning hitherto;

a nation meted out and trodden underfoot,

whose land the rivers have spoiled,

to the place of the name of the LORD of hosts, the mount Zion.

A prophecy against Egypt

9 The burden of Egypt.

Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt;

ISAIAH 19 24

and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it.

²"And I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians; and they shall fight everyone against his brother, and everyone against his neighbor;

city against city, and kingdom against kingdom.

³And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof;

and I will destroy the counsel thereof;

and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers,

and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the wizards.

⁴And the Egyptians will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord; and a fierce king shall rule over them," saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts.

5 And the waters shall fail from the sea.

and the river shall be wasted and dried up.

6And they shall turn the rivers far away;

and the brooks of defense shall be emptied and dried up;

the reeds and flags shall wither.

⁷The paper reeds by the brooks, by the mouth of the brooks,

and everything sown by the brooks, shall wither, be driven away, and be no more.

8The fishers also shall mourn,

and all they that cast angle into the brooks shall lament,

and they that spread nets upon the waters shall languish.

9Moreover they that work in fine flax,

and they that weave networks, shall be confounded.

¹⁰And they shall be broken in the purposes thereof,

all that make sluices and ponds for fish.

□Surely the princes of Zoan are fools,

the counsel of the wise counselors of Pharaoh is become brutish;

how say ye unto Pharaoh,

"I am the son of the wise,

the son of ancient kings?"

12Where are they? Where are thy wise men?

And let them tell thee now,

and let them know what the LORD of hosts hath purposed upon Egypt.

¹³The princes of Zoan are become fools,

the princes of Noph are deceived;

they have also seduced Egypt,

even they that are the stay of the tribes thereof.

14The LORD hath mingled a perverse spirit in the midst thereof;

and they have caused Egypt to err in every work thereof,

as a drunken man staggereth in his vomit.

15Neither shall there be any work for Egypt,

which the head or tail, branch or rush, may do.

¹⁶In that day shall Egypt be like unto women; and it shall be afraid and fear because of the shaking of the hand of the LORD of hosts, which he shaketh over it. ¹⁷And the land of Judah shall be a terror unto Egypt, everyone that maketh mention thereof shall be afraid in himself, because of the counsel of the LORD of hosts, which he hath determined against it.

¹⁸In that day shall five cities in the land of Egypt speak the language of Canaan, and swear to the LORD of hosts; one shall be called, "The city of destruction."

pillar at the border thereof to the LORD. ²⁰And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt; for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a savior, and a great one, and he shall deliver them. ²¹And the LORD shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the LORD in that day, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the LORD, and perform it. ²²And the LORD shall smite Egypt; he shall smite and heal it; and they shall return even to the LORD, and he shall be entreated of them, and shall heal them.

²³In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. ²⁴In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land; ²⁵whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, "Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance."

A prophecy against Egypt and Ethiopia

In the year that Tartan came unto Ashdod, (when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him) and fought against Ashdod, and took it; ²at the same time spake the LORD by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, "Go and loose the sackcloth from off thy loins, and put off thy shoe from thy foot." And he did so, walking naked and barefoot.

3And the LORD said:

Like as my servant Isaiah hath walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and wonder upon Egypt and upon Ethiopia; 4so shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians prisoners, and the Ethiopians captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, even with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt. 5And they shall be afraid and ashamed of Ethiopia their expectation, and of Egypt their glory. 6And the inhabitant of this isle shall say in that day, "Behold, such is our expectation, whither we flee for help to be delivered from the king of Assyria; and how shall we escape?"

A prophecy against Babylon

The burden of the desert of the sea.

As whirlwinds in the south pass through;

so it cometh from the desert, from the terrible land.

²A grievous vision is declared unto me;

The treacherous dealer dealeth treacherously, and the spoiler spoileth.

Go up, O Elam; besiege, O Media;

all the sighing thereof have I made to cease.

³Therefore are my loins filled with pain;

pangs have taken hold upon me, as the pangs of a woman that travaileth;

I was bowed down at the hearing of it;

I was dismayed at the seeing of it.

⁴My heart panted, fearfulness affrighted me;

the night of my pleasure hath he turned into fear unto me.

⁵Prepare the table, watch in the watchtower, eat, drink;

arise, ye princes, and anoint the shield.

ISAIAH 22 26

⁶For thus hath the LORD said unto me, "Go, set a watchman,

let him declare what he seeth."

⁷And he saw a chariot with a couple of horsemen,

a chariot of asses, and a chariot of camels;

and he hearkened diligently with much heed;

8And he cried, "A lion; my lord,

I stand continually upon the watchtower in the daytime,

and I am set in my ward whole nights;

9and, behold, here cometh a chariot of men,

with a couple of horsemen."

And he answered and said, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen;

and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground."

¹⁰O my threshing, and the corn of my floor;

that which I have heard of the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have I declared unto you.

A prophecy against Edom

11The burden of Dumah.

He calleth to me out of Seir,

"Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?"

¹²The watchman said, "The morning cometh, and also the night;

if ye will inquire, inquire ye; return, come."

A prophecy against Arabia

13The burden upon Arabia.

In the forest in Arabia shall ye lodge,

O ye traveling companies of Dedanim.

¹⁴The inhabitants of the land of Tema brought water to him that was thirsty,

they prevented with their bread him that fled.

15For they fled from the swords, from the drawn sword,

and from the bent bow, and from the grievousness of war.

¹⁶For thus hath the LORD said unto me, "Within a year, according to the years of a hireling, and all the glory of Kedar shall fail; ¹⁷and the residue of the number of archers, the mighty men of the children of Kedar, shall be diminished," for the LORD God of Israel hath spoken it.

A prophecy against Jerusalem

22 The burden of the valley of vision.

What aileth thee now,

that thou art wholly gone up to the housetops?

²Thou that art full of stirs,

a tumultuous city, a joyous city;

thy slain men are not slain with the sword,

nor dead in battle.

³All thy rulers are fled together,

they are bound by the archers;

all that are found in thee are bound together,

which have fled from far.

⁴Therefore said I, "Look away from me;

I will weep bitterly,

labor not to comfort me,

because of the spoiling of the daughter of my people."

⁵For it is a day of trouble, and of treading down,

and of perplexity by the LORD God of hosts in the valley of vision,

breaking down the walls,

and of crying to the mountains.

⁶And Elam bare the quiver with chariots of men and horsemen,

and Kir uncovered the shield.

⁷And it shall come to pass, that thy choicest valleys shall be full of chariots, and the horsemen shall set themselves in array at the gate.

⁸And he discovered the covering of Judah,

and thou didst look in that day to the armor of the house of the forest.

⁹Ye have seen also the breaches of the city of David, that they are many; and ye gathered together the waters of the lower pool.

¹⁰And ye have numbered the houses of Jerusalem,

and the houses have ye broken down to fortify the wall.

□Ye made also a ditch between the two walls

for the water of the old pool;

but ye have not looked unto the maker thereof,

neither had respect unto him that fashioned it long ago.

¹²And in that day did the LORD God of hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth;

¹³And behold joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep,

eating flesh, and drinking wine;

let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we shall die.

¹⁴And it was revealed in mine ears by the LORD of hosts, "Surely this iniquity shall not be purged from you till ye die," saith the LORD God of hosts.

15Thus saith the LORD God of hosts, "Go, get thee unto this treasurer,

even unto Shebna, which is over the house, and say,

16'What hast thou here, and whom hast thou here,

that thou hast hewed thee out a sepulcher here,

as he that heweth him out a sepulcher on high,

and that graveth a habitation for himself in a rock?'

¹⁷Behold, the LORD will carry thee away with a mighty captivity,

and will surely cover thee.

¹⁸He will surely violently turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country;

there shalt thou die,

and there the chariots of thy glory shall be the shame of thy lord's house.

¹⁹And I will drive thee from thy station,

and from thy state shall he pull thee down.

²⁰And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah; ²¹and I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government into his hand; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. ²²And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. ²³And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his

ISAIAH 23 28

father's house. ²⁴And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons."

²⁵"In that day," saith the LORD of hosts, "shall the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed, and be cut down, and fall; and the burden that was upon it shall be cut off;" for the LORD hath spoken it.

A prophecy against Tyre

73 The burden of Tyre.

Howl, ye ships of Tarshish;

for it is laid waste,

so that there is no house, no entering in;

from the land of Chittim it is revealed to them.

²Be still, ye inhabitants of the isle;

thou whom the merchants of Zidon, that pass over the sea, have replenished.

³And by great waters the seed of Sihor, the harvest of the river, is her revenue; and she is a mart of nations.

⁴Be thou ashamed, O Zidon;

for the sea hath spoken, even the strength of the sea, saying,

"I travail not, nor bring forth children,

neither do I nourish up young men, nor bring up virgins."

⁵As at the report concerning Egypt,

so shall they be sorely pained at the report of Tyre.

⁶Pass ye over to Tarshish;

howl, ye inhabitants of the isle.

⁷Is this your joyous city, whose antiquity is of ancient days?

Her own feet shall carry her afar off to sojourn.

8Who hath taken this counsel against Tyre,

the crowning city,

whose merchants are princes,

whose traffickers are the honorable of the earth?

9The LORD of hosts hath purposed it,

to stain the pride of all glory,

and to bring into contempt all the honorable of the earth.

¹⁰Pass through thy land as a river, O daughter of Tarshish;

there is no more strength in thee.

He stretched out his hand over the sea,

he shook the kingdoms;

the LORD hath given a commandment against the merchant city,

to destroy the strongholds thereof.

¹²And he said, "Thou shalt no more rejoice,

O thou oppressed virgin, daughter of Zidon.

Arise, pass over to Chittim;

there also shalt thou have no rest."

¹³Behold the land of the Chaldeans:

this people was not, till the Assyrian founded it for them that dwell in the wilderness; they set up the towers thereof, they raised up the palaces thereof;

and he brought it to ruin.

¹⁴Howl, ye ships of Tarshish;

for your strength is laid waste.

¹⁵And it shall come to pass in that day, that Tyre shall be forgotten seventy years, according to the days of one king; after the end of seventy years shall Tyre sing as a harlot.

¹⁶Take a harp, go about the city,

thou harlot that hast been forgotten;

make sweet melody, sing many songs,

that thou mayest be remembered.

¹⁷And it shall come to pass after the end of seventy years, that the LORD will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth. ¹⁸And her merchandise and her hire shall be holiness to the LORD; it shall not be treasured nor laid up; for her merchandise shall be for them that dwell before the LORD, to eat sufficiently, and for durable clothing.

The LORD will make the earth waste

74 Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty,

and maketh it waste,

and turneth it upside down,

and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

²And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest;

as with the servant, so with his master:

as with the maid, so with her mistress;

as with the buyer, so with the seller;

as with the lender, so with the borrower;

as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him.

³The land shall be utterly emptied,

and utterly spoiled; for the LORD hath spoken this word.

⁴The earth mourneth and fadeth away,

the world languisheth and fadeth away,

the haughty people of the earth do languish.

⁵The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof;

because they have transgressed the laws,

changed the ordinance,

broken the everlasting covenant.

⁶Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth,

and they that dwell therein are desolate;

therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned,

and few men left.

⁷The new wine mourneth, the vine languisheth,

all the merryhearted do sigh.

8The mirth of tabrets ceaseth,

the noise of them that rejoice endeth,

the joy of the harp ceaseth.

They shall not drink wine with a song;

strong drink shall be bitter to them that drink it.

¹⁰The city of confusion is broken down;

every house is shut up, that no man may come in.

□There is a crying for wine in the streets;

all joy is darkened, the mirth of the land is gone.

ISAIAH 25 30

¹²In the city is left desolation,

and the gate is smitten with destruction.

13When thus it shall be in the midst of the land

among the people,

there shall be as the shaking of an olive tree,

and as the gleaning grapes when the vintage is done.

14They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing for the majesty of the LORD,

they shall cry aloud from the sea.

15Wherefore glorify ye the LORD in the fires,

even the name of the LORD God of Israel in the isles of the sea.

¹⁶From the uttermost part of the earth have we heard songs,

even glory to the righteous.

But I said, "My leanness, my leanness,

woe unto me!

The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously;

yea, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously."

¹⁷Fear, and the pit, and the snare, are upon thee,

O inhabitant of the earth.

¹⁸And it shall come to pass, that he who fleeth from the noise of the fear

shall fall into the pit;

and he that cometh up out of the midst of the pit

shall be taken in the snare.

For the windows from on high are open,

and the foundations of the earth do shake.

¹⁹The earth is utterly broken down,

the earth is clean dissolved,

the earth is moved exceedingly.

²⁰The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard,

and shall be removed like a cottage;

and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it;

and it shall fall, and not rise again.

²¹And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high,

and the kings of the earth upon the earth.

²²And they shall be gathered together,

as prisoners are gathered in the pit,

and shall be shut up in the prison,

and after many days shall they be visited.

²³Then the moon shall be confounded.

and the sun ashamed,

when the LORD of hosts shall reign in mount Zion and in Jerusalem,

and before his ancients gloriously.

A song or praise

25 O LORD, thou art my God;

I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name;

for thou hast done wonderful things;

thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

3 I ISAIAH 26

²For thou hast made of a city a heap;

of a defensed city a ruin;

a palace of strangers to be no city;

it shall never be built.

³Therefore shall the strong people glorify thee,

the city of the terrible nations shall fear thee.

⁴For thou hast been a strength to the poor,

a strength to the needy in his distress,

a refuge from the storm,

a shadow from the heat,

when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

⁵Thou shalt bring down the noise of strangers,

as the heat in a dry place;

even the heat with the shadow of a cloud;

the branch of the terrible ones shall be brought low.

6And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people

a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees,

of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.

And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people,

and the veil that is spread over all nations.

8He will swallow up death in victory;

and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces;

and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth;

for the LORD hath spoken it.

9And it shall be said in that day, "Lo, this is our God;

we have waited for him, and he will save us;

this is the LORD; we have waited for him,

we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

¹⁰For in this mountain shall the hand of the LORD rest,

and Moab shall be trodden down under him,

even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill.

11 And he shall spread forth his hands in the midst of them,

as he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his hands to swim;

and he shall bring down their pride together with the spoils of their hands.

¹²And the fortress of the high fort of thy walls shall he bring down, lay low, and bring to the ground, even to the dust.

A song in praise of the LORD

In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city;

salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks.

²Open ye the gates,

that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in.

³Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee;

because he trusteth in thee.

⁴Trust ye in the LORD forever;

for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.

5 for he bringeth down them that dwell on high;

the lofty city he layeth it low;

he layeth it low, even to the ground; he bringeth it even to the dust. ⁶The foot shall tread it down. even the feet of the poor, and the steps of the needy. ⁷The way of the just is uprightness; thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just. ⁸Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O LORD, have we waited for thee; the desire of our soul is to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee. ⁹With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early; for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness. ¹⁰Let favor be showed to the wicked, yet will he not learn righteousness; in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the LORD. □LORD, when thy hand is lifted up, they will not see; but they shall see, and be ashamed for their envy at the people; yea, the fire of thine enemies shall devour them. ¹²LORD, thou wilt ordain peace for us; for thou also hast wrought all our works in us. ¹³O LORD our God, other lords besides thee have had dominion over us; but by thee only will we make mention of thy name. ¹⁴They are dead, they shall not live; they are deceased, they shall not rise; therefore hast thou visited and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish. ¹⁵Thou hast increased the nation, O LORD, thou hast increased the nation; thou art glorified; thou hadst removed it far unto all the ends of the earth. ¹⁶LORD, in trouble have they visited thee; they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them. ¹⁷Like as a woman with child, that draweth near the time of her delivery, is in pain, and crieth out in her pangs; so have we been in thy sight, O LORD. ¹⁸We have been with child, we have been in pain, we have as it were brought forth wind; we have not wrought any deliverance in the earth; neither have the inhabitants of the world fallen. 19Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust; for thy dew is as the dew of herbs,

²⁰Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee;

and the earth shall cast out the dead.

hide thyself as it were for a little moment,

until the indignation be overpast.

²¹For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place

to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity;

the earth also shall disclose her blood,

and shall no more cover her slain.

Deliverance of Israel

27 In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish Leviathan the piercing serpent,

even Leviathan that crooked serpent;

and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

²In that day sing ye unto her,

"A vineyard of red wine.

3I the LORD do keep it;

I will water it every moment;

lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.

4Fury is not in me;

who would set the briers and thorns against me in battle;

I would go through them,

I would burn them together.

⁵Or let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me; and he shall make peace with me."

⁶He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root;

Israel shall blossom and bud,

and fill the face of the world with fruit.

⁷Hath he smitten him,

as he smote those that smote him?

Or is he slain according to the slaughter of them that are slain by him?

8In measure, when it shooteth forth, thou wilt debate with it;

he stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind.

⁹By this therefore shall the iniquity of Jacob be purged;

and this is all the fruit to take away his sin;

when he maketh all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten in sunder, the groves and images shall not stand up.

¹⁰Yet the defensed city shall be desolate,

and the habitation forsaken, and left like a wilderness;

there shall the calf feed.

and there shall he lie down,

and consume the branches thereof.

When the boughs thereof are withered, they shall be broken off;

the women come, and set them on fire;

for it is a people of no understanding;

therefore he that made them will not have mercy on them,

and he that formed them will show them no favor.

¹²And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel. ¹³And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and

ISAIAH 28 34

they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem

Woe to Ephraim

Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim,

whose glorious beauty is a fading flower,

which are on the head of the fat valleys

of them that are overcome with wine!

²Behold, the LORD hath a mighty and strong one,

which as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm,

as a flood of mighty waters overflowing,

shall cast down to the earth with the hand.

³The crown of pride, the drunkards of Ephraim,

shall be trodden under feet;

⁴And the glorious beauty, which is on the head of the fat valley,

shall be a fading flower, and as the hasty fruit before the summer;

which when he that looketh upon it seeth, while it is yet in his hand he eateth it up.

⁵In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory,

and for a diadem of beauty unto the residue of his people,

⁶And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment,

and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate.

⁷But they also have erred through wine,

and through strong drink are out of the way;

the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink,

they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink;

they err in vision,

they stumble in judgment.

⁸For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness,

so that there is no place clean.

9Whom shall he teach knowledge?

And whom shall he make to understand doctrine?

Them that are weaned from the milk,

and drawn from the breasts.

¹⁰For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept;

line up on line, line upon line;

here a little, and there a little;

□For with stammering lips and another tongue

will he speak to this people.

¹²To whom he said, "This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest;

and this is the refreshing;" yet they would not hear.

¹³But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept;

line upon line, line upon line;

here a little, and there a little;

that they might go, and fall backward,

and be broken, and snared, and taken.

¹⁴Wherefore hear the word of the LORD, ye scornful men,

that rule this people which is in Jerusalem.

¹⁵Because ye have said, "We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us; for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves."

A cornerstone in Zion

16Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, "Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; he that believeth shall not make haste.

17Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet; and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the water shall overflow the hiding place.

18And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.

19From the time that it goeth forth it shall take you; for morning by morning shall it pass over,

²⁰For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it; and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it.

and it shall be a vexation only to understand the report."

²¹For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim,

he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon,

that he may do his work, his strange work;

and bring to pass his act, his strange act.

even determined upon the whole earth.

²²Now therefore be ye not mockers,

by day and by night;

lest your bands be made strong;

for I have heard from the LORD God of hosts a consumption,

²³Give ye ear, and hear my voice;

hearken, and hear my speech.

²⁴Doth the ploughman plough all day to sow?

Doth he open and break the clods of his ground?

²⁵When he hath made plain the face thereof,

doth he not cast abroad the fitches, and scatter the cummin,

and cast in the principal wheat

and the appointed barley and the rye in their place?

²⁶For his God doth instruct him to discretion,

and doth teach him.

²⁷For the fitches are not threshed with a threshing instrument,

neither is a cartwheel turned about upon the cummin;

but the fitches are beaten out with a staff,

and the cummin with a rod.

²⁸Bread corn is bruised:

because he will not ever be threshing it,

ISAIAH 29 36

nor break it with the wheel of his cart, nor bruise it with his horsemen. ²⁹This also cometh forth from the LORD of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working.

Woe to the city of David

70 Woe to Ariel, to Ariel,

the city where David dwelt!

Add ye year to year;

let them kill sacrifices.

²Yet I will distress Ariel,

and there shall be heaviness and sorrow;

for thus hath the Lord said unto me,

"It shall be unto Ariel;

3that I the LORD will camp against her round about,

and will lay siege against her with a mount,

and I will raise forts against her.

⁴And she shall be brought down, and shall speak out of the ground

and her speech shall be low out of the dust;

and her voice shall be as of one that hath a familiar spirit out of the ground,

and her speech shall whisper out of the dust.

⁵Moreover the multitude of her strangers shall be like small dust,

and the multitude of the terrible ones shall be as chaff that passeth away; yea, it shall be at an instant suddenly.

⁶For they shall be visited of the LORD of hosts

with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise,

with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire.

7And the multitude of all the nations that fight against Ariel,

even all that fight against her and her munition, and that distress her,

shall be as a dream of a night vision.

8Yea, it shall be unto them even as unto a hungry man who dreameth,

and behold, he eateth, but he awaketh and his soul is empty;

or like unto a thirsty man who dreameth, and behold, he drinketh,

but he awaketh, and behold, he is faint, and his soul hath appetite.

Yea, even so shall the multitude of all the nations be that fight against mount Zion.

⁹For, behold, all ye that do iniquity, stay yourselves, and wonder;

for ye shall cry out, and cry;

yea, ye shall be drunken, but not with wine;

ye shall stagger, but not with strong drink.

¹⁰For, behold, the LORD hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep.

For, behold, ye have closed your eyes, and ye have rejected the prophets,

and your rulers and the seers hath he covered because of your iniquities.

A book shall come forth

And it shall come to pass, that the Lord God shall bring forth unto you the words of a book; and they shall be the words of them which have slumbered. And behold, the book shall be sealed; and in the book shall be a revelation from God, from the beginning of the world to the ending thereof. Wherefore because of the things which are sealed up, the

and hath

things which are sealed shall not be delivered in the day of the wickedness and abominations of the people. Wherefore, the book shall be kept from them.

But the book shall be delivered unto a man, and he shall deliver the words of the book, which are the words of those who have slumbered in the dust; and he shall deliver these words unto another, but the words that are sealed he shall not deliver, neither shall he deliver the book. For the book shall be sealed by the power of God, and the revelation which was sealed shall be kept in the book until the own due time of the Lord, that they may come forth; for behold, they reveal all things from the foundation of the world unto the end thereof. And the day cometh, that the words of the book which were sealed shall be read upon the housetops; and they shall be read by the power of Christ; and all things shall be revealed unto the children of men which ever have been among the children of men, and which ever will be, even unto the end of the earth.

Wherefore, at that day when the book shall be delivered unto the man of whom I have spoken, the book shall be hid from the eyes of the world, that the eyes of none shall behold it, save it be that three witnesses shall behold it by the power of God, besides him to whom the book shall be delivered; and they shall testify to the truth of the book and the things therein. And there is none other which shall view it, save it be a few according to the will of God, to bear testimony of his word unto the children of men; for the Lord God hath said, that the words of the faithful should speak as it were from the dead. Wherefore, the Lord God will proceed to bring forth the words of the book; and in the mouth of as many witnesses as seemeth him good will he establish his word; and woe be unto him that rejecteth the word of God.

But, behold, it shall come to pass, that the Lord God shall say unto him to whom he shall deliver the book, "Take these words which are not sealed and deliver them to another," that he may show them unto the learned, saying, "Read this, I pray thee." And the learned shall say, "Bring hither the book and I will read them." And now because of the glory of the world, and to get gain will they say this, and not for the glory of God. And the man shall say, "I cannot bring the book for it is sealed." Then shall the learned say, "I cannot read it."

Wherefore it shall come to pass, that the Lord God will deliver again the book and the words thereof to him that is not learned; and the man that is not learned shall say, "I am not learned." Then shall the Lord God say unto him:

The learned shall not read them, for they have rejected them, and I am able to do mine own work; wherefore thou shalt read the words which I shall give unto thee. Touch not the things which are sealed, for I will bring them forth in mine own due time; for I will show unto the children of men that I am able to do mine own work. Wherefore, when thou hast read the words which I have commanded thee, and obtained the witnesses which I have promised unto thee, then shalt thou seal up the book again, and hide it up unto me, that I may preserve the words which thou hast not read until I shall see fit in mine own wisdom to reveal all things unto the children of men. For behold, I am God; and I am a God of miracles; and I will show unto the world that I am the same yesterday, today, and forever; and I work not among the children of men, save it be according to their faith.

¹³And again it shall come to pass, that the LORD shall say <u>unto him that shall read the</u> words that shall be delivered him:

Forasmuch as this people draw near unto me with their mouth,

and with their lips do honor me,

but have removed their hearts far from me,

and their fear toward me is taught by the precepts of men,

ISAIAH 30 38

14therefore I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people;

yea, a marvelous work and a wonder;

for the wisdom of their wise and learned shall perish,

and the understanding of their prudent shall be hid.

¹⁵And woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD.

And their works are in the dark;

and they say, "Who seeth us and who knoweth us?"

¹⁶And they also say, "Surely, your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay."

But behold, I will show unto them, saith the Lord of hosts, that I know all their works.

For, shall the work say of him that made it, "He made me not?"

Or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, "He had no understanding?"

¹⁷But behold, saith the Lord of hosts, I will show unto the children of men, that it is not yet a very little while, and Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field;

and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest.

¹⁸And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book;

and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness;

19and the meek also shall increase, and their joy shall be in the LORD;

and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

²⁰For, assuredly as the LORD liveth, they shall see that the terrible one is brought to naught,

and the scorner is consumed,

and all that watch for iniquity are cut off,

²¹and they that make a man an offender for a word,

and lay a snare for him that reproveth in the gate,

and turn aside the just for a thing of naught.

²²Therefore, thus saith the LORD who redeemed Abraham concerning the house of Jacob: Jacob shall not now be ashamed,

neither shall his face now wax pale;

²³but when he seeth his children,

the work of my hands, in the midst of him,

they shall sanctify my name,

and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob,

and shall fear the God of Israel.

²⁴They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding,

and they that murmured shall learn doctrine.

The Egyptians will help in vain

30 "Woe to the rebellious children," saith the LORD, "that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my Spirit,

that they may add sin to sin;

²That walk to go down into Egypt,

and have not asked at my mouth;

to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh,

and to trust in the shadow of Egypt!

³Therefore shall the strength of Pharaoh be your shame,

and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion.

⁴For his princes were at Zoan, and his ambassadors came to Hanes. ⁵They were all ashamed of a people that could not profit them, nor be a help nor profit, but a shame, and also a reproach. ⁶The burden of the beasts of the south: Into the land of trouble and anguish, from whence come the young and old lion, the viper and fiery flying serpent, they will carry their riches upon the shoulders of young asses, and their treasures upon the bunches of camels, to a people that shall not profit them. ⁷For the Egyptians shall help in vain, and to no purpose; therefore have I cried concerning this, "Their strength is to sit still." A warning to a rebellious people 8Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come forever and ever; That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD; 10Which say to the seers, "See not;" and to the prophets, "Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits; Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us." ¹²Wherefore thus saith the Holy One of Israel: Because ye despise this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and stay thereon; ¹³Therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking cometh suddenly at an instant. 14And he shall break it as the breaking of the potters' vessel that is broken in pieces; he shall not spare; so that there shall not be found in the bursting of it a sherd to take fire from the hearth, or to take water withal out of the pit. ¹⁵For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength; and ye would not. ¹⁶But ye said, "No; for we will flee upon horses;" therefore shall ye flee; and, "We will ride upon the swift;" therefore shall they that pursue you be swift. ¹⁷One thousand shall flee at the rebuke of one; at the rebuke of five shall ye flee; till ye be left as a beacon upon the top of a mountain, and as an ensign on a hill.

ISAIAH 30 40

¹⁸And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you; for the LORD is a God of judgment;

blessed are all they that wait for him.

¹⁹For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem; thou shalt weep no more; he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee. ²⁰And though the LORD give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner anymore, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers; ²¹and thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it," when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left. ²²Ye shall defile also the covering of thy graven images of silver, and the ornament of thy molten images of gold; thou shalt cast them away as a menstruous cloth; thou shalt say unto it, "Get thee hence."

²³Then shall he give the rain of thy seed, that thou shalt sow the ground withal; and bread of the increase of the earth, and it shall be fat and plenteous; in that day shall thy cattle feed in large pastures. ²⁴The oxen likewise and the young asses that ear the ground shall eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan. ²⁵And there shall be upon every high mountain, and upon every high hill, rivers and streams of waters in the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall. ²⁶Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.

²⁷Behold, the name of the LORD cometh from far,

burning with his anger, and the burden thereof is heavy;

his lips are full of indignation

and his tongue as a devouring fire;

²⁸And his breath, as an overflowing stream,

shall reach to the midst of the neck,

to sift the nations with the sieve of vanity;

and there shall be a bridle in the jaws of the people, causing them to err.

²⁹Ye shall have a song,

as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept;

and gladness of heart,

as when one goeth with a pipe

to come unto the mountain of the LORD,

to the Mighty One of Israel.

30 And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard,

and shall show the lighting down of his arm,

with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire,

with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

³¹For through the voice of the LORD shall the Assyrian be beaten down,

which smote with a rod.

32And in every place where the grounded staff shall pass,

which the LORD shall lay upon him,

it shall be with tabrets and harps;

and in battles of shaking will he fight with it.

33For Topheth is ordained of old;

yea, for the king it is prepared;

he hath made it deep and large;

the pile thereof is fire and much wood;

the breath of the LORD,

like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.

Woe to those that rely on Egypt

Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help;

and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many;

and in horsemen, because they are very strong;

but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel,

neither seek the LORD.

²Yet he also is wise, and will bring evil,

and will not call back his words;

but will arise against the house of the evildoers,

and against the help of them that work iniquity.

³Now the Egyptians are men, and not God;

and their horses flesh, and not spirit.

When the LORD shall stretch out his hand,

both he that helpeth shall fall,

and he that is holpen shall fall down,

and they all shall fail together.

⁴For thus hath the LORD spoken unto me:

"Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey,

when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him,

he will not be afraid of their voice,

nor abase himself for the noise of them;

so shall the LORD of hosts come down to fight for mount Zion,

and for the hill thereof.

5As birds flying,

so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem;

defending also he will deliver it;

and passing over he will preserve it."

⁶Turn ye unto him from whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted. ⁷For in that day every man shall cast away his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which your own hands have made unto you for a sin.

8"Then shall the Assyrian fall with the sword, not of a mighty man;

and the sword, not of a mean man, shall devour him;

but he shall flee from the sword,

and his young men shall be discomfited.

9And he shall pass over to his stronghold for fear,

and his princes shall be afraid of the ensign,"

saith the LORD, whose fire is in Zion,

and his furnace in Jerusalem.

A righteous king

Behold, a King shall reign in righteousness,

and princes shall rule in judgment.

²And a man shall be as a hiding place from the wind,

and a covert from the tempest;

as rivers of water in a dry place,

as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

ISAIAH 32 42

³And the eyes of them that see shall not be dim,

and the ears of them that hear shall hearken.

⁴The heart also of the rash shall understand knowledge,

and the tongue of the stammerers shall be ready to speak plainly.

⁵The vile person shall be no more called liberal,

nor the churl said to be bountiful.

⁶For the vile person will speak villainy,

and his heart will work iniquity,

to practice hypocrisy,

and to utter error against the LORD,

to make empty the soul of the hungry;

and he will cause the drink of the thirsty to fail.

⁷The instruments also of the churl are evil;

he deviseth wicked devices to destroy the poor with lying words,

even when the needy speaketh right.

But the liberal deviseth liberal things;

and by liberal things shall he stand.

A message to the women

9Rise up, ye women that are at ease, hear my voice;

ye careless daughters, give ear unto my speech.

¹⁰Many days and years shall ye be troubled, ye careless women;

for the vintage shall fail, the gathering shall not come.

Tremble, ye women that are at ease;

be troubled, ye careless ones;

strip you, and make you bare,

and gird sackcloth upon your loins.

¹²They shall lament for the teats, for the pleasant fields,

for the fruitful vine.

¹³Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns and briers;

yea, upon all the houses of joy in the joyous city.

¹⁴Because the palaces shall be forsaken;

the houses of the city shall be left desolate;

the forts and towers shall be for dens forever,

a joy of wild asses, a pasture of flocks;

¹⁵Until the Spirit be poured upon us from on high,

and the wilderness be a fruitful field,

and the fruitful field be counted for a forest.

¹⁶Then judgment shall dwell in the wilderness,

and righteousness remain in the fruitful field.

¹⁷And the work of righteousness shall be peace;

and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.

¹⁸And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation,

and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places;

¹⁹When it shall hail, coming down on the forest;

and the city shall be low in a low place.

²⁰Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters,

that send forth thither the feet of the ox and the ass.

Judgement

Woe to thee that spoilest,
and thou wast not spoiled;
and dealest treacherously,
and they dealt not treacherously with thee!
When thou shalt cease to spoil,
thou shalt be spoiled;

and when thou shalt make an end to deal treacherously,

they shall deal treacherously with thee.

²O Lord, be gracious unto us;

we have waited for thee.

Be thou their arm every morning,

their salvation also in the time of trouble.

³At the noise of the tumult the people fled;

at the lifting up of thyself the nations were scattered.

⁴And your spoil shall be gathered like the gathering of the caterpillar; as the running to and fro of locusts shall he run upon them.

⁵The LORD is exalted, for he dwelleth on high;

he hath filled Zion with judgment and righteousness.

⁶And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation; the fear of the LORD is his treasure.

⁷Behold, their valiant ones shall cry without;

the ambassadors of peace shall weep bitterly.

8The highways lie waste, the wayfaring man ceaseth;

he hath broken the covenant, he hath despised the cities, he regardeth no man.

The earth mourneth and languisheth;

Lebanon is ashamed and hewn down;

Sharon is like a wilderness;

and Bashan and Carmel shake off their fruits.

10"Now will I rise," saith the LORD;

"now will I be exalted; now will I lift up myself.

□Ye shall conceive chaff, ye shall bring forth stubble;

your breath, as fire, shall devour you.

¹²And the people shall be as the burnings of lime;

as thorns cut up shall they be burned in the fire."

¹³Hear, ye that are far off, what I have done;

and ye that are near, acknowledge my might.

14The sinners in Zion are afraid;

fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites.

Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire?

Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?

¹⁵He that walketh righteously,

and speaketh uprightly;

he that despiseth the gain of oppressions,

that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes,

that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood,

and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil;

ISAIAH 34 44

¹⁶He shall dwell on high;

his place of defense shall be the munitions of rocks;

bread shall be given him;

his waters shall be sure.

¹⁷Thine eyes shall see the King in his beauty;

they shall behold the land that is very far off.

¹⁸Thine heart shall meditate in terror.

Where is the scribe?

Where is the receiver?

Where is he that counted the towers?

19Thou shalt not see a fierce people,

a people of a deeper speech than thou canst perceive;

of a stammering tongue, that thou canst not understand.

²⁰Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities;

thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation,

a tabernacle that shall not be taken down;

not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed,

neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken.

²¹But there the glorious Lord will be unto us

a place of broad rivers and streams;

wherein shall go no galley with oars,

neither shall gallant ship pass thereby.

²²For the LORD is our judge,

the LORD is our lawgiver,

the LORD is our King;

he will save us.

²³Thy tacklings are loosed;

they could not well strengthen their mast;

they could not spread the sail;

then is the prey of a great spoil divided;

the lame take the prey.

²⁴And the inhabitant shall not say, "I am sick;"

the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity.

Judgement on all nations

34 Come near, ye nations, to hear;

and hearken, ye people;

let the earth hear, and all that is therein;

the world, and all things that come forth of it.

²For the indignation of the LORD is upon all nations,

and his fury upon all their armies.

He hath utterly destroyed them,

he hath delivered them to the slaughter.

³Their slain also shall be cast out,

and their stink shall come up out of their carcasses,

and the mountains shall be melted with their blood.

⁴And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved,

and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll;

and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree. ⁵For my sword shall be bathed in heaven; behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. ⁶The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea. ⁷And the reem shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness. ⁸For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion. 9And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch. ¹⁰It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up forever; from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it forever and ever. 11But the cormorant and the bittern shall possess it; the owl also and the raven shall dwell in it; and he shall stretch out upon it the line of confusion, and the stones of emptiness. ¹²They shall call the nobles thereof to the kingdom, but none shall be there, and all her princes shall be nothing. ¹³And thorns shall come up in her palaces, nettles and brambles in the fortresses thereof; and it shall be a habitation of dragons, and a court for owls. 14The wild beasts of the desert shall also meet with the wild beasts of the island, and the satyr shall cry to his fellow; the screech owl also shall rest there, and find for herself a place of rest. 15There shall the great owl make her nest, and lay, and hatch, and gather under her shadow; there shall the vultures also be gathered, everyone with her mate. ¹⁶Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read the names written therein: No one of these shall fail; none shall want their mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and my Spirit it hath gathered them. ¹⁷And I have cast the lot for them,

and I have divided it unto them by line;

ISAIAH 35 46

they shall possess it forever;

from generation to generation they shall dwell therein.

The glory of Zion

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

²It shall blossom abundantly,

and rejoice even with joy and singing;

the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it,

the excellency of Carmel and Sharon;

they shall see the glory of the LORD,

and the excellency of our God.

³Strengthen ye the weak hands,

and confirm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to them that are of a fearful heart,

"Be strong, fear not; behold,

your God will come with vengeance,

even God with a recompense;

he will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

6Then shall the lame man leap as a hart,

and the tongue of the dumb sing;

for in the wilderness shall waters break out,

and streams in the desert.

⁷And the parched ground shall become a pool,

and the thirsty land springs of water;

in the habitation of dragons, where each lay,

shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

8And a highway shall be there;

for a way shall be cast up, and it shall be called the way of holiness.

The unclean shall not pass over upon it;

but it shall be cast up for those who are clean,

and the wayfaring men, though they are accounted fools, shall not err therein.

9No lion shall be there,

nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon,

it shall not be found there;

but the redeemed shall walk there:

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,

and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads;

they shall obtain joy and gladness,

and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Assyria threatens Jerusalem

Now it came to pass in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah, the Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the defensed cities of Judah, and took them. ²And the king of Assyria sent Rabshakeh from Lachish to Jerusalem unto king Hezekiah with a great army. And he stood by the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field. ³Then

came forth unto him Eliakim, Hilkiah's son, which was over the house, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, Asaph's son, the recorder.

⁴And Rabshakeh said unto them:

Say ye now to Hezekiah: Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, "What confidence is this wherein thou trustest? ⁵I say, thy words are but vain when thou sayest, 'I have counsel and strength for war.' Now, on whom dost thou trust that thou rebellest against me? ⁶Lo, thou trustest in the staff of this broken reed, on Egypt; whereon if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it; so is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all that trust in him. ⁷But if thou say to me, 'We trust in the LORD our God;' is it not he, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and said to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'Ye shall worship before this altar?'"

⁸Now therefore give pledges, I pray thee, to my master the king of Assyria, and I will give thee two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders upon them.

⁹How then wilt thou turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen? ¹⁰And am I now come up without the LORD against this land to destroy it? The LORD said unto me, 'Go up against this land, and destroy it.'

Then said Eliakim and Shebna and Joah unto Rabshakeh, "Speak, I pray thee, unto thy servants in the Syrian language; for we understand it; and speak not to us in the Jews' language, in the ears of the people that are on the wall."

¹²But Rabshakeh said, "Hath my master sent me to thy master and to thee to speak these words? Hath he not sent me to the men that sit upon the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?"

13Then Rabshakeh stood, and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and said: Hear ye the words of the great king, the king of Assyria. 14Thus saith the king, "Let not Hezekiah deceive you; for he shall not be able to deliver you. 15Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, 'The LORD will surely deliver us; this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.'"

¹⁶Hearken not to Hezekiah; for thus saith the king of Assyria, "Make an agreement with me by a present, and come out to me; and eat ye everyone of his vine, and everyone of his fig tree, and drink ye everyone the waters of his own cistern; ¹⁷until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards."

¹⁸Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you, saying, "The LORD will deliver us." Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? ¹⁹Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim? And have they delivered Samaria out of my hand? ²⁰Who are they among all the gods of these lands, that have delivered their land out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?

²¹But they held their peace, and answered him not a word; for the king's commandment was, saying, "Answer him not."

²²Then came Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah, that was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

ISAIAH 37 48

Deliverance from Assyria foretold

37 And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD. And he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, unto Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz. And they said unto him:

Thus said Hezekiah, "This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and of blasphemy; for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth. 4It may be the LORD thy God will hear the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God, and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard; wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that is left."

⁵So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah. ⁶And Isaiah said unto them: Thus shall ye say unto your master, "Thus saith the LORD: Be not afraid of the words that thou hast heard, wherewith the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me. ⁷Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumor, and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land."

⁸So Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah; for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish. ⁹And he heard say concerning Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, "He is come forth to make war with thee." And when he heard it, he sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying:

¹⁰Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, "Let not thy God, in whom thou trustest, deceive thee, saying, 'Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.' ¹¹Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by destroying them utterly; and shalt thou be delivered? ¹²Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed, as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden which were in Telassar? ¹³Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad? And the king of the city of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah?"

Hezekiah's prayer

¹⁴And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up unto the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD. ¹⁵And Hezekiah prayed unto the LORD, saying:

God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth. ¹⁷Incline thine ear, O LORD, and hear; open thine eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which he hath sent to reproach the living God. ¹⁸Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations, and their countries, ¹⁹and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone; therefore they have destroyed them. ²⁰Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD, even thou only.

The LORD's response

²¹Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent unto Hezekiah, saying:

Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, whereas thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria; ²²this is the word which the LORD hath spoken concerning him:

"The virgin, the daughter of Zion, hath despised thee, and laughed thee to scorn;

the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee. ²³Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? And against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? Even against the Holy One of Israel. ²⁴By thy servants hast thou reproached the LORD, and hast said, "By the multitude of my chariots am I come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon; and I will cut down the tall cedars thereof, and the choice fir trees thereof; and I will enter into the height of his border, and the forest of his Carmel. ²⁵I have digged, and drunk water; and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of the besieged places." ²⁶"Hast thou not heard long ago, how I have done it; and of ancient times, that I have formed it? Now have I brought to pass, that thou shouldest be to lay waste defensed cities into ruinous heaps. ²⁷Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, they were dismayed and confounded; they were as the grass of the field, and as the green herb, as the grass on the housetops, and as corn blasted before it be grown up." ²⁸"But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me. ²⁹Because thy rage against me, and thy tumult is come up into mine ears, therefore will I put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest." 30"And this shall be a sign unto thee: Ye shall eat this year such as groweth of itself; and the second year that which springeth of the same; and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruit thereof. 31 And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward. and bear fruit upward; 32For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant; and they that escape out of Jerusalem shall come up upon mount Zion; the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this." ³³Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, "He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it. ³⁴By the way that he came, by the same shall he return,

and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD. ³⁵For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake,

and for my servant David's sake."

ISAIAH 38 50

Fulfillment

³⁶Then the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand, and when they who were left arose, early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses. ³⁷So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

³⁸And it came to pass, as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Armenia; and Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

Hezekiah's illness

In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, "Thus saith the LORD: Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live."

²Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, ³and said, "Remember now, O Lord, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight." And Hezekiah wept sore.

⁴Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying:

⁵Go, and say to Hezekiah, "Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father: I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears; behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years. ⁶And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city. ⁷And this shall be a sign unto thee from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that he hath spoken; ⁸behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sundial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward."

So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.

⁹The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness:

¹⁰I said in the cutting off of my days,

I shall go to the gates of the grave;

I am deprived of the residue of my years.

II said, "I shall not see the LORD, even the LORD, in the land of the living;

I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world.

¹²Mine age is departed,

and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent;

I have cut off like a weaver my life;

he will cut me off with pining sickness;

from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

13I reckoned till morning, that, as a lion, so will he break all my bones;

from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

¹⁴Like a crane or swallow, so did I chatter;

I did mourn as a dove.

Mine eyes fail with looking upward;

O Lord, I am oppressed; undertake for me."

15What shall I say?

He hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath healed me.

I shall go softly all my years,

that I may not walk in the bitterness of my soul.

5 I ISAIAH 39

¹⁶Oh Lord, thou who art the life of my spirit, in whom I live;

so wilt thou recover me,

and make me to live; and in all these things I will praise thee.

¹⁷Behold, I had great bitterness instead of peace,

but thou hast in love to my soul, saved me from the pit of corruption,

for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

¹⁸For the grave cannot praise thee,

death cannot celebrate thee;

they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth.

¹⁹The living, the living, he shall praise thee,

as I do this day;

the father to the children shall make known thy truth.

²⁰The LORD was ready to save me;

therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD.

²¹For Isaiah had said, "Let them take a lump of figs, and lay it for a plaster upon the boil, and he shall recover."

²²Hezekiah also had said, "What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the LORD?"

Envoys from Babylon

At that time Merodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah; for he had heard that he had been sick, and was recovered. ²And Hezekiah was glad of them, and showed them the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armor, and all that was found in his treasures; there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah showed him not.

³Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, "What said these men? And from whence came they unto thee?" And Hezekiah said, "They are come from a far country unto me, even from Babylon."

⁴Then said he, "What have they seen in thine house?" And Hezekiah answered, "All that is in mine house have they seen; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not showed them."

⁵Then said Isaiah to Hezekiah:

Hear the word of the LORD of hosts; ⁶behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store until this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left, saith the LORD. ⁷And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

⁸Then said Hezekiah to Isaiah, "Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken." He said moreover, "For there shall be peace and truth in my days."

Prepare the way of the LORD

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

²Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her,

that her warfare is accomplished,

that her iniquity is pardoned;

for she hath received of the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

ISAIAH 40 52

³The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, "Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." ⁴Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain; ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together," for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. ⁶The voice said, "Cry." And he said, "What shall I cry?" "All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; because the Spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it; surely the people is grass. ⁸The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand forever. 9O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. □He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young. 12Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance? ¹³Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counselor hath taught him? 14With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding? ¹⁵Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance; behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing. ¹⁶And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering. ¹⁷All nations before him are as nothing;

and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.

To whom will you compare God?

¹⁸To whom then will ye liken God?

Or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

¹⁹The workman melteth a graven image,

and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold,

and casteth silver chains.

²⁰He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot;

he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image,

that shall not be moved.

²¹Have ye not known?

Have ye not heard?

Hath it not been told you from the beginning?

Have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth,

and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers?

That stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain,

and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in;

²³That bringeth the princes to nothing;

he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity.

²⁴Yea, they shall not be planted;

yea, they shall not be sown;

yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth;

and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither,

and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble.

²⁵To whom then will ye liken me,

or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high,

and behold who hath created these things,

that bringeth out their host by number;

he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might,

for that he is strong in power;

not one faileth.

²⁷Why sayest thou, O Jacob,

and speakest, O Israel,

"My way is hid from the LORD,

and my judgment is passed over from my God?"

²⁸Hast thou not known?

Hast thou not heard,

that the everlasting God, the LORD,

the Creator of the ends of the earth,

fainteth not, neither is weary?

There is no searching of his understanding.

²⁹He giveth power to the faint;

and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

³⁰Even the youths shall faint and be weary,

and the young men shall utterly fall;

³¹but they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength;

they shall mount up with wings as eagles;

ISAIAH 41 54

they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

4 | Keep silence before me, O islands;

and let the people renew their strength;

let them come near; then let them speak;

let us come near together to judgment.

²Who raised up the righteous man from the east,

called him to his foot,

gave the nations before him,

and made him rule over kings?

He gave them as the dust to his sword,

and as driven stubble to his bow.

³He pursued them, and passed safely;

even by the way that he had not gone with his feet.

⁴Who hath wrought and done it,

calling the generations from the beginning?

I the LORD, the first,

and with the last; I am he.

⁵The isles saw it, and feared;

the ends of the earth were afraid, drew near, and came.

⁶They helped everyone his neighbor;

and everyone said to his brother, "Be of good courage."

⁷So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith,

and he that smootheth with the hammer him that smote the anvil, saying,

"It is ready for the soldering;"

and he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved.

Israel is God's servant

But, thou, Israel, art my servant,

Jacob whom I have chosen,

the seed of Abraham my friend.

9Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth,

and called thee from the chief men thereof,

and said unto thee, "Thou art my servant."

I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away.

¹⁰Fear thou not; for I am with thee;

be not dismayed; for I am thy God;

I will strengthen thee;

yea, I will help thee;

yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded;

they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish.

12Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them,

even them that contended with thee;

they that war against thee shall be as nothing,

and as a thing of naught.

13For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand,

saying unto thee, "Fear not; I will help thee."

¹⁴Fear not, thou worm Jacob,

```
and ye men of Israel;
I will help thee, saith the LORD,
    and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.
<sup>15</sup>Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth.
Thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small,
    and shalt make the hills as chaff.
<sup>16</sup>Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away,
    and the whirlwind shall scatter them;
and thou shalt rejoice in the LORD,
    and shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel.
<sup>17</sup>When the poor and needy seek water and there is none,
    and their tongue faileth for thirst,
I the LORD will hear them,
    I the God of Israel will not forsake them.
18I will open rivers in high places,
    and fountains in the midst of the valleys;
I will make the wilderness a pool of water,
    and the dry land springs of water.
19I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the shittah tree, and the myrtle, and the oil tree;
    I will set in the desert the fir tree, and the pine, and the box tree together;
<sup>20</sup>That they may see and know,
    and consider, and understand together,
that the hand of the LORD hath done this,
    and the Holy One of Israel hath created it.
<sup>21</sup>"Produce your cause," saith the LORD.
    "Bring forth your strong reasons," saith the King of Jacob.
<sup>22</sup>Let them bring them forth, and show us what shall happen;
    let them show the former things, what they be, that we may consider them,
and know the latter end of them;
    or declare us things for to come.
<sup>23</sup>Show the things that are to come hereafter,
    that we may know that ye are gods;
yea, do good or do evil,
    that we may be dismayed, and behold it together.
<sup>24</sup>Behold, ye are of nothing,
    and your work of naught;
    an abomination is he that chooseth you.
<sup>25</sup>I have raised up one from the north, and he shall come;
    from the rising of the sun shall he call upon my name;
and he shall come upon princes as upon mortar,
    and as the potter treadeth clay.
<sup>26</sup>Who hath declared from the beginning, that we may know;
    and beforetime, that we may say, "He is righteous?"
Yea, there is none that showeth,
    yea, there is none that declareth,
    yea, there is none that heareth your words.
<sup>27</sup>The first shall say to Zion, "Behold, behold them;"
    and I will give to Jerusalem one that bringeth good tidings.
```

ISAIAH 42 56

²⁸For I beheld, and there was no man; even among men, and there was no counselor, that, when I asked of them, could answer a word. ²⁹Behold, they are all vanity; their works are nothing; their molten images are wind and confusion. The LORD's servant Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my Spirit upon him; he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. ²He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. ³A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench. He shall bring forth judgment unto truth. ⁴He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth; and the isles shall wait for his law. ⁵Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out, he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein: 6"I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; 7to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house." 8"I am the LORD; that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. ⁹Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." ¹⁰Sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof. Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar doth inhabit; let the inhabitants of the rock sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains. ¹²Let them give glory unto the LORD,

and declare his praise in the islands.

¹³The LORD shall go forth as a mighty man,

he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war;

he shall cry, yea, roar;

he shall prevail against his enemies.

14I have long time holden my peace;

I have been still, and refrained myself;

now will I cry like a travailing woman;

I will destroy and devour at once.

15I will make waste mountains and hills,

and dry up all their herbs;

and I will make the rivers islands,

and I will dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not;

I will lead them in paths that they have not known;

I will make darkness light before them,

and crooked things straight.

These things will I do unto them,

and not forsake them.

¹⁷They shall be turned back, they shall be greatly ashamed, that trust in graven images, that say to the molten images, "Ye are our gods."

The servant will go to the deaf and blind

¹⁸Hear, ye deaf,

and look, ye blind, that ye may see.

¹⁹For I will send my servant unto you who are blind;

yea, a messenger to open the eyes of the blind,

and unstop the ears of the deaf;

and they shall be made perfect notwithstanding their blindness,

if they will hearken unto the messenger, the Lord's servant.

²⁰Thou art a people, seeing many things, but thou observest not;

opening the ears to hear, but thou hearest not.

²¹The Lord is not well pleased with such a people,

but for his righteousness' sake he will magnify the law and make it honorable.

²²Thou art a people robbed and spoiled;

thine enemies, all of them, have snared thee in holes,

and they have hid thee in prison houses.

They have taken thee for a prey,

and none delivereth for a spoil,

and none saith, "Restore."

²³Who among them will give ear unto thee,

or hearken and hear thee for the time to come?

²⁴And who gave Jacob for a spoil,

and Israel to the robbers?

Did not the LORD,

he against whom they have sinned?

For they would not walk in his ways,

neither were they obedient unto his law.

²⁵Therefore he hath poured upon them the fury of his anger,

and the strength of battle;

Who is blind, but my servant? Or deaf, as my messenger that I sent? Who is blind as he that is perfect, and blind as the Lord's servant?

The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honorable ISAIAH 43 58

and they have set them on fire round about, yet they know not, and it burned them, yet they laid it not to heart.

The LORD will redeem Israel

43 But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel,

"Fear not; for I have redeemed thee,

I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

²When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee;

and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee;

when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

³For I am the LORD thy God,

the Holy One of Israel, thy Savior;

I gave Egypt for thy ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba for thee.

⁴Since thou wast precious in my sight,

thou hast been honorable, and I have loved thee;

therefore will I give men for thee,

and people for thy life.

⁵Fear not;

for I am with thee;

I will bring thy seed from the east,

and gather thee from the west;

6I will say to the north, 'Give up;'

and to the south, 'Keep not back.'

Bring my sons from far,

and my daughters from the ends of the earth;

⁷Even everyone that is called by my name;

for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him;

yea, I have made him."

⁸Bring forth the blind people that have eyes,

and the deaf that have ears.

⁹Let all the nations be gathered together,

and let the people be assembled;

who among them can declare this,

and show us former things?

Let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified;

or let them hear, and say, "It is truth."

10"Ye are my witnesses," saith the LORD,

"and my servant whom I have chosen;

that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he;

before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

□I, even I, am the LORD;

and beside me there is no savior.

12I have declared, and have saved,

and I have showed, when there was no strange god among you;

therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God.

13Yea, before the day was I am he;

and there is none that can deliver out of my hand; I will work, and who shall let it?

The LORD will destroy Babylon

14Thus saith the LORD,

your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel,

"For your sake I have sent to Babylon,

and have brought down all their nobles,

and the Chaldeans, whose cry is in the ships.

15I am the LORD, your Holy One,

the Creator of Israel, your King.

¹⁶Thus saith the LORD, which maketh a way in the sea,

and a path in the mighty waters;

¹⁷which bringeth forth the chariot and horse,

the army and the power;

they shall lie down together, they shall not rise;

they are extinct, they are quenched as tow.

18"Remember ye not the former things,

neither consider the things of old.

19Behold, I will do a new thing;

now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it?

I will even make a way in the wilderness,

and rivers in the desert.

²⁰The beast of the field shall honor me,

the dragons and the owls;

because I give waters in the wilderness,

and rivers in the desert,

to give drink to my people,

my chosen.

²¹This people have I formed for myself;

they shall show forth my praise.

Israel is unfaithful

²²But thou hast not called upon me, O Jacob;

but thou hast been weary of me, O Israel.

²³Thou hast not brought me the small cattle of thy burnt offerings;

neither hast thou honored me with thy sacrifices.

I have not caused thee to serve with an offering,

nor wearied thee with incense.

²⁴Thou hast bought me no sweet cane with money,

neither hast thou filled me with the fat of thy sacrifices;

but thou hast made me to serve with thy sins,

thou hast wearied me with thine iniquities.

²⁵I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake,

and will not remember thy sins.

²⁶Put me in remembrance;

let us plead together;

declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.

²⁷Thy first father hath sinned,

and thy teachers have transgressed against me.

ISAIAH 44 60

²⁸Therefore I have profaned the princes of the sanctuary, and have given Jacob to the curse, and Israel to reproaches.

The LORD has chosen Israel

44

Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen; ²Thus saith the LORD that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee: Fear not, O Jacob, my servant;

Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen. ³For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground;

I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring;

⁴And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the watercourses.

as willows by the watercourses.

5One shall say, "I am the LORD's;"
and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob;
and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the LORD,
and surname himself by the name of Israel.

Only one God

Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his Redeemer the LORD of hosts:
I am the first, and I am the last; and besides me there is no God.
And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people?
And the things that are coming, and shall come, let them show unto them.
Fear ye not, neither be afraid; have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it?
Yea are even my witnesses. Is there a God besides me?
Yea, there is no God; I know not any.

The folly of idolatry

9They that make a graven image are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit; and they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed.

10Who hath formed a god, or molten a graven image that is profitable for nothing?

11Behold, all his fellows shall be ashamed; and the workmen, they are of men.

Let them all be gathered together, let them stand up; yet they shall fear, and they shall be ashamed together.

¹²The smith with the tongs both worketh in the coals, and fashioneth it with hammers, and worketh it with the strength of his arms; yea, he is hungry, and his strength faileth; he drinketh no water, and is faint. ¹³The carpenter stretcheth out his rule; he marketh it out with a line; he fitteth it with planes, and he marketh it out with the compass, and maketh it after the figure of a man; according to the beauty of a man; that it may remain in the house. ¹⁴He heweth him down cedars, and taketh the cypress and the oak, which he strengtheneth for himself among the trees of the forest; he planteth an ash, and the rain doth nourish it. 15Then shall it be for a man to burn; for he will take thereof, and warm himself; yea, he kindleth it, and baketh bread; yea, he maketh a god, and worshipeth it; he maketh it a graven image, and falleth down thereto. ¹⁶He burneth part thereof in the fire; with part thereof he eateth flesh; he roasteth roast, and is satisfied; yea, he warmeth himself, and saith, "Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire." ¹⁷And the residue thereof he maketh a god, even his graven image; he falleth down unto it, and worshipeth it, and prayeth unto it, and saith, "Deliver me; for thou art my god." ¹⁸They have not known nor understood; for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand. ¹⁹And none considereth in his heart, neither is there knowledge nor understanding to say, "I have burned part of it in the fire; yea, also I have baked bread upon the coals thereof; I have roasted flesh, and eaten it. And shall I make the residue thereof an abomination? Shall I fall down to the stock of a tree?" ²⁰He feedeth on ashes; a deceived heart hath turned him aside, that he cannot deliver his soul, nor say, "Is there not a lie in my right hand?" Israel will be redeemed ²¹Remember these, O Jacob and Israel, for thou art my servant; I have formed thee; thou art my servant; O Israel, thou shalt not be forgotten of me. ²²I have blotted out, as a thick cloud,

thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins.

ISAIAH 45 62

Return unto me, for I have redeemed thee.

²³Sing, O ye heavens; for the LORD hath done it;

shout, ye lower parts of the earth;

break forth into singing, ye mountains,

O forest, and every tree therein;

for the LORD hath redeemed Jacob,

and glorified himself in Israel.

²⁴Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer,

and he that formed thee from the womb,

I am the LORD that maketh all things;

that stretcheth forth the heavens alone;

that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself.

²⁵That frustrateth the tokens of the liars, and maketh diviners mad;

that turneth wise men backward, and maketh their knowledge foolish;

²⁶that confirmeth the word of his servant,

and performeth the counsel of his messengers;

that saith to Jerusalem, "Thou shalt be inhabited;"

and to the cities of Judah, "Ye shall be built,

and I will raise up the decayed places thereof."

²⁷That saith to the deep, "Be dry,"

and I will dry up thy rivers;

²⁸That saith of Cyrus, "He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure;" even saying to Jerusalem, "Thou shalt be built;" and to the temple, "Thy foundation shall be laid."

Cyrus

45 Thus saith the LORD to his anointed,

to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden,

to subdue nations before him;

and I will loose the loins of kings,

to open before him the two-leaved gates;

and the gates shall not be shut;

²I will go before thee,

and make the crooked places straight;

I will break in pieces the gates of brass,

and cut in sunder the bars of iron;

³And I will give thee the treasures of darkness,

and hidden riches of secret places,

that thou mayest know that I, the LORD,

which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

⁴For Jacob my servant's sake,

and Israel mine elect,

I have even called thee by thy name;

I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is none else,

there is no God besides me;

I girded thee,

though thou hast not known me;

⁶That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none besides me.

I am the LORD, and there is none else.

7I form the light, and create darkness;

I make peace, and create evil;

I the LORD do all these things.

⁸Drop down, ye heavens, from above,

and let the skies pour down righteousness;

let the earth open,

and let them bring forth salvation,

and let righteousness spring up together;

I the LORD have created it.

⁹Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker!

Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth.

Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, "What makest thou?"

Or thy work, "He hath no hands?"

10 Woe unto him that saith unto his father, "What begettest thou?"

Or to the woman, "What hast thou brought forth?"

¹¹Thus saith the LORD,

the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker,

"Ask me of things to come concerning my sons,

and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.

12I have made the earth,

and created man upon it;

I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens,

and all their hosts have I commanded.

¹³I have raised him up in righteousness,

and I will direct all his ways;

he shall build my city,

and he shall let go my captives,

not for price nor reward," saith the LORD of hosts.

Israel shall be saved in the LORD

¹⁴Thus saith the LORD: The labor of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature,

shall come over unto thee,

and they shall be thine;

they shall come after thee;

in chains they shall come over,

and they shall fall down unto thee,

they shall make supplication unto thee, saying,

"Surely God is in thee; and there is none else,

there is no God."

15Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself,

O God of Israel, the Savior.

¹⁶They shall be ashamed, and also confounded, all of them;

they shall go to confusion together, that are makers of idols.

¹⁷But Israel shall be saved in the LORD with an everlasting salvation;

ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end.

ISAIAH 46 64

¹⁸For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens;

God himself that formed the earth and made it;

he hath established it, he created it not in vain,

he formed it to be inhabited:

I am the LORD,

and there is none else.

19I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth;

I said not unto the seed of Jacob, "Seek ye me in vain."

I the LORD speak righteousness,

I declare things that are right.

²⁰Assemble yourselves and come;

draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations;

they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image,

and pray unto a god that cannot save.

²¹Tell ye, and bring them near;

yea, let them take counsel together;

who hath declared this from ancient time?

Who hath told it from that time?

Have not I the LORD?

And there is no god else beside me;

a just God, and a Savior;

there is none beside me.

²²Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth;

for I am God, and there is none else.

²³I have sworn by myself,

the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return,

"That unto me every knee shall bow,

every tongue shall swear."

²⁴Surely shall one say,

"In the LORD have I righteousness and strength."

Even to him shall men come;

and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.

²⁵In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.

Babylon's idols

△ Bel boweth down, Nebo stoopeth;

their idols were upon the beasts and upon the cattle.

Your carriages were heavy laden;

they are a burden to the weary beast.

²They stoop, they bow down together;

they could not deliver the burden,

but themselves are gone into captivity.

³Hearken unto me, O house of Jacob,

and all the remnant of the house of Israel,

which are borne by me from the belly,

which are carried from the womb;

⁴And even to your old age I am he;

and even to hoar hairs will I carry you;

I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.

⁵To whom will ye liken me, and make me equal, and compare me, that we may be like?

⁶They lavish gold out of the bag, and weigh silver in the balance,

and hire a goldsmith and he maketh it a god;

they fall down, yea, they worship.

⁷They bear him upon the shoulder, they carry him, and set him in his place, and he standeth; from his place shall he not remove;

yea, one shall cry unto him, yet can he not answer, nor save him out of his trouble.

⁸Remember this, and show yourselves men;

bring it again to mind, O ye transgressors.

⁹Remember the former things of old;

for I am God, and there is none else;

I am God, and there is none like me.

¹⁰Declaring the end from the beginning,

and from ancient times the things that are not yet done,

saying, "My counsel shall stand,

and I will do all my pleasure."

Calling a ravenous bird from the east,

the man that executeth my counsel from a far country;

yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass;

I have purposed it, I will also do it.

¹²Hearken unto me, ye stouthearted,

that are far from righteousness;

¹³I bring near my righteousness;

it shall not be far off,

and my salvation shall not tarry;

and I will place salvation in Zion

for Israel my glory.

The fall of Babylon

47 Come down, and sit in the dust,
O virgin daughter of Babylon,

sit on the ground; there is no throne,

O daughter of the Chaldeans;

for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate.

²Take the millstones, and grind meal;

uncover thy locks,

make bare the leg, uncover the thigh,

pass over the rivers.

³Thy nakedness shall be uncovered,

yea, thy shame shall be seen;

I will take vengeance,

and I will not meet thee as a man.

⁴As for our Redeemer, the LORD of hosts is his name, the Holy One of Israel. ⁵Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans; for thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms. 6I was wroth with my people, I have polluted mine inheritance, and given them into thine hand; thou didst show them no mercy; upon the ancient hast thou very heavily laid thy yoke. 7And thou saidst, "I shall be a lady forever;" so that thou didst not lay these things to thy heart, neither didst remember the latter end of it. 8Therefore hear now this, thou that art given to pleasures, that dwellest carelessly, that sayest in thine heart, "I am, and none else besides me; I shall not sit as a widow, neither shall I know the loss of children." ⁹But these two things shall come to thee in a moment in one day, the loss of children, and widowhood; they shall come upon thee in their perfection for the multitude of thy sorceries, and for the great abundance of thine enchantments. ¹⁰For thou hast trusted in thy wickedness; thou hast said, "None seeth me." Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, "I am, and none else besides me." Therefore shall evil come upon thee; thou shalt now know from whence it riseth; and mischief shall fall upon thee; thou shalt not be able to put it off; and desolation shall come upon thee suddenly, which thou shalt not know. ¹²Stand now with thine enchantments, and with the multitude of thy sorceries, wherein thou hast labored from thy youth. If so be thou shalt be able to profit, if so be thou mayest prevail. ¹³Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee. ¹⁴Behold, they shall be as stubble; the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame; there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it. ¹⁵Thus shall they be unto thee with whom thou hast labored,

even thy merchants, from thy youth;

they shall wander everyone to his quarter; none shall save thee.

Israel is stubborn

Hear ye this, O house of Jacob,
which are called by the name of Israel,
and are come forth out of the waters of Judah,
which swear by the name of the LORD,
and make mention of the God of Israel,
but not in truth, nor in righteousness.

For they call themselves of the holy city,

²For they call themselves of the holy city, and stay themselves upon the God of Israel; the LORD of hosts is his name.

³I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I showed them; I did them suddenly, and they came to pass.

⁴Because I knew that thou art obstinate, and thy neck is an iron sinew, and thy brow brass;

⁵I have even from the beginning declared it to thee; before it came to pass I showed it thee; lest thou shouldest say, "Mine idol hath done them;

and my graven image, and my molten image, hath commanded them."

6Thou hast heard, see all this; and will not ye declare it?

I have showed thee new things from this time, even hidden things, and thou didst not know them.

⁷They are created now, and not from the beginning; even before the day when thou heardest them not; lest thou shouldest say, "Behold, I knew them."

8Yea, thou heardest not; yea, thou knewest not; yea, from that time that thine ear was not opened; for I knew that thou wouldest deal year treacherously.

for I knew that thou wouldest deal very treacherously, and wast called a transgressor from the womb.

⁹For my name's sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off.

In Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver;
I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

If For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it;
for how should my name be polluted?

And I will not give my glory unto another.

¹²Hearken unto me, O Jacob, and Israel, my called; I am he; I am the first, I also am the last.

¹³Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens; when I call unto them, they stand up together. ISAIAH 49 68

14All ye, assemble yourselves, and hear; which among them hath declared these things?

The LORD hath loved him;

he will do his pleasure on Babylon, and his arm shall be on the Chaldeans.

15I, even I, have spoken;

yea, I have called him;

I have brought him,

and he shall make his way prosperous.

¹⁶Come ye near unto me, hear ye this:

I have not spoken in secret from the beginning;

from the time that it was, there am I;

and now the LORD God, and his Spirit, hath sent me.

¹⁷Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer,

the Holy One of Israel:

I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

¹⁸Oh that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments!

Then had thy peace been as a river,

and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea;

19Thy seed also had been as the sand,

and the offspring of thy bowels like the gravel thereof;

his name should not have been cut off

nor destroyed from before me.

²⁰Go ye forth of Babylon,

flee ye from the Chaldeans.

With a voice of singing declare ye,

tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth;

say ye, "The LORD hath redeemed his servant Jacob."

²¹And they thirsted not when he led them through the deserts;

he caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them;

he clave the rock also, and the waters gushed out.

²²There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.

The servant of the LORD

49 Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far.

The LORD hath called me from the womb;

from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.

²And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword;

in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me,

and made me a polished shaft;

in his quiver hath he hid me;

³And said unto me, "Thou art my servant, O Israel,

in whom I will be glorified."

⁴Then I said, "I have labored in vain,

I have spent my strength for naught, and in vain;

yet surely my judgment is with the LORD,

and my work with my God."

 ${}^5\mbox{And}$ now, saith the LORD that formed me from the womb

to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him,

"Though Israel be not gathered,

yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD,

and my God shall be my strength."

6And he said,

"It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob,

and to restore the preserved of Israel; I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles,

that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth."

⁷Thus saith the LORD,

the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One,

to him whom man despiseth,

to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers,

"Kings shall see and arise,

princes also shall worship,

because of the LORD that is faithful,

and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee."

The restoration of Israel

8Thus saith the LORD,

"In an acceptable time have I heard thee,

and in a day of salvation have I helped thee;

and I will preserve thee,

and give thee for a covenant of the people,

to establish the earth,

to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;

That thou mayest say to the prisoners, 'Go forth.'

To them that are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.'

They shall feed in the ways,

and their pastures shall be in all high places.

¹⁰They shall not hunger nor thirst;

neither shall the heat nor sun smite them;

for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them,

even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

□And I will make all my mountains a way,

and my highways shall be exalted.

¹²Behold, these shall come from far;

and, lo, these from the north and from the west;

and these from the land of Sinim.

¹³Sing, O heavens;

and be joyful, O earth;

and break forth into singing, O mountains;

for the LORD hath comforted his people,

and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

¹⁴But Zion said, "The LORD hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me."

ISAIAH 49 70

¹⁵Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. ¹⁶Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. ¹⁷Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee. ¹⁸Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold; all these gather themselves together, and come to thee. As I live, saith the LORD, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them on thee, as a bride doeth. ¹⁹For thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of thy destruction, shall even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away. ²⁰The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other, shall say again in thine ears, "The place is too strait for me; give place to me that I may dwell." ²¹Then shalt thou say in thine heart, "Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? And who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where had they been?" ²²Thus saith the LORD God: "Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people; and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. ²³And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers; they shall bow down to thee with their faces toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD; for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me." ²⁴Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered? ²⁵But thus saith the LORD, "Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered; for the mighty God shall deliver his covenant people." For thus saith the Lord, "I will contend with them that contend with thee, and I will save thy children. ²⁶And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine; and all flesh shall know that I the LORD am thy Savior and thy Redeemer,

the Mighty One of Jacob."

Israel's sin

50 Yea, for thus saith the Lord, "Have I put thee away,

or have I cast thee off forever?"

For thus saith the LORD, "Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement?

To whom have I put thee away,

or to which of my creditors have I sold you"

Yea, to whom have I sold you?

Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves,

and for your transgressions is your mother put away.

²Wherefore, when I came there was no man.

When I called there was none to answer.

O house of Israel, is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem?

Or have I no power to deliver?

Behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea,

I make their rivers a wilderness;

and their fish to stink, because the waters are dried up,

and they die because of thirst.

³I clothe the heavens with blackness,

and I make sackcloth their covering.

The servant

⁴The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned,

that I should know how to speak a word in season unto thee,

O house of Israel, when ye are weary.

He waketh morning by morning,

he waketh mine ear to hear as the learned.

⁵The Lord GOD hath <u>appointed</u> mine ears,

and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.

6I gave my back to the smiters,

and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair.

I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

⁷For the Lord GOD will help me;

therefore shall I not be confounded.

Therefore have I set my face like a flint,

and I know that I shall not be ashamed.

8And the LORD is near

and he justifieth me.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand together.

Who is mine adversary?

Let him come near me,

and I will smite him with the strength of my mouth.

⁹For the Lord GOD will help me.

And all they which shall condemn me,

behold all they shall wax old as a garment,

and the moth shall eat them up.

¹⁰Who is among you that feareth the LORD,

that obeyeth the voice of his servant,

that walketh in darkness,

and hath no light?

opened

ISAIAH 5 I 72

Let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

Behold all ye that kindleth fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks; walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks which ye have kindled. This shall ye have of mine hand, ye shall lie down in sorrow.

The LORD shall comfort Zion

5 | Hearken unto me, ye that follow after righteousness; ye that seek the LORD.

Look unto the rock from whence ye were hewn, and to the hole of the pit from whence ye are digged.

²Look unto Abraham your father,

and unto Sarah that bare you;

for I called him alone,

and blessed him, and increased him.

³For the LORD shall comfort Zion;

he will comfort all her waste places;

and he will make her wilderness like Eden,

and her desert like the garden of the LORD.

Joy and gladness shall be found therein,

thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

⁴Hearken unto me, my people;

and give ear unto me, O my nation;

for a law shall proceed from me,

and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people.

⁵My righteousness is near;

my salvation is gone forth,

and mine arms shall judge the people;

the isles shall wait upon me,

and on mine arm shall they trust.

6Lift up your eyes to the heavens,

and look upon the earth beneath;

for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke,

and the earth shall wax old like a garment,

and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner.

But my salvation shall be forever,

and my righteousness shall not be abolished.

⁷Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness,

the people in whose heart I have written my law;

fear ye not the reproach of men,

neither be ye afraid of their revilings.

8For the moth shall eat them up like a garment,

and the worm shall eat them like wool;

but my righteousness shall be forever,

and my salvation from generation to generation.

is

⁹Awake, awake! Put on strength, O arm of the LORD.

Awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old.

Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab,

and wounded the dragon?

¹⁰Art thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep

that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?

Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return,

and come with singing unto Zion;

and everlasting joy and holiness shall be upon their heads;

they shall obtain gladness and joy;

and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

¹²I am he, yea, I am he that comforteth you.

Behold, who art thou,

that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die,

and of the son of man which shall be made as grass?

¹³And forgettest the LORD thy Maker,

that hath stretched forth the heavens,

and laid the foundations of the earth;

and hast feared continually every day

because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he were ready to destroy?

And where is the fury of the oppressor?

¹⁴The captive exile hasteneth that he may be loosed,

and that he should not die in the pit,

nor that his bread should fail.

15But I am the LORD thy God,

that divided the sea, whose waves roared;

The LORD of hosts is his name.

¹⁶And I have put my words in thy mouth,

and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand,

that I may plant the heavens,

and lay the foundations of the earth,

and say unto Zion, "Behold, thou art my people."

The cup of the LORD's fury

¹⁷Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem,

which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury;

thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

¹⁸And there is none to guide her among all the sons whom she hath brought forth;

neither is there any that taketh her by the hand of all the sons that she hath brought up.

¹⁹These two sons are come unto thee;

they shall be sorry for thee,

thy desolation, and destruction,

and the famine, and the sword.

And by whom shall I comfort thee?

²⁰Thy sons have fainted save these two.

They lie at the head of all the streets,

as a wild bull in a net.

ISAIAH 52 74

They are full of the fury of the LORD, the rebuke of thy God.

²¹Therefore hear now this, thou afflicted,

and drunken, but not with wine;

²²thus saith thy Lord the LORD,

and thy God that pleadeth the cause of his people,

"Behold, I have taken out of thine hand the cup of trembling,

even the dregs of the cup of my fury; thou shalt no more drink it again;

²³But I will put it into the hand of them that afflict thee;

which have said to thy soul, "Bow down, that we may go over;"

and thou hast laid thy body as the ground,

and as the street, to them that went over.

Deliverance for Zion

5) Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion!

Put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city;

for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

²Shake thyself from the dust; arise;

and sit down, O Jerusalem.

Loose thyself from the bands of thy neck,

O captive daughter of Zion.

³For thus saith the LORD, "Ye have sold yourselves for naught;

and ye shall be redeemed without money."

⁴For thus saith the Lord GOD,

"My people went down aforetime into Egypt to sojourn there;

and the Assyrian oppressed them without cause."

⁵"Now therefore, what have I here," saith the LORD, "that my people is taken away for naught?

They that rule over them make them to howl," saith the LORD;

"and my name continually every day is blasphemed.

⁶Therefore, my people shall know my name;

yea, in that day they shall know that I am he that doth speak;

behold, it is I.

And then shall they say, 'How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings unto them,

that publisheth peace;

that bringeth good tidings unto them of good,

that publisheth salvation;

that saith unto Zion, "Thy God reigneth!"

⁸Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice;

with the voice together shall they sing;

for they shall see eye to eye,

when the LORD shall bring again Zion.

⁹Break forth into joy,

sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem;

for the LORD hath comforted his people,

he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations;

and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

sprinkle

Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD. ¹²For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight; for the LORD will go before you; and the God of Israel will be your rearward. The end-time servant ¹³Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. ¹⁴As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men. 15So shall he gather many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him; for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider. Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? ²For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground; he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. ³He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. 6All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. 8He was taken from prison and from judgment; and who shall declare his generation? For he was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of my people was he stricken. 9And he made his grave with the wicked,

and with the rich in his death;

53

because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief; when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin,

he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days,

and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

He shall see of the travail of his soul,

and shall be satisfied.

By his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many;

for he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great,

and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;

because he hath poured out his soul unto death;

and he was numbered with the transgressors;

and he bare the sin of many,

and made intercession for the transgressors.

The future glory of Zion

54 "Sing, O barren,

thou that didst not bear;

break forth into singing, and cry aloud,

thou that didst not travail with child;

for more are the children of the desolate

than the children of the married wife," saith the LORD.

²Enlarge the place of thy tent,

and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations;

spare not,

lengthen thy cords,

and strengthen thy stakes;

³For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left;

and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles,

and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

⁴Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed;

neither be thou confounded, for thou shalt not be put to shame;

for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth,

and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood anymore.

⁵For thy Maker is thine husband,

The LORD of hosts is his name;

and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel;

the God of the whole earth shall he be called.

6"For the LORD hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit,

and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused," saith thy God.

7"For a small moment have I forsaken thee;

but with great mercies will I gather thee.

8In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment;

but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee,"

saith the LORD thy Redeemer.

9"For this is as the waters of Noah unto me;

for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth;

so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

10 For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed;
but my kindness shall not depart from thee,

neither shall the covenant of my people be removed," saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

"O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colors, and lay thy foundations with sapphires.

12And I will make thy windows of agates,

and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones.

¹³And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD;

and great shall be the peace of thy children.

¹⁴In righteousness shalt thou be established;

thou shalt be far from oppression;

for thou shalt not fear;

and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.

¹⁵Behold, they shall surely gather together against thee, but not by me; whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake.

¹⁶Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work;

and I have created the waster to destroy.

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper;

and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn.

This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD,

and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Invitation to the hungry and thirsty

5 5 Ho, everyone that thirsteth,

come ye to the waters,

and he that hath no money;

come ye, buy, and eat;

yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

²Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread?

And your labor for that which satisfieth not?

Hearken diligently unto me,

and eat ye that which is good,

and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

³Incline your ear, and come unto me;

hear, and your soul shall live;

and I will make an everlasting covenant with you,

even the sure mercies of David.

⁴Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people,

a leader and commander to the people.

⁵Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not,

and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee,

because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel;

for he hath glorified thee.

ISAIAH 56 78

⁶Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near;

7Let the wicked forsake his way,

and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

8"For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

neither are your ways my ways," saith the LORD.

9"For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways,

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven,

and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth,

and maketh it bring forth and bud,

that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater;

USo shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth;

it shall not return unto me void,

but it shall accomplish that which I please,

and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

¹²For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace;

the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing,

and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree,

and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree;

and it shall be to the LORD for a name,

for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Salvation for outsiders

Thus saith the LORD,

"Keep ye judgment,

and do justice;

for my salvation is near to come,

and my righteousness to be revealed.

²Blessed is the man that doeth this,

and the son of man that layeth hold on it;

that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it,

and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

³Neither let the son of the stranger, that hath joined himself to the LORD, speak, saying,

"The LORD hath utterly separated me from his people."

Neither let the eunuch say,

"Behold, I am a dry tree."

⁴For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that keep my Sabbaths,

and choose the things that please me,

and take hold of my covenant;

5"Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls

a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters;

I will give them an everlasting name,

that shall not be cut off.

⁶Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD,

to be his servants, everyone that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it,

and taketh hold of my covenant;

7even them will I bring to my holy mountain,

and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar;

for mine house shall be called a house of prayer for all people.

8The Lord GOD which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith,

"Yet will I gather others to him, besides those that are gathered unto him."

Israel's watchmen

9All ye beasts of the field, come to devour,

yea, all ye beasts in the forest.

¹⁰His watchmen are blind;

they are all ignorant,

they are all dumb dogs,

they cannot bark;

sleeping, lying down,

loving to slumber.

11Yea, they are greedy dogs,

which can never have enough.

And they are shepherds that cannot understand;

they all look to their own way,

everyone for his gain, from his quarter.

12"Come ye," say they, "I will fetch wine,

and we will fill ourselves with strong drink;

and tomorrow shall be as this day,

and much more abundant."

The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart;

and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.

²He shall enter into peace; they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness.

Condemnation of idolatry

³But draw near hither, ye sons of the sorceress,

the seed of the adulterer and the whore.

⁴Against whom do ye sport yourselves?

Against whom make ye a wide mouth, and draw out the tongue?

Are ye not children of transgression,

a seed of falsehood?

⁵Inflaming yourselves with idols under every green tree,

slaying the children in the valleys under the clefts of the rocks?

⁶Among the smooth stones of the stream is thy portion;

they, they are thy lot;

even to them hast thou poured a drink offering,

thou hast offered a meat offering.

Should I receive comfort in these?

ISAIAH 57 80

⁷Upon a lofty and high mountain hast thou set thy bed; even thither wentest thou up to offer sacrifice. ⁸Behind the doors also and the posts hast thou set up thy remembrance; for thou hast discovered thyself to another than me, and art gone up; thou hast enlarged thy bed, and made thee a covenant with them; thou lovedst their bed where thou sawest it. 9And thou wentest to the king with ointment, and didst increase thy perfumes, and didst send thy messengers far off, and didst debase thyself even unto hell. ¹⁰Thou art wearied in the greatness of thy way; yet saidst thou not, "There is no hope." Thou hast found the life of thine hand; therefore thou wast not grieved. And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied, and hast not remembered me. nor laid it to thy heart? Have not I held my peace even of old, and thou fearest me not? ¹²I will declare thy righteousness, and thy works; for they shall not profit thee. ¹³When thou criest, let thy companies deliver thee; but the wind shall carry them all away; vanity shall take them; but he that putteth his trust in me shall possess the land, and shall inherit my holy mountain; ¹⁴And shall say, "Cast ye up, cast ye up, prepare the way, take up the stumbling block out of the way of my people." ¹⁵For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. ¹⁶For I will not contend forever, neither will I be always wroth; for the spirit should fail before me, and the souls which I have made. ¹⁷For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth, and smote him; I hid me and was wroth, and he went on frowardly in the way of his heart. ¹⁸I have seen his ways, and will heal him; I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners. ¹⁹I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near", saith the LORD, "and I will heal him." ²⁰But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest. whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

² "There is no peace," saith my God, "to the wicked."

True fasts and sabbaths

lift up thy voice like a trumpet,
and show my people their transgression,
and the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet they seek me daily,
and delight to know my ways,
as a nation that did righteousness,
and forsook not the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me the ordinances of justice;
they take delight in approaching to God.

"Wherefore have we fasted," say they,
"and thou seest not?

Wherefore have we afflicted our soul,

and thou takest no knowledge?"

Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labors.

Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness; ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high.

Is it such a fast that I have chosen?

A day for a man to afflict his soul?

Is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?

6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen?

To loose the bands of wickedness,
to undo the heavy burdens,
and to let the oppressed go free,
and that ye break every yoke?

7 Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry,
and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house?

When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him;
and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning,
and thine health shall spring forth speedily;
and thy righteousness shall go before thee;
the glory of the LORD shall be thy rearward.

9 Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer;
thou shalt cry, and he shall say, "Here I am."

If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; and if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; ISAIAH 59 82

then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday; □and the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones; and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. ¹²And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, "The repairer of the breach," "The restorer of paths to dwell in." 13"If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; ¹⁴Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father;" for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. Sin separates us from God Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear; ²But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. ³For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness. ⁴None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth; they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. ⁵They hatch cockatrice eggs, and weave the spider's web; he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper. ⁶Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works; their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands. 7Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood;

their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. ⁸The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings; they have made them crooked paths; whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace. Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us; we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness. ¹⁰We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes; we stumble at noonday as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men. □We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves; we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us. ¹²For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them; ¹³In transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. ¹⁴And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. 15Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey. And the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment. ¹⁶And he saw that there was no man. and wondered that there was no intercessor; therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him. ¹⁷For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak. ¹⁸According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay, fury to his adversaries, recompense to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompense. ¹⁹So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood,

the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

ISAIAH 60 84

The covenant of the Redeemer

²⁰"And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob," saith the LORD.

²¹ "As for me, this is my covenant with them," saith the LORD. "My Spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed," saith the LORD, "from henceforth and forever."

Future glory of Zion

Arise, shine; for thy light is come,

and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

²For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth,

and gross darkness the people;

but the LORD shall arise upon thee,

and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

³And the Gentiles shall come to thy light,

and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

⁴Lift up thine eyes round about, and see;

all they gather themselves together, they come to thee;

thy sons shall come from far,

and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.

⁵Then thou shalt see, and flow together,

and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged;

because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee,

the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

⁶The multitude of camels shall cover thee,

the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;

all they from Sheba shall come;

they shall bring gold and incense;

and they shall show forth the praises of the LORD.

7All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee,

the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee;

they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar,

and I will glorify the house of my glory.

8Who are these that fly as a cloud,

and as the doves to their windows?

⁹Surely the isles shall wait for me,

and the ships of Tarshish first,

to bring thy sons from far,

their silver and their gold with them,

unto the name of the LORD thy God,

and to the Holy One of Israel,

because he hath glorified thee.

¹⁰And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls,

and their kings shall minister unto thee;

for in my wrath I smote thee,

but in my favor have I had mercy on thee.

Therefore thy gates shall be open continually;

they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought. ¹²For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted. ¹³The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious. ¹⁴The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, "The city of the LORD," "The Zion of the Holy One of Israel." 15Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through thee, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations. ¹⁶Thou shalt also suck the milk of the Gentiles, and shalt suck the breast of kings; and thou shalt know that I the LORD am thy Savior and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob. ¹⁷For brass I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron; I will also make thy officers peace, and thine exactors righteousness. ¹⁸Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise. 19The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee; but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory. ²⁰Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself; for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended. ²¹Thy people also shall be all righteous; they shall inherit the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified. ²²A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation;

ISAIAH 61 86

I the LORD will hasten it in my time.

The acceptable year of the LORD

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me;

because the LORD hath anointed me

to preach good tidings unto the meek;

he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives,

and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

²To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD,

and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

³To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion;

to give unto them beauty for ashes,

the oil of joy for mourning,

the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;

that they might be called trees of righteousness,

the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

⁴And they shall build the old wastes,

they shall raise up the former desolations,

and they shall repair the waste cities,

the desolations of many generations.

⁵And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks,

and the sons of the alien shall be your ploughmen and your vinedressers.

⁶But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD;

men shall call you the Ministers of our God;

ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles,

and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

⁷For your shame ye shall have double;

and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion;

therefore in their land they shall possess the double;

everlasting joy shall be unto them.

⁸For I the LORD love judgment,

I hate robbery for burnt offering;

and I will direct their work in truth,

and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles,

and their offspring among the people;

all that see them shall acknowledge them,

that they are the seed which the LORD hath blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,

my soul shall be joyful in my God;

for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation,

he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments,

and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

11 For as the earth bringeth forth her bud,

and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth;

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise

to spring forth before all the nations.

For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. ²And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory; and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. ³Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. ⁴Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate; but thou shall be called Delightful, and thy land Union; for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy God marry thee; and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee. 6I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night; ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, 7And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. ⁸The LORD hath sworn by his right hand, and by the arm of his strength, "Surely I will no more give thy corn to be meat for thine enemies; and the sons of the stranger shall not drink thy wine, for the which thou hast labored; but they that have gathered it shall eat it, and praise the LORD; and they that have brought it together shall drink it in the courts of my holiness." ¹⁰Go through, go through the gates! Prepare ye the way of the people! Cast up, cast up the highway! Gather out the stones! Lift up a standard for the people! □Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, "Say ye to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, thy salvation cometh;' behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him." ¹²And they shall call them, "The holy people," "The redeemed of the LORD;" and thou shalt be called, "Sought out," "A city not forsaken."

Judgement on the nations

Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? This that is glorious in his apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength? "I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save."

> ²Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? 3"I have trodden the winepress alone;

and of the people there was none with me;

for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury;

and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments,

and I will stain all my raiment.

⁴For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

⁵And I looked, and there was none to help;

and I wondered that there was none to uphold;

therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

6And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth."

God's mercy

⁷I will mention the loving-kindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his loving-kindnesses. ⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people, children that will not lie." So he was their Savior. ⁹In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them.

In his love and in his pity he redeemed them;

and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.

¹⁰But they rebelled,

and vexed his Holy Spirit;

therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.

Then he remembered the days of old,

Moses, and his people, saying,

"Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock?" Where is he that put his Holy Spirit within him?

¹²That led them by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm,

dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name? ¹³That led them through the deep, as a horse in the wilderness, that they should not stumble? ¹⁴As a beast goeth down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD caused him to rest; so didst thou lead thy people, to make thyself a glorious name. A prayer for action 15Look down from heaven, and behold from the habitation of thy holiness and of thy glory; where is thy zeal and thy strength, the sounding of thy bowels and of thy mercies toward me? Are they restrained? ¹⁶Doubtless thou art our Father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not; thou, O LORD, art our Father, our Redeemer; thy name is from everlasting. ¹⁷O LORD, why hast thou suffered us to err from thy ways, and to harden our heart from thy fear? Return for thy servants' sake, the tribes of thine inheritance. ¹⁸The people of thy holiness have possessed it but a little while; our adversaries have trodden down thy sanctuary. 19We are thine: thou never barest rule over them; they were not called by thy name. Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down at thy presence, ²As when the melting fire burneth the fire causeth the waters to boil, to make thy name known to thine adversaries, that the nations may tremble at thy presence! ³When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains flowed down at thy presence. ⁴For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, besides thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him. ⁵Thou meetest him that worketh righteousness, and rejoiceth him that remembereth thee in thy ways; in righteousness there is continuance, and such shall be saved. 6But we have sinned; we are all as an unclean thing,

and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;

and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

and we all do fade as a leaf;

Behold, thou are wroth, for we have sinned, in those is continuance, and we shall be saved ISAIAH 65 90

⁷And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee;

for thou hast hid thy face from us,

and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

But now, O LORD, thou art our Father.

We are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

⁹Be not wroth very sore, O LORD,

neither remember iniquity forever;

behold, see, we beseech thee,

we are all thy people.

¹⁰Thy holy cities are a wilderness,

Zion is a wilderness,

Jerusalem a desolation.

Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee,

is burned up with fire;

and all our pleasant things are laid waste.

12Wilt thou refrain thyself for these things, O LORD?

Wilt thou hold thy peace, and afflict us very sore?

Judgements and promises

🗸 🗸 I am found of them who seek after me,

I give unto all them that ask of me;

I am not found of them that sought me not,

or that inquireth not after me.

I said unto my servant, "Behold me, look upon me;

I will send you unto a nation that is not called after my name,

²for I have spread out my hands all the day

to a people who walketh not in my ways,

and their works are evil and not good,

and they walk after their own thoughts.

³A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face;

that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick;

⁴Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments;

which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable beasts,

and pollute their vessels;

⁵Which say, 'Stand by thyself, come not near to me;

for I am holier than thou.'

These are a smoke in my nose,

a fire that burneth all the day.

⁶Behold, it is written before me;

"I will not keep silence, but will recompense,

even recompense into their bosom,

⁷Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together," saith the LORD,

"which have burned incense upon the mountains,

and blasphemed me upon the hills;

therefore will I measure their former work into their bosom."

8Thus saith the LORD, "As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, "Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it;"

I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not

rebellious people / in a way that was not good

so will I do for my servants' sake,

that I may not destroy them all.

9And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob,

and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains;

and mine elect shall inherit it,

and my servants shall dwell there.

¹⁰And Sharon shall be a fold of flocks,

and the valley of Achor a place for the herds to lie down in, for my people that have sought me.

□But ye are they that forsake the LORD,

that forget my holy mountain,

that prepare a table for that troop,

and that furnish the drink offering unto that number.

¹²Therefore will I number you to the sword,

and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter;

because when I called, ye did not answer;

when I spake, ye did not hear;

but did evil before mine eyes,

and did choose that wherein I delighted not."

¹³Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, "Behold, my servants shall eat,

but ye shall be hungry;

behold, my servants shall drink,

but ye shall be thirsty;

behold, my servants shall rejoice,

but ye shall be ashamed.

¹⁴Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart,

but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart,

and shall howl for vexation of spirit.

¹⁵And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen;

for the Lord GOD shall slay thee,

and call his servants by another name;

¹⁶That he who blesseth himself in the earth

shall bless himself in the God of truth;

and he that sweareth in the earth

shall swear by the God of truth;

because the former troubles are forgotten,

and because they are hid from mine eyes.

New heavens and a new earth

¹⁷For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth;

and the former shall not be remembered,

nor come into mind.

¹⁸But be ye glad and rejoice forever in that which I create;

for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

¹⁹And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people;

and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her,

nor the voice of crying.

²⁰In those days there shall be no more thence an infant of days,

nor an old man that hath not filled his days;

for the child shall not die, but shall live to be an hundred years old; but the sinner, living to be an hundred years old, shall be accursed. ²¹And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. ²²They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat; for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. ²⁴And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. ²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock; and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain," saith the LORD. Thus saith the LORD, "The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house that ye build unto me; and where is the place of my rest? ²For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been." Saith the LORD, "But to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word. ³He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations. ⁴I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them. Because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear; but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not." ⁵Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word, "Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, 'Let the LORD be glorified!' but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed. ⁶A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the LORD that rendereth recompense to his enemies.

Rejoice with Jerusalem

7"Before she travailed, she brought forth;

before her pain came, she was delivered of a man-child.

8Who hath heard such a thing?

Who hath seen such things?

Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day?

Or shall a nation be born at once?

For as soon as Zion travailed,

she brought forth her children.

⁹Shall I bring to the birth,

and not cause to bring forth?" saith the LORD.

"Shall I cause to bring forth,

and shut the womb?" saith thy God.

¹⁰Rejoice ye with Jerusalem,

and be glad with her, all ye that love her;

rejoice for joy with her,

all ye that mourn for her;

That ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations; that ye may milk out, and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.

¹²For thus saith the LORD, "Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river,

and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream;

then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides,

and be dandled upon her knees.

¹³As one whom his mother comforteth,

so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem."

Judgement against the wicked

¹⁴And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice,

and your bones shall flourish like an herb;

and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants,

and his indignation toward his enemies.

¹⁵For, behold, the LORD will come with fire,

and with his chariots like a whirlwind,

to render his anger with fury,

and his rebuke with flames of fire.

¹⁶For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh;

and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

¹⁷"They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together," saith the LORD.

¹⁸"For I know their works and their thoughts; it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

¹⁹And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles. ²⁰And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of

ISAIAH 66 94

Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD. ²¹And I will also take of them for priests and for Levites," saith the LORD.

²²"For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me," saith the LORD, "so shall your seed and your name remain. ²³And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me," saith the LORD. ²⁴"And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me; for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh."

95 JEREMIAH I

JEREMIAH

The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests that were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin; 2to whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. 3It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

Jeremiah's commission

⁴Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

⁵Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

⁶Then said I, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak; for I am a child." ⁷But the LORD said unto me:

Say not, 'I am a child;' for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. ⁸Be not afraid of their faces; for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

⁹Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me:

Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. ¹⁰See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

"Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, "Jeremiah, what seest thou?" And I said, "I see a rod of an almond tree." ¹²Then said the LORD unto me, "Thou hast well seen; for I will hasten my word to perform it."

¹³And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying, "What seest thou?" And I said, "I see a seething pot; and the face thereof is toward the north." ¹⁴Then the LORD said unto me:

Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land. ¹⁵For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD.

And they shall come,

and they shall set everyone his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about,

and against all the cities of Judah.

¹⁶And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me,

and have burned incense unto other gods,

and worshipped the works of their own hands.

¹⁷Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee; be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them. ¹⁸For, behold, I have made thee this day a defensed city, and an iron pillar, and brazen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land. ¹⁹And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee.

JEREMIAH 2 96

Israel forsakes God

Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

²Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying,

Thus saith the LORD:

I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth,

the love of thine espousals,

when thou wentest after me in the wilderness,

in a land that was not sown.

³Israel was holiness unto the LORD,

and the firstfruits of his increase;

all that devour him shall offend;

evil shall come upon them, saith the LORD.

⁴Hear ye the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

⁵Thus saith the LORD,

"What iniquity have your fathers found in me, that they are gone far from me,

and have walked after vanity,

and are become vain?

6Neither said they, 'Where is the LORD

that brought us up out of the land of Egypt,

that led us through the wilderness,

through a land of deserts and of pits,

through a land of drought,

and of the shadow of death,

through a land that no man passed through,

and where no man dwelt?'

7And I brought you into a plentiful country,

to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof;

but when ye entered, ye defiled my land,

and made mine heritage an abomination.

⁸The priests said not,

'Where is the LORD?'

And they that handle the law knew me not;

the pastors also transgressed against me,

and the prophets prophesied by Baal,

and walked after things that do not profit."

9"Wherefore I will yet plead with you," saith the LORD,

"and with your children's children will I plead.

¹⁰For pass over the isles of Chittim, and see;

and send unto Kedar, and consider diligently,

and see if there be such a thing.

11 Hath a nation changed their gods,

which are yet no gods?

But my people have changed their glory

for that which doth not profit.

¹²Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this,

and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate," saith the LORD.

97 JEREMIAH 2

"For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water. 14Is Israel a servant? Is he a homeborn slave? Why is he spoiled? ¹⁵The young lions roared upon him, and yelled, and they made his land waste; his cities are burned without inhabitant. ¹⁶Also the children of Noph and Tahapanes have broken the crown of thy head. ¹⁷Hast thou not procured this unto thyself, in that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, when he led thee by the way? ¹⁸And now what hast thou to do in the way of Egypt, to drink the waters of Sihor? Or what hast thou to do in the way of Assyria, to drink the waters of the river? ¹⁹Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee; know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, and that my fear is not in thee," saith the LORD God of hosts. ²⁰"For of old time I have broken thy yoke, and burst thy bands; and thou saidst, 'I will not transgress;' when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the harlot. ²¹Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed; how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me? ²²For though thou wash thee with nitre, and take thee much soap, yet thine iniquity is marked before me," saith the Lord GOD. 23"How canst thou say, 'I am not polluted, I have not gone after Baalim?' See thy way in the valley, know what thou hast done; thou art a swift dromedary traversing her ways; ²⁴A wild ass used to the wilderness, that snuffeth up the wind at her pleasure; in her occasion who can turn her away? All they that seek her will weary themselves; in her month they shall not find her. ²⁵Withhold thy foot from being unshod, and thy throat from thirst; but thou saidst, 'There is no hope; no; for I have loved strangers, and after them will I go."

98

JEREMIAH 3 ²⁶"As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed; they, their kings, their princes, and their priests, and their prophets, ²⁷saying to a stock, 'Thou art my father;' and to a stone, 'Thou hast brought me forth.' For they have turned their back unto me, and not their face; but in the time of their trouble they will say, 'Arise, and save us.' ²⁸But where are thy gods that thou hast made thee? Let them arise, if they can save thee in the time of thy trouble; for according to the number of thy cities are thy gods, O Judah. ²⁹Wherefore will ye plead with me? Ye all have transgressed against me," saith the LORD. ³⁰In vain have I smitten your children; they received no correction; your own sword hath devoured your prophets, like a destroying lion. ³¹O generation, see ye the word of the LORD. "Have I been a wilderness unto Israel? A land of darkness? Wherefore say my people, 'We are lords; we will come no more unto thee?' 32Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? Yet my people have forgotten me days without number. ³³Why trimmest thou thy way to seek love? Therefore hast thou also taught the wicked ones thy ways. ³⁴Also in thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents; I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these. ³⁵Yet thou sayest, 'Because I am innocent, surely his anger shall turn from me.' Behold, I will plead with thee, because thou sayest, 'I have not sinned.' ³⁶Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way? Thou also shalt be ashamed of Egypt, as thou wast ashamed of Assyria. ³⁷Yea, thou shalt go forth from him, and thine hands upon thine head; for the LORD hath rejected thy confidences, and thou shalt not prosper in them. Unfaithful Israel and she go from him, and become another man's,

"They say, 'If a man put away his wife, shall he return unto her again? Shall not that land be greatly polluted?' But thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to me," saith the LORD.

99 JEREMIAH 3

²Lift up thine eyes unto the high places, and see where thou hast not been lain with. In the ways hast thou sat for them, as the Arabian in the wilderness; and thou hast polluted the land with thy whoredoms and wickedness.
³Therefore thy showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.
⁴Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, 'My father, thou art the guide of my youth?
⁵Will he reserve his anger forever? Will he keep it to the end?'
Behold, thou hast spoken

and done evil things as thou couldest.

⁶The LORD said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king:

Hast thou seen that which backsliding Israel hath done? She is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot. ⁷And I said after she had done all these things, 'Turn thou unto me.' But she returned not. And her treacherous sister Judah saw it. ⁸And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery, I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also. ⁹And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks. ¹⁰And yet, for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith the LORD.

□And the LORD said unto me:

The backsliding Israel hath justified herself more than treacherous Judah. ¹²Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say:

Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the LORD;
and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you;
for I am merciful, saith the LORD,
and I will not keep anger forever.

¹³Only acknowledge thine iniquity,
that thou hast transgressed against the LORD thy God,
and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree,
and ye have not obeyed my voice, saith the LORD.

If Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD, for I am married unto you; and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion; Is and I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. Is And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the LORD, they shall say no more, 'The ark of the covenant of the LORD;' neither shall it come to mind; neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit it; neither shall that be done anymore. If At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD, and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem; neither shall they walk anymore after the imagination of their evil heart. Is In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the

JEREMIAH 4

house of Israel, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance unto your fathers.

¹⁹But I said, "How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land,

a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations?"

And I said, "Thou shalt call me, 'My father;'

and shalt not turn away from me.

²⁰Surely as a wife treacherously departeth from her husband,

so have ye dealt treacherously with me, O house of Israel," saith the LORD.

²¹A voice was heard upon the high places,

weeping and supplications of the children of Israel;

for they have perverted their way,

and they have forgotten the LORD their God.

²²"Return, ye backsliding children,

and I will heal your backslidings."

Behold, we come unto thee;

for thou art the LORD our God.

²³Truly in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills,

and from the multitude of mountains;

truly in the LORD our God

is the salvation of Israel.

²⁴For shame hath devoured the labor of our fathers from our youth;

their flocks and their herds,

their sons and their daughters.

²⁵We lie down in our shame,

and our confusion covereth us:

for we have sinned against the LORD our God,

we and our fathers, from our youth even unto this day,

and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God.

✓ "If thou wilt return, O Israel," saith the LORD,

"return unto me;

and if thou wilt put away thine abominations out of my sight,

then shalt thou not remove.

²And thou shalt swear, 'The LORD liveth,'

in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness;

and the nations shall bless themselves in him,

and in him shall they glory."

³For thus saith the LORD to the men of Judah and Jerusalem,

"Break up your fallow ground,

and sow not among thorns.

⁴Circumcise yourselves to the LORD,

and take away the foreskins of your heart,

ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem;

lest my fury come forth like a fire,

and burn that none can quench it,

because of the evil of your doings.

Destruction from the north

⁵Declare ye in Judah, and publish in Jerusalem; and say, Blow ye the trumpet in the land;

cry, gather together, and say,

Assemble yourselves, and let us go into the defensed cities.

⁶Set up the standard toward Zion;

retire, stay not;

for I will bring evil from the north,

and a great destruction.

⁷The lion is come up from his thicket,

and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way;

he is gone forth from his place to make thy land desolate;

and thy cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant.

8For this gird you with sackcloth,

lament and howl;

for the fierce anger of the LORD is not turned back from us.

9"And it shall come to pass at that day," saith the LORD,

"that the heart of the king shall perish,

and the heart of the princes; and the priests shall be astonished,

and the prophets shall wonder."

¹⁰Then said I, "Ah, Lord GOD! Surely thou hast greatly deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, 'Ye shall have peace,' whereas the sword reacheth unto the soul."

11 At that time shall it be said to this people and to Jerusalem, "A dry wind of the high places in the wilderness toward the daughter of my people, not to fan, nor to cleanse, 12 even a full wind from those places shall come unto me; now also will I give sentence against them."

¹³Behold, he shall come up as clouds,

and his chariots shall be as a whirlwind;

his horses are swifter than eagles.

Woe unto us! For we are spoiled.

¹⁴O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved.

How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee?

15For a voice declareth from Dan,

and publisheth affliction from mount Ephraim.

16"Make ye mention to the nations;

behold, publish against Jerusalem,

that watchers come from a far country,

and give out their voice against the cities of Judah.

¹⁷As keepers of a field, are they against her round about;

because she hath been rebellious against me," saith the LORD.

¹⁸Thy way and thy doings have procured these things unto thee;

this is thy wickedness, because it is bitter,

because it reacheth unto thine heart.

¹⁹My bowels, my bowels!

I am pained at my very heart.

My heart maketh a noise in me;

I cannot hold my peace,

because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. ²⁰Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled; suddenly are my tents spoiled, and my curtains in a moment. ²¹How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet? ²²For my people is foolish, they have not known me; they are sottish children, and they have none understanding; they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge. ²³I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. ²⁴I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. ²⁵I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. ²⁶I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger. ²⁷For thus hath the LORD said, "The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. ²⁸For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black; because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it. ²⁹The whole city shall flee for the noise of the horsemen and bowmen; they shall go into thickets, and climb up upon the rocks; every city shall be forsaken, and not a man dwell therein. ³⁰And when thou art spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair. Thy lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life. ³¹For I have heard a voice as of a woman in travail, and the anguish as of her that bringeth forth her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion, that bewaileth herself, that spreadeth her hands, saying, "Woe is me now! For my soul is wearied because of murderers."

IO3 JEREMIAH 5

The house of Israel is corrupt

Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it. ²And though they say, "The LORD liveth;" surely they swear falsely. ³O Lord, are not thine eyes upon the truth? Thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction. They have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return. ⁴Therefore I said, "Surely these are poor; they are foolish; for they know not the way of the LORD, nor the judgment of their God. ⁵I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, and the judgment of their God." But these have altogether broken the yoke, and burst the bonds. ⁶Wherefore a lion out of the forest shall slay them, and a wolf of the evenings shall spoil them, a leopard shall watch over their cities; everyone that goeth out thence shall be torn in pieces; because their transgressions are many, and their backslidings are increased. ⁷How shall I pardon thee for this? Thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods; when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. ⁸They were as fed horses in the morning; everyone neighed after his neighbor's wife. 9"Shall I not visit for these things?" saith the LORD, "and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? ¹⁰Go ye up upon her walls, and destroy; but make not a full end; take away her battlements; for they are not the LORD's. For the house of Israel and the house of Judah have dealt very treacherously against me," saith the LORD. ¹²They have belied the LORD, and said, "It is not he;

neither shall evil come upon us; neither shall we see sword nor famine. ¹³And the prophets shall become wind, and the word is not in them; thus shall it be done unto them." ¹⁴Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, "Because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them. ¹⁵Lo, I will bring a nation upon you from far, O house of Israel," saith the LORD, "it is a mighty nation, it is an ancient nation, a nation whose language thou knowest not, neither understandest what they say. ¹⁶Their quiver is as an open sepulcher, they are all mighty men. ¹⁷And they shall eat up thine harvest and thy bread, which thy sons and thy daughters should eat; they shall eat up thy flocks and thine herds; they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees; they shall impoverish thy fenced cities, wherein thou trustedst, with the sword." ¹⁸Nevertheless in those days, saith the LORD, I will not make a full end with you. ¹⁹And it shall come to pass, when ye shall say, "Wherefore doeth the LORD our God all these things unto us?" Then shalt thou answer them, "Like as ye have forsaken me, and served strange gods in your land, so shall ye serve strangers in the land that is not yours." ²⁰"Declare this in the house of Jacob, and publish it in Judah, saying, ²¹Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not; ²²Fear ye not me?" saith the LORD, "will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it; and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it? ²³But this people hath a revolting and rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone. ²⁴Neither say they in their heart, 'Let us now fear the LORD our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season; he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.' ²⁵Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you." ²⁶"For among my people are found wicked men; they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men.

IEREMIAH 6

105 ²⁷As a cage as full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit; therefore they are become great, and waxen rich. ²⁸They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked; they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge. ²⁹ "Shall I not visit for these things?" saith the LORD, "shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?" A horrible thing 30"A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land: ³¹The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so;

and what will ye do in the end thereof? 6 O ye children of Benjamin, gather yourselves to flee out of the midst of Jerusalem, and blow the trumpet in Tekoa,

and set up a sign of fire in Beth-Haccerem;

for evil appeareth out of the north,

and great destruction.

²I have likened the daughter of Zion

to a comely and delicate woman.

³The shepherds with their flocks shall come unto her;

they shall pitch their tents against her round about;

they shall feed everyone in his place.

⁴Prepare ye war against her;

arise, and let us go up at noon.

Woe unto us! For the day goeth away,

for the shadows of the evening are stretched out.

⁵Arise, and let us go by night,

and let us destroy her palaces.

⁶For thus hath the LORD of hosts said,

"Hew ye down trees, and cast a mount against Jerusalem;

this is the city to be visited; she is wholly oppression in the midst of her.

⁷As a fountain casteth out her waters,

so she casteth out her wickedness;

violence and spoil is heard in her;

before me continually is grief and wounds.

⁸Be thou instructed, O Jerusalem,

lest my soul depart from thee;

lest I make thee desolate,

and a land not inhabited."

⁹Thus saith the LORD of hosts,

"They shall thoroughly glean the remnant of Israel as a vine; turn back thine hand as a grapegatherer into the baskets.

¹⁰To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? Behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot hearken;

behold, the word of the LORD is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it. Therefore I am full of the fury of the LORD; I am weary with holding in, I will pour it out upon the children abroad, and upon the assembly of young men together; for even the husband with the wife shall be taken, the aged with him that is full of days. 12And their houses shall be turned unto others, with their fields and wives together; for I will stretch out my hand upon the inhabitants of the land," saith the LORD. 13"For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them everyone is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest everyone dealeth falsely. ¹⁴They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, 'Peace, peace;' when there is no peace. 15Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? Nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush; therefore they shall fall among them that fall; at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down," saith the LORD. ¹⁶Thus saith the LORD, "Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk therein.' ¹⁷Also I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Hearken to the sound of the trumpet.' But they said, 'We will not hearken.' ¹⁸Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. ¹⁹Hear, O earth; behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it. ²⁰To what purpose cometh there to me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet unto me." ²¹Therefore thus saith the LORD, "Behold, I will lay stumbling blocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them; the neighbor and his friend shall perish." ²²Thus saith the LORD, "Behold, a people cometh from the north country, and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth.

²³They shall lay hold on bow and spear; they are cruel, and have no mercy; their voice roareth like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against thee, O daughter of Zion." ²⁴We have heard the fame thereof; our hands wax feeble; anguish hath taken hold of us, and pain, as of a woman in travail. ²⁵Go not forth into the field, nor walk by the way; for the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side. ²⁶O daughter of my people, gird thee with sackcloth, and wallow thyself in ashes; make thee mourning, as for an only son; most bitter lamentations, for the spoiler shall suddenly come upon us. ²⁷"I have set thee for a tower and a fortress among my people, that thou mayest know and try their way. ²⁸They are all grievous revolters, walking with slanders; they are brass and iron; they are all corrupters. ²⁹The bellows are burned, the lead is consumed of the fire; the founder melteth in vain; for the wicked are not plucked away. 30Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the LORD hath rejected them."

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

²Stand in the gate of the LORD's house, and proclaim there this word, and say:

Hear the word of the LORD, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the LORD. ³Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. ⁴Trust ye not in lying words, saying, 'The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these.'

⁵For if ye thoroughly amend your ways and your doings; if ye thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbor; ⁶if ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt; ⁷then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, forever and ever. ⁸Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit.

⁹Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not; ¹⁰and come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, 'We are delivered to do all these abominations?' ¹¹Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it, saith the LORD.

¹²But go ye now unto my place which was in Shiloh, where I set my name at the first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of my people Israel. ¹³And now, because ye have done all these works, saith the LORD, and I spake unto you, rising up early and speaking, but ye heard not; and I called you, but ye answered not; ¹⁴Therefore will I do unto this house, which is called by my name, wherein ye trust, and unto the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh. ¹⁵And I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brethren, even the whole seed of Ephraim.

Judah's idolatry

¹⁶Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me; for I will not hear thee. ¹⁷Seest thou not what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? ¹⁸The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger. ¹⁹Do they provoke me to anger? Saith the LORD, Do they not provoke themselves to the confusion of their own faces?

²⁰Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, mine anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man, and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn, and shall not be quenched.

²¹Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Put your burnt offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat flesh. ²²For I spake not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices; ²³but this thing commanded I them, saying, 'Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people; and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.' ²⁴But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels, and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward. ²⁵Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt unto this day, I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them. ²⁶Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck; they did worse than their fathers.

²⁷Therefore thou shalt speak all these words unto them; but they will not hearken to thee; thou shalt also call unto them; but they will not answer thee. ²⁸But thou shalt say unto them, 'This is a nation that obeyeth not the voice of the LORD their God, nor receiveth correction; truth is perished, and is cut off from their mouth. ²⁹Cut off thine hair, O Jerusalem, and cast it away, and take up a lamentation on high places; for the LORD hath rejected and forsaken the generation of his wrath.'

³⁰For the children of Judah have done evil in my sight, saith the LORD; they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it. ³¹And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my heart. ³²Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that it shall no more be called Tophet, nor the valley of the son of Hinnom, but the valley of slaughter; for they shall bury in Tophet, till there be no place. ³³And the carcasses of this people shall be meat for the fowls of the heaven, and for the beasts of the earth; and none shall fray them away. ³⁴Then will I cause to cease from the cities of Judah, and from the streets of Jerusalem, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride; for the land shall be desolate.

IO9 JEREMIAH 8

Judah's sin and punishment

"At that time," saith the LORD, "they shall bring out the bones of the kings of Judah, and the bones of his princes, and the bones of the priests, and the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, our of their graves; ² and they shall spread them before the sun, and the moon, and all the host of heaven, whom they have loved, and whom they have served, and after whom they have walked, and whom they have sought, and whom they have worshiped; they shall not be gathered, nor be buried, they shall be for dung upon the face of the earth. ³ And death shall be chosen rather than life by all the residue of them that remain of this evil family, which remain in all the places whither I have driven them," saith the LORD of hosts.

⁴Moreover thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD:

Shall they fall, and not arise?

Shall he turn away, and not return?

⁵Why then is this people of Jerusalem slidden back

by a perpetual backsliding?

They hold fast deceit,

they refuse to return.

6I hearkened and heard,

but they spake not aright;

no man repented him of his wickedness,

saying, 'What have I done?'

Everyone turned to his course,

as the horse rusheth into the battle.

⁷Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her appointed times;

and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the LORD.

8"How do ye say, 'We are wise,

and the law of the LORD is with us?'

Lo, certainly in vain made he it;

the pen of the scribes is in vain.

⁹The wise men are ashamed,

they are dismayed and taken;

lo, they have rejected the word of the LORD;

and what wisdom is in them.

¹⁰Therefore will I give their wives unto others,

and their fields to them that shall inherit them;

for everyone from the least even unto the greatest is given to covetousness,

from the prophet, even unto the priest everyone dealeth falsely.

¹¹For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly,

saying, 'Peace, peace;' when there is no peace.

12Were they ashamed

when they had committed abomination?

Nay, they were not at all ashamed,

neither could they blush;

therefore shall they fall among them that fall;

in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down," saith the LORD.

13"I will surely consume them," saith the LORD,

"there shall be no grapes on the vine,

nor figs on the fig tree, and the leaf shall fade; and the things that I have given them shall pass away from them." 14Why do we sit still? Assemble yourselves, and let us enter into the defensed cities, and let us be silent there; for the LORD our God hath put us to silence, and given us water of gall to drink, because we have sinned against the LORD. 15We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble! ¹⁶The snorting of his horses was heard from Dan; the whole land trembled at the sound of the neighing of his strong ones; for they are come, and have devoured the land, and all that is in it; the city, and those that dwell therein. ¹⁷ For, behold, I will send serpents, cockatrices, among you, which will not be charmed, and they shall bite you," saith the LORD. Jeremiah weeps for his people ¹⁸When I would comfort myself against sorrow, my heart is faint in me. ¹⁹Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people because of them that dwell in a far country, 'Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her king in her?' Why have they provoked me to anger with their graven images, and with strange vanities? ²⁰ The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.' ²¹For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt; I am black; astonishment hath taken hold on me. ²²Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered? Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people! ²Oh that I had in the wilderness a lodging place of wayfaring men; that I might leave my people, and go from them!

III JEREMIAH 9

For they be all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men.

³ "And they bend their tongues like their bow for lies; but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me," saith the LORD.

4"Take ye heed everyone of his neighbor, and trust ye not in any brother;

for every brother will utterly supplant, and every neighbor will walk with slanders.

⁵And they will deceive everyone his neighbor, and will not speak the truth;

they have taught their tongue to speak lies, and weary themselves to commit iniquity.

⁶Thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me," saith the LORD.

⁷Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts,

"Behold, I will melt them, and try them; for how shall I do for the daughter of my people?

8Their tongue is as an arrow shot out;

it speaketh deceit;

one speaketh peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, but in heart he layeth his wait.

⁹Shall I not visit them for these things?", saith the LORD. "Shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?"

¹⁰For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the habitations of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that none can pass through them; neither can men hear the voice of the cattle; both the fowl of the heavens and the beast are fled; they are gone.

"And I will make Jerusalem heaps, and a den of dragons; and I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant."

¹²Who is the wise man, that may understand this? And who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD hath spoken, that he may declare it, for what the land perisheth and is burned up like a wilderness, that none passeth through?

13And the LORD saith:

Because they have forsaken my law which I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice, neither walked therein; ¹⁴but have walked after the imagination of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them; ¹⁵therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink. ¹⁶I will scatter them also among the heathen, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, and I will send a sword after them, till I have consumed them.

¹⁷Thus saith the LORD of hosts:

"Consider ye, and call for the mourning women, that they may come; and send for cunning women, that they may come.

¹⁸And let them make haste,

and take up a wailing for us,

that our eyes may run down with tears,

and our eyelids gush out with waters.

¹⁹For a voice of wailing is heard out of Zion,

'How are we spoiled!

We are greatly confounded,

because we have forsaken the land,

because our dwellings have cast us out.""

²⁰Yet hear the word of the LORD, O ye women,

and let your ear receive the word of his mouth,

and teach your daughters wailing,

and everyone her neighbor lamentation.

²¹For death is come up into our windows,

and is entered into our palaces,

to cut off the children from without,

and the young men from the streets.

²²Speak, "Thus saith the LORD:

Even the carcasses of men shall fall

as dung upon the open field,

and as the handful after the harvestman,

and none shall gather them."

²³Thus saith the LORD, "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom,

neither let the mighty man glory in his might,

let not the rich man glory in his riches;

²⁴But let him that glorieth glory in this,

that he understandeth and knoweth me,

that I am the LORD which exercise loving-kindness,

judgment, and righteousness, in the earth;

for in these things I delight," saith the LORD.

²⁵Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will punish all them which are circumcised with the uncircumcised; ²⁶Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all that are in the utmost corners, that dwell in the wilderness; for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.

God compared to idols

Hear ye the word which the LORD speaketh unto you, O house of Israel; ²thus saith the LORD:

"Learn not the way of the heathen,

and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven;

for the heathen are dismayed at them.

³For the customs of the people are vain;

for one cutteth a tree out of the forest,

the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.

II3 JEREMIAH IO

⁴They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not. ⁵They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not; they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good." ⁶Forasmuch as there is none like unto thee, O LORD; thou art great, and thy name is great in might. Who would not fear thee, O King of nations? For to thee doth it appertain. Forasmuch as among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like unto thee. ⁸But they are altogether brutish and foolish; the stock is a doctrine of vanities. ⁹Silver spread into plates is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the workman, and of the hands of the founder; blue and purple is their clothing; they are all the work of cunning men. ¹⁰But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting King; at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, "The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens." ¹²He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion. ¹³When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and he causeth the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightning's with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures. ¹⁴Every man is brutish in his knowledge; every founder is confounded by the graven image; for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them. ¹⁵They are vanity, and the work of errors; in the time of their visitation they shall perish. ¹⁶The portion of Jacob is not like them; for he is the former of all things; and Israel is the rod of his inheritance;

The LORD of hosts is his name.

JEREMIAH I I

¹⁷Gather up thy wares out of the land,

O inhabitant of the fortress.

¹⁸For thus saith the LORD.

"Behold, I will sling out the inhabitants of the land at this once,

and will distress them, that they may find it so."

¹⁹Woe is me for my hurt!

My wound is grievous;

but I said, "Truly this is a grief,

and I must bear it."

²⁰My tabernacle is spoiled,

and all my cords are broken;

my children are gone forth of me,

and they are not.

There is none to stretch forth my tent anymore,

and to set up my curtains.

²¹For the pastors are become brutish,

and have not sought the LORD:

therefore they shall not prosper,

and all their flocks shall be scattered.

²²Behold, the noise of the bruit is come,

and a great commotion out of the north country,

to make the cities of Judah desolate,

and a den of dragons.

²³O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself;

it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

²⁴O LORD, correct me, but with judgment;

not in thine anger,

lest thou bring me to nothing.

²⁵Pour out thy fury upon the heathen

that know thee not,

and upon the families that call not on thy name;

for they have eaten up Jacob,

and devoured him, and consumed him,

and have made his habitation desolate.

The covenant is broken

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

²Hear ye the words of this covenant, and speak unto the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem; ³and say thou unto them, "Thus saith the LORD God of Israel: Cursed be the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant, ⁴which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, 'Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you; so shall ye be my people, and I will be your God; ⁵that I may perform the oath which I have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day.'

Then answered I, and said, 'So be it, O LORD.'

⁶Then the LORD said unto me:

Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, "Hear ye the words of this covenant, and do them. For I earnestly protested unto

II5 JEREMIAH II

your fathers in the day that I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, even unto this day, rising early and protesting, saying, 'Obey my voice.' ⁸Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked everyone in the imagination of their evil heart; therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do; but they did them not.

9And the LORD said unto me:

A conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁰They are turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, which refused to hear my words; and they went after other gods to serve them; the house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken my covenant which I made with their fathers.

□Therefore thus saith the LORD:

Behold, I will bring evil upon them, which they shall not be able to escape; and though they shall cry unto me, I will not hearken unto them. ¹²Then shall the cities of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem go, and cry unto the gods unto whom they offer incense; but they shall not save them at all in the time of their trouble. ¹³For according to the number of thy cities were thy gods, O Judah; and according to the number of the streets of Jerusalem have ye set up altars to that shameful thing, even altars to burn incense unto Baal.

¹⁴Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up a cry or prayer for them; for I will not hear them in the time that they cry unto me for their trouble.

15What hath my beloved to do in mine house,

seeing she hath wrought lewdness with many, and the holy flesh is passed from thee?

When thou doest evil,

then thou rejoicest.

¹⁶The LORD called thy name, A green olive tree,

fair, and of goodly fruit;

with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it,

and the branches of it are broken.

¹⁷For the LORD of hosts, that planted thee, hath pronounced evil against thee, for the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have done against themselves to provoke me to anger in offering incense unto Baal.

A plot against Jeremiah

¹⁸And the LORD hath given me knowledge of it, and I know it; then thou showedst me their doings. ¹⁹But I was like a lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter; and I knew not that they had devised devices against me, saying:

Let us destroy the tree with the fruit thereof,

and let us cut him off from the land of the living,

that his name may be no more remembered.

²⁰But, O LORD of hosts, that judgest righteously,

that triest the reins and the heart,

let me see thy vengeance on them;

for unto thee have I revealed my cause.

²¹Therefore thus saith the LORD of the men of Anathoth, that seek thy life, saying, "Prophesy not in the name of the LORD, that thou die not by our hand." ²²Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts:

Behold, I will punish them; the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and their daughters shall die by famine; ²³and there shall be no remnant of them; for I will bring evil upon the men of Anathoth, even the year of their visitation.

Jeremiah's complaint

Righteous art thou, O LORD,

when I plead with thee;

yet let me talk with thee of thy judgments:

Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper?

Wherefore are all they happy that deal very treacherously?

²Thou hast planted them, yea, they have taken root;

they grow, yea, they bring forth fruit.

Thou art near in their mouth,

and far from their reins.

³But thou, O LORD, knowest me;

thou hast seen me, and tried mine heart toward thee.

Pull them out like sheep for the slaughter,

and prepare them for the day of slaughter.

⁴How long shall the land mourn,

and the herbs of every field wither?

For the wickedness of them that dwell therein,

the beasts are consumed, and the birds;

because they said, "He shall not see our last end."

God's response

⁵If thou hast run with our footmen,

and they have wearied thee,

then how canst thou contend with horses?

And if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee,

then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?

⁶For even thy brethren, and the house of thy father,

even they have dealt treacherously with thee;

yea, they have called a multitude after thee;

believe them not, though they speak fair words unto thee.

7I have forsaken mine house,

I have left mine heritage.

I have given the dearly beloved of my soul

into the hand of her enemies.

8Mine heritage is unto me

as a lion in the forest;

it crieth out against me;

therefore have I hated it.

⁹Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird,

the birds round about are against her;

come ye, assemble all the beasts of the field, come to devour.

¹⁰Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard,

they have trodden my portion under foot,

they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

□They have made it desolate,

and being desolate it mourneth unto me;

II7 JEREMIAH 13

the whole land is made desolate,

because no man layeth it to heart.

¹²The spoilers are come upon all high places

through the wilderness;

for the sword of the LORD shall devour

from the one end of the land even to the other end of the land;

no flesh shall have peace.

¹³They have sown wheat, but shall reap thorns;

they have put themselves to pain, but shall not profit;

and they shall be ashamed of your revenues

because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

¹⁴Thus saith the LORD against all mine evil neighbors, that touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit, "Behold, I will pluck them out of their land, and pluck out the house of Judah from among them. ¹⁵And it shall come to pass, after that I have plucked them out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land. ¹⁶And it shall come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, 'The LORD liveth' as they taught my people to swear by Baal; then shall they be built in the midst of my people. ¹⁷But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation," saith the LORD.

A linen girdle

Thus saith the LORD unto me, "Go and get thee a linen girdle, and put it upon thy loins, and put it not in water." ²So I got a girdle according to the word of the LORD, and put it on my lions.

³And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying, ⁴"Take the girdle that thou hast got, which is upon thy loins, and arise, go to Euphrates, and hide it there in a hole of the rock." ⁵So I went, and hid it by Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me.

⁶And it came to pass after many days, that the LORD said unto me, "Arise, go to Euphrates, and take the girdle from thence, which I commanded thee to hide there." ⁷Then I went to Euphrates, and digged, and took the girdle from the place where I had hit it; and, behold, the girdle was marred, it was profitable for nothing.

⁸Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

⁹Thus saith the LORD: After this manner will I mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem. ¹⁰This evil people which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing. ¹¹For as the girdle cleaveth to the loins of a man, so have I caused to cleave unto me the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah, saith the LORD, that they might be unto me for a people, and for a name, and for a praise, and for a glory; but they would not hear.

Wine bottles

¹²Therefore thou shalt speak unto them this word: "Thus saith the LORD God of Israel: Every bottle shall be filled with wine; and they shall say unto thee, 'Do we not certainly know that every bottle shall be filled with wine?""

¹³Then shalt thou say unto them, "Thus saith the LORD: Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings that sit upon David's throne, and the priests,

and the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness. ¹⁴And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, saith the LORD; I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them."

15Hear ye, and give ear;

be not proud; for the LORD hath spoken.

¹⁶Give glory to the LORD your God,

before he cause darkness,

and before your feet stumble upon the dark mountains,

and while ye look for light,

he turn it into the shadow of death,

and make it gross darkness.

17But if ye will not hear it,

my soul shall weep in secret places for your pride;

and mine eye shall weep sore, and run down with tears,

because the LORD's flock is carried away captive.

¹⁸Say unto the king and to the queen,

"Humble yourselves, sit down;

for your principalities shall come down,

even the crown of your glory."

19The cities of the south shall be shut up,

and none shall open them;

Judah shall be carried away captive all of it,

it shall be wholly carried away captive.

20Lift up your eyes,

and behold them that come from the north;

where is the flock that was given thee,

thy beautiful flock?

21 What wilt thou say when he shall punish thee?

For thou hast taught them to be captains, and as chief over thee;

shall not sorrows take thee,

as a woman in travail?

²²And if thou say in thine heart,

'Wherefore come these things upon me?'

For the greatness of thine iniquity are thy skirts discovered,

and thy heels made bare.

²³Can the Ethiopian change his skin,

or the leopard his spots?

Then may ye also do good,

that are accustomed to do evil.

²⁴Therefore will I scatter them

as the stubble that passeth away by the wind of the wilderness.

²⁵This is thy lot,

the portion of thy measures from me, saith the LORD;

because thou hast forgotten me,

and trusted in falsehood.

²⁶Therefore will I discover thy skirts upon thy face

that thy shame may appear.

²⁷I have seen thine adulteries, and thy neighings,

the lewdness of thy whoredom,

II9 JEREMIAH 14

and thine abominations on the hills in the fields.

Woe unto thee, O Jerusalem!

Wilt thou not be made clean? When shall it once be?

The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah concerning the dearth.

²Judah mourneth,

and the gates thereof languish;

they are black unto the ground;

and the cry of Jerusalem is gone up.

³And their nobles have sent their little ones to the waters;

they came to the pits, and found no water;

they returned with their vessels empty;

they were ashamed and confounded,

and covered their heads.

⁴Because the ground is chapped,

for there was no rain in the earth,

the ploughmen were ashamed,

they covered their heads.

⁵Yea, the hind also calved in the field,

and forsook it, because there was no grass.

⁶And the wild asses did stand in the high places,

they snuffed up the wind like dragons;

their eyes did fail,

because there was no grass.

⁷O Lord, though our iniquities testify against us,

do thou it for thy name's sake;

for our backslidings are many;

we have sinned against thee.

8O the hope of Israel,

the Savior thereof in time of trouble,

why shouldest thou be as a stranger in the land,

and as a wayfaring man that turneth aside to tarry for a night?

⁹Why shouldest thou be as a man astonished,

as a mighty man that cannot save?

Yet thou, O Lord, art in the midst of us,

and we are called by thy name;

leave us not.

¹⁰Thus saith the LORD unto this people:

Thus have they loved to wander,

they have not refrained their feet,

therefore the LORD doth not accept them;

he will now remember their iniquity, and visit their sins.

11 Then said the LORD unto me:

Pray not for this people for their good. ¹²When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and an oblation, I will not accept them; but I will consume them by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence.

13Then said I:

Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, the prophets say unto them, 'Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.'

14Then the LORD said unto me:

The prophets prophesy lies in my name; I sent them not, neither have I commanded them neither spake unto them; they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of naught, and the deceit of their heart.

¹⁵Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, and I sent them not, yet they say, 'Sword and famine shall not be in this land.' By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed. ¹⁶And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem, because of the famine and the sword; and they shall have none to bury them, them, their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters; for I will pour their wickedness upon them.

¹⁷Therefore thou shalt say this word unto them:

"Let mine eyes run down with tears

night and day, and let them not cease,

for the virgin daughter of my people is broken with a great breach,

with a very grievous blow.

18If I go forth into the field,

then behold the slain with the sword!

And if I enter into the city,

then behold them that are sick with famine!

Yea, both the prophet and the priest go about into a land that they know not."

19Hast thou utterly rejected Judah?

Hath thy soul loathed Zion?

Why hast thou smitten us,

and there is no healing for us?

We looked for peace,

and there is no good;

and for the time of healing,

and behold trouble!

²⁰We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness,

and the iniquity of our fathers;

for we have sinned against thee.

²¹Do not abhor us, for thy name's sake;

do not disgrace the throne of thy glory.

Remember, break not thy covenant with us.

²²Are there any among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain?

Or can the heavens give showers?

Art not thou he, O LORD our God?

Therefore we will wait upon thee;

for thou hast made all these things.

Then said the LORD unto me:

Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people; cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth. ²And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, 'Whither shall we go forth?' Then thou shalt tell them:

'Thus saith the LORD:

I2I JEREMIAH I5

Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity.'

³And I will appoint over them four kinds, saith the LORD, the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth, to devour and destroy. ⁴And I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem.

⁵For who shall have pity upon thee, O Jerusalem?

Or who shall bemoan thee?

Or who shall go aside to ask how thou doest?

⁶Thou hast forsaken me, saith the LORD,

thou art gone backward;

therefore will I stretch out my hand against thee, and destroy thee;

I am weary with repenting.

7And I will fan them with a fan in the gates of the land;

I will bereave them of children,

I will destroy my people,

since they return not from

⁸Their widows are increased to me above the sand of the seas;

I have brought upon them against the mother of the young men a spoiler at noonday;

I have caused him to fall upon it suddenly,

and terrors upon the city.

9She that hath borne seven languisheth;

she hath given up the ghost;

her sun is gone down while it was yet day;

she hath been ashamed and confounded;

and the residue of them will I deliver to the sword

before their enemies, saith the LORD.

¹⁰Woe is me, my mother, that thou hast borne me a man of strife

and a man of contention to the whole earth!

I have neither lent on usury, nor men have lent to me on usury;

yet everyone of them doth curse me.

□The LORD said,

"Verily it shall be well with thy remnant;

verily I will cause the enemy to entreat thee well

in the time of evil and in the time of affliction."

¹²Shall iron break the northern iron and the steel?

13Thy substance and thy treasures

will I give to the spoil without price,

and that for all thy sins,

even in all thy borders.

14And I will make thee to pass with thine enemies

into a land which thou knowest not;

for a fire is kindled in mine anger,

which shall burn upon you.

¹⁵O LORD, thou knowest;

remember me, and visit me,

and revenge me of my persecutors;

take me not away in thy long-suffering;

know that for thy sake I have suffered rebuke.

¹⁶Thy words were found, and I did eat them;

and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart;

for I am called by thy name,

O LORD God of hosts.

¹⁷I sat not in the assembly of the mockers,

nor rejoiced;

I sat alone because of thy hand;

for thou hast filled me with indignation.

18Why is my pain perpetual,

and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed?

Wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar,

and as waters that fail?

¹⁹Therefore thus saith the LORD:

"If thou return, then will I bring thee again,

and thou shalt stand before me;

and if thou take forth the precious from the vile,

thou shalt be as my mouth;

let them return unto thee;

but return not thou unto them.

²⁰And I will make thee unto this people a fenced brazen wall;

and they shall fight against thee,

but they shall not prevail against thee;

for I am with thee to save thee and to deliver thee," saith the LORD.

²¹And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked,

and I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible.

Time of trouble

The word of the LORD came also unto me, saying:

²Thou shalt not take thee a wife, neither shalt thou have sons nor daughters in this place. ³For thus saith the LORD concerning the sons and concerning the daughters that are born in this place, and concerning their mothers that bare them, and concerning their fathers that begat them in this land: ⁴They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth; and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcasses shall be meat for the fowls of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

⁵For thus saith the LORD: Enter not into the house of mourning, neither go to lament nor bemoan them; for I have taken away my peace from this people, saith the LORD, even loving-kindness and mercies. ⁶Both the great and the small shall die in this land; they shall not be buried, neither shall men lament for them, nor cut themselves, nor make themselves bald for them. ⁷Neither shall men tear themselves for them in mourning, to comfort them for the dead; neither shall men give them the cup of consolation to drink for their father or for their mother.

⁸Thou shalt not also go into the house of feasting, to sit with them to eat and to drink. ⁹For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will cause to cease out

I23 JEREMIAH 17

of this place in your eyes, and in your days, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride.

¹⁰And it shall come to pass, when thou shalt show this people all these words, and they shall say unto thee, 'Wherefore hath the LORD pronounced all this great evil against us? Or what is our iniquity? Or what is our sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?' ¹¹Then shalt thou say unto them, 'Because your fathers have forsaken me, saith the LORD, and have walked after other gods, and have served them, and have worshipped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my law; ¹²and ye have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, ye walk everyone after the imagination of his evil heart, that they may not hearken unto me; ¹³therefore will I cast you out of this land into a land that ye know not, neither ye nor your fathers; and there shall ye serve other gods day and night; where I will not show you favor.'

Day of restoration

¹⁴Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that it shall no more be said, 'The LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;'

¹⁵but, 'The LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them;' and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers.

¹⁶Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the LORD, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks. ¹⁷For mine eyes are upon all their ways; they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid thy from mine eyes ¹⁸And first I will recompense their iniquity and their sin double; because they have defiled my land, they have filled mine inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable things.

¹⁹O Lord, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction,

the Gentiles shall come unto thee

from the ends of the earth, and shall say,

'Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.

20 Shall a man make gods unto himself, and they are no gods?'

²¹Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know mine hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is the LORD.

The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond;

it is graven upon the table of their heart,

and upon the horns of your altars;

²Whilst their children remember their altars

and their groves by the green trees upon the high hills.

³O my mountain in the field,

I will give thy substance and all thy treasures to the spoil,

and thy high places for sin, throughout all thy borders.

⁴And thou, even thyself, shalt discontinue from thine heritage that I gave thee; and I will cause thee to serve thine enemies in the land which thou knowest not;

which shall burn forever.

for ye have kindled a fire in mine anger,

⁵Thus saith the LORD, "Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm; and the man whose heart departeth from the LORD. ⁶For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. ⁷Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. 8For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit. ⁹The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? 10I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. 11 As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool. ¹²A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary. ¹³O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters. ¹⁴Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved; for thou art my praise. ¹⁵Behold, they say unto me, "Where is the word of the LORD? Let it come now." ¹⁶As for me, I have not hastened from being a pastor to follow thee; neither have I desired the woeful day; thou knowest; that which came out of my lips was right before thee. ¹⁷Be not a terror unto me; thou art my hope in the day of evil. ¹⁸Let them be confounded that persecute me, but let not me be confounded; let them be dismayed, but let not me be dismayed; bring upon them the day of evil, and destroy them with double destruction.

Keep the Sabbath

19Thus said the LORD unto me:

Go and stand in the gate of the children of the people, whereby the kings of Judah come in, and by the which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem; 20 and say unto them, "Hear ye the word of the LORD, ye kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, that enter in by these gates. ²¹ Thus saith the LORD, Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden on the Sabbath day, nor bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem; ²²neither carry forth a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath day, neither do ye any work, but hallow ye the Sabbath day, as I commanded your fathers. 23But they obeyed not, neither inclined their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, nor receive instruction. ²⁴And it shall come to pass, if ye diligently hearken unto me, saith the LORD, to bring in no burden through the gates of this city on the Sabbath day, but hallow the Sabbath day, to do no work therein; 25then shall there enter into the gates of this city kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their princes, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city shall remain forever. ²⁶And they shall come from the cities of Judah, and from the places about Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the plain, and from the mountains, and from the south, bringing burnt offerings, and sacrifices, and meat offerings, and incense, and bringing sacrifices of praise, unto the house of the LORD. 27But if ye will not hearken unto me to hallow the Sabbath day, and not to bear a burden, even entering in at the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day; then will I kindle a fire in the gates thereof, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched.

The potter

The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 2"Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words." ³Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. ⁴And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

⁵Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

⁶O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel. ⁷At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; ⁸If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will withhold the evil that I thought to do unto them. ⁹And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; ¹⁰If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will withhold the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

- "Now therefore go to, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, "Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I frame evil against you, and devise a device against you; return ye now everyone from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good."
- ¹²And they said, "There is no hope; but we will walk after our own devices, and we will everyone do the imagination of his evil heart."
- ¹³Therefore thus saith the LORD: Ask ye now among the heathen,

who hath heard such things;

the virgin of Israel hath done a very horrible thing.

14Will you not leave the snow of the fields of Lebanon;

shall not the cold flowing waters that come from another place from the rock, be forsaken?

¹⁵Because my people hath forgotten me,

they have burned incense to vanity,

and they have caused them to stumble in their ways from the ancient paths,

to walk in paths, in a way not cast up;

16to make their land desolate, and a perpetual hissing;

everyone that passeth thereby shall be astonished, and wag his head.

¹⁷I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy;

I will show them the back, and not the face,

in the day of their calamity.

¹⁸Then said they, "Come, and let us devise devices against Jeremiah; for the law shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, and let us smite him with the tongue and let us not give heed to any of his words."

¹⁹Give heed to me, O Lord,

and hearken to the voice of them that contend with me.

²⁰Shall evil be recompensed for good?

For they have digged a pit for my soul.

Remember that I stood before thee to speak good for them,

and to turn away thy wrath from them.

²¹Therefore deliver up their children to the famine,

and pour out their blood by the force of the sword;

and let their wives be bereaved of their children,

and be widows; and let their men be put to death;

let their young men be slain by the sword in battle.

²²Let a cry be heard from their houses,

when thou shalt bring a troop suddenly upon them;

for they have digged a pit to take me,

and hid snares for my feet.

²³Yet, Lord, thou knowest all their counsel against me to slay me;

forgive not their iniquity,

neither blot out their sin from thy sight,

but let them be overthrown before thee;

deal thus with them in the time of thine anger.

| 9 | Thus saith the LORD:

Go and get a potter's earthen bottle, and take of the ancients of the people, and of the ancients of the priests; ²and go forth unto the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is by the entry of the east gate, and proclaim there the words that I shall tell thee; ³and say, "Hear ye the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem; Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, the which whosoever heareth, his ears shall tingle. ⁴Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents; ⁵they have built also the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings unto Baal, which I commanded not, nor spake it, neither came it into my mind; ⁶therefore, behold, the days come,

I27 JEREMIAH 20

saith the LORD, that this place shall no more be called Tophet, nor 'The valley of the son of Hinnom', but 'The valley of slaughter.'

⁷And I will make void the counsel of Judah and Jerusalem in this place; and I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hands of them that seek their lives; and their carcasses will I give to be meat for the fowls of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth. ⁸And I will make this city desolate, and a hissing; everyone that passeth thereby shall be astonished and hiss, because of all the plagues thereof. ⁹And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and they shall eat everyone the flesh of his friend in the siege and straitness, wherewith their enemies, and they that seek their lives, shall straiten them."

¹⁰Then shalt thou break the bottle in the sight of the men that go with thee, ¹¹and shalt say unto them, "Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter's vessel, that cannot be made whole again; and they shall bury them in Tophet, till there be no place to bury. ¹²Thus will I do unto this place, saith the LORD, and to the inhabitants thereof, and even make this city as Tophet; ¹³and the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses of the kings of Judah, shall be defiled as the place of Tophet, because of all the houses upon whose roofs they have burned incense unto all the host of heaven, and have poured out drink offerings unto other gods."

¹⁴Then came Jeremiah from Tophet, whither the LORD had sent him to prophesy; and he stood in the court of the LORD's house, and said to all the people, "¹⁵Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it, because they have hardened their necks, that they might not hear my words."

Jeremiah and Pashur

Now Pashur the son of Immer the priest, who was also chief governor in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things. ²Then Pashur smote Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the LORD. ³And it came to pass on the morrow, that Pashur brought forth Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then said Jeremiah unto him:

The LORD hath not called thy name Pashur, but Magor-missabib. ⁴For thus saith the LORD, "Behold, I will make thee a terror to thyself, and to all thy friends; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and thine eyes shall behold it; and I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them captive into Babylon, and shall slay them with the sword. ⁵Moreover I will deliver all the strength of this city, and all the labors thereof, and all the precious things thereof, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah will I give into the hand of their enemies, which shall spoil them, and take them, and carry them to Babylon. ⁶And thou, Pashur, and all that dwell in thine house, shall go into captivity; and thou shalt come to Babylon, and there thou shalt die, and shalt be buried there, thou, and all thy friends, to whom thou hast prophesied lies."

Jeremiah's complaint

 O Lord, thou hast deceive me, and I was deceived; thou art stronger than I, and hast prevailed;
 I am in derision daily, everyone mocketh me. JEREMIAH 21 128

8For since I spake, I cried out,

I cried violence and spoil;

because the word of the LORD was made a reproach unto me,

and a derision, daily.

Then I said, "I will not make mention of him,

nor speak anymore in his name."

But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones,

and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

¹⁰For I heard the defaming of many, fear on every side.

"Report," say they, "and we will report it."

All my familiars watched for my halting,

saying, "Peradventure he will be enticed, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him."

□But the LORD is with me as a mighty terrible one;

therefore my persecutors shall stumble, and they shall not prevail;

they shall be greatly ashamed, for they shall not prosper;

their everlasting confusion shall never be forgotten.

¹²But, O LORD of hosts, that triest the righteous,

and seest the reins and the heart,

let me see thy vengeance on them;

for unto thee have I opened my cause.

¹³Sing unto the LORD,

praise ye the LORD;

for he hath delivered the soul of the poor

from the hand of evildoers.

¹⁴Cursed be the day wherein I was born;

let not the day wherein my mother bare me be blessed.

¹⁵Cursed be the man who brought tidings to my father,

saying, "A man-child is born unto thee," making him very glad.

¹⁶And let that man be as the cities which the LORD overthrew, and repented not;

and let him hear the cry in the morning, and the shouting at noontide;

¹⁷Because he slew me not from the womb;

or that my mother might have been my grave,

and her womb to be always great with me.

18Wherefore came I forth out of the womb to see labor and sorrow,

that my days should be consumed with shame?

The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, when king Zedekiah sent unto him Pashur the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, saying, "2Inquire, I pray thee, of the LORD for us; for Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon maketh war against us; if so be that the LORD will deal with us according to all his wondrous works, that he may go up from us."

³Then said Jeremiah unto them:

Thus shall ye say to Zedekiah, ⁴"Thus saith the LORD God of Israel: Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands, wherewith ye fight against the king of Babylon, and against the Chaldeans, which besiege you without the walls, and I will assemble them into the midst of this city. ⁵And I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger, and in fury, and in great wrath. ⁶And I will smite the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast; they shall die of a great pestilence. ⁷And afterward, saith the LORD, I will deliver

I29 JEREMIAH 22

Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those that seek their life; and he shall smite them with the edge of the sword; he shall not spare them, neither have pity, nor have mercy.

⁸And unto this people thou shalt say, "Thus saith the LORD: Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death. ⁹He that abideth in this city shall die by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence; but he that goeth out, and falleth to the Chaldeans that besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be unto him for a prey. ¹⁰For I have set my face against this city for evil, and not for good, saith the LORD; it shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire."

11 And touching the house of the king of Judah, say, "Hear ye the word of the LORD; 12O house of David, thus saith the LORD:

Execute judgment in the morning,

and deliver him that is spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor,

lest my fury go out like fire,

and burn that none can quench it,

because of the evil of your doings.

¹³Behold, I am against thee, O inhabitant of the valley,

and rock of the plain, saith the LORD;

which say, "Who shall come down against us?

Or who shall enter into our habitations?"

14But I will punish you

according to the fruit of your doings, saith the LORD;

and I will kindle a fire in the forest thereof,

and it shall devour all things round about it.

Judgement against wicked kings

77 Thus saith the LORD:

Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word, ²and say, "Hear the word of the LORD, O King of Judah, that sittest upon the throne of David, thou, and thy servants, and thy people that enter in by these gates; ³thus saith the LORD, Execute ye judgment and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor; and do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place. ⁴For if ye do this thing indeed, then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people. ⁵But if ye will not hear these words, I swear by myself, saith the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation.

⁶For thus saith the LORD unto the King's house of Judah:

Thou art Gilead unto me,

and the head of Lebanon;

yet surely I will make thee a wilderness,

and cities which are not inhabited.

7And I will prepare destroyers against thee,

everyone with his weapons;

and they shall cut down thy choice cedars,

and cast them into the fire.

```
8 And many nations shall pass by this city, and they shall say every man to his neighbor,
"Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this great city?" 9Then they shall answer,
"Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD their God, and worshiped other
gods, and served them."
<sup>10</sup>Weep ye not for the dead neither bemoan him;
    but weep sore for him that goeth away;
for he shall return no more,
    nor see his native country.
For thus saith the LORD touching Shallum the son of Josiah king of Judah, which
reigned instead of Josiah his father, which went forth out of his place:
    He shall not return thither any more, 12but he shall die in the place whither they have
    led him captive, and shall see this land no more.
    <sup>13</sup>Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness,
        and his chambers by wrong;
         that useth his neighbor's service without wages,
        and giveth him not for his work;
    14that saith, "I will build me a wide house and large chambers,"
        and cutteth him out windows;
    and it is ceiled with cedar,
        and painted with vermilion.
    15 Shalt thou reign, because thou closest thyself in cedar?
        Did not thy father eat and drink,
    and do judgment and justice,
        and then it was well with him?
    <sup>16</sup>He judged the cause of the poor and needy;
        then it was well with him;
         was not this to know me? Saith the LORD.
    <sup>17</sup>But thine eyes and thine heart are not but for thy covetousness,
        and for to shed innocent blood,
        and for oppression, and for violence, to do it.
<sup>18</sup>Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah:
    They shall not lament for him,
        saying, "Ah my brother! Or, Ah sister!"
    They shall not lament for him,
         saying, "Ah lord!" Or, "Ah his glory!"
    <sup>19</sup>He shall be buried with the burial of an ass,
        drawn and cast forth beyond the gates of Jerusalem.
    <sup>20</sup>Go up to Lebanon, and cry;
        and lift up thy voice in Bashan, and cry from the passages;
         for all thy lovers are destroyed.
    <sup>2</sup> I spake unto thee in thy prosperity;
         but thou saidst, I will not hear.
    This hath been thy manner from thy youth,
         that thou obeyedst not my voice.
    <sup>22</sup>The wind shall eat up all thy pastors,
         and thy lovers shall go into captivity;
    surely then shalt thou be ashamed and confounded
         for all thy wickedness.
```

²³O inhabitant of Lebanon, that makest thy nest in the cedars, how gracious shalt thou be when pangs come upon thee, the pain as of a woman in travail!

²⁴As I live, saith the LORD, "though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah were the signet upon my right hand, yet would I pluck thee thence; ²⁵and I will give thee into the hand of them that seek thy life, and into the hand of them whose face thou fearest, even into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of the Chaldeans. ²⁶And I will cast thee out, and thy mother that bare thee, into another country, where ye were not born; and there shall ye die. ²⁷But to the land whereunto they desire to return, thither shall they not return.

Is this man Coniah a despised broken idol?
Is he a vessel wherein is no pleasure?
are they cast out, he and his seed,
and are cast into a land which they know not?
O earth, earth, earth,
hear the word of the LORD.
Thus saith the LORD,
Write ye this man childless,
a man that shall not prosper in his days;
for no man of his seed shall prosper,
sitting upon the throne of David,
and ruling anymore in Judah."

A righteous branch

1"Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" saith the LORD. ²Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people, Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them; behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings," saith the LORD. ³"And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. ⁴And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking," saith the LORD.

5"Behold, the days come," saith the LORD,
"that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch,
and a King shall reign and prosper,
and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.
6In his days Judah shall be saved,
and Israel shall dwell safely;
and this is his name whereby he shall be called,
THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."

7"Therefore, behold, the days come," saith the LORD, "that they shall no more say, 'The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;' 8but, 'The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country,' and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

False prophets ⁹Mine heart within me is broken because of the prophets; all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine hath overcome. because of the LORD. and because of the words of his holiness. ¹⁰For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourneth; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and their force is not right. □For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD. ¹²Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness; they shall be driven on, and fall therein; for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation, saith the LORD. ¹³And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied in Baal, and caused my people Israel to err. 14I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem a horrible thing; they commit adultery, and walk in lies; they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness; they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah. ¹⁵Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets: Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall; for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land. ¹⁶Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you; they make you vain; they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD. ¹⁷They say still unto them that despise me, "The LORD hath said, 'Ye shall have peace;" and they say unto everyone that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, "No evil shall come upon you." ¹⁸For who hath stood in the counsel of the LORD, and hath perceived and heard his word? Who hath marked his word, and heard it? ¹⁹Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind; it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked. ²⁰The anger of the LORD shall not return,

until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart;

in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly.

I33 JEREMIAH 24

I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran;
I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.
22But if they had stood in my counsel,
and had caused my people to hear my words,
then they should have turned them from their evil way,
and from the evil of their doings.

- ²³Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off?
- ²⁴Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.
- ²⁵"I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed.' ²⁶How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? Yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart; ²⁷which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams, which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal."
- ²⁸"The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat?" saith the LORD. ²⁹"Is not my word like as a fire?" saith the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?"
- ³⁰"Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets," saith the LORD, "that steal my words everyone from his neighbor. ³¹Behold, I am against the prophets," saith the LORD, "that use their tongues, and say, 'He saith.' ³²Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams," saith the LORD, "and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them; therefore they shall not profit this people at all," saith the LORD.
- ³³"And when this people or the prophet, or a priest, shall ask thee, saying, 'What is the burden of the LORD?' Thou shalt then say unto them, 'What burden?' I will even forsake you," saith the LORD. ³⁴"And as for the prophet, and the priest, and the people, that shall say, 'The burden of the LORD,' I will even punish that man and his house.
- ³⁵Thus shall ye say everyone to his neighbor, and everyone to his brother, 'What hath the LORD answered?' and, 'What hath the LORD spoken?' ³⁶And the burden of the LORD shall ye mention no more; for every man's word shall be his burden; for ye have perverted the words of the living God, of the LORD of hosts our God.
- ³⁷Thus shalt thou say to the prophet, 'What hath the LORD answered thee?' And, 'What hath the LORD spoken?' ³⁸But since ye say, 'The burden of the LORD,' therefore thus saith the LORD, 'Because ye say this word, 'The burden of the LORD,' and I have sent unto you, saying, 'Ye shall not say, 'The burden of the LORD,' ³⁹therefore, behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you, and I will forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and cast you out of my presence; ⁴⁰and I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and a perpetual shame, which shall not be forgotten."

Two baskets of figs

¹The LORD showed me, and, behold, two baskets of figs were set before the temple of the LORD, after that Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon had carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, and the princes of Judah, with the carpenters and smiths, from Jerusalem, and had brought them to Babylon. ²One basket had very good

figs, even like the figs that are first ripe; and the other basket had very naughty figs, which could not be eaten, they were so bad.

³Then said the LORD unto me, "What seest thou, Jeremiah?" And I said, "Figs; the good figs, very good; and the evil, very evil, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil."

⁴Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

⁵Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge them that are carried away captive of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans for their good. ⁶For I will set mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land; and I will build them, and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up. ⁷And I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the LORD; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God; for they shall return unto me with their whole heart.

⁸And as the evil figs, which cannot be eaten, they are so evil; surely thus saith the LORD: So will I give Zedekiah the king of Judah, and his princes, and the residue of Jerusalem, that remain in this land, and them that dwell in the land of Egypt; ⁹and I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth for their hurt, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all places whither I shall drive them. ¹⁰And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, among them, till they be consumed from off the land that I gave unto them and to their fathers.

Seventy years of captivity

¹The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; ²the which Jeremiah the prophet spake unto all the people of Judah:

³From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, even unto this day, that is the three and twentieth year, the word of the LORD hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye have not hearkened.

⁴And the LORD hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending them; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear. ⁵They said, "Turn ye again now everyone from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD hath given unto you and to your fathers forever and ever; ⁶and go not after other gods to serve them, and to worship them, and provoke me not to anger with the works of your hands; and I will do you no hurt."

⁷Yet ye have not hearkened unto me, saith the LORD; that ye might provoke me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt.

⁸Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts: Because ye have not heard my words, ⁹behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and a hissing, and perpetual desolations. ¹⁰Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle. ¹¹And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

¹²And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations. ¹³And I will bring upon that

I35 JEREMIAH 25

land all my words which I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations. ¹⁴For many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of them also; and I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands.

The cup of God's wrath

15For thus saith the LORD God of Israel unto me:

Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it. ¹⁶And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword that I will send among them.

¹⁷Then took I the cup at the LORD's hand, and made all the nations to drink, unto whom the LORD had sent me; ¹⁸to wit, Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and the kings thereof, and the princes thereof, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, a hissing, and a curse; as it is this day; ¹⁹Pharaoh king of Egypt, and his servants, and his princes, and all his people; ²⁰and all the mingled people, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Azzah, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod, ²¹Edom, and Moab, and the children of Ammon, ²²and all the kings of Tyrus, and all the kings of Zidon, and the kings of the isles which are beyond the sea, ²³Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all that are in the utmost corners, ²⁴and all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mingled people that dwell in the desert, ²⁵and all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes, ²⁶and all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kingdoms of the world, which are upon the face of the earth; and the king of Sheshach shall drink after them.

²⁷Therefore thou shalt say unto them: Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; 'Drink ye, and be drunken, and spew, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.' ²⁸And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup at thine hand to drink, then shalt thou say unto them, 'Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Ye shall certainly drink. ²⁹For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city which is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished; for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts.'

³⁰Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them:

The LORD shall roar from on high,

and utter his voice from his holy habitation;

he shall mightily roar upon his habitation;

he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes,

against all the inhabitants of the earth.

³¹A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth;

for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations;

he will plead with all flesh;

he will give the wicked to the sword, saith the LORD.

32Thus saith the LORD of hosts:

Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation,

and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth.

³³And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth; they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.

³⁴Howl, ye shepherds, and cry;

and wallow yourselves in the ashes, ye principal of the flock;

for the days of your slaughter and of your dispersions are accomplished; and ye shall fall like a pleasant vessel.

³⁵And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the principal of the flock to escape.

³⁶A voice of the cry of the shepherds, and a howling of the principal of the flock, shall be heard; for the LORD hath spoiled their pasture.

³⁷And the peaceable habitations are cut down because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

³⁸He hath forsaken his covert, as the lion; for their land is desolate because of the fierceness of the oppressor, and because of his fierce anger.

Jeremiah threatened with death

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word from the LORD, saying:

²Thus saith the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD's house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word. ³If so be they will hearken, and turn every man from his evil way, and repent, I will turn away the evil which I purpose to do unto them because of the evil of their doings. ⁴And thou shalt say unto them, "Thus saith the LORD: If ye will not hearken to me, to walk in my law, which I have set before you, ⁵to hearken to the words of my servants, the prophets, whom I sent unto you, commanding them to rise up early, and sending them; ⁶then will I make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth; for ye have not hearkened unto my servants the prophets."

⁷So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. ⁸Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people took him, saying, "Thou shalt surely die. ⁹Why hast thou prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, 'This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate without an inhabitant?'" And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

¹⁰When the princes of Judah heard these things, then they came up from the king's house unto the house of the LORD, and sat down in the entry of the new gate of the LORD's house. ¹¹Then spake the priests and the prophets unto the princes and to all the people, saying, "This man is worthy to die; for he hath prophesied against this city, as ye have heard with your ears."

Then spake Jeremiah unto all the princes and to all the people, saying, "The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city all the words that ye have heard.

Therefore now, amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and repent, and the Lord will turn away the evil that he hath pronounced against you. ¹⁴As for me, behold, I am in your hand; do with me as seemeth good and meet unto you. ¹⁵But know ye for certain, that if ye put me to death, ye shall surely bring innocent blood upon yourselves, and upon this city, and upon the inhabitants thereof; for of a truth the LORD hath sent me unto you to speak all these words in your ears."

¹⁶Then said the princes and all the people unto the priests and to the prophets, "This man is not worthy to die; for he hath spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God."

that I may repent me of

repent him of

I37 JEREMIAH 27

¹⁷Then rose up certain of the elders of the land, and spake to all the assembly of the people, saying, ¹⁸"Micah the Morasthite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spake to all the people of Judah, saying, 'Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Zion shall be ploughed like a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house of the LORD as the high places of a forest.' ¹⁹Did Hezekiah, king of Judah, and all Judah put him at all to death? Did he not fear the LORD and beseech the LORD <u>and repent? And the Lord turned away</u> the evil which he had pronounced against them. Thus by putting Jeremiah to death we might procure great evil against our souls."

and the LORD repented him of

²⁰But there was a man among the priests, rose up and said, that, Urijah the son of Shemaiah of Kirjath-Jearim, prophesied in the name of the Lord, who also prophesied against this city, and against this land, according to all the words of Jeremiah; ²¹and when Jehoiakim the king, with all his mighty men, and all the princes, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death; but when Urijah heard it, he was afraid, and fled, and went into Egypt; ²²and Jehoiakim the king sent men into Egypt, namely, Elnathan the son of Achbor, and certain men with him into Egypt. ²³And they fetched forth Urijah out of Egypt, and brought him unto Jehoiakim the king; who slew him with the sword, and cast his dead body into the graves of the common people.

²⁴Nevertheless, the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah, that they should not give him into the hand of the people to put him to death.

Judah to serve Nebuchadnezzar

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

²Thus saith the LORD to me: Make thee bonds and yokes, and put them upon thy neck, ³and send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the Ammonites, and to the king of Tyrus, and to the king of Zidon, by the hand of the messengers which come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah; ⁴and command them to say unto their masters, "Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Thus shall ye say unto your masters, ⁵'I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me. ⁶And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him. ⁷And all nations shall serve him, and his son, and his son's son, until the very time of their end come; and after that many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of them.""

8And it shall come to pass, that the nation and kingdom which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation will I punish, saith the LORD, with the sword, and with the famine, and with the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand. 9Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, 'Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon;' 10for they prophesy a lie unto you, to remove you far from your land; and that I should drive you out, and ye should perish. 11But the nations that bring their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him, those will I let still remain in their own land, saith the LORD; and they shall till it, and dwell therein.

¹²I spake also to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying:

Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his
people, and live. ¹³Why will ye die, thou and thy people, by the sword, by the famine,

and by the pestilence, as the LORD hath spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon? ¹⁴Therefore hearken not unto the words of the prophets that speak unto you, saying, "Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon;" for they prophesy a lie unto you. ¹⁵For I have not sent them, saith the LORD, yet they prophesy a lie in my name; that I might drive you out, and that ye might perish, ye, and the prophets that prophesy unto you.

¹⁶Also I spake to the priests and to all this people, saying:

Thus saith the LORD: Hearken not to the words of your prophets that prophesy unto you, saying, "Behold, the vessels of the LORD's house shall now shortly be brought again from Babylon;" for they prophesy a lie unto you. ¹⁷Hearken not unto them; serve the king of Babylon, and live; wherefore should this city be laid waste? 18 But if they be prophets, and if the word of the LORD be with them, let them now make intercession to the LORD of hosts, that the vessels which are left in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem, go not to Babylon. ¹⁹For thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the pillars, and concerning the sea, and concerning the bases, and concerning the residue of the vessels that remain in this city. ²⁰Which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took not, when he carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah from Jerusalem to Babylon, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem; 21 yea, thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels that remain in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah and of Jerusalem; 22they shall be carried to Babylon, and there shall they be until the day that I visit them, saith the LORD; then will I bring them up, and restore them to this place.

The false prophet Hananiah

And it came to pass the same year, in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year, and in the fifth month, that Hananiah the son of Azur the prophet, which was of Gibeon, spake unto me in the house of the LORD, in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying:

²Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, "I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon. ³Within two full years will I bring again into this place all the vessels of the LORD's house, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place, and carried them to Babylon; ⁴and I will bring again to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, with all the captives of Judah, that went into Babylon, saith the LORD; for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon."

⁵Then the prophet Jeremiah said unto the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests, and in the presence of all the people that stood in the house of the LORD, ⁶even the prophet Jeremiah said:

Amen; the LORD do so; the LORD perform thy words which thou hast prophesied, to bring again the vessels of the LORD's house, and all that is carried away captive, from Babylon into this place. Nevertheless, hear thou now this word that I speak in thine ears, and in the ears of all the people; the prophets that have been before me and before thee of old prophesied both against many countries, and against great kingdoms, of war, and of evil, and pestilence. The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the LORD hath truly sent him.

¹⁰Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from off the prophet Jeremiah's neck, and brake it. ¹¹And Hananiah spake in the presence of all the people, saying, "Thus saith the

I39 IEREMIAH 29

LORD: Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years."

And the prophet Jeremiah went his way. ¹²Then the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah the prophet, after that Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying:

¹³Go and tell Hananiah, saying, "Thus saith the LORD: Thou hast broken the yokes of wood; but thou shalt make for them yokes of iron. ¹⁴For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I have put a yoke of iron upon the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him; and I have given him the beasts of the field also.

15 Then said the prophet Jeremiah unto Hananiah the prophet:

Hear now, Hananiah. The LORD hath not sent thee; but thou makest this people to trust in a lie. ¹⁶Therefore thus saith the LORD: Behold, I will cast thee from off the face of the earth; this year thou shalt die, because thou hast taught rebellion against the LORD.

¹⁷So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month.

A letter to the exiles

Now these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem unto the residue of the elders which were carried away captives, and to the priests, and to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon ² (after that Jeconiah the king, and the queen, and the eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, and the carpenters, and the smiths, were departed from Jerusalem) ³By the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, (whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent unto Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon) saying:

⁴Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon: ⁵Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; ⁶take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for you sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished. ⁷And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it; for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace. ⁸For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed. ⁹For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name. I have not sent them, saith the LORD.

¹⁰For thus saith the LORD: That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. ¹¹For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. ¹²Then shall ye call unto me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. ¹³And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. ¹⁴And I will be found of you, saith the LORD; and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.

15 Because ye have said, "The LORD hath raised us up prophets in Babylon;" 16know that thus saith the LORD of the king that sitteth upon the throne of David, and of all the people that dwelleth in this city, and of your brethren that are not gone forth with you into captivity; 17thus saith the LORD of hosts: Behold, I will send upon them the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, and will make them like vile figs, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil. 18 And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and a hissing, and a reproach, among all the nations whither I have driven them; 19 because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the LORD, which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, commanding them to rise early, and sending them; but ye would not hear, saith the LORD.

²⁰Hear ye therefore the word of the LORD, all ye of the captivity, whom I have sent from Jerusalem to Babylon; ²¹thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, of Ahab the son of Kolaiah, and of Zedekiah the son of Maaseiah, which prophesy a lie unto you in my name: Behold, I will deliver them into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall slay them before your eyes; ²²and of them shall be taken up a curse by all the captivity of Judah which are in Babylon, saying, 'The LORD make thee like Zedekiah and like Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire;' ²³because they have committed villainy in Israel, and have committed adultery with their neighbors' wives, and have spoken lying words in my name, which I have not commanded them; even I know, and am a witness, saith the LORD.

²⁴Thus shalt thou also speak to Shemaiah the Nehelamite, saying: ²⁵Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying: Because thou hast sent letters in thy name unto all the people that are at Jerusalem, and to Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, and to all the priests, saying, ²⁶"The LORD hath made thee priest in the stead of Jehoiada the priest, that ye should be officers in the house of the LORD, for every man that is mad, and maketh himself a prophet, that thou shouldest put him in prison, and in the stocks. ²⁷Now therefore why hast thou not reproved Jeremiah of Anathoth, which maketh himself a prophet to you? ²⁸For therefore he sent unto us in Babylon, saying, "This captivity is long; build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them.""

²⁹And Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the ears of Jeremiah the prophet. ³⁰Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying:

³¹Send to all them of the captivity, saying, "Thus saith the LORD concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite: Because that Shemaiah hath prophesied unto you, and I sent him not, and he caused you to trust in a lie; ³²therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will punish Shemaiah the Nehelamite, and his seed; he shall not have a man to dwell among this people; neither shall he behold the good that I will do for my people, saith the LORD; because he hath taught rebellion against the LORD."

Latter-day restoration

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

²Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying: Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book. ³For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD; and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.

⁴And these are the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. ⁵For thus saith the LORD:

We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. ⁶Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? Wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? 7Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. ⁸For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him; 9but they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them. ¹⁰Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, O Israel; for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid. □For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee; though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee; but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished. ¹²For thus saith the LORD, thy bruise is not incurable, although thy wounds are grievous. ¹³Is there none to plead thy cause, that thou mayest be bound up? Hast thou no healing medicines? ¹⁴Have all thy lovers forgotten thee, do they not seek thee? For I have wounded thee with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, for the multitude of thine iniquities; because thy sins are increased. 15Why criest thou for thine affliction? Is thy sorrow incurable? It was for the multitude of thine iniquities, and because thy sins are increased I have done these things unto thee. ¹⁶But all they that devour thee shall be devoured; and all thine adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; and they that spoil thee shall be a spoil, and all that prey upon thee will I give for a prey. ¹⁷For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD;

because they called thee an outcast, saying, "This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after." ¹⁸Thus saith the LORD: Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwelling places; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap, and the palace shall remain after the manner thereof. ¹⁹And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of them that make merry; and I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small. ²⁰Their children also shall be as aforetime, and their congregation shall be established before me, and I will punish all that oppress them. ²¹And their nobles shall be of themselves, and their governor shall proceed from the midst of them; and I will cause him to draw near, and he shall approach unto me; for who is this that engaged his heart to approach unto me? saith the LORD. ²²And ye shall be my people, and I will be your God. ²³Behold, the whirlwind of the LORD goeth forth with fury, a continuing whirlwind; it shall fall with pain upon the head of the wicked. ²⁴The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have done it, and until he have performed the intents of his heart; in the latter days ye shall consider it. "At the same time," saith the LORD, "will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people." ²Thus saith the LORD: The people which were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest. The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying: Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee. ⁴Again I will build thee, and thou shall be built, O virgin of Israel; thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry. ⁵Thou shalt yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall eat them as common things. ⁶For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, "Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God." ⁷For thus saith the LORD: Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations; publish ye, praise ye, and say, "O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel."

I43 JEREMIAH 31

⁸Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together; a great company shall return thither. ⁹They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them; I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way wherein they shall not stumble; for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, "He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock." □For the LORD hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he. ¹²Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd; and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow anymore at all. ¹³Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together; for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow. ¹⁴And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the LORD. 15Thus saith the LORD: A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not. 16Thus saith the LORD: Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears; for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy. ¹⁷And there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border. ¹⁸I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus, "Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke; turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art the LORD my God. ¹⁹Surely after that I was turned, I repented; and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh; I was ashamed, yea, even confounded,

because I did bear the reproach of my youth.

²⁰Is Ephraim my dear son?

Is he a pleasant child?

For since I spake against him,

I do earnestly remember him still;

therefore my bowels are troubled for him;

I will surely have mercy upon him, saith the LORD.

21 Set thee up waymarks,

make thee high heaps;

set thine heart toward the highway,

even the way which thou wentest;

turn again, O virgin of Israel,

turn again to these thy cities.

²²How long wilt thou go about,

O thou backsliding daughter?

For the LORD hath created a new thing in the earth,

a woman shall compass a man.

²³Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:

As yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judah and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity, "The LORD bless thee, O habitation of justice, and mountain of holiness." ²⁴And there shall dwell in Judah itself, and in all the cities thereof together, husbandmen, and they that go forth with flocks. ²⁵For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul.

²⁶Upon this I awaked, and beheld; and my sleep was sweet unto me.

²⁷Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast. ²⁸And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to break down, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, saith the LORD. ²⁹In those days they shall say no more, "The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge." ³⁰But everyone shall die for his own iniquity; every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.

³¹Behold, the days come, saith the LORD,

that I will make a new covenant

with the house of Israel,

and with the house of Judah.

³²Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers,

in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake,

although I was a husband unto them, saith the LORD;

³³but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel;

After those days, saith the LORD,

I will put my law in their inward parts,

and write it in their hearts;

and will be their God,

and they shall be my people.

³⁴And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor,

and every man his brother, saying, "Know the LORD;"

for they shall all know me,

from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD;

for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

35Thus saith the LORD,

which giveth the sun for a light by day,

and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night,

which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar;

The LORD of hosts is his name;

³⁶if those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD,

then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me forever.

³⁷Thus saith the LORD:

If heaven above can be measured,

and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath,

I will also cast off all the seed of Israel

for all that they have done, saith the LORD.

³⁸Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the city shall be built to the LORD from the tower of Hananeel unto the gate of the corner. ³⁹And the measuring line shall yet go forth over against it upon the hill Gareb, and shall compass about to Goath. ⁴⁰And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook of Kidron, unto the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be holy unto the LORD; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down anymore forever.

Jeremiah buys a field

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar. For then the king of Babylon's army besieged Jerusalem; and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the prison, which was in the king of Judah's house.

³For Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, "Wherefore dost thou prophesy, and say, 'Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it; ⁴and Zedekiah king of Judah shall not escape out of the hand of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon, and shall speak with him mouth to mouth, and his eyes shall behold his eyes; ⁵and he shall lead Zedekiah to Babylon, and there shall he be until I visit him, saith the LORD; though ye fight with the Chaldeans, ye shall not prosper."

6And Jeremiah said:

The word of the LORD came unto me, saying, ⁷"Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, 'Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth; for the right of redemption is thine to buy it.' ⁸So Hanameel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD, and said unto me, 'Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin; for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption is thine; buy it for thyself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

⁹And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰And I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances. ¹¹So I took the evidence of the purchase, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open; ¹²and I gave the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, in the sight of

Hanameel mine uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses that subscribed the book of the purchase, before all the Jews that sat in the court of the prison.

¹³And I charged Baruch before them saying, ¹⁴"Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these evidences, this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days. ¹⁵For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land.

¹⁶Now when I had delivered the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed unto the LORD, saying:

¹⁷Ah Lord GOD! Behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched-out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee; 18thou showest loving-kindness unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them; The Great, The Mighty God, The LORD of hosts, is his name; 19 great in counsel, and mighty in work; for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men, to give everyone according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings; 20 which hast set signs and wonder in the land of Egypt, even unto this day, and in Israel, and among other men; and hast made thee a name, as at this day; 21 and hast brought forth thy people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs, and with wonders, and with a strong hand, and with a stretched-out arm, and with great terror; ²² and hast given them this land, which thou didst swear to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey; 23 and they came in, and possessed it; but they obeyed not thy voice, neither walked in thy law; they have done nothing of all that thou commandedest them to do; therefore thou hast caused all this evil to come upon them.

²⁴Behold the mounts, they are come unto the city to take it; and the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans that fight against it, because of the sword, and of the famine, and of the pestilence; and what thou hast spoken is come to pass; and, behold, thou seest it. ²⁵And thou hast said unto me, O Lord GOD, "Buy thee the field for money, and take witnesses; for the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans."

²⁶Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying:

²⁷Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is there anything too hard for me?
²⁸Therefore thus saith the LORD: Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, and into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it;
²⁹and the Chaldeans, that fight against this city, shall come and set fire on this city, and burn it with the houses, upon whose roofs they have offered incense unto Baal, and poured out drink offerings unto other gods, to provoke me to anger.

³⁰For the children of Israel and the children of Judah have only done evil before me from their youth; for the children of Israel have only provoked me to anger with the work of their hands, saith the LORD. ³¹For this city hath been to me as a provocation of mine anger and of my fury from the day that they built it even unto this day, that I should remove it from before my face; ³²because of all the evil of the children of Israel and of the children of Judah, which they have done to provoke me to anger, they, their kings, their princes, their priests, and their prophets, and the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ³³And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face; though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction. ³⁴But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it. ³⁵And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters

to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.

³⁶And now therefore thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city, whereof ye say, "It shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence;" ³⁷behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely; ³⁸and they shall be my people, and I will be their God; ³⁹and I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me forever, for the good of them, and of their children after them; ⁴⁰and I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me. ⁴¹Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul.

⁴²For thus saith the LORD: Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them. ⁴³And fields shall be bought in this land, whereof ye say, It is desolate without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans. ⁴⁴Men shall buy fields for money, and subscribe evidences, and seal them, and take witnesses in the land of Benjamin, and in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, and in the cities of the mountains, and in the cities of the valley, and in the cities of the south; for I will cause their captivity to return, saith the LORD.

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah the second time, while he was yet shut up in the court of the prison, saying:

²Thus saith the LORD the maker thereof, the LORD that formed it, to establish it; The LORD is his name; ³call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. ⁴For thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the houses of this city, and concerning the houses of the kings of Judah, which are thrown down by the mounts, and by the sword; ⁵they come to fight with the Chaldeans, but it is to fill them with the dead bodies of men, whom I have slain in mine anger and in my fury, and for all whose wickedness I have hid my face from his city.

⁶Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth. ⁷And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first. ⁸And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me. ⁹And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honor before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them; and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it.

Thus saith the LORD: Again there shall be heard in this place, which ye say shall be desolate without man and without beast, even in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, that are desolate, without man, and without inhabitant, and without beast, "the voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, "Praise the LORD of hosts; for the LORD is good; for his mercy endureth forever unto them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD." For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, saith the LORD.

¹²Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Again in this place, which is desolate without man and without beast, and in all the cities thereof, shall be a habitation of shepherds causing their flocks to lie down. ¹³In the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the vale, and in the cities of the south, and in the land of Benjamin, and in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, shall the flocks pass again under the hands of him that telleth them, saith the LORD.

¹⁴Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely, and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our Righteousness.

¹⁷For thus saith the LORD: David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel; ¹⁸neither shall the priests the Levites want a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meat offerings, and to do sacrifice continually.

¹⁹And the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, saying,

²⁰Thus saith the LORD: If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season; ²¹then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.

²²As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured; so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.

²³Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

²⁴Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, "The two families which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off?" Thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them. ²⁵Thus saith the LORD, if my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; ²⁶then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.

Warning to Zedekiah

The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and all his army, and all the kingdoms of the earth of his dominion, and all the people, fought against Jerusalem, and against all the cities thereof, saying:

²Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Go and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah, and tell him: "Thus saith the LORD: Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire; ³and thou shalt not escape out of his hand, but shalt surely be taken, and delivered into his hand; and thine eyes shall behold the eyes of the king of Babylon, and he shall speak with thee mouth to mouth, and thou shalt go to Babylon."

⁴Yet hear the word of the LORD, O Zedekiah king of Judah: Thus saith the LORD of thee, thou shalt not die by the sword; ⁵but thou shalt die in peace; and with the burnings of thy fathers, the former kings which were before thee, so shall they burn odors for thee; and they will lament thee, saying, "Ah lord!" For I have pronounced the word, saith the LORD.

149 IEREMIAH 35

⁶Then Jeremiah the prophet spake all these words unto Zedekiah king of Judah in Jerusalem, ⁷when the king of Babylon's army fought against Jerusalem, and against all the cities of Judah that were left, against Lachish, and against Azekah; for these defensed cities remained of the cities of Judah.

Jerusalem forsakes their covenant to free servants

⁸This is the word that came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, after that the king Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people which were at Jerusalem, to proclaim liberty unto them; ⁹that every man should let his manservant, and every man his maidservant, being a Hebrew or a Hebrewess, go free; that none should serve himself of them, to wit, of a Jew his brother. ¹⁰Now when all the princes, and all the people, which had entered into the covenant, heard that everyone should let his manservant, and everyone his maidservant, go free, that none should serve themselves of them anymore; then they obeyed, and let them go. ¹¹But afterwards they turned, and caused the servants and the handmaids, whom they had let go free, to return, and brought them into subjection for servants and for handmaids. ¹²Therefore the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: I made a covenant with your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondmen, saying, ¹⁴"At the end of seven years let ye go every man his brother a Hebrew, which hath been sold unto thee; and when he hath served thee six years, thou shalt let him go free from thee;" but your fathers hearkened not unto me, neither inclined their ear. ¹⁵But ye were now turned, and had done right in my sight, in proclaiming liberty every man to his neighbor; and ye had made a covenant before me in the house which is called by my name. ¹⁶But ye turned and polluted my name, and caused every man his servant, and every man his handmaid, whom he had set at liberty at their pleasure, to return, and brought them into subjection, to be unto you for servants and for handmaids.

¹⁷Therefore thus saith the LORD: Ye have not hearkened unto me, in proclaiming liberty, everyone to his brother, and every man to his neighbor; behold, I proclaim a liberty for you, saith the LORD, to the sword, to the pestilence, and to the famine; and I will make you to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth. ¹⁸And I will give the men that have transgressed my covenant, which have not performed the words of the covenant which they had made before me, when they cut the calf in twain, and passed between the parts thereof, ¹⁹the princes of Judah, and the princes of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, and the priests, and all the people of the land, which passed between the parts of the calf; ²⁰I will even give them into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of them that seek their life; and their dead bodies shall be for meat unto the fowls of the heaven, and to the beasts of the earth.

²¹And Zedekiah king of Judah and his princes will I give into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of them that seek their life, and into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which are gone up from you. ²²Behold, I will command, saith the LORD, and cause them to return to this city; and they shall fight against it, and take it, and burn it with fire; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation without an inhabitant.

The Rechabites

The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, in the days of Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying:

²Go unto the house of the Rechabites, and speak unto them, and bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink.

³Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habaziniah, and his brethren, and all his sons, and the whole house of Rechabites; ⁴and I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan, the son of Igdaliah, a man of God, which was by the chamber of the princes, which was above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Challum, the keeper of the door; ⁵and I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full of wine, and cups; and I said unto them, "Drink ye wine." ⁶But they said:

We will drink no wine; for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, 'Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye, nor your sons forever; ⁷neither shall ye build house, nor sow seed, nor plant vineyard, nor have any; but all your days ye shall dwell in tents; that ye may live many days in the land where ye be strangers.' ⁸Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that he hath charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters; ⁹nor to build houses for us to dwell in; neither have we vineyard, nor field, nor seed; ¹⁰but we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.

"But it came to pass, when Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, that we said, 'Come, and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of the army of the Syrians; so we dwell at Jerusalem.'

¹²Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying:

Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Go and tell the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, 'Will ye not receive instruction to hearken to my words? Saith the LORD.' ¹⁴The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons not to drink wine, are performed; for unto this day they drink none, but obey their father's commandment; notwithstanding I have spoken unto you, commanding you to rise early, and speaking to you, but ye hearkened not unto me.

¹⁵I have sent also unto you all my servants the prophets, commanding them to rise up early, and sending them, saying, 'Return ye now every man from his evil way, and amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and ye shall dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers;' but ye have not inclined your ear, nor hearkened unto me.

¹⁶Because the sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have performed the commandment of their father, which he commanded them; but this people hath not hearkened unto me; ¹⁷therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them; because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered.

¹⁸And Jeremiah said unto the house of the Rechabites:

Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Because ye have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according unto all that he hath commanded you; ¹⁹therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not want a man to stand before me forever.

Jehoiakim burns Jeremiah's scroll

And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying:

ISI IEREMIAH 36

²Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day. ³It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

⁴Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah; and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book. ⁵And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying:

I am shut up; I cannot go into the house of the LORD; 6therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD's house upon the fasting day; and also thou shalt read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities. 7It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will return everyone from his evil way; for great is the anger and the fury that the LORD hath pronounced against this people.

⁸And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the words of the LORD in the LORD's house.

⁹And it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the LORD to all the people in Jerusalem, and to all the people that came from the cities of Judah unto Jerusalem. ¹⁰Then read Baruch in the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the higher court, at the entry of the new gate of the LORD's house, in the ears of all the people. ¹¹When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard out of the book all the words of the LORD, ¹²then he went down into the king's house, into the scribe's chamber; and, lo, all the princes sat there, even Elishama the scribe, and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes. ¹³Then Michaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.

¹⁴Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, unto Baruch, saying, "Take in thine hand the roll wherein thou hast read in the ears of the people, and come." So Baruch the son of Neriah took the roll in his hand, and came unto them. ¹⁵And they said unto him, "Sit down now, and read it in our ears." So Baruch read it in their ears.

¹⁶Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the words, they were afraid both one and other, and said unto Baruch, "We will surely tell the king of all these words." ¹⁷And they asked Baruch, saying, "Tell us now, how didst thou write all these words at his mouth?" ¹⁸Then Baruch answered them, "He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book." ¹⁹Then said the princes unto Baruch, "Go, hide thee, thou and Jeremiah; and let no man know where ye be."

²⁰And they went in to the king into the court, but they laid up the roll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and told all the words in the ears of the king. ²¹So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll; and he took it out of Elishama the scribe's chamber. And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king, and in the ears of all the princes which stood beside the king.

²²Now the king sat in the winter house in the ninth month; and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him. ²³And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth. ²⁴Yet they were not afraid, nor rent their garments, neither the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words.

²⁵Nevertheless Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made intercession to the king that he would not burn the roll; but he would not hear them. ²⁶But the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of Hammelech, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet; but the LORD hid them.

²⁷Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying:

²⁸Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned. ²⁹And thou shalt say to Jehoiakim King of Judah, "Thus saith the LORD: Thou hast burned this roll, saying, 'Why hast thou written therein,' saying, 'The king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall cause to cease from thence man and beast?'"

³⁰Therefore thus saith the LORD unto Jehoiakim king of Judah: He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David; and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost. ³¹And I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them; but they hearkened not.

³²Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire; and there were added besides unto them many like words.

Jeremiah warns Zedekiah

- And king Zedekiah the son of Josiah reigned instead of Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah. ²But neither he, nor his servants, nor the people of the land, did hearken unto the words of the LORD, which he spake by the prophet Jeremiah.
 - ³And Zedekiah the king sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "Pray now unto the LORD our God for us."
 - ⁴Now Jeremiah came in and went out among the people; for they had not put him in prison. ⁵Then Pharaoh's army was come forth out of Egypt; and when the Chaldeans that besieged Jerusalem heard tidings of them, they departed from Jerusalem.
 - ⁶Then came the word of the LORD unto the prophet Jeremiah, saying:

 ⁷Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Thus shall ye say to the king of Judah, that sent you unto me to inquire of me, "Behold, Pharaoh's army, which is come forth to help you, shall return to Egypt into their own land. ⁸And the Chaldeans shall come again, and fight against this city, and take it, and burn it with fire."
 - ⁹Thus saith the LORD: Deceive not yourselves, saying, 'The Chaldeans shall surely depart from us; for they shall not depart.' ¹⁰For though ye had smitten the whole army of the Chaldeans that fight against you, and there remained but wounded men among them, yet should they rise up every man in his tent, and burn this city with fire.

Jeremiah imprisoned

¹¹And it came to pass that when the army of the Chaldeans was broken up from Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh's army, ¹²then Jeremiah went forth out of Jerusalem to go into the land of Benjamin, to separate himself thence in the midst of the people.

I53 [EREMIAH 38

¹³And when he was in the gate of Benjamin, a captain of the ward was there, whose name was Irijah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah; and he took Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "Thou fallest away to the Chaldeans." ¹⁴Then said Jeremiah, "It is false; I fall not away to the Chaldeans." But he hearkened not to him; so Irijah took Jeremiah, and brought him to the princes.

- ¹⁵Wherefore the princes were wroth with Jeremiah, and smote him, and put him in prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe; for they had made that the prison. ¹⁶And Jeremiah was entered into the dungeon, and into the cabins, and he remained there many days.
- ¹⁷Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took him out; and the king asked him secretly in his house, and said, "Is there any word from the LORD?" And Jeremiah said, "There is; for, said he, 'Thou shalt be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon.""
- ¹⁸Moreover Jeremiah said unto king Zedekiah:

What have I offended against thee, or against thy servants, or against this people, that ye have put me in prison? ¹⁹Where are now your prophets which prophesied unto you, saying, 'The king of Babylon shall not come against you, nor against this land?' ²⁰Therefore hear now, I pray thee, O my lord the king; let my supplication, I pray thee, be accepted before thee; that thou cause me not to return to the house of Jonathan the scribe, lest I die there.

²¹Then Zedekiah the king commanded that they should commit Jeremiah into the court of the prison, and that they should give him daily a piece of bread out of the bakers street, until all the bread in the city were spent. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

Jeremiah cast into a dungeon

Then Shephatiah the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah, the son of Pashur, and Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashur the son of Malchiah, heard the words that Jeremiah had spoken unto all the people, saying:

²Thus saith the LORD: He that remaineth in this city shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence; but he that goeth forth to the Chaldeans shall live; for he shall have his life for a prey, and shall live.

³Thus saith the LORD: This city shall surely be given into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which shall take it.

⁴Therefore the princes said unto the king, "We beseech thee, let this man be put to death; for thus he weakeneth the hands of the men of war that remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, in speaking such words unto them; for this man seeketh not the welfare of this people, but the hurt."

⁵Then Zedekiah the king said, "Behold, he is in your hand; for the king is not he that can do anything against you."

⁶Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon of Malchiah the son of Hammelech, that was in the court of the prison; and they let down Jeremiah with cords. And in the dungeon there was no water, but mire; so Jeremiah sunk in the mire.

⁷Now when Ebed-Melech the Ethiopian, one of the eunuchs which was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the dungeon; the king then sitting in the gate of Benjamin; ⁸Ebed-Melech went forth out of the king's house, and spake to the king, saying, ⁹"My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have cast into the dungeon; and he is like to die for hunger in the place where he is; for there is no more bread in the city."

¹⁰Then the king commanded Ebed-Melech the Ethiopian, saying, "Take from hence thirty men with thee, and take up Jeremiah the prophet out of the dungeon, before he die."

¹¹So Ebed-Melech took the men with him, and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took thence old cast clouts and old rotten rags, and let them down by cords into the dungeon to Jeremiah. ¹²And Ebed-Melech the Ethiopian said unto Jeremiah, "Put now these old cast clouts and rotten rags under thine armholes under the cords." And Jeremiah did so. ¹³So they drew up Jeremiah with cords, and took him up out of the dungeon; and Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

Zedekiah questions Jeremiah

¹⁴Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took Jeremiah the prophet unto him into the third entry that is in the house of the LORD; and the king said unto Jeremiah, "I will ask thee a thing. Hide nothing from me."

¹⁵Then Jeremiah said unto Zedekiah, "If I declare it unto thee, wilt thou not surely put me to death? And if I give thee counsel, wilt thou not hearken unto me?"

¹⁶So Zedekiah the king sware secretly unto Jeremiah, saying, "As the LORD liveth, that made us this soul, I will not put thee to death, neither will I give thee into the hand of these men that seek thy life."

¹⁷Then said Jeremiah unto Zedekiah:

Thus saith the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: If thou wilt assuredly go forth unto the king of Babylon's princes, then thy soul shall live, and this city shall not be burned with fire; and thou shalt live, and thine house. But if thou wilt not go forth to the king of Babylon's princes, then shall this city be given into the hand of the Chaldeans, and they shall burn it with fire, and thou shalt not escape out of their hand.

¹⁹And Zedekiah the king said unto Jeremiah, "I am afraid of the Jews that are fallen to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their hand, and they mock me."

²⁰But Jeremiah said:

They shall not deliver thee. Obey, I beseech thee, the voice of the LORD, which I speak unto thee; so it shall be well unto thee, and thy soul shall live. ²¹But if thou refuse to go forth, this is the word that the LORD hath showed me; ²²and, behold, all the women that are left in the king of Judah's house shall be brought forth to the king of Babylon's princes, and those women shall say, 'Thy friends have set thee on, and have prevailed against thee; thy feet are sunk in the mire, and they are turned away back.' ²³So they shall bring out all thy wives and thy children to the Chaldeans; and thou shalt not escape out of their hand, but shalt be taken by the hand of the king of Babylon; and thou shalt cause this city to be burned with fire.

²⁴Then said Zedekiah unto Jeremiah:

Let no man know of these words, and thou shalt not die. ²⁵But if the princes hear that I have talked with thee, and they come unto thee, and say unto thee, 'Declare unto us now what thou hast said unto the king, hide it not from us, and we will not put thee to death; also what the king said unto thee;' ²⁶then thou shalt say unto them, 'I presented my supplication before the king, that he would not cause me to return to Jonathan's house, to die there.

155 **IEREMIAH 39**

²⁷Then came all the princes unto Jeremiah, and asked him; and he told them according to all these words that the king had commanded. So they left off speaking with him; for the matter was not perceived.

²⁸So Jeremiah abode in the court of the prison until the day that Jerusalem was taken; and he was there when Jerusalem was taken.

The fall of Jerusalem

In the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month, came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army against Jerusalem, and they besieged it. 2And in the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, the ninth day of the month, the city was broken up. 3And all the princes of the king of Babylon came in, and sat in the middle gate, even Nergal-sharezer, Samgar-nebo, Sarsechim, Rabsaris, Nergal-sharezer, Rab-mag, with all the residue of the princes of the king of Babylon. ⁴And it came to pass, that when Zedekiah the king of Judah saw them, and all the men of war, then they fled, and went forth out of the city by night, by the way of the king's garden, by the gate betwixt the two walls; and he went out the way of the plain.

⁵But the Chaldeans' army pursued after them, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho; and when they had taken him, they brought him up to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath, where he gave judgment upon him. Then the king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah in Riblah before his eyes; also the king of Babylon slew all the nobles of Judah. Moreover he put out Zedekiah's eyes, and bound him with chains, to carry him to Babylon.

8And the Chaldeans burned the king's house, and the houses of the people, with fire, and brake down the walls of Jerusalem. 9Then Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard carried away captive into Babylon the remnant of the people that remained in the city, and those that fell away, that fell to him, with the rest of the people that remained. 10But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left of the poor of the people, which had nothing, in the land of Judah and gave them vineyards and fields at the same time.

UNow Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon gave charge concerning Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, saying, 12"Take him, and look well to him, and do him no harm; but do unto him even as he shall say unto thee." 13So Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard sent, and Nebushas-ban, Rab-saris, and Nergal-sharezer, Rabmag, and all the king of Babylon's princes; 14even they sent, and took Jeremiah out of the court of the prison, and committed him unto Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, that he should carry him home; so he dwelt among the people.

¹⁵Now the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, while he was shut up in the court of the prison, saying:

¹⁶Go and speak to Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, "Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will bring my words upon this city for evil, and not for good; and they shall be accomplished in that day before thee. 17But I will deliver thee in that day, saith the LORD; and thou shalt not be given into the hand of the men of whom thou art afraid. 18For I will surely deliver thee, and thou shalt not fall by the sword, but thy life shall be for a prey unto thee; because thou hast put thy trust in me, saith the LORD.

Jeremiah freed

The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, after that Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard had let him go from Ramah, when he had taken him being bound in chains

IEREMIAH 40

among all that were carried away captive of Jerusalem and Judah, which were carried away captive unto Babylon. ²And the captain of the guard took Jeremiah, and said unto him:

The LORD thy God hath pronounced this evil upon this place. ³Now the LORD hath brought it, and done according as he hath said; because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed his voice, therefore this thing is come upon you. ⁴And now, behold, I loose thee this day from the chains which were upon thine hand. If it seem good unto thee to come with me into Babylon, come; and I will look well unto thee; but if it seem ill unto thee to come with me into Babylon, forbear; behold, all the land is before thee; whither it seemeth good and convenient for thee to go, thither go.

⁵Now while he was not yet gone back, he said, "Go back also to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon hath made governor over the cities of Judah, and dwell with him among the people; or go wheresoever it seemeth convenient unto thee to go." So the captain of the guard gave him victuals and a reward, and let him go.

Gedaliah is killed

⁶Then went Jeremiah unto Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to Mizpah; and dwelt with him among the people that were left in the land. ⁷Now when all the captains of the forces which were in the fields, even they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam governor in the land, and had committed unto him men, and women, and children, and of the poor of the land, of them that were not carried away captive to Babylon; ⁸then they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan and Jonathan the sons of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth, and the sons of Ephai the Netophathite, and Jezaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.

⁹And Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan sware unto them and to their men, saying:

Fear not to serve the Chaldeans; dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you. ¹⁰As for me, behold, I will dwell at Mizpah, to serve the Chaldeans, which will come unto us; but ye, gather ye wine, and summer fruits, and oil, and put them in your vessels, and dwell in your cities that ye have taken.

Likewise when all the Jews that were in Moab, and among the Ammonites, and in Edom, and that were in all the countries, heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant of Judah, and that he had set over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan; ¹²even all the Jews returned out of all places whither they were driven, and came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah, unto Mizpah, and gathered wine and summer fruits very much.

¹³Moreover Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were in the fields, came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, ¹⁴and said unto him, "Dost thou certainly know that Baalis the king of the Ammonites hath sent Ishmael the son of Nethaniah to slay thee?" But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam believed them not.

¹⁵Then Johanan the son of Kareah spake to Gedaliah in Mizpah secretly, saying, "Let me go, I pray thee, and I will slay Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and no man shall know it; wherefore should he slay thee, that all the Jews which are gathered unto thee should be scattered, and the remnant in Judah perish?"

¹⁶But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam said unto Johanan the son of Kareah, "Thou shalt not do this thing; for thou speakest falsely of Ishmael."

Now it came to pass in the seventh month, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama, of the seed royal, and the princes of the king, even ten men with him, came unto Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to Mizpah; and there they did eat bread together in Mizpah. ²Then arose Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and the ten men that were with him, and smote Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan with the sword, and slew him, whom the king of Babylon had made governor over the land. ³Ishmael also slew all the Jews that were with him, even with Gedaliah, at Mizpah, and the Chaldeans that were found there, and the men of war.

⁴And it came to pass the second day after he had slain Gedaliah, and no man knew it, ⁵that there came certain from Shechem, from Shiloh, and from Samaria, even fourscore men, having their beards shaven, and their clothes rent, and having cut themselves, with offerings and incense in their hand, to bring them to the house of the LORD. ⁶And Ishmael the son of Nethaniah went forth from Mizpah to meet them, weeping all along as he went; and it came to pass, as he met them, he said unto them, "Come to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam." ⁷And it was so, when they came into the midst of the city, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah slew them, and cast them into the midst of the pit, he, and the men that were with him. ⁸But ten men were found among them that said unto Ishmael, "Slay us not; for we have treasures in the field, of wheat, and of barley, and of oil, and of honey." So he forbare, and slew them not among their brethren. ⁹Now the pit wherein Ishmael had cast all the dead bodies of the men, whom he had slain because of Gedaliah, was it which Asa the king had made for fear of Baasha king of Israel; and Ishmael the son of Nethaniah filled it with them that were slain.

¹⁰Then Ishmael carried away captive all the residue of the people that were in Mizpah, even the king's daughters, and all the people that remained in Mizpah, whom Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard had committed to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam; and Ishmael the son of Nethaniah carried them away captive, and departed to go over to the Ammonites.

HBut when Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were with him, heard of all the evil that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had done, 12 then they took all the men, and went to fight with Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and found him by the great waters that are in Gibeon. 13 Now it came to pass, that when all the people which were with Ishmael saw Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were with him, then they were glad. 14 So all the people that Ishmael had carried away captive from Mizpah cast about and returned, and went unto Johanan the son of Kareah.

¹⁵But Ishmael the son of Nethaniah escaped from Johanan with eight men, and went to the Ammonites.

Fleeing to Egypt

¹⁶Then took Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were with him, all the remnant of the people whom he had recovered from Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, from Mizpah, after that he had slain Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, even mighty men of war, and the women, and the children, and the eunuchs, whom he had brought again from Gibeon; ¹⁷and they departed, and dwelt in the habitation of Chimham, which is by Bethlehem, to go to enter into Egypt, ¹⁸because of the Chaldeans; for they were afraid of them, because Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had slain Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon made governor in the land.

Then all the captains of the forces, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least even unto the greatest, came near, ²and said unto Jeremiah the prophet:

Let, we beseech thee, our supplication be accepted before thee, and pray for us unto the LORD thy God, even for all this remnant; (for we are left but a few of many, as thine eyes do behold us) ³that the LORD thy God may show us the way wherein we may walk, and the thing that we may do.

⁴Then Jeremiah the prophet said unto them:

I have heard you; behold, I will pray unto the LORD your God according to your words; and it shall come to pass, that whatsoever thing the LORD shall answer you, I will declare it unto you; I will keep nothing back from you.

⁵Then they said to Jeremiah:

The LORD be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not even according to all things for the which the LORD thy God shall send thee to us. Whether it be good, or whether it be evil, we will obey the voice of the LORD our God, to whom we send thee; that it may be well with us, when we obey the voice of the LORD our God.

⁷And it came to pass after ten days, that the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah. ⁸Then called he Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces which were with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest, ⁹and said unto them:

Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, unto whom ye sent me to present your supplication before him: ¹⁰If you will still abide in this land, then will I build you, and not pull down; I will plant you, and not pluck up; and I will turn away the evil that I have done unto you. ¹¹Be not afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom ye are afraid; be not afraid of him, saith the LORD; for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his hand. ¹²And I will show mercies unto you, that he may have mercy upon you, and cause you to return to your own land.

¹³But if ye say, "We will not dwell in this land," neither obey the voice of the LORD your God, ¹⁴saying, "No; but we will go into the land of Egypt, where we shall see no war, nor hear the sound of the trumpet, nor have hunger for want of bread; and there will we dwell;" ¹⁵and now therefore hear the word of the LORD, ye remnant of Judah.

Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: If ye wholly set your faces to enter into Egypt, and go to sojourn there; ¹⁶then it shall come to pass, that the sword, which ye feared, shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt; and the famine, whereof ye were afraid, shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there ye shall die. ¹⁷So shall it be with all the men that set their faces to go into Egypt to sojourn there; they shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence; and none of them shall remain or escape from the evil that I will bring upon them.

¹⁸For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: As mine anger and my fury hath been poured forth upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem; so shall my fury be poured forth upon you, when ye shall enter into Egypt; and ye shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach; and ye shall see this place no more.

¹⁹The LORD hath said concerning you, O ye remnant of Judah: Go ye not into Egypt; know certainly that I have admonished you this day. ²⁰For ye dissembled in your hearts, when ye sent me unto the LORD your God, saying, "Pray for us unto the LORD our God; and according unto all that the LORD our God shall say, so declare unto us, and we will do it." ²¹And now I have this day declared it to you, that

for I repent of

IS9 IEREMIAH 43

ye have not obeyed the voice of the LORD your God, nor anything for the which he hath sent me unto you. ²²Now therefore know certainly that ye shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, in the place whither ye desire to go and to sojourn.

¹And it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking unto all the people all the words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these words, ²then spake Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah:

Thou speakest falsely; the LORD our God hath not sent thee to say, "Go not into Egypt to sojourn there;" ³but Baruch the son of Neriah setteth thee on against us, for to deliver us into the hand of the Chaldeans, that they might put us to death, and carry us away captives into Babylon.

⁴So Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, obeyed not the voice of the LORD, to dwell in the land of Judah. ⁵But Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, took all the remnant of Judah, that were returned from all nations, whither they had been driven, to dwell in the land of Judah; ⁶even men, and women, and children, and the king's daughters, and every person that Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet, and Baruch the son of Neriah. ⁷So they came into the land of Egypt; for they obeyed not the voice of the LORD; thus came they even to Tahpanhes.

8Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying:

⁹Take great stones in thine hand, and hide them in the clay in the brickkiln, which is at the entry of Pharaoh's house in Tahpanhes, in the sight of the men of Judah; ¹⁰and say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will set his throne upon these stones that I have hid; and he shall spread his royal pavilion over them. ¹¹And when he cometh, he shall smite the land of Egypt, and deliver such as are for death to death; and such as are for captivity to captivity; and such as are for the sword to the sword.

¹²And I will kindle a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt; and he shall burn them, and carry them away captives; and he shall array himself with the land of Egypt, as a shepherd putteth on his garment; and he shall go forth from thence in peace. ¹³He shall break also the images of Beth-Shemesh, that is in the land of Egypt; and the houses of the gods of the Egyptians shall he burn with fire.

Prophecy of disaster because of idolatry

The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews which dwell in the land of Egypt, which dwell at Migdol, and at Tahpanhes, and at Noph, and in the country of Pathros, saying:

²Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Ye have seen all the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, and upon all the cities of Judah; and, behold, this day they are a desolation, and no man dwelleth therein; ³because of their wickedness which they have committed to provoke me to anger, in that they went to burn incense, and to serve other gods, whom they knew not, neither they, ye, nor your fathers.

⁴Howbeit I sent unto you all my servants the prophets, commanding them to rise early, and sending them, saying, "Oh, do not this abominable thing that I hate." ⁵But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear to turn from their wickedness, to burn no incense unto other gods. ⁶Wherefore my fury and mine anger was poured forth, and

IEREMIAH 44

was kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; and they are wasted and desolate, as at this day.

Therefore now thus saith the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: Wherefore commit ye this great evil against your souls, to cut off from you man and woman, child and suckling, out of Judah, to leave you none to remain. In that ye provoke me unto wrath with the works of your hands, burning incense unto other gods in the land of Egypt, whither ye be gone to dwell, that ye might cut yourselves off, and that ye might be a curse and a reproach among all the nations of the earth? Have ye forgotten the wickedness of your fathers, and the wickedness of the kings of Judah, and the wickedness of their wives, and your own wickedness, and the wickedness of your wives, which they have committed in the land of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem? They are not humbled even unto this day, neither have they feared, nor walked in my law, nor in my statutes, that I set before you and before your fathers.

Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will set my face against you for evil, and to cut off all Judah. ¹²And I will take the remnant of Judah, that have set their faces to go into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, and they shall all be consumed, and fall in the land of Egypt; they shall even be consumed by the sword and by the famine, and they shall die, from the least even unto the greatest, by the sword and by the famine; and they shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach. ¹³For I will punish them that dwell in the land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence; ¹⁴so that none of the remnant of Judah, which are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall escape or remain, that they should return into the land of Judah, to the which they have a desire to return to dwell there; for none shall return but such as shall escape.

¹⁵Then all the men which knew that their wives had burned incense unto other gods, and all the women that stood by, a great multitude, even all the people that dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying:

¹⁶As for the word that thou hast spoken unto us in the name of the LORD, we will not hearken unto thee. ¹⁷But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem; for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil, ¹⁸but since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine. ¹⁹And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven, and poured out drink offerings unto her, did we make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink offerings unto her, without our men?

²⁰Then Jeremiah said unto all the people, to the men and to the women, and to all the people which had given him that answer, saying:

²¹The incense that ye burned in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, ye and your fathers, your kings, and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them, and came it not into his mind? ²²So that the LORD could no longer bear, because of the evil of your doings, and because of the abominations which ye have committed; therefore is your land a desolation, and an astonishment, and a curse, without an inhabitant, as at this day. ²³Because ye have burned incense, and because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD, nor walked in his law, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil is happened unto you, as at this day.

²⁴Moreover Jeremiah said unto all the people, and to all the women:

Hear the word of the LORD, all Judah that are in the land of Egypt; ²⁵thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying: Ye and your wives have both spoken with your mouths, and fulfilled with your hand, saying, "We will surely perform our vows that we have vowed, to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her;" ye will surely accomplish your vows, and surely perform your vows. ²⁶Therefore hear ye the word of the LORD, all Judah that dwell in the land of Egypt: Behold, I have sworn by my great name, saith the LORD, that my name shall no more be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, "The Lord GOD liveth." ²⁷Behold, I will watch over them for evil, and not for good; and all the men of Judah that are in the land of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by the famine, until there be an end of them. ²⁸Yet a small number that escape the sword shall return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah; and all the remnant of Judah, that are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall know whose words shall stand, mine, or theirs.

²⁹And this shall be a sign unto you, saith the LORD, that I will punish you in this place, that ye may know that my words shall surely stand against you for evil; ³⁰thus saith the LORD: Behold, I will give Pharaoh-hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies, and into the hand of them that seek his life; as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, his enemy, and that sought his life.

A message to Baruch

The word that Jeremiah the prophet spake unto Baruch the son of Neriah, when he had written these words in a book at the mouth of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying:

²Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, unto thee, O Baruch: ³Thou didst say, "Woe is me now! For the LORD hath added grief to my sorrow; I fainted in my sighing, and I find no rest." ⁴Thus shalt thou say unto him, "The LORD saith thus: Behold, that which I have built will I break down, and that which I have planted I will pluck up, even this whole land. ⁵And seekest thou great things for thyself? Seek them not; for, behold, I will bring evil upon all flesh, saith the LORD; but thy life will I give unto thee for a prey in all the places whither thou goest."

A message about Egypt

46 The word of the LORD which came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Gentiles;

²Against Egypt, against the army of Pharaoh-necho king of Egypt, which was by the river Euphrates in Charchemish, which Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon smote in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah.

³Order ye the buckler and shield,

and draw near to battle.

⁴Harness the horses;

and get up, ye horsemen,

and stand forth with your helmets;

furbish the spears, and put on the brigandines.

⁵Wherefore have I seen them dismayed and turned away back?

And their mighty ones are beaten down,

and are fled apace, and look not back;

for fear was round about, saith the LORD.

⁶Let not the swift flee away, nor the mighty man escape; they shall stumble, and fall toward the north by the river Euphrates. Who is this that cometh up as a flood, whose waters are moved as the rivers? ⁸Egypt riseth up like a flood, and his waters are moved like the rivers; and he saith, "I will go up, and will cover the earth; I will destroy the city and the inhabitants thereof." ⁹Come up, ye horses; and rage, ye chariots; and let the mighty men come forth; the Ethiopians and the Libyans, that handle the shield; and the Lydians, that handle and bend the bow. ¹⁰For this is the day of the LORD God of hosts, a day of vengeance, that he may avenge him of his adversaries; and the sword shall devour, and it shall be satiate and made drunk with their blood; for the LORD God of hosts hath a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates. □Go up into Gilead, and take balm, O virgin, the daughter of Egypt; in vain shalt thou use many medicines; for thou shalt not be cured. ¹²The nations have heard of thy shame, and thy cry hath filled the land; for the mighty man hath stumbled against the mighty, and they are fallen both together. ¹³The word that the LORD spake to Jeremiah the prophet, how Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon should came and smite the land of Egypt. ¹⁴Declare ye in Egypt, and publish in Migdol, and publish in Noph and in Tahpanhes; say ye, "Stand fast, and prepare thee; for the sword shall devour round about thee." 15Why are thy valiant men swept away? They stood not, because the LORD did drive them. ¹⁶He made many to fall, yea, one fell upon another; and they said, "Arise, and let us go again to our own people, and to the land of our nativity, from the oppressing sword." ¹⁷They did cry there, "Pharaoh king of Egypt is but a noise; he hath passed the time appointed." ¹⁸As I live, saith the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts, Surely as Tabor is among the mountains, and as Carmel by the sea, so shall he come. ¹⁹O thou daughter dwelling in Egypt, furnish thyself to go into captivity;

I63 JEREMIAH 47

for Noph shall be waste and desolate without an inhabitant.

²⁰Egypt is like a very fair heifer,

but destruction cometh;

it cometh out of the north.

21 Also her hired men are in the midst of her

like fatted bullocks;

for they also are turned back, and are fled away together;

they did not stand,

because the day of their calamity was come upon them,

and the time of their visitation.

²²The voice thereof shall go like a serpent;

for they shall march with an army,

and come against her with axes,

as hewers of wood.

²³They shall cut down her forest, saith the LORD,

though it cannot be searched;

because they are more than the grasshoppers,

and are innumerable.

²⁴The daughter of Egypt shall be confounded;

she shall be delivered into the hand of the people of the north.

²⁵The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saith: Behold, I will punish the multitude of No, and Pharaoh, and Egypt, with their gods, and their kings; even Pharaoh, and all them that trust in him; ²⁶and will deliver them into the hand of those that seek their lives, and into the hand of Babylon, and into the hand of his servants; and afterward it shall be inhabited, as in the days of old, saith the LORD.

²⁷But fear not thou, O my servant Jacob,

and be not dismayed, O Israel;

for, behold, I will save thee from afar off,

and thy seed from the land of their captivity;

and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease,

and none shall make him afraid.

²⁸Fear thou not, O Jacob my servant, saith the LORD;

for I am with thee;

for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee;

but I will not make a full end of thee.

but correct thee in measure;

yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished.

A message about the Philistines

The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Philistines, before that Pharaoh smote Gaza.

²Thus saith the LORD:

Behold, waters rise up out of the north,

and shall be an overflowing flood,

and shall overflow the land, and all that is therein;

the city, and them that dwell therein;

then the men shall cry,

and all the inhabitants of the land shall howl.

³At the noise of the stamping of the hooves of his strong horses,

at the rushing of his chariots, and at the rumbling of his wheels,

the father shall not look back to their children

for feebleness of hands;

⁴Because of the day that cometh to spoil all the Philistines,

and to cut off from Tyrus and Zidon every helper that remaineth;

for the LORD will spoil the Philistines,

the remnant of the country of Caphtor.

⁵Baldness is come upon Gaza;

Ashkelon is cut off with the remnant of their valley;

how long wilt thou cut thyself?

6O thou sword of the LORD,

how long will it be ere thou be quiet?

Put up thyself into thy scabbard,

rest, and be still.

7How can it be quiet,

seeing the LORD hath given it a charge against Ashkelon, and against the seashore? There hath he appointed it.

A message about Moab

49 Against Moab thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:

Woe unto Nebo! For it is spoiled;

Kiriathaim is confounded and taken;

Misgab is confounded and dismayed.

²There shall be no more praise of Moab;

in Heshbon they have devised evil against it;

"Come, and let us cut it off from being a nation."

Also thou shalt be cut down, O Madmen;

the sword shall pursue thee.

³A voice of crying shall be from Horonaim,

spoiling and great destruction.

⁴Moab is destroyed;

her little ones have caused a cry to be heard.

⁵For in the going up of Luhith continual weeping shall go up;

for in the going down of Horonaim the enemies have heard a cry of destruction.

⁶Flee, save your lives,

and be like the heath in the wilderness.

⁷For because thou hast trusted in thy works and in thy treasures,

thou shalt also be taken;

and Chemosh shall go forth into captivity

with his priests and his princes together.

8And the spoiler shall come upon every city,

and no city shall escape;

the valley also shall perish,

and the plain shall be destroyed, as the LORD hath spoken.

⁹Give wings unto Moab,

that it may flee and get away;

for the cities thereof shall be desolate,

without any to dwell therein.

I65 JEREMIAH 48

```
<sup>10</sup>Cursed be he that doeth the work of the LORD deceitfully,
    and cursed be he that keepeth back his sword from blood.
□Moab hath been at ease from his youth,
    and he hath settled on his lees,
and hath not been emptied from vessel to vessel,
    neither hath he gone into captivity;
therefore his taste remained in him,
    and his scent is not changed.
<sup>12</sup>Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD,
    that I will send unto him wanderers, that shall cause him to wander,
and shall empty his vessels,
    and break their bottles.
<sup>13</sup>And Moab shall be ashamed of Chemosh,
    as the house of Israel was ashamed of Beth-El their confidence.
<sup>14</sup>How say ye, "We are mighty
    and strong men for the war?
<sup>15</sup>Moab is spoiled, and gone up out of her cities,
    and his chosen young men are gone down to the slaughter,"
    saith the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.
<sup>16</sup>The calamity of Moab is near to come,
    and his affliction hasteth fast.
<sup>17</sup>All ye that are about him, bemoan him;
    and all ye that know his name,
say, "How is the strong staff broken,
    and the beautiful rod!"
<sup>18</sup>Thou daughter that dost inhabit Dibon, come down from thy glory,
    and sit in thirst;
for the spoiler of Moab shall come upon thee,
    and he shall destroy thy strongholds.
<sup>19</sup>O inhabitant of Aroer,
    stand by the way, and espy;
ask him that fleeth, and her that escapeth,
    and say, "What is done?"
<sup>20</sup>Moab is confounded; for it is broken down;
    howl and cry;
tell ye it in Arnon,
    that Moab is spoiled,
<sup>2</sup> and judgment is come upon the plain country;
    upon Holon, and upon Jahazah, and upon Mephaath,
    <sup>22</sup>and upon Dibon, and upon Nebo, and upon Beth-Diblathaim,
    <sup>23</sup>and upon Kiriathaim, and upon Beth-Gamul, and upon Beth-Meon,
    <sup>24</sup>and upon Kerioth, and upon Bozrah,
    and upon all the cities of the land of Moab, far or near.
<sup>25</sup>The horn of Moab is cut off,
    and his arm is broken, saith the LORD.
<sup>26</sup>Make ye him drunken;
    for he magnified himself against the LORD;
Moab also shall wallow in his vomit,
    and he also shall be in derision.
```

166

JEREMIAH 48 ²⁷For was not Israel a derision unto thee? Was he found among thieves? For since thou spakest of him, thou skippedst for joy. ²⁸O ye that dwell in Moab, leave the cities, and dwell in the rock, and be like the dove that maketh her nest in the sides of the hole's mouth. ²⁹We have heard the pride of Moab, (he is exceeding proud) his loftiness and his arrogancy, and his pride, and the haughtiness of his heart. ³⁰I know his wrath, saith the LORD; but it shall not be so; his lies shall not so effect it. ³¹Therefore will I howl for Moab, and I will cry out for all Moab; mine heart shall mourn for the men of Kir-heres. ³²O vine of Sibmah, I will weep for thee with the weeping of Jazer; thy plants are gone over the sea, they reach even to the sea of Jazer; the spoiler is fallen upon thy summer fruits and upon thy vintage. ³³And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field, and from the land of Moab; and I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses; none shall tread with shouting; their shouting shall be no shouting. ³⁴From the cry of Heshbon even unto Elealeh, and even unto Jahaz, have they uttered their voice, from Zoar even unto Horonaim, as a heifer of three years old; for the waters also of Nimrim shall be desolate. 35Moreover I will cause to cease in Moab, saith the LORD, him that offereth in the high places, and him that burneth incense to his gods. ³⁶Therefore mine heart shall sound for Moab like pipes, and mine heart shall sound like pipes for the men of Kir-heres; because the riches that he hath gotten are perished. ³⁷For every head shall be bald, and every beard clipped; upon all the hands shall be cuttings, and upon the loins sackcloth. ³⁸There shall be lamentation generally upon all the housetops of Moab, and in the streets thereof; for I have broken Moab like a vessel wherein is no pleasure, saith the LORD. ³⁹They shall howl, saying, "How is it broken down! How hath Moab turned the back with shame!"

So shall Moab be a derision

and a dismaying to all them about him.

I67 JEREMIAH 49

⁴⁰For thus saith the LORD:

Behold, he shall fly as an eagle,

and shall spread his wings over Moab.

41Kerioth is taken,

and the strongholds are surprised,

and the mighty men's hearts in Moab at that day

shall be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

⁴²And Moab shall be destroyed from being a people,

because he hath magnified himself against the LORD.

⁴³Fear, and the pit, and the snare, shall be upon thee,

O inhabitant of Moab, saith the LORD.

44He that fleeth from the fear shall fall into the pit;

and he that getteth up out of the pit shall be taken in the snare;

for I will bring upon it, even upon Moab,

the year of their visitation, saith the LORD.

⁴⁵They that fled stood under the shadow of Heshbon

because of the force:

but a fire shall come forth out of Heshbon,

and a flame from the midst of Sihon,

and shall devour the corner of Moab,

and the crown of the head of the tumultuous ones.

⁴⁶Woe be unto thee, O Moab!

The people of Chemosh perisheth;

for thy sons are taken captives,

and thy daughters captives.

⁴⁷Yet will I bring again the captivity of Moab

in the latter days, saith the LORD.

Thus far is the judgment of Moab.

A message concerning the Ammonites

10 Concerning the Ammonites, thus saith the LORD:

Hath Israel no sons?

Hath he no heir?

Why then doth their king inherit Gad,

and his people dwell in his cities?

²Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD,

that I will cause an alarm of war to be heard in Rabbah of the Ammonites;

and it shall be a desolate heap,

and her daughters shall be burned with fire;

then shall Israel be heir

unto them that were his heirs, saith the LORD.

³Howl, O Heshbon, for Ai is spoiled;

cry, ye daughters of Rabbah,

gird you with sackcloth, lament,

and run to and fro by the hedges;

for their king shall go into captivity,

and his priests and his princes together.

⁴Wherefore gloriest thou in the valleys,

thy flowing valley, O backsliding daughter?

That trusted in her treasures,

saying, "Who shall come unto me?"

⁵Behold, I will bring a fear upon thee, saith the LORD God of hosts,

from all those that be about thee;

and ye shall be driven out every man right forth;

and none shall gather up him that wandereth.

⁶And afterward I will bring again the captivity of the children of Ammon, saith the LORD.

A message concerning Edom

⁷Concerning Edom, thus saith the LORD of hosts:

Is wisdom no more in Teman?

Is counsel perished from the prudent?

Is there wisdom vanished?

8Flee ye, turn back, dwell deep,

O inhabitants of Dedan;

for I will bring the calamity of Esau upon him,

the time that I will visit him.

⁹If grape-gatherers come to thee,

would they not leave some gleaning grapes?

It thieves by night,

they will destroy till they have enough.

10But I have made Esau bare,

I have uncovered his secret places,

and he shall not be able to hide himself;

his seed is spoiled, and his brethren, and his neighbors, and he is not.

Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive;

and let thy widows trust in me.

¹²For thus saith the LORD: Behold, they whose judgment was not to drink of the cup have assuredly drunken; and art thou he that shall altogether go unpunished? Thou shalt not go unpunished, but thou shalt surely drink of it. ¹³For I have sworn by myself, saith the LORD, that Bozrah shall become a desolation, a reproach, a waste, and a curse; and all the cities thereof shall be perpetual wastes.

14I have heard a rumor from the LORD,

and an ambassador is sent unto the heathen,

saying, "Gather ye together, and come against her,

and rise up to the battle."

¹⁵For, lo, I will make thee small among the heathen,

and despised among men.

¹⁶Thy terribleness hath deceived thee,

and the pride of thine heart,

O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock,

that holdest the height of the hill;

though thou shouldest make thy nest as high as the eagle,

I will bring thee down from thence, saith the LORD.

¹⁷Also Edom shall be a desolation;

everyone that goeth by it shall be astonished,

I69 JEREMIAH 49

and shall hiss at all the plagues thereof.

¹⁸As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah

and the neighbor cities thereof, saith the LORD,

no man shall abide there,

neither shall a son of man dwell in it.

¹⁹Behold, he shall come up

like a lion from the swelling of Jordan against the habitation of the strong;

but I will suddenly make him run away from her;

and who is a chosen man, that I may appoint over her?

For who is like me? And who will appoint me the time?

And who is that shepherd that will stand before me?

²⁰Therefore hear the counsel of the LORD, that he hath taken against Edom;

and his purposes, that he hath purposed against the inhabitants of Teman.

Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out;

surely he shall make their habitations desolate with them.

²¹The earth is moved at the noise of their fall;

at the cry the noise thereof was heard in the Red Sea.

²²Behold, he shall come up and fly as the eagle,

and spread his wings over Bozrah;

and at that day shall the heart of the mighty men of Edom be

as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

A message concerning Damascus

²³Concerning Damascus:

Hamath is confounded, and Arpad;

for they have heard evil tidings;

they are faint-hearted;

there is sorrow on the sea; it cannot be quiet.

²⁴Damascus is waxed feeble,

and turneth herself to flee,

and fear hath seized on her;

anguish and sorrows have taken her,

as a woman in travail.

²⁵How is the city of praise not left,

the city of my joy!

²⁶Therefore her young men shall fall in her streets,

and all the men of war shall be cut off in that day, saith the LORD of hosts.

²⁷And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus,

and it shall consume the palaces of Ben-Hadad.

A message concerning Kedar

²⁸Concerning Kedar, and concerning the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon shall smite, thus saith the LORD:

Arise ye, go up to Kedar,

and spoil the men of the east.

²⁹Their tents and their flocks shall they take away;

they shall take to themselves their curtains,

and all their vessels, and their camels;

JEREMIAH 50 I70

and they shall cry unto them,

"Fear is on every side."

30Flee, get you far off, dwell deep,

O ye inhabitants of Hazor, saith the LORD;

for Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath taken counsel against you,

and hath conceived a purpose against you.

³¹Arise, get you up unto the wealthy nation,

that dwelleth without care, saith the LORD,

which have neither gates nor bars,

which dwell alone.

32And their camels shall be a booty,

and the multitude of their cattle a spoil;

and I will scatter into all winds them that are in the utmost corners;

and I will bring their calamity from all sides thereof, saith the LORD.

33And Hazor shall be a dwelling for dragons,

and a desolation forever;

there shall no man abide there,

nor any son of man dwell in it.

A message concerning Elam

³⁴The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against Elam in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, saying:

35Thus saith the LORD of hosts:

Behold, I will break the bow of Elam,

the chief of their might.

³⁶And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven,

and will scatter them toward all those winds;

and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come.

³⁷For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies,

and before them that seek their life;

and I will bring evil upon them,

even my fierce anger, saith the LORD;

and I will send the sword after them,

till I have consumed them;

38And I will set my throne in Elam,

and will destroy from thence the king and the princes, saith the LORD.

³⁹But it shall come to pass in the latter days,

that I will bring again the captivity of Elam, saith the LORD.

A message concerning Babylon

The word that the LORD spake against Babylon and against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet:

²Declare ye among the nations,

and publish, and set up a standard;

publish, and conceal not;

say, "Babylon is taken,

Bel is confounded,

Merodach is broken in pieces;

IEREMIAH 50

171 her idols are confounded, her images are broken in pieces." ³For out of the north there cometh up a nation against her, which shall make her land desolate, and none shall dwell therein; they shall remove, they shall depart, both man and beast. ⁴In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together, going and weeping; they shall go, and seek the LORD their God. ⁵They shall ask the way to Zion with their faces thitherward, saying, "Come, and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten." 6My people have been lost sheep; their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains; they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their resting place. 7All that found them have devoured them; and their adversaries said, "We offend not, because they have sinned against the LORD, the habitation of justice, even the LORD, the hope of their fathers." Remove out of the midst of Babylon, and go forth out of the land of the Chaldeans, and be as the he goats before the flocks. ⁹For, lo, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country; and they shall set themselves in array against her; from thence she shall be taken; their arrows shall be as of a mighty expert man; none shall return in vain. Ond Chaldea shall be a spoil; all that spoil her shall be satisfied, saith the LORD. □Because ye were glad, because ye rejoiced, O ye destroyers of mine heritage, because ye are grown fat as the heifer at grass, and bellow as bulls; ¹²Your mother shall be sore confounded; she that bare you shall be ashamed; behold, the hindermost of the nations shall be a wilderness, a dry land, and a desert. ¹³Because of the wrath of the LORD it shall not be inhabited, but it shall be wholly desolate; everyone that goeth by Babylon shall be astonished, and hiss at all her plagues. ¹⁴Put yourselves in array against Babylon round about; all ye that bend the bow,

shoot at her, spare no arrows;

for she hath sinned against the LORD.

JEREMIAH 50 172

¹⁵Shout against her round about; she hath given her hand; her foundations are fallen, her walls are thrown down; for it is the vengeance of the LORD; take vengeance upon her; as she hath done, do unto her. ¹⁶Cut off the sower from Babylon, and him that handleth the sickle in the time of harvest; for fear of the oppressing sword they shall turn everyone to his people, and they shall flee everyone to his own land. ¹⁷Israel is a scattered sheep the lions have driven him away; first the king of Assyria hath devoured him; and last this Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath broken his bones. ¹⁸Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, as I have punished the king of Assyria. ¹⁹And I will bring Israel again to his habitation, and he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan, and his soul shall be satisfied upon mount Ephraim and Gilead. ²⁰In those days, and in that time saith the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found; for I will pardon them whom I reserve. ²¹Go up against the land of Merathaim, even against it, and against the inhabitants of Pekod; waste and utterly destroy after them, saith the LORD, and do according to all that I have commanded thee. ²²A sound of battle is in the land, and of great destruction. ²³How is the hammer of the whole earth cut asunder and broken! How is Babylon become a desolation among the nations! ²⁴I have laid a snare for thee, and thou art also taken, O Babylon, and thou wast not aware; thou art found, and also caught, because thou hast striven against the LORD. ²⁵The LORD hath opened his armory, and hath brought forth the weapons of his indignation; for this is the work of the LORD God of hosts in the land of the Chaldeans. ²⁶Come against her from the utmost border, open her storehouses; cast her up as heaps, and destroy her utterly; let nothing of her be left. ²⁷Slay all her bullocks; let them go down to the slaughter; woe unto them! For their day is come, the time of their visitation. ²⁸The voice of them that flee and escape out of the land of Babylon,

to declare in Zion the vengeance of the LORD our God,

I73 JEREMIAH 50

the vengeance of his temple.

²⁹Call together the archers against Babylon;

all ye that bend the bow,

camp against it round about;

let none thereof escape;

recompense her according to her work;

according to all that she hath done, do unto her;

for she hath been proud against the LORD,

against the Holy One of Israel.

³⁰Therefore shall her young men fall in the streets,

and all her men of war shall be cut off in that day, saith the LORD.

³¹Behold, I am against thee, O thou most proud,

saith the LORD God of hosts;

for thy day is come,

the time that I will visit thee.

³²And the most proud shall stumble and fall,

and none shall raise him up;

and I will kindle a fire in his cities,

and it shall devour all round about him.

33Thus saith the LORD of hosts:

The children of Israel and the children of Judah were oppressed together;

and all that took them captives held them fast; they refused to let them go.

34Their Redeemer is strong;

The LORD of hosts is his name;

he shall thoroughly plead their cause,

that he may give rest to the land,

and disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon.

35A sword is upon the Chaldeans, saith the LORD,

and upon the inhabitants of Babylon,

and upon her princes, and upon her wise men.

³⁶A sword is upon the liars;

and they shall dote;

a sword is upon her mighty men;

and they shall be dismayed.

³⁷A sword is upon their horses, and upon their chariots,

and upon all the mingled people that are in the midst of her;

and they shall become as women.

A sword is upon her treasures;

and they shall be robbed.

38A drought is upon her waters;

and they shall be dried up;

for it is the land of graven images,

and they are mad upon their idols.

³⁹Therefore the wild beasts of the desert with the wild beasts of the islands shall dwell there,

and the owls shall dwell therein:

and it shall be no more inhabited forever;

neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation.

JEREMIAH 51 174

⁴⁰As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and the neighbor cities thereof; saith the LORD, so shall no man abide there, neither shall any son of man dwell therein.

⁴¹Behold, a people shall come from the north,

and a great nation and many kings shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth.

⁴²They shall hold the bow and the lance;

they are cruel, and will not show mercy;

their voice shall roar like the sea,

and they shall ride upon horses,

everyone put in array, like a man to the battle,

against thee, O daughter of Babylon.

⁴³The king of Babylon hath heard the report of them,

and his hands waxed feeble;

anguish took hold of him,

and pangs as of a woman in travail.

44Behold, he shall come up like a lion

from the swelling of Jordan unto the habitation of the strong;

but I will make them suddenly run away from her;

and who is a chosen man, that I may appoint over her?

For who is like me? And who will appoint me the time?

And who is that shepherd that will stand before me?

⁴⁵Therefore hear ye the counsel of the LORD, that he hath taken against Babylon; and his purposes, that he hath purposed against the land of the Chaldeans;

Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out;

surely he shall make their habitation desolate with them.

⁴⁶At the noise of the taking of Babylon the earth is moved, and the cry is heard among the nations.

Thus saith the LORD:

Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, and against them that dwell in the midst of them that rise up against me,

a destroying wind;

²And will send unto Babylon fanners,

that shall fan her, and shall empty her land;

for in the day of trouble they shall be against her round about.

³Against him that bendeth let the archer bend his bow,

and against him that lifteth himself up in his brigandine;

and spare ye not her young men;

destroy ye utterly all her host.

⁴Thus the slain shall fall in the land of the Chaldeans,

and they that are thrust through in her streets.

⁵For Israel hath not been forsaken, nor Judah of his God, of the LORD of hosts; though their land was filled with sin against the Holy One of Israel.

⁶Flee out of the midst of Babylon,

and deliver every man his soul;

be not cut off in her iniquity;

for this is the time of the LORD's vengeance;

he will render unto her a recompense.

I75 JEREMIAH 51

⁷Babylon hath been a golden cup in the LORD's hand,

that made all the earth drunken; the nations have drunken of her wine: therefore the nations are mad. Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed; howl for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed. ⁹We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed; forsake her and let us go everyone into his own country; for her judgment reacheth unto heaven, and is lifted up even to the skies. ¹⁰The LORD hath brought forth our righteousness; come, and let us declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God. □Make bright the arrows; gather the shields; the LORD hath raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes; for his device is against Babylon, to destroy it; because it is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance of his temple. ¹²Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes; for the LORD hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon. ¹³O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, and the measure of thy covetousness. ¹⁴The LORD of hosts hath sworn by himself, saying, "Surely I will fill thee with men as with caterpillars; and they shall lift up a shout against thee." ¹⁵He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding. ¹⁶When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens; and he causeth the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures. ¹⁷Every man is brutish by his knowledge; every founder is confounded by the graven image; for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them. ¹⁸They are vanity, the work of errors; in the time of their visitation they shall perish. ¹⁹The portion of Jacob is not like them; for he is the former of all things;

176

JEREMIAH 51 and Israel is the rod of his inheritance; the LORD of hosts is his name. ²⁰Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war; for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms. ²¹And with thee will I break in pieces the horse and his rider; and with thee will I break in pieces the chariot and his rider. ²²With thee also will I break in pieces man and woman; and with thee will I break in pieces old and young; and with thee will I break in pieces the young man and the maid; ²³I will also break in pieces with thee the shepherd and his flock; and with thee will I break in pieces the husbandman and his yoke of oxen; and with thee will I break in pieces captains and rulers. ²⁴And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the LORD. ²⁵Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth; and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain. ²⁶And they shall not take of thee a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; but thou shalt be desolate forever, saith the LORD. ²⁷Set ye up a standard in the land, blow the trumpet among the nations, prepare the nations against her, call together against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashchenaz; appoint a captain against her; cause the horses to come up as the rough caterpillars. ²⁸Prepare against her the nations with the kings of the Medes, the captains thereof, and all the rulers thereof, and all the land of his dominion. ²⁹And the land shall tremble and sorrow; for every purpose of the LORD shall be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without an inhabitant. 30 The mighty men of Babylon have forborne to fight,

they have remained in their holds;

their might hath failed;

they became as women; they have burned her dwelling places;

³¹One post shall run to meet another,

and one messenger to meet another,

and the reeds they have burned with fire, and the men of war are affrighted.

that his city is taken at one end, ³²and that the passages are stopped,

her bars are broken.

to show the king of Babylon

I77 JEREMIAH 51

³³For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor, it is time to thresh her; yet a little while, and the time of her harvest shall come. ³⁴Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon hath devoured me, he hath crushed me, he hath made me an empty vessel, he hath swallowed me up like a dragon, he hath filled his belly with my delicates, he hath cast me out. 35The violence done to me and to my flesh be upon Babylon, shall the inhabitant of Zion say; and my blood upon the inhabitants of Chaldea, shall Jerusalem say. ³⁶Therefore thus saith the LORD: Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for thee; and I will dry up her sea, and make her springs dry. ³⁷And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwelling place for dragons, an astonishment, and a hissing, without an inhabitant. ³⁸They shall roar together like lions; they shall yell as lions' whelps. ³⁹In their heat I will make their feasts, and I will make them drunken, that they may rejoice, and sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the LORD. 40I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams with he goats. 41 How is Sheshach taken! And how is the praise of the whole earth surprised! How is Babylon become an astonishment among the nations! ⁴²The sea is come up upon Babylon; she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof. 43Her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwelleth, neither doth any son of man pass thereby. 44And I will punish Bel in Babylon, and I will bring forth out of his mouth that which he hath swallowed up; and the nations shall not flow together anymore unto him; yea, the wall of Babylon shall fall. ⁴⁵My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver ye every man his soul from the fierce anger of the LORD. 46And lest your heart faint, and ye fear for the rumor that shall be heard in the land; a rumor shall both come one year, and after that in another year shall come a rumor, and violence in the land, ruler against ruler. ⁴⁷Therefore, behold, the days come,

that I will do judgment upon the graven images of Babylon;

JEREMIAH 5 I I78

and her whole land shall be confounded,

and all her slain shall fall in the midst of her.

⁴⁸Then the heaven and the earth, and all that is therein, shall sing for Babylon; for the spoilers shall come unto her from the north, saith the LORD.

⁴⁹As Babylon hath caused the slain of Israel to fall,

so at Babylon shall fall the slain of all the earth.

⁵⁰Ye that have escaped the sword,

go away, stand not still;

remember the LORD afar off,

and let Jerusalem come into your mind.

⁵¹We are confounded,

because we have heard reproach;

shame hath covered our faces;

for strangers are come into the sanctuaries of the LORD's house.

⁵²Wherefore, behold the days come, saith the LORD,

that I will do judgment upon her graven images;

and through all her land the wounded shall groan.

53Though Babylon should mount up to heaven,

and though she should fortify the height of her strength,

yet from me shall spoilers come unto her, saith the LORD.

54A sound of a cry cometh from Babylon,

and great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans;

55because the LORD hath spoiled Babylon,

and destroyed out of her the great voice;

when her waves do roar like great waters,

a noise of their voice is uttered;

⁵⁶Because the spoiler is come upon her, even upon Babylon,

and her mighty men are taken,

every one of their bows is broken;

for the LORD God of recompenses shall surely requite.

⁵⁷And I will make drunk her princes and her wise men,

her captains, and her rulers, and her mighty men;

and they shall sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake,

saith the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.

58Thus saith the LORD of hosts:

The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken,

and her high gates shall be burned with fire;

and the people shall labor in vain,

and the folk in the fire, and they shall be weary.

⁵⁹The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah into Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. And this Seraiah was quiet prince. ⁶⁰So Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil that should come upon Babylon, even all these words that are written against Babylon.

61And Jeremiah said to Seraiah:

When thou comest to Babylon, and shalt see, and shalt read all these words; ⁶²then shalt thou say, 'O Lord, thou hast spoken against this place, to cut it off, that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but that it shall be desolate forever.' ⁶³And it shall be, when thou hast made an end of reading this book, that thou shalt bind a

I79 JEREMIAH 52

stone to it, and cast it into the midst of Euphrates; ⁶⁴and thou shalt say, 'Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her; and they shall be weary.'

Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

The fall of Jerusalem

¹Zedekiah was one and twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. ²And he did that which was evil in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done. ³For through the anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, till he had cast them out from his presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

⁴And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it, and built forts against it round about. ⁵So the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah.

⁶And in the fourth month, in the ninth day of the month, the famine was sore in the city, so that there was no bread for the people of the land. ⁷Then the city was broken up, and all the men of war fled, and went forth out of the city by night by the way of the gate between the two walls, which was by the king's garden; (now the Chaldeans were by the city round about) and they went by the way of the plain. ⁸But the army of the Chaldeans pursued after the king, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho; and all his army was scattered from him.

⁹Then they took the king, and carried him up unto the king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath; where he gave judgment upon him. ¹⁰And the king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes; he slew also all the princes of Judah in Riblah. ¹¹Then he put out the eyes of Zedekiah; and the king of Babylon bound him in chains, and carried him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.

¹²Now in the fifth month, in the tenth day of the month, which was the nineteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzar-adan, captain of the guard, which served the king of Babylon, into Jerusalem, ¹³and burned the house of the LORD, and the king's house; and all the houses of Jerusalem, and all the houses of the great men, burned he with fire; ¹⁴and all the army of the Chaldeans, that were with the captain of the guard, brake down all the walls of Jerusalem round about. ¹⁵Then Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard carried away captive certain of the poor of the people, and the residue of the people that remained in the city, and those that fell away, that fell to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the multitude. ¹⁶But Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard left certain of the poor of the land for vinedressers and for husbandmen.

¹⁷Also the pillars of brass that were in the house of the LORD, and the bases, and the brazen sea that was in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans brake, and carried all the brass of them to Babylon. ¹⁸The caldrons also, and the shovels, and the snuffers, and the bowls, and the spoons, and all the vessels of brass wherewith they ministered, took they away. ¹⁹And the basins, and the firepans, and the bowls, and the caldrons, and the candlesticks, and the spoons, and the cups; that which was of gold in gold, and that which was of silver in silver, took the captain of the guard away.

²⁰The two pillars, one sea, and twelve brazen bulls that were under the bases, which king Solomon had made in the house of the LORD; the brass of all these vessels was without

JEREMIAH 52

weight. ²¹And concerning the pillars, the height of one pillar was eighteen cubits; and a fillet of twelve cubits did compass it; and the thickness thereof was four fingers; it was hollow. ²²And a chapiter of brass was upon it; and the height of one chapiter was five cubits, with network and pomegranates upon the chapiters round about, all of brass. The second pillar also and the pomegranates were like unto these. ²³And there were ninety and six pomegranates on a side; and all the pomegranates upon the network were a hundred round about.

²⁴And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door; ²⁵he took also out of the city a eunuch, which had the charge of the men of war; and seven men of them that were near the king's person, which were found in the city; and the principal scribe of the host, who mustered the people of the land; and threescore men of the people of the land, that were found in the midst of the city. ²⁶So Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah. ²⁷And the king of Babylon smote them, and put them to death in Riblah in the land of Hamath.

Thus Judah was carried away captive out of his own land. ²⁸This is the people whom Nebuchadrezzar carried away captive: In the seventh year three thousand Jews and three and twenty. ²⁹In the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar he carried away captive from Jerusalem eight hundred thirty and two persons. ³⁰In the three and twentieth year of Nebuchadrezzar, Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Jews seven hundred forty and five persons. All the persons were four thousand and six hundred.

Jehoiachin released

³¹And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, in the five and twentieth day of the month, that Evilmerodach king of Babylon, in the first year of his reign, lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah, and brought him forth out of prison, ³²and spake kindly unto him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon. ³³And changed his prison garments; and he did continually eat bread before him all the days of his life. ³⁴And for his diet, there was a continual diet given him of the king of Babylon, every day a portion until the day of his death, all the days of his life.

THE LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH

Jerusalem is desolate

'How doth the city sit solitary,
that was full of people!
How is she become as a widow!
She that was great among the nations,
and princess among the provinces,
how is she become tributary!

²She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks; among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies.

³Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and because of great servitude; she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest; all her persecutors overtook her between the straits.

⁴The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts;

all her gates are desolate; her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted,

and she is in bitterness.

⁵Her adversaries are the chief, her enemies prosper;

for the LORD hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions; her children are gone into captivity before the enemy.

⁶And from the daughter of Zion all her beauty is departed; her princes are become like harts that find no pasture, and they are gone without strength before the pursuer.

⁷Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction and of her miseries all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old, when her people fell into the hand of the enemy, and none did help her; the adversaries saw her, and did mock at her Sabbaths.

⁸Jerusalem hath grievously sinned; therefore she is removed; all that honored her despise her, because they have seen her nakedness; yea, she sigheth, and turneth backward.

⁹Her filthiness is in her skirts; she remembereth not her last end; therefore she came down wonderfully; she had no comforter.

O Lord, behold my affliction;

for the enemy hath magnified himself.

¹⁰The adversary hath spread out his hand upon all her pleasant things;

for she hath seen that the heathen entered into her sanctuary,

whom thou didst command that they should not enter into thy congregation.

□All her people sigh, they seek bread;

they have given their pleasant things for meat to relieve the soul;

see, O Lord, and consider;

for I am become vile.

¹²Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the LORD hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger.

¹³From above hath he sent fire into my bones,

and it prevaileth against them;

he hath spread a net for my feet, he hath turned me back;

he hath made me desolate and faint all the day.

¹⁴The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand;

they are wreathed, and come up upon my neck;

he hath made my strength to fall,

the LORD hath delivered me into their hands,

from whom I am not able to rise up.

¹⁵The LORD hath trodden under foot all my mighty men in the midst of me;

he hath called an assembly against me to crush my young men;

the LORD hath trodden the virgin,

the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress.

¹⁶For these things I weep;

mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water,

because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me;

my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed.

¹⁷Zion spreadeth forth her hands,

and there is none to comfort her;

the LORD hath commanded concerning Jacob,

that his adversaries should be round about him;

Jerusalem is as a menstruous woman among them.

¹⁸The LORD is righteous;

for I have rebelled against his commandments;

hear, I pray you, all people,

and behold my sorrow;

my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity.

19I called for my lovers, but they deceived me;

my priests and mine elders gave up the ghost in the city,

while they sought their meat to relieve their souls.

²⁰Behold, O Lord; for I am in distress;

my bowels are troubled;

mine heart is turned within me;

for I have grievously rebelled;

abroad the sword bereaveth, at home there is as death.

21 They have heard that I sigh;

there is none to comfort me;

all mine enemies have heard of my trouble;

they are glad that thou hast done it;

thou wilt bring the day that thou hast called,

and they shall be like unto me.

²²Let all their wickedness come before thee;

and do unto them, as thou hast done unto me for all my transgressions;

for my sighs are many,

and my heart is faint.

God's anger over Jerusalem

How hath the LORD covered the daughter of Zion

with a cloud in his anger,

and cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of Israel, and remembered not his footstool in the day of his anger!

²The LORD hath swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob, and hath not pitied;

he hath thrown down in his wrath the strongholds of the daughter of Judah;

he hath brought them down to the ground;

he hath polluted the kingdom and the princes thereof.

³He hath cut off in his fierce anger all the horn of Israel;

he hath drawn back his right hand from before the enemy,

and he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire,

which devoureth round about.

⁴He hath bent his bow like an enemy;

he stood with his right hand as an adversary,

and slew all that were pleasant to the eye in the tabernacle of the daughter of Zion; he poured out his fury like fire.

⁵The LORD was as an enemy;

he hath swallowed up Israel,

he hath swallowed up all her palaces;

he hath destroyed his strongholds,

and hath increased in the daughter of Judah mourning and lamentation.

⁶And he hath violently taken away his tabernacle, as if it were of a garden;

he hath destroyed his places of the assembly;

the LORD hath caused the solemn feasts and Sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion, and hath despised in the indignation of his anger the king and the priest.

⁷The LORD hath cast off his altar,

he hath abhorred his sanctuary,

he hath given up into the hand of the enemy

the walls of her palaces;

they have made a noise in the house of the LORD,

as in the day of a solemn feast.

8The LORD hath purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion;

he hath stretched out a line, he hath not withdrawn his hand from destroying;

therefore he made the rampart and the wall to lament; they languished together.

9Her gates are sunk into the ground;

he hath destroyed and broken her bars;

her king and her princes are among the Gentiles;

the law is no more;

her prophets also find no vision from the LORD.

¹⁰The elders of the daughter of Zion sit upon the ground, and keep silence;

they have cast up dust upon their heads;

they have girded themselves with sackcloth;

the virgins of Jerusalem hang down their heads to the ground.

11 Mine eyes do fail with tears, my bowels are troubled,

my liver is poured upon the earth, for the destruction of the daughter of my people; because the children and the sucklings swoon in the streets of the city.

12They say to their mothers,

"Where is corn and wine?"

When they swooned as the wounded in the streets of the city,

when their soul was poured out into their mothers' bosom.

13 What thing shall I take to witness for thee?

What thing shall I liken to thee, O daughter of Jerusalem?

What shall I equal to thee, that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of Zion?

For thy breach is great like the sea; who can heal thee?

¹⁴Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee;

and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity;

but have seen for thee false burdens and causes of banishment.

¹⁵All that pass by clap their hands at thee;

they hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem,

saying, "Is this the city that men call the perfection of beauty,

the joy of the whole earth?"

¹⁶All thine enemies have opened their mouth against thee;

they hiss and gnash the teeth;

they say, "We have swallowed her up; certainly this is the day that we looked for; we have found, we have seen it."

¹⁷The LORD hath done that which he had devised;

he hath fulfilled his word that he had commanded in the days of old;

he hath thrown down, and hath not pitied;

and he hath caused thine enemy to rejoice over thee,

he hath set up the horn of thine adversaries.

¹⁸Their heart cried unto the LORD, O wall of the daughter of Zion,

let tears run down like a river day and night;

give thyself no rest;

let not the apple of thine eye cease.

¹⁹Arise, cry out in the night;

in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart

like water before the face of the LORD;

lift up thy hands toward him for the life of thy young children,

that faint for hunger in the top of every street.

²⁰Behold, O Lord, and consider to whom thou hast done this.
Shall the women eat their fruit, and children of a span long?
Shall the priest and the prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the LORD?

²¹The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets; my virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword; thou hast slain them in the day of thine anger; thou hast killed, and not pitied.

22Thou hast called as in a solemn day my terrors round about, so that in the day of the LORD's anger none escaped nor remained; those that I have swaddled and brought up hath mine enemy consumed.

Jeremiah's afflictions

I am the man that hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath.

²He hath led me,

and brought me into darkness, but not into light.

³Surely against me is he turned;

he turneth his hand against me all the day.

⁴My flesh and my skin hath he made old;

he hath broken my bones.

⁵He hath builded against me,

and compassed me with gall and travail.

⁶He hath set me in dark places, as they that be dead of old.

⁷He hath hedged me about, that I cannot get out;

he hath made my chain heavy.

8Also when I cry and shout,

he shutteth out my prayer.

⁹He hath enclosed my ways with hewn stone;

he hath made my paths crooked.

¹⁰He was unto me as a bear lying in wait, and as a lion in secret places.

He hath turned aside my ways, and pulled me in pieces;

he hath made me desolate.

12He hath bent his bow,

and set me as a mark for the arrow.

¹³He hath caused the arrows of his quiver

to enter into my reins.

¹⁴I was a derision to all my people;

and their song all the day.

¹⁵He hath filled me with bitterness,

he hath made me drunken with wormwood.

¹⁶He hath also broken my teeth with gravel stones,

he hath covered me with ashes.

¹⁷And thou hast removed my soul far off from peace; I forgat prosperity.

¹⁸And I said, "My strength and my hope is perished from the LORD;"

¹⁹Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall.

²⁰My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.

²¹This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.

²²It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

²³They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness.

²⁴The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

²⁵The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him.

26It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.

²⁷It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.

²⁸He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne it upon him.

²⁹He putteth his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope.

³⁰He giveth his cheek to him that smiteth him; he is filled full with reproach.

³¹For the LORD will not cast off forever;

32But though he cause grief,

yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

³³For he doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men.

³⁴To crush under his feet

all the prisoners of the earth,

 $^{35}\mathrm{To}$ turn aside the right of a man

before the face of the Most High,

³⁶To subvert a man in his cause, the LORD approveth not.

³⁷Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass,

when the LORD commandeth it not?

³⁸Out of the mouth of the Most High proceedeth not evil and good?

³⁹Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

⁴⁰Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.

- ⁴¹Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.
- ⁴²We have transgressed and have rebelled; thou hast not pardoned.
- ⁴³Thou hast covered with anger, and persecuted us; thou hast slain, thou hast not pitied.
- ⁴⁴Thou hast covered thyself with a cloud, that our prayer should not pass through.
- ⁴⁵Thou hast made us as the offscouring and refuse in the midst of the people.
- ⁴⁶All our enemies have opened their mouths against us.
- ⁴⁷Fear and a snare is come upon us, desolation and destruction.
- ⁴⁸Mine eye runneth down with rivers of water

for the destruction of the daughter of my people.

- ⁴⁹Mine eye trickleth down, and ceaseth not, without any intermissions,
- ⁵⁰Till the LORD look down, and behold from heaven.
- 51 Mine eye affecteth mine heart,
- because of all the daughters of my city.
- ⁵²Mine enemies chased me sore, like a bird, without cause.
- 53They have cut off my life in the dungeon, and cast a stone upon me.
- 54Waters flowed over mine head; then I said, "I am cut off."
- ⁵⁵I called upon thy name, O LORD, out of the low dungeon.
- ⁵⁶Thou hast heard my voice;

hide not thine ear at my breathing, at my cry.

- ⁵⁷Thou drewest near in the day that I called upon thee; thou saidst, "Fear not."
- ⁵⁸O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; thou hast redeemed my life.
- ⁵⁹O LORD, thou hast seen my wrong; judge thou my cause.
- 60 Thou hast seen all their vengeance and all their imaginations against me.
- 61 Thou hast heard their reproach, O LORD, and all their imaginations against me;
- 62The lips of those that rose up against me, and their device against me all the day.
- ⁶³Behold their sitting down, and their rising up; I am their music.
- 64Render unto them a recompense, O LORD, according to the work of their hands.

65Give them sorrow of heart, thy curse unto them.
66Persecute and destroy them in anger from under the heavens of the LORD.

The distress of Zion

4 How is the gold become dim!
How is the most fine gold changed!
The stones of the sanctuary are poured out in the top of every street.

²The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!

³Even the sea monsters draw out the breast, they give suck to their young ones; the daughter of my people is become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness.

⁴The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst; the young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them.

⁵They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets; they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills.

⁶For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her.

⁷Her Nazarites were purer than snow, they were whiter than milk, they were more ruddy in body than rubies, their polishing was of sapphire;

8Their visage is blacker than a coal; they are not known in the streets; their skin cleaveth to their bones; it is withered, it is become like a stick.

They that be slain with the sword are better than they that be slain with hunger; for these pine away, stricken through for want of the fruits of the field.

¹⁰The hands of the pitiful women have sodden their own children; they were their meat in the destruction of the daughter of my people.

"The LORD hath accomplished his fury; he hath poured out his fierce anger, and hath kindled a fire in Zion, and it hath devoured the foundations thereof.

¹²The kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of the world,

would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem.

- ¹³For the sins of her prophets, and the iniquities of her priests, that have shed the blood of the just in the midst of her,
- 14They have wandered as blind men in the streets, they have polluted themselves with blood, so that men could not touch their garments.
- ¹⁵They cried unto them, "Depart ye; it is unclean; depart, depart, touch not;" when they fled away and wandered,

they said among the heathen,

"They shall no more sojourn there."

16The anger of the LORD hath divided them; he will no more regard them; they respected not the persons of the priests, they favored not the elders.

- ¹⁷As for us, our eyes as yet failed for our vain help; in our watching we have watched for a nation that could not save us.
- ¹⁸They hunt our steps, that we cannot go in our streets; our end is near, our days are fulfilled; for our end is come.
- ¹⁹Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven; they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness.
- ²⁰The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, was taken in their pits, of whom we said, "Under his shadow we shall live among the heathen."
- ²¹Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, that dwellest in the land of Uz; the cup also shall pass through unto thee; thou shalt be drunken, and shalt make thyself naked.
- ²²The punishment of thine iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion; he will no more carry thee away into captivity;

he will visit thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; he will discover thy sins.

A prayer for mercy

- Remember, O Lord, what is come upon us; consider, and behold our reproach.
 - ²Our inheritance is turned to strangers, our houses to aliens.
 - ³We are orphans and fatherless,

our mothers are as widows.

- ⁴We have drunken our water for money; our wood is sold unto us.
- ⁵Our necks are under persecution;

we labor, and have no rest.

⁶We have given the hand to the Egyptians and to the Assyrians, to be satisfied with bread.

⁷Our fathers have sinned, and are not; and we have borne their iniquities.

⁸Servants have ruled over us;

there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.

⁹We gat our bread with the peril of our lives, because of the sword of the wilderness.

¹⁰Our skin was black like an oven,

because of the terrible famine.

They ravished the women in Zion, and the maids in the cities of Judah.

¹²Princes are hanged up by their hand; the faces of elders were not honored.

¹³They took the young men to grind, and the children fell under the wood.

¹⁴The elders have ceased from the gate, the young men from their music.

¹⁵The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning.

¹⁶The crown is fallen from our head; woe unto us, that we have sinned!

¹⁷For this our heart is faint;

for these things our eyes are dim.

¹⁸Because of the mountain of Zion, which is desolate, the foxes walk upon it.

¹⁹Thou, O Lord, remainest forever; thy throne from generation to generation.

²⁰Wherefore dost thou forget us forever, and forsake us so long time?

²¹Turn thou us unto thee, O Lord, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old.

²²But thou hast utterly rejected us; thou art very wroth against us. 191 EZEKIEL I

EZEKIEL

Ezekiel's vision

Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

²In the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity, ³the word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him.

⁴And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire. ⁵Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man. ⁶And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings. ⁷And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like the color of burnished brass. ⁸And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings. ⁹Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward.

¹⁰As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side; and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle. ¹¹Thus were their faces; and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies. ¹²And they went every one straight forward; whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went.

¹³As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps; it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. ¹⁴And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning.

¹⁵Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures, with his four faces. ¹⁶The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the color of a beryl; and they four had one likeness; and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel. ¹⁷When they went, they went upon their four sides; and they turned not when they went. ¹⁸As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four. ¹⁹And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.

²⁰Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went, thither was their spirit to go; and the wheels were lifted up over against them; for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. ²¹When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up over against them; for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.

²²And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the color of the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above.

²³And under the firmament were their wings straight, the one toward the other; every one had two, which covered on this side, and every one had two, which covered on that side, their bodies.

²⁴And when they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of great waters, as the voice of the Almighty, the voice of speech, as the noise of a host; when they stood, they let down their wings. ²⁵And there was a voice from the firmament that was over their heads, when they stood, and had let down their wings.

²⁶And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it. ²⁷And I saw as the color of amber, as the appearance of fire round about within it, from the appearance of his loins even upward, and from the appearance of his loins even downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about. ²⁸As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about.

This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.

Ezekiel's call to be a prophet

And he said unto me:

Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.

²And the Spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me. ³And he said unto me:

Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me; they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day. ⁴For they are impudent children and stiff-hearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD." ⁵And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they are a rebellious house) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them.

⁶And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions; be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house. ⁷And thou shalt speak my words unto them whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear; for they are most rebellious.

⁸But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee. Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house; open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee.

⁹And when I looked, behold, a hand was sent unto me; and lo, a roll of a book was therein; ¹⁰and he spread it before me; and it was written within and without; and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

Moreover he said unto me:

Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel.

²So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. ³And he said unto me: Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee.

Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. ⁴And he said unto me: Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them. ⁵For thou art not sent to a people of a strange speech and of a hard language, but to the house of Israel; ⁶not to many people of a strange speech and of a hard

language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee.

⁷But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me; for all the house of Israel are impudent and hardhearted. ⁸Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. ⁹As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead; fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

¹⁰Moreover he said unto me:

Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears. "And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD;" whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.

¹²Then the Spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, saying, "Blessed be the glory of the LORD from his place." ¹³I heard also the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels over against them, and a noise of a great rushing. ¹⁴So the Spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

Ezekiel is a watchman

¹⁵Then I came to them of the captivity at Tel-Abab, that dwelt by the river of Chebar, and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days. ¹⁶And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹⁷Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. ¹⁸When I say unto the wicked, "Thou shalt surely die;" and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. ¹⁹Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

²⁰Again, when a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die; because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. ²¹Nevertheless, if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

²²And the hand of the LORD was there upon me; and he said unto me: Arise, go forth into the plain, and I will there talk with thee.

²³Then I arose, and went forth into the plain; and, behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, as the glory which I saw by the river of Chebar; and I fell on my face. ²⁴Then the Spirit entered into me, and set me upon my feet, and spake with me, and said unto me:

Go, shut thyself within thine house. ²⁵But thou, O son of man, behold, they shall put bands upon thee, and shall bind thee with them, and thou shalt not go out among them; ²⁶and I will make thy tongue cleave to the roof of thy mouth, that thou shalt be dumb, and shalt not be to them a reprover; for they are a rebellious house.

²⁷But when I speak with thee, I will open thy mouth, and thou shalt say unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD." He that heareth, let him hear; and he that forbeareth, let him forbear; for they are a rebellious house.

Siege of Jerusalem

Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and portray upon it the city, even Jerusalem; ²and lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it; set the camp also against it, and set battering rams against it round about. ³Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city; and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel.

⁴Lie thou also upon thy left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it; according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon it thou shalt bear their iniquity. ⁵For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days; so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the house of Israel. ⁶And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days; I have appointed thee each day for a year. ⁷Therefore thou shalt set thy face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it. ⁸And, behold, I will lay bands upon thee, and thou shalt not turn thee from one side to another, till thou hast ended the days of thy siege.

⁹Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentils, and millet, and fitches, and put them in one vessel, and make thee bread thereof, according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon thy side; three hundred and ninety days shalt thou eat thereof. ¹⁰And thy meat which thou shalt eat shall be by weight, twenty shekels a day; from time to time shalt thou eat it. ¹¹Thou shalt drink also water by measure, the sixth part of a hin; from time to time shalt thou drink. ¹²And thou shalt eat it as barley cakes, and thou shalt bake it with dung that cometh out of man, in their sight.

¹³And the LORD said:

Even thus shall the children of Israel eat their defiled bread among the Gentiles, whither I will drive them.

14Then said I:

Ah Lord GOD! Behold, my soul hath not been polluted; for from my youth up even till now have I not eaten of that which dieth of itself, or is torn in pieces; neither came there abominable flesh into my mouth.

15Then he said unto me:

Lo, I have given thee cow's dung for man's dung, and thou shalt prepare thy bread therewith.

¹⁶Moreover he said unto me:

Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem; and they shall eat bread by weight, and with care; and they shall drink water by measure, and with astonishment; ¹⁷that they may want bread and water, and be astonied one with another, and consume away for their iniquity.

God's razor of judgment

And thou, son of man, take thee a sharp knife, take thee a barber's razor, and cause it to pass upon thine head and upon thy beard; then take thee balances to weigh, and divide the hair. ²Thou shalt burn with fire a third part in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are fulfilled; and thou shalt take a third part, and smite about it with a knife; and a third part thou shalt scatter in the wind; and I will draw out a sword after them. ³Thou shalt also take thereof a few in number, and bind them in thy skirts. ⁴Then take of them again, and cast them into the midst of the fire, and burn them in the fire; for thereof shall a fire come forth into all the house of Israel.

⁵Thus saith the Lord GOD: This is Jerusalem; I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her. ⁶And she hath changed my judgments into wickedness more than the nations, and my statutes more than the countries that are round about her; for they have refused my judgments and my statutes, they have not walked in them.

⁷Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Because ye multiplied more than the nations that are round about you, and have not walked in my statutes, neither have kept my judgments, neither have done according to the judgments of the nations that are round about you;

⁸Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I, even I, am against thee, and will execute judgments in the midst of thee in the sight of the nations. ⁹And I will do in thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do anymore the like, because of all thine abominations. ¹⁰Therefore the fathers shall eat the sons in the midst of thee, and the sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments in thee, and the whole remnant of thee will I scatter into all the winds. ¹¹Wherefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely, because thou hast defiled my sanctuary with all thy detestable things, and with all thine abominations, therefore will I also diminish thee; neither shall mine eye spare, neither will I have any pity. ¹²A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee; and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

¹³Thus shall mine anger be accomplished, and I will cause my fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted; and they shall know that I the LORD have spoken it in my zeal, when I have accomplished my fury in them.

¹⁴Moreover I will make thee waste, and a reproach among the nations that are round about thee, in the sight of all that pass by. ¹⁵So it shall be a reproach and a taunt, and instruction and an astonishment unto the nations that are round about thee, when I shall execute judgments in thee in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes. I the LORD have spoken it. ¹⁶When I shall send upon them the evil arrows of famine, which shall be for their destruction, and which I will send to destroy you; and I will increase the famine upon you, and will break your staff of bread; ¹⁷so will I send upon you famine and evil beasts, and they shall bereave thee; and pestilence and blood shall pass through thee; and I will bring the sword upon thee. I the LORD have spoken it.

Prophecy against the mountains of Israel

And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, set thy face toward the mountains of Israel, and prophesy against them, ³and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD. Thus saith the Lord GOD to the mountains and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys:

Behold, I, even I, will bring a sword upon you, and I will destroy your high places. ⁴And your altars shall be desolate, and your images shall be broken; and I will cast down your slain men before your idols. ⁵And I will lay the dead carcasses of the children of Israel before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars. ⁶In all your dwelling places the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate; that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, and your idols may be broken and cease, and your images may be cut down, and your works may be abolished. ⁷And the slain shall fall in the midst of you, and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

⁸Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have some that shall escape the sword among the nations, when ye shall be scattered through the countries. ⁹And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols; and they shall loathe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations. ¹⁰And they shall know that I am the LORD, and that I have not said in vain that I would do this evil unto them.

"Thus saith the Lord GOD: Smite with thine hand, and stamp with thy foot, and say, "Alas for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel!" For they shall fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence. ¹²He that is far off shall die of the pestilence; and he that is near shall fall by the sword; and he that remaineth and is besieged shall die by the famine; thus will I accomplish my fury upon them.

¹³Then shall ye know that I am the LORD, when their slain men shall be among their idols round about their altars, upon every high hill, in all the tops of the mountains, and under every green tree, and under every thick oak, the place where they did offer sweet savor to all their idols. ¹⁴So will I stretch out my hand upon them, and make the land desolate, yea, more desolate than the wilderness toward Diblath, in all their habitations; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

The end is come

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel:

An end, the end is come

upon the four corners of the land.

³Now is the end come upon thee,

and I will send mine anger upon thee,

and will judge thee according to thy ways,

and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations.

⁴And mine eye shall not spare thee,

neither will I have pity;

but I will recompense thy ways upon thee,

and thine abominations shall be in the midst of thee;

and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

⁵Thus saith the Lord GOD,

an evil an only evil, behold, is come.

⁶An end is come, the end is come;

it watcheth for thee; behold, it is come.

⁷The morning is come unto thee, O thou that dwellest in the land; the time is come, the day of trouble is near, and not the sounding again of the mountains. Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee; and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations. 9And mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity; I will recompense thee according to thy ways and thine abominations that are in the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I am the LORD that smiteth. ¹⁰Behold, the day, behold, it is come; the morning is gone forth; the rod hath blossomed, pride hath budded. □Violence is risen up into a rod of wickedness; none of them shall remain, nor of their multitude, nor of any of theirs; neither shall there be wailing for them. ¹²The time is come, the day draweth near; let not the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn; for wrath is upon all the multitude thereof. ¹³For the seller shall not return to that which is sold, although they were yet alive; for the vision is touching the whole multitude thereof which shall not return; neither shall any strengthen himself in the iniquity of his life. ¹⁴They have blown the trumpet, even to make all ready; but none goeth to the battle; for my wrath is upon all the multitude thereof. 15The sword is without, and the pestilence and the famine within; he that is in the field shall die with the sword; and he that is in the city, famine and pestilence shall devour him. ¹⁶But they that escape of them shall escape, and shall be on the mountains like doves of the valleys, all of them mourning, everyone for his iniquity. ¹⁷All hands shall be feeble. and all knees shall be weak as water. ¹⁸They shall also gird themselves with sackcloth, and horror shall cover them; and shame shall be upon all faces, and baldness upon all their heads. ¹⁹They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed; their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD;

they shall not satisfy their souls, neither fill their bowels;

because it is the stumbling block of their iniquity.

²⁰As for the beauty of his ornament, he set it in majesty;

but they made the images of their abominations and of their detestable things therein;

therefore have I set it far from them.

²¹And I will give it into the hands of the strangers for a prey,

and to the wicked of the earth for a spoil;

and they shall pollute it.

²²My face will I turn also from them,

and they shall pollute my secret place;

for the robbers shall enter into it, and defile it.

²³Make a chain; for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence.

²⁴Wherefore I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses;

I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease;

and their holy places shall be defiled.

²⁵Destruction cometh;

and they shall seek peace, and there shall be none.

²⁶Mischief shall come upon mischief,

and rumor shall be upon rumor;

then shall they seek a vision of the prophet;

but the law shall perish from the priest,

and counsel from the ancients.

²⁷The king shall mourn, and the prince shall be clothed with desolation,

and the hands of the people of the land shall be troubled;

I will do unto them after their way,

and according to their deserts will I judge them;

and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Idolatry in the temple

And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I sat in mine house, and the elders of Judah sat before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell there upon me. ²Then I beheld, and lo a likeness as the appearance of fire; from the appearance of his loins even downward, fire; and from his loins even upward, as the appearance of brightness, as the color of amber. ³And he put forth the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and the Spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy. ⁴And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, according to the vision that I saw in the plain. ⁵Then said he unto me:

Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the gate of the altar this image of jealousy in the entry.

⁶He said furthermore unto me:

Son of man, seest thou what they do? Even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? But turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations.

⁷And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall. ⁸Then said he unto me, "Son of man, dig now in the wall." And when I had digged in the wall, behold a door. ⁹And he said unto me, "Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here." ¹⁰So I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed upon the wall round about. ¹¹And there stood before them seventy men of the ancients of the house of Israel, and in the midst of them stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, with every man his censer in his hand; and a thick cloud of incense went up.

12Then said he unto me:

Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? For they say, 'The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth.'

13He said also unto me:

Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations that they do.

¹⁴Then he brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD's house which was toward the north; and, behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz. ¹⁵Then said he unto me:

Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these.

¹⁶And he brought me into the inner court of the LORD's house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the LORD, and their faces toward the east; and they worshiped the sun toward the east. ¹⁷Then he said unto me:

Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? For they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke me to anger; and, lo, they put the branch to their nose. ¹⁸Therefore will I also deal in fury; mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity; and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them.

Judgment on the idolaters

He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying:

Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand.

²And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side; and they went in, and stood beside the brazen altar.

³And the glory of God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side;

⁴And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. ⁵And to the others he said in mine hearing:

Go ye after him through the city, and smite; let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity. 'Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women; but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary.

EZEKIEL 10 200

Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house. ⁷And he said unto them, "Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain; go ye forth." And they went forth, and slew in the city. ⁸And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, "Ah Lord GOD! Wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?"

Then said he unto me:

The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness; for they say, 'The LORD hath forsaken the earth, and the LORD seeth not.' 10 And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their head.

"And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, "I have done as thou hast commanded me."

God's glory departs from the temple

Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubim there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne. ²And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, "Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubim, and scatter them over the city." And he went in in my sight.

³Now the cherubim stood on the right side of the house, when the man went in; and the cloud filled the inner court. ⁴Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, and stood over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD's glory. ⁵And the sound of the cherubim's wings was heard even to the outer court, as the voice of the Almighty God when he speaketh.

⁶And it came to pass, that when he had commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, "Take fire from between the wheels, from between the cherubim;" then he went in, and stood beside the wheels. ⁷And one cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubim unto the fire that was between the cherubim, and took thereof, and put it into the hands of him that was clothed with linen; who took it, and went out. ⁸And there appeared in the cherubim the form of a man's hand under their wings.

⁹And when I looked, behold the four wheels by the cherubim, one wheel by one cherub, and another wheel by another cherub, and the appearance of the wheels was as the color of a beryl stone. ¹⁰And as for their appearances, they four had one likeness, as if a wheel had been in the midst of a wheel. ¹¹When they went, they went upon their four sides; they turned not as they went, but to the place whither the head looked, they followed it; they turned not as they went. ¹²And their whole body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes round about, even the wheels that they four had. ¹³As for the wheels, it was cried unto them in my hearing, "O wheel." ¹⁴And everyone had four faces; the first face was the face of a cherub, and the second face was the face of a man, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

¹⁵And the cherubim were lifted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar. ¹⁶And when the cherubim went, the wheels went by them; and when the cherubim lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also turned not from beside them. ¹⁷When they stood, these stood; and when they were lifted up, these lifted up themselves also; for the spirit of the living creature was in them.

201 EZEKIEL I I

¹⁸Then the glory of the LORD departed from off the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubim. ¹⁹And the cherubim lifted up their wings, and mounted up from the earth in my sight; when they went out, the wheels also were beside them, and every one stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD's house; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above.

²⁰This is the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar; and I knew that they were the cherubim. ²¹Every one had four faces apiece, and every one four wings; and the likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings. ²²And the likeness of their faces was the same faces which I saw by the river of Chebar, their appearances and themselves; they went every one straight forward.

God's judgment on Jerusalem

Moreover the Spirit lifted me up, and brought me unto the east gate of the LORD's house, which looketh eastward; and behold at the door of the gate five and twenty men; among whom I saw Jaazaniah the son of Azur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people. ²Then said he unto me:

Son of man, these are the men that devise mischief, and give wicked counsel in this city; ³which say, 'It is not near; let us build houses; this city is the caldron, and we be the flesh.' ⁴Therefore prophesy against them, prophesy, O son of man.

⁵And the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and said unto me:

Speak; Thus saith the LORD: Thus have ye said, O house of Israel; for I know the things that come into your mind, every one of them. ⁶Ye have multiplied your slain in this city, and ye have filled the streets thereof with the slain.

⁷Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Your slain whom ye have laid in the midst of it, they are the flesh, and this city is the caldron; but I will bring you forth out of the midst of it. ⁸Ye have feared the sword; and I will bring a sword upon you, saith the Lord GOD. ⁹And I will bring you out of the midst thereof, and deliver you into the hands of strangers, and will execute judgments among you. ¹⁰Ye shall fall by the sword; I will judge you in the border of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. ¹¹This city shall not be your caldron, neither shall ye be the flesh in the midst thereof; but I will judge you in the border of Israel; ¹²and ye shall know that I am the LORD; for ye have not walked in my statutes, neither executed my judgments, but have done after the manners of the heathen that are round about you.

¹³And it came to pass, when I prophesied, that Pelatiah the son of Benaiah died. Then fell I down upon my face, and cried with a loud voice, and said:

Ah Lord GOD! Wilt thou make a full end of the remnant of Israel?

Promise of Israel's return

¹⁴Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹⁵Son of man, thy brethren, even thy brethren, the men of thy kindred, and all the house of Israel wholly, are they unto whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, "Get you far from the LORD; unto us is this land given in possession."

¹⁶Therefore say, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come." ¹⁷Therefore say, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel."

EZEKIEL 12 202

¹⁸And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence. ¹⁹And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh; ²⁰that they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. ²¹But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD.

²²Then did the cherubim lift up their wings, and the wheels beside them; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above. ²³And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city, and stood upon the mountain which is on the east side of the city. ²⁴Afterwards the Spirit took me up, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to them of the captivity. So the vision that I had seen went up from me.

²⁵Then I spake unto them of the captivity all the things that the LORD had showed me.

The exile symbolized

The word of the LORD also came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not; for they are a rebellious house.

³Therefore, thou son of man, prepare thee stuff for removing, and remove by day in their sight; and thou shalt remove from thy place to another place in their sight; it may be they will consider, though they be a rebellious house. ⁴Then shalt thou bring forth thy stuff by day in their sight, as stuff for removing; and thou shalt go forth at even in their sight, as they that go forth into captivity. ⁵Dig thou through the wall in their sight, and carry out thereby. ⁶In their sight shalt thou bear it upon thy shoulders, and carry it forth in the twilight; thou shalt cover thy face, that thou see not the ground; for I have set thee for a sign unto the house of Israel.

⁷And I did so as I was commanded; I brought forth my stuff by day, as stuff for captivity, and in the even I digged through the wall with mine hand; I brought it forth in the twilight, and I bare it upon my shoulder in their sight.

8 And in the morning came the word of the LORD unto me, saying:

⁹Son of man, hath not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said unto thee, 'What doest thou?'

¹⁰Say thou unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: This burden concerneth the prince in Jerusalem, and all the house of Israel that are among them."

¹¹Say: I am your sign; like as I have done, so shall it be done unto them; they shall remove and go into captivity. ¹²And the prince that is among them shall bear upon his shoulder in the twilight, and shall go forth; they shall dig through the wall to carry out thereby; he shall cover his face, that he see not the ground with his eyes. ¹³My net also will I spread upon him, and he shall be taken in my snare; and I will bring him to Babylon to the land of the Chaldeans; yet shall he not see it, though he shall die there. ¹⁴And I will scatter toward every wind all that are about him to help him, and all his bands; and I will draw out the sword after them.

¹⁵And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall scatter them among the nations, and disperse them in the countries. ¹⁶But I will leave a few men of them from the sword, from the famine, and from the pestilence; that they may declare all their

abominations among the heathen whither they come; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

¹⁷Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

¹⁸Son of man, eat thy bread with quaking, and drink thy water with trembling and with carefulness; ¹⁹and say unto the people of the land:

Thus saith the LORD God of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and of the land of Israel: They shall eat their bread with carefulness, and drink their water with astonishment, that her land may be desolate from all that is therein, because of the violence of all them that dwell therein. ²⁰And the cities that are inhabited shall be laid waste, and the land shall be desolate; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

²¹And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²²Son of man, what is that proverb that ye have in the land of Israel, saying, 'The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth'? ²³Tell them therefore, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: I will make this proverb to cease, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel; but say unto them, 'The days are at hand, and the effect of every vision.' ²⁴For there shall be no more any vain vision nor flattering divination within the house of Israel."

²⁵For I am the LORD. I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged; for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the word and will perform it, saith the Lord GOD.

²⁶Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

²⁷Son of man, behold, they of the house of Israel say, "The vision that he seeth is for many days to come, and he prophesieth of the times that are far off." ²⁸Therefore say unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: There shall none of my words be prolonged anymore, but the word which I have spoken shall be done, saith the Lord GOD."

False prophets

And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the LORD. ³Thus saith the Lord GOD: Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing! ⁴O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. ⁵Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD. ⁶They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, 'The LORD saith;' and the LORD hath not sent them; and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word. ⁷Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, 'The LORD saith it;' albeit I have not spoken?

8 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Because ye have spoken vanity, and seen lies, therefore, behold, I am against you, saith the Lord GOD. 9 And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies; they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD. 10 Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, 'Peace;' and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar. 11 Say unto them which daub it with untempered mortar, that it shall fall; there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall;

EZEKIEL 14 204

and a stormy wind shall rend it. 12 Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, 'Where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it?'

¹³Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it. ¹⁴So will I break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered mortar, and bring it down to the ground, so that the foundation thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. ¹⁵Thus will I accomplish my wrath upon the wall, and upon them that have daubed it with untempered mortar, and will say unto you, 'The wall is no more, neither they that daubed it;' ¹⁶to wit, the prophets of Israel which prophesy concerning Jerusalem, and which see visions of peace for her, and there is no peace, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁷Likewise, thou son of man, set thy face against the daughters of thy people, which prophesy out of their own heart; and prophesy thou against them. ¹⁸And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD: Woe to the women that sew pillows to all armholes, and make kerchiefs upon the head of every stature to hunt souls! Will ye hunt the souls of my people, and will ye save the souls alive that come unto you? ¹⁹And will ye pollute me among my people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, to slay the souls that should not die, and to save the souls alive that should not live, by your lying to my people that hear your lies?

²⁰Wherefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against your pillows, wherewith ye there hunt the souls to make them fly, and I will tear them from your arms, and will let the souls go, even the souls that ye hunt to make them fly. ²¹Your kerchiefs also will I tear, and deliver my people out of your hand, and they shall be no more in your hand to be hunted; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. ²²Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and strengthened the hands of the wicked, that he should not return from his wicked way, by promising him life; ²³therefore ye shall see no more vanity, nor divine divinations; for I will deliver my people out of your hand; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

Idolatrous elders

Then came certain of the elders of Israel unto me, and sat before me. ²And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

³Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumbling block of their iniquity before their face; should I be inquired of at all by them? ⁴Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD: Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the LORD will answer him that cometh, according to the multitude of his idols; ⁵that I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols.

⁶Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD: Repent, and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations. ⁷For everyone of the house of Israel, or of the stranger that sojourneth in Israel, which separateth himself from me, and setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to a prophet to inquire of him concerning me; I the LORD will answer him by myself; ⁸and I will set my face against that man, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

⁹And if the prophet be deceived when he hath spoken a thing, I the LORD have not deceived that prophet; therefore I will stretch out my hand upon him, and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel. ¹⁰And they shall bear the punishment of their iniquity; the punishment of the prophet shall be even as the punishment of him that seeketh unto him; ¹¹that the house of Israel may go no more astray from me, neither be polluted anymore with all their transgressions; but that they may be my people, and I may be their God, saith the Lord GOD.

¹²The word of the LORD came again to me, saying:

¹³Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then I will stretch out mine hand upon it, and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it; ¹⁴though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁵If I cause noisome beasts to pass through the land, and they spoil it, so that it be desolate, that no man may pass through because of the beasts; ¹⁶though these three men were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters; they only shall be delivered, but the land shall be desolate.

¹⁷Or if I bring a sword upon that land, and say, 'Sword, go through the land; so that I cut off man and beast from it;' ¹⁸though these three men were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters, but they only shall be delivered themselves.

¹⁹Or if I send a pestilence into that land, and pour out my fury upon it in blood, to cut off from it man and beast; ²⁰though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.

²¹For thus saith the Lord GOD: How much more when I send my four sore judgments upon Jerusalem, the sword, and the famine, and the noisome beast, and the pestilence, to cut off from it man and beast? ²²Yet, behold, therein shall be left a remnant that shall be brought forth, both sons and daughters; behold, they shall come forth unto you, and ye shall see their way and their doings; and ye shall be comforted concerning the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, even concerning all that I have brought upon it. ²³And they shall comfort you, when ye see their ways and their doings; and ye shall know that I have not done without cause all that I have done in it, saith the Lord GOD.

Jerusalem is a vine that shall be burned

| 🛴 | And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, What is the vine tree more than any tree, or than a branch which is among the trees of the forest? ³Shall wood be taken thereof to do any work? Or will men take a pin of it to hang any vessel thereon? ⁴Behold, it is cast into the fire for fuel; the fire devoureth both the ends of it, and the midst of it is burned. Is it meet for any work? ⁵Behold, when it was whole, it was meet for no work; how much less shall it be meet yet for any work when the fire hath devoured it, and it is burned?

⁶Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: As the vine tree among the trees of the forest, which I have given to the fire for fuel, so will I give the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ⁷And I will set my face against them; they shall go out from one fire, and another fire shall devour them; and ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I set my face against

EZEKIEL 16 206

them. ⁸And I will make the land desolate, because they have committed a trespass, saith the Lord GOD.

Jerusalem as an adulterous wife

Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations, ³and say: Thus saith the Lord GOD unto Jerusalem: Thy birth and thy nativity is of the land of Canaan; thy father was an Amorite, and thy mother a Hittite. ⁴And as for thy nativity, in the day thou wast born thy navel was not cut, neither wast thou washed in water to supple thee; thou wast not salted at all, nor swaddled at all. ⁵None eye pitied thee, to do any of these unto thee, to have compassion upon thee; but thou wast cast out in the open field, to the loathing of thy person, in the day that thou wast born.

⁶And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, 'Live;' yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, 'Live.' ⁷I have caused thee to multiply as the bud of the field, and thou hast increased and waxen great, and thou art come to excellent ornaments; thy breasts are fashioned, and thine hair is grown, whereas thou wast naked and bare.

⁸Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness; yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.

⁹Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil. ¹⁰I clothed thee also with broidered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk. ¹¹I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck. ¹²And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head. ¹³Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment was of fine linen, and silk, and broidered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil; and thou wast exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom. ¹⁴And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty; for it was perfect through my comeliness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁵But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy fornications on everyone that passed by; his it was. ¹⁶And of thy garments thou didst take, and deckedst thy high places with divers colors, and playedst the harlot thereupon; the like things shall not come, neither shall it be so. ¹⁷Thou hast also taken thy fair jewels of my gold and of my silver which I had given thee, and madest to thyself images of men, and didst commit whoredom with them, ¹⁸and tookest thy broidered garments, and coveredst them; and thou hast set mine oil and mine incense before them. ¹⁹My meat also which I gave thee, fine flour, and oil, and honey, wherewith I fed thee, thou hast even set it before them for a sweet savor; and thus it was, saith the Lord GOD.

²⁰Moreover thou hast taken thy sons and thy daughters, whom thou hast born unto me, and these hast thou sacrificed unto them to be devoured. Is this of thy whoredoms a small matter, ²¹that thou hast slain my children, and delivered them to cause them to pass through the fire for them? ²²And in all thine abominations and thy whoredoms thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, when thou wast naked and bare, and wast polluted in thy blood.

²³And it came to pass after all thy wickedness, ("Woe, woe unto thee!" saith the Lord GOD) ²⁴that thou hast also built unto thee an eminent place, and hast made thee a high place in every street. ²⁵Thou hast built thy high place at every head of the way, and hast made thy beauty to be abhorred, and hast opened thy feet to everyone that passed by, and multiplied thy whoredoms. ²⁶Thou hast also committed fornication with the Egyptians thy neighbors, great of flesh; and hast increased thy whoredoms, to provoke me to anger. ²⁷Behold, therefore I have stretched out my hand over thee, and have diminished thine ordinary food, and delivered thee unto the will of them that hate thee, the daughters of the Philistines, which are ashamed of thy lewd way. ²⁸Thou hast played the whore also with the Assyrians, because thou wast unsatiable; yea, thou hast played the harlot with them, and yet couldest not be satisfied. ²⁹Thou hast moreover multiplied thy fornication in the land of Canaan unto Chaldea; and yet thou wast not satisfied herewith.

³⁰How weak is thine heart, saith the Lord GOD, seeing thou doest all these things, the work of an imperious whorish woman; ³¹in that thou buildest thine eminent place in the head of every way, and makest thine high pace in every street; and hast not been as a harlot, in that thou scornest hire; ³²but as a wife that committeth adultery, which taketh strangers instead of her husband! ³³They give gifts to all whores; but thou givest thy gifts to all thy lovers, and hirest them, that they may come unto thee on every side for thy whoredom. ³⁴And the contrary is in thee from other women in thy whoredoms, whereas none followeth thee to commit whoredoms; and in that thou givest a reward, and no reward is given unto thee, therefore thou art contrary.

35Wherefore, O harlot, hear the word of the LORD; 36thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thy filthiness was poured out, and thy nakedness discovered through thy whoredoms with thy lovers, and with all the idols of thy abominations, and by the blood of thy children, which thou didst give unto them; ³⁷behold, therefore I will gather all thy lovers, with whom thou hast taken pleasure, and all them that thou hast loved, with all them that thou hast hated; I will even gather them round about against thee, and will discover thy nakedness unto them, that they may see all thy nakedness. ³⁸And I will judge thee, as women that break wedlock and shed blood are judged; and I will give thee blood in fury and jealousy. ³⁹And I will also give thee into their hand, and they shall throw down thine eminent place, and shall break down thy high places; they shall strip thee also of thy clothes, and shall take thy fair jewels, and leave thee naked and bare. 40They shall also bring up a company against thee, and they shall stone thee with stones, and thrust thee through with their swords. ⁴¹And they shall burn thine houses with fire, and execute judgments upon thee in the sight of many women; and I will cause thee to cease from playing the harlot, and thou also shalt give no hire anymore. 42So will I make my fury toward thee to rest, and my jealousy shall depart from thee, and I will be quiet, and will be no more angry.

⁴³Because thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, but hast fretted me in all these things; behold, therefore I also will recompense thy way upon thine head, saith the Lord GOD; and thou shalt not commit this lewdness above all thine abominations.

⁴⁴Behold, everyone that useth proverbs shall use this proverb against thee, saying, 'As is the mother, so is her daughter.' ⁴⁵Thou art thy mother's daughter, that loatheth her husband and her children; and thou art the sister of thy sisters, which loathed their husbands and their children; your mother was a Hittite, and your father an Amorite. ⁴⁶And thine elder sister is Samaria, she and her daughters that dwell at thy left hand; and thy younger sister, that dwelleth at thy right hand, is Sodom and her daughters.

EZEKIEL 17 208

⁴⁷Yet hast thou not walked after their ways, nor done after their abominations; but, as if that were a very little thing, thou wast corrupted more than they in all thy ways. ⁴⁸As I live, saith the Lord GOD, Sodom thy sister hath not done, she nor her daughters, as thou hast done, thou and thy daughters.

⁴⁹Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. ⁵⁰And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me; therefore I took them away, as I saw good. ⁵¹Neither hath Samaria committed half of thy sins; but thou hast multiplied thine abominations more than they, and hast justified thy sisters in all thine abominations which thou hast done. ⁵²Thou also, which hast judged thy sisters, bear thine own shame for thy sins that thou hast committed more abominable than they; they are more righteous than thou; yea, be thou confounded also, and bear thy shame in that thou hast justified thy sisters.

53When I shall bring again their captivity, the captivity of Sodom and her daughters, and the captivity of Samaria and her daughters, then will I bring again the captivity of thy captives in the midst of them; 54that thou mayest bear thine own shame, and mayest be confounded in all that thou hast done, in that thou art a comfort unto them. 55When thy sisters, Sodom and her daughters, shall return to their former estate, and Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former estate, then thou and thy daughters shall return to your former estate. 56For thy sister Sodom was not mentioned by thy mouth in the day of thy pride, 57before thy wickedness was discovered, as at the time of thy reproach of the daughters of Syria, and all that are round about her, the daughters of the Philistines, which despise thee round about. 58Thou hast borne thy lewdness and thine abominations, saith the LORD.

⁵⁹For thus saith the Lord GOD: I will even deal with thee as thou hast done, which hast despised the oath in breaking the covenant. ⁶⁰Nevertheless, I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant. ⁶¹Then thou shalt remember thy ways, and be ashamed, when thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger; and I will give them unto thee for daughters, but not by thy covenant. ⁶²And I will establish my covenant with thee; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD; ⁶³that thou mayest remember, and be confounded, and never open thy mouth anymore because of thy shame, when I am pacified toward thee for all that thou hast done, saith the Lord GOD.

Two eagles and a vine

7 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, put forth a riddle, and speak a parable unto the house of Israel; ³and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD: A great eagle with great wings, long winged, full of feathers, which had divers colors, came unto Lebanon, and took the highest branch of the cedar. ⁴He cropped off the top of his young twigs, and carried it into a land of traffic; he set it in a city of merchants.

⁵He took also the seed of the land, and planted it in a fruitful field; he placed it by great waters, and set it as a willow tree. ⁶And it grew, and became a spreading vine of low stature, whose branches turned toward him, and the roots thereof were under him; so it became a vine, and brought forth branches, and shot forth sprigs.

⁷There was also another great eagle with great wings and many feathers; and, behold, this vine did bend her roots toward him, and shot forth her branches toward him, that he might water it by the furrows of her plantation. ⁸It was planted in a good soil by

great waters, that it might bring forth branches, and that it might bear fruit, that it might be a goodly vine.

⁹Say thou, Thus saith the Lord GOD: Shall it prosper? Shall he not pull up the roots thereof, and cut off the fruit thereof, that it wither? It shall wither in all the leaves of her spring, even without great power or many people to pluck it up by the roots thereof. ¹⁰Yea, behold, being planted, shall it prosper? Shall it not utterly wither, when the east wind toucheth it? It shall wither in the furrows where it grew.

□ Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹²Say now to the rebellious house, know ye not what these things mean? Tell them, Behold, the king of Babylon is come to Jerusalem, and hath taken the king thereof, and the princes thereof, and led them with him to Babylon. ¹³And hath taken of the king's seed, and made a covenant with him, and hath taken an oath of him; he hath also taken the mighty of the land; ¹⁴that the kingdom might be base, that it might not lift itself up, but that be keeping of his covenant it might stand. ¹⁵But he rebelled against him in sending his ambassadors into Egypt, that they might give him horses and much people. Shall he prosper? Shall he escape that doeth such things? Or shall he break the covenant, and be delivered?

¹⁶As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely in the place where the king dwelleth that made him king, whose oath he despised, and whose covenant he brake, even with him in the midst of Babylon he shall die. ¹⁷Neither shall Pharaoh with his mighty army and great company make for him in the war, by casting up mounts, and building forts, to cut off many persons; ¹⁸seeing he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, when, lo, he had given his hand, and hath done all these things, he shall not escape.

¹⁹Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: As I live, surely mine oath that he hath despised, and my covenant that he hath broken, even it will I recompense upon his own head. ²⁰And I will spread my net upon him, and he shall be taken in my snare, and I will bring him to Babylon, and will plead with him there for his trespass that he hath trespassed against me. ²¹And all his fugitives with all his bands shall fall by the sword, and they that remain shall be scattered toward all winds; and ye shall know that I the LORD have spoken it.

²²Thus saith the Lord GOD: I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar, and will set it; I will crop off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant it upon a high mountain and eminent. ²³In the mountain of the height of Israel will I plant it; and it shall bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a goodly cedar; and under it shall dwell all fowl of every wing; in the shadow of the branches thereof shall they dwell. ²⁴And all the trees of the field shall know that I the LORD have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish; I the LORD have spoken and have done it.

The soul that sins shall die

Properties 1 Properties | Prope

²What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?' ³As I live, saith the Lord GOD, ye shall not have occasion anymore to use this proverb in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine; the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

⁵But if a man be just, and do that which is lawful and right, EZEKIEL 18 210

⁶And hath not eaten upon the mountains,

neither hath lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel,

neither hath defiled his neighbors' wife,

neither hath come near to a menstruous woman,

⁷And hath not oppressed any,

but hath restored to the debtor his pledge,

hath spoiled none by violence,

hath given his bread to the hungry,

and hath covered the naked with a garment;

8He that hath not given forth upon usury,

neither hath taken any increase,

that hath withdrawn his hand from iniquity,

hath executed true judgment between man and man,

9Hath walked in my statutes,

and hath kept my judgments, to deal truly;

he is just,

he shall surely live, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁰If he beget a son that is a robber, a shedder of blood, and that doeth the like to any one of these things, ¹¹and that doeth not any of those duties, but even:

hath eaten upon the mountains,

and defiled his neighbor's wife,

12hath oppressed the poor and needy,

hath spoiled by violence hath not restored the pledge,

and hath lifted up his eyes to the idols,

hath committed abomination,

¹³hath given forth upon usury, and hath taken increase;

Shall he then live? He shall not live; he hath done all these abominations; he shall surely die; his blood shall be upon him.

¹⁴Now, lo, if he beget a son, that seeth all his father's sins which he hath done, and considereth, and doeth not such like, ¹⁵that

hath not eaten upon the mountains,

neither hath lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel,

hath not defiled his neighbor's wife,

¹⁶neither hath oppressed any,

hath not withholden the pledge,

neither hath spoiled by violence,

but hath given his bread to the hungry,

and hath covered the naked with a garment,

17that hath taken off his hand from the poor,

that hath not received usury nor increase,

hath executed my judgments,

hath walked in my statutes;

He shall not die for the iniquity of his father, he shall surely live. ¹⁸As for his father, because he cruelly oppressed, spoiled his brother by violence, and did that which is not good among his people, lo, even he shall die in his iniquity.

¹⁹Yet say ye, 'Why? Doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father?' When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, and hath kept all my statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live. ²⁰The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the

righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

²¹But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. ²²All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him; in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live. ²³Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD; and not that he should return from his ways, and live?

²⁴But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned; in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.

²⁵Yet ye say, 'The way of the LORD is not equal.' Hear now, O house of Israel. Is not my way equal? Are not your ways unequal? ²⁶When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive. ²⁸Because he considereth, and turneth away from all his transgressions that he hath committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die. ²⁹Yet saith the house of Israel, 'The way of the LORD is not equal.' O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? Are not your ways unequal?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, everyone according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit; for why will ye die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD; wherefore turn ye and live.

A lamentation for the princes of Israel

Moreover, take thou up a lamentation for the princes of Israel, ²and say:

What is thy mother?

A lioness;

she lay down among lions,

she nourished her whelps among young lions.

³And she brought up one of her whelps:

it became a young lion,

and it learned to catch the prey;

it devoured men.

⁴The nations also heard of him;

he was taken in their pit,

and they brought him with chains unto the land of Egypt.

⁵Now when she saw that she had waited,

and her hope was lost,

then she took another of her whelps,

and made him a young lion.

6And he went up and down among the lions,

he became a young lion,

EZEKIEL 20 212

and learned to catch the prey,

and devoured men.

⁷And he knew their desolate palaces,

and he laid waste their cities;

and the land was desolate,

and the fullness thereof, by the noise of his roaring.

8Then the nations set against him

on every side from the provinces,

and spread their net over him;

he was taken in their pit.

9And they put him in ward in chains,

and brought him to the king of Babylon;

they brought him into holds,

that his voice should no more be heard

upon the mountains of Israel.

¹⁰Thy mother is like a vine, in my blood,

planted by the waters;

she was fruitful and full of branches

by reason of many waters.

□And she had strong rods

for the scepters of them that bare rule,

and her stature was exalted among the thick branches,

and she appeared in her height with the multitude of her branches.

¹²But she was plucked up in fury,

she was cast down to the ground,

and the east wind dried up her fruit;

her strong rods were broken and whithered;

the fire consumed them.

¹³And now she is planted in the wilderness,

in a dry and thirsty ground.

¹⁴And fire is gone out of a rod of her branches,

which hath devoured her fruit,

so that she hath no strong rod

to be a scepter to rule.

This is a lamentation, and shall be for a lamentation.

Rebellious Israel purged

And it came to pass in the seventh year, in the fifth month, the tenth day of the month, that certain of the elders of Israel came to inquire of the LORD, and sat before me. ²Then came the word of the LORD unto me, saying:

³Son of man, speak unto the elders of Israel, and say unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: Are ye come to inquire of me? As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be inquired of by you."

⁴Wilt thou judge them, son of man, wilt thou judge them? Cause them to know the abominations of their fathers; ⁵and say unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: In the day when I chose Israel, and lifted up mine hand unto the seed of the house of Jacob, and made myself known unto them in the land of Egypt, when I lifted up mine hand unto them, saying, 'I am the LORD your God;' ⁶in the day that I lifted up mine hand unto them, to bring them forth of the land of Egypt into a land that I had espied for

them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands; ⁷then said I unto them, 'Cast ye away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt; I am the LORD your God.'"

But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me; they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt; then I said, 'I will pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.' ⁹But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, among whom they were, in whose sight I made myself known unto them, in bringing them forth out of the land of Egypt. ¹⁰Wherefore I caused them to go forth out of the land of Egypt, and brought them into the wilderness. ¹¹And I gave them my statutes, and showed them my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them. ¹²Moreover also I gave them my Sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.

13 But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness; they walked not in my statutes, and they despised my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; and my Sabbaths they greatly polluted; then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them in the wilderness, to consume them. 14 But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out. 15 Yet also I lifted up my hand unto them in the wilderness, that I would not bring them into the land which I had given them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands; 16 because they despised my judgments, and walked not in my statutes, but polluted my Sabbaths; for their heart went after their idols. 17 Nevertheless mine eyes spared them from destroying them, neither did I make an end of them in the wilderness. 18 But I said unto their children in the wilderness, 'Walk ye not in the statutes of your fathers, neither observe their judgments, nor defile yourselves with their idols; 19 I am the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; 20 And hallow my Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.'

²¹Notwithstanding, the children rebelled against me; they walked not in my statutes, neither kept my judgments to do them, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; they polluted my Sabbaths; then I said I would pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the wilderness. ²²Nevertheless I withdrew mine hand, and wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted in the sight of the heathen, in whose sight I brought them forth. ²³I lifted up mine hand unto them also in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the heathen, and disperse them through the countries; ²⁴because they had not executed my judgments, but had despised my statutes, and had polluted my Sabbaths, and their eyes were after their fathers' idols. ²⁵Wherefore I gave them also statutes that were not good, and judgments whereby they should not live; ²⁶and I polluted them in their own gifts, in that they caused to pass through the fire all that openeth the womb, that I might make them desolate, to the end that they might know that I am the LORD.

²⁷Therefore, son of man, speak unto the house of Israel, and say unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: Yet in this your fathers have blasphemed me, in that they have committed a trespass against me. ²⁸For when I had brought them into the land, for the which I lifted up mine hand to give it to them, then they saw every high hill, and all the thick trees, and they offered there their sacrifices, and there they presented the provocation of their offering; there also they made their sweet savor, and poured out

EZEKIEL 20 214

there their drink offerings. ²⁹Then I said unto them, 'What is the high place whereunto ye go?' And the name thereof is called Bamah unto this day."

³⁰Wherefore say unto the house of Israel, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: Ye are polluted after the manner of your fathers, and ye commit whoredom after their abominations. ³¹For when ye offer your gifts, when ye make your sons to pass through the fire, ye pollute yourselves with all your idols, even unto this day; and shall I be inquired of by you, O house of Israel? As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be inquired of by you."

³²And that which cometh into your mind shall not be at all, that ye say, 'We will be as the heathen, as the families of the countries, to serve wood and stone.' ³³As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely with a mighty hand and with a stretched-out arm, and with fury poured out, will I rule over you; ³⁴and I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched-out arm, and with fury poured out. ³⁵And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. ³⁶Like as I pleaded with you fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD. ³⁷And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant; ³⁸and I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me; I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

³⁹As for you, O house of Israel, thus saith the Lord GOD: Go ye, serve ye everyone his idols, and hereafter also, if ye will not hearken unto me; but pollute ye my holy name no more with your gifts, and with your idols. 40 For in mine holy mountain, in the mountain of the height of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, there shall all the house of Israel, all of them in the land, serve me; there will I accept them, and there will I require your offerings, and the first-fruits of your oblations, with all your holy things. 41I will accept you with your sweet savor, when I bring you out from the people, and gather you out of the countries wherein ye have been scattered; and I will be sanctified in you before the heathen. ⁴²And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall bring you into the land of Israel, into the country for the which I lifted up mine hand to give it to your fathers. ⁴³And there shall ye remember your ways, and all your doings, wherein ye have been defiled; and ye shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for all your evils that ye have committed. 44And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings, O ye house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

Prophecy against the south

⁴⁵Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

⁴⁶Son of man, set thy face toward the south, and drop thy word toward the south, and prophesy against the forest of the south field; ⁴⁷and say to the forest of the south: Hear the word of the LORD. Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will kindle a fire in thee, and it shall devour every green tree in thee, and every dry tree; the flaming flame shall not be quenched, and all faces from the south to the north shall be burned therein. ⁴⁸And all flesh shall see that I the LORD have kindled it; it shall not be quenched.

⁴⁹Then said I, "Ah Lord God! They say of me, 'Doth he not speak parables?""

Babylon as the sword of judgment

And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, set thy face toward Jerusalem, and drop thy word toward the holy places, and prophesy against the land of Israel, ³and say to the land of Israel, "Thus saith the LORD: Behold, I am against thee, and will draw forth my sword out of his sheath, and will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked. ⁴Seeing then that I will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked, therefore shall my sword go forth out of his sheath against all flesh from the south to the north; ⁵that all flesh may know that I the LORD have drawn forth my sword out of his sheath; it shall not return anymore."

⁶Sigh therefore, thou son of man, with the breaking of thy loins; and with bitterness sigh before their eyes. ⁷And it shall be, when they say unto thee, 'Wherefore sighest thou?' That thou shalt answer, 'For the tidings, because it cometh;' and every heart shall melt, and all hands shall be feeble, and every spirit shall faint, and all knees be weak as water; behold, it cometh, and shall be brought to pass, saith the Lord GOD.

⁸Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

⁹Son of man, prophesy, and say, "Thus saith the LORD: Say, 'A sword, a sword is sharpened, and also furbished; ¹⁰it is sharpened to make a sore slaughter; it is furbished that it may glitter; should we then make mirth?' It contemneth the rod of my son, as every tree. ¹¹And he hath given it to be furbished, that it may be handled; this sword is sharpened, and it is furbished, to give it into the hand of the slayer. ¹²Cry and howl, son of man; for it shall be upon my people, it shall be upon all the princes of Israel; terrors by reason of the sword shall be upon my people; smite therefore upon thy thigh.

¹³Because it is a trial, and what if the sword contemn even the rod? It shall be no more, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁴Thou therefore, son of man, prophesy, and smite thine hands together,

and let the sword be doubled the third time,

the sword of the slain:

it is the sword of the great men that are slain,

which entereth into their privy chambers.

15I have set the point of the sword against all their gates,

that their heart may faint,

and their ruins be multiplied.

Ah! It is made bright,

it is wrapped up for the slaughter.

¹⁶Go thee one way or other, either on the right hand,

or on the left, whithersoever thy face is set.

¹⁷I will also smite mine hands together,

and I will cause my fury to rest;

I the LORD have said it.

¹⁸The word of the LORD came unto me again, saying:

¹⁹Also, thou son of man, appoint thee two ways, that the sword of the king of Babylon may come; both twain shall come forth out of one land; and choose thou a place, choose it at the head of the way to the city. ²⁰Appoint a way, that the sword may come to Rabbath of the Ammonites, and to Judah in Jerusalem the defensed. ²¹For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, to use

EZEKIEL 22 216

divination; he made his arrows bright, he consulted with images, he looked in the liver. ²²At his right hand was the divination for Jerusalem, to appoint captains, to open the mouth in the slaughter, to lift up the voice with shouting, to appoint battering rams against the gates, to cast a mount, and to build a fort. ²³And it shall be unto them as a false divination in their sight, to them that have sworn oaths; but he will call to remembrance the iniquity, that they may be taken.

²⁴Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Because ye have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are discovered, so that in all your doings your sins do appear; because, I say, that ye are come to remembrance, ye shall be taken with the hand. ²⁵And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end,

²⁶Thus saith the Lord GOD: Remove the diadem, and take off the crown; this shall not be the same; exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. ²⁷I will overturn, overturn, overturn it; and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him.

²⁸And thou, son of man, prophesy and say, "Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites, and concerning their reproach; even say thou:

The sword,

the sword is drawn;

for the slaughter it is furbished,

to consume because of the glittering;

²⁹While they see vanity unto thee,

while they divine a lie unto thee,

to bring thee upon the necks of them that are slain,

of the wicked,

whose day is come,

when their iniquity shall have an end.

30 Shall I cause it to return into his sheath?

I will judge thee

in the place where thou wast created,

in the land of thy nativity.

³¹And I will pour out mine indignation upon thee;

I will blow against thee in the fire of my wrath,

and deliver thee into the hand of brutish men,

and skillful to destroy.

32Thou shalt be for fuel to the fire;

thy blood shall be in the midst of the land;

thou shalt be no more remembered;

for I the LORD have spoken it.

Judgment on Jerusalem's sins

22 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Now, thou son of man, wilt thou judge, wilt thou judge the bloody city? Yea, thou shalt show her all her abominations. ³Then say thou, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: The city sheddeth blood in the midst of it, that her time may come, and maketh idols against herself to defile herself. ⁴Thou art become guilty in thy blood that thou hast shed; and hast defiled thyself in thine idols which thou hast made; and thou hast caused thy days to draw near, and art come even unto thy years; therefore have I made thee a reproach unto the heathen, and a mocking to all countries. ⁵Those that be

near, and those that be far from thee, shall mock thee, which art infamous and much vexed."

⁶Behold, the princes of Israel, everyone were in thee to their power to shed blood. ⁷In thee have they set light by father and mother; in the midst of thee have they dealt by oppression with the stranger; in thee have they vexed the fatherless and the widow. ⁸Thou hast despised mine holy things, and hast profaned my Sabbaths. ⁹In thee are men that carry tales to shed blood; and in thee they eat upon the mountains; in the midst of thee they commit lewdness. ¹⁰In thee have they discovered their fathers' nakedness; in thee have they humbled her that was set apart for pollution. ¹¹And one hath committed abomination with his neighbor's wife; and another hath lewdly defiled his daughter-in-law; in thee hath humbled his sister, his father's daughter. ¹²In thee have they taken gifts to shed blood; thou hast taken usury and increase, and thou hast greedily gained of thy neighbors by extortion, and hast forgotten me, saith the Lord GOD.

¹³Behold, therefore I have smitten mine hand at thy dishonest gain which thou hast made, and at thy blood which hath been in the midst of thee. ¹⁴Can thine heart endure, or can thine hands be strong, in the days that I shall deal with thee? I the LORD have spoken it, and will do it. ¹⁵And I will scatter thee among the heathen, and disperse thee in the countries, and will consume thy filthiness out of thee. ¹⁶And thou shalt take thine inheritance in thyself in the sight of the heathen, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

¹⁷And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹⁸Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become dross; all they are brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver.

¹⁹Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Because ye are all become dross, behold, therefore I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem. ²⁰As they gather silver, and brass, and iron, and lead, and tin, into the midst of the furnace, to blow the fire upon it, to melt it; so will I gather you in mine anger and in my fury, and I will leave you there, and melt you. ²¹Yea, I will gather you, and blow upon you in the fire of my wrath, and ye shall be melted in the midst thereof. ²²As silver is melted in the midst of the furnace, so shall ye be melted in the midst thereof; and ye shall know that I the LORD have poured out my fury upon you.

A conspiracy of prophets

²³And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²⁴Son of man, say unto her, "Thou art the land that is not cleansed, nor rained upon in the day of indignation." ²⁵There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof, like a roaring lion ravening the prey; they have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things; they have made her many widows in the midst thereof. ²⁶Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things; they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they showed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my Sabbaths, and I am profaned among them. ²⁷Her princes in the midst thereof are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain. ²⁸And her prophets have daubed them with untempered mortar, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD,' when the LORD hath not spoken. ²⁹The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy; yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully.

EZEKIEL 23 218

³⁰And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found none.
³¹Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath; their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord GOD.

Two adulterous sisters

7? The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying:

²Son of man, there were two women, the daughters of one mother; ³and they committed whoredoms in Egypt; they committed whoredoms in their youth; there were their breasts pressed, and there they bruised the teats of their virginity. ⁴And the names of them were Aholah the elder, and Aholibah her sister; and they were mine, and they bare sons and daughters. Thus were their names: Samaria is Aholah, and Jerusalem Aholibah.

⁵And Aholah played the harlot when she was mine; and she doted on her lovers, on the Assyrians her neighbors. ⁶Which were clothed with blue, captains and rulers, all of them desirable young men, horsemen riding upon horses. ⁷Thus she committed her whoredoms with them, with all them that were the chosen men of Assyria, and with all on whom she doted; with all their idols she defiled herself. ⁸Neither left she her whoredoms brought from Egypt; for in her youth they lay with her, and they bruised the breasts of her virginity, and poured their whoredom upon her.

⁹Wherefore I have delivered her into the hand of her lovers, into the hand of the Assyrians, upon whom she doted. ¹⁰These discovered her nakedness; they took her sons and her daughters, and slew her with the sword; and she became famous among women; for they had executed judgment upon her.

¹¹And when her sister Aholibah saw this, she was more corrupt in her inordinate love than she, and in her whoredoms more than her sister in her whoredoms. ¹²She doted upon the Assyrians her neighbors, captains and rulers clothed most gorgeously, horsemen riding upon horses, all of them desirable young men.

Then I saw that she was defiled, that they took both one way, ¹⁴and that she increased her whoredoms; for when she saw men portrayed upon the walls, the images of the Chaldeans portrayed with vermilion, ¹⁵girded with girdles upon their loins, exceeding in dyed attire upon their heads, all of them princes to look to, after the manner of the Babylonians of Chaldea, the land of their nativity; ¹⁶and as soon as she saw them with her eyes, she doted upon them, and sent messengers unto them into Chaldea. ¹⁷And the Babylonians came to her into the bed of love, and they defiled her with their whoredom, and she was polluted with them, and her mind was alienated from me by them. ¹⁸So she discovered her whoredoms, and discovered her nakedness; then my mind was alienated from her, like as my mind was alienated from her sister. ¹⁹Yet she multiplied her whoredoms, in calling to remembrance the days of her youth, wherein she had played the harlot in the land of Egypt. ²⁰For she doted upon their paramours, whose flesh is as the flesh of asses, and whose issue is like the issue of horses. ²¹Thus thou calledst to remembrance the lewdness of thy youth, in bruising thy teats by the Egyptians for the paps of thy youth.

²²Therefore, O Aholibah, thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will raise up thy lovers against thee, by whom thy mind is alienated from me, and I will bring them against thee on every side; ²³the Babylonians, and all the Chaldeans, Pekod, and Shoa, and Koa, and all the Assyrians with them; all of them desirable young men, captains and

rulers, great lords and renowned, all of them riding upon horses. ²⁴And they shall come against thee with chariots, wagons, and wheels, and with an assembly of people, which shall set against thee buckler and shield and helmet round about; and I will set judgment before them, and they shall judge thee according to their judgments. ²⁵And I will set my jealousy against thee, and they shall deal furiously with thee; they shall take away thy nose and thine ears; and thy remnant shall fall by the sword; they shall take thy sons and thy daughters; and thy residue shall be devoured by the fire. ²⁶They shall also strip thee out of thy clothes, and take away thy fair jewels. ²⁷Thus will I make thy lewdness to cease from thee, and thy whoredom brought from the land of Egypt; so that thou shalt not lift up thine eyes unto them, nor remember Egypt anymore.

²⁸For thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will deliver thee into the hand of them whom thou hatest, into the hand of them by whom thy mind is alienated; ²⁹and they shall deal with thee hatefully, and shall take away all thy labor, and shall leave thee naked and bare; and the nakedness of thy whoredoms shall be discovered, both thy lewdness and thy whoredoms. ³⁰I will do these things unto thee, because thou hast gone a whoring after the heathen, and because thou art polluted with their idols. ³¹Thou hast walked in the way of thy sister; therefore will I give her cup into thine hand.

32Thus saith the Lord GOD:

Thou shalt drink of thy sister's cup deep and large; thou shalt be laughed to scorn and had in derision; it containeth much.

³³Thou shalt be filled with drunkenness and sorrow, with the cup of astonishment and desolation, with the cup of thy sister Samaria.

³⁴Thou shalt even drink it and suck it out, and thou shalt break the shreds thereof, and pluck off thine own breasts; for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD.

³⁵Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Because thou hast forgotten me, and cast me behind thy back, therefore bear thou also thy lewdness and thy whoredoms.

³⁶The LORD said moreover unto me:

Son of man, wilt thou judge Aholah and Aholibah? Yea, declare unto them their abominations; ³⁷that they have committed adultery, and blood is in their hands, and with their idols have they committed adultery, and have also caused their sons, whom they bare unto me, to pass for them through the fire, to devour them. ³⁸Moreover this they have done unto me; they have defiled my sanctuary in the same day, and have profaned my Sabbaths. ³⁹For when they had slain their children to their idols, then they came the same day into my sanctuary to profane it; and, lo, thus have they done in the midst of mine house.

⁴⁰And furthermore, that ye have sent for men to come from far, unto whom a messenger was sent; and, lo, they came; for whom thou didst wash thyself, paintedst thy eyes, and deckedst thyself with ornaments. ⁴¹And satest upon a stately bed, and a table prepared before it, whereupon thou hast set mine incense and mine oil.

⁴²And a voice of a multitude being at ease was with her; and with the men of the common sort were brought Sabeans from the wilderness, which put bracelets upon their hands, and beautiful crowns upon their heads. ⁴³Then said I unto her that was

EZEKIEL 24 220

old in adulteries, 'Will they now commit whoredoms with her, and she with them?' ⁴⁴Yet they went in unto her, as they go in unto a woman that playeth the harlot; so went they in unto Aholah and unto Aholibah, the lewd women. ⁴⁵And the righteous men, they shall judge them after the manner of adulteresses, and after the manner of women that shed blood; because they are adulteresses, and blood is in their hands.

⁴⁶For thus saith the Lord GOD: I will bring up a company upon them, and will give them to be removed and spoiled. ⁴⁷And the company shall stone them with stones, and dispatch them with their swords; they shall slay their sons and their daughters, and burn up their houses with fire.

⁴⁸Thus will I cause lewdness to cease out of the land, that all women may be taught not to do after your lewdness. ⁴⁹And they shall recompense your lewdness upon you, and ye shall bear the sins of your idols; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

Jerusalem symbolized as a pot

Again in the ninth year, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, write thee the name of the day, even of this same day; the king of Babylon set himself against Jerusalem this same day. ³And utter a parable unto the rebellious house, and say unto them:

and let them see the bones of it therein.

⁶Wherefore thus saith the Lord GOD:

Woe to the bloody city,

to the pot whose scum is therein, and whose scum is not gone out of it!

Bring it out piece by piece;

let no lot fall upon it.

⁷For her blood is in the midst of her;

she set it upon the top of a rock;

she poured it not upon the ground,

to cover it with dust;

⁸That it might cause fury to come up to take vengeance;

I have set her blood upon the top of a rock,

that it should not be covered.

⁹Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD:

Woe to the bloody city!

I will even make the pile for fire great.

¹⁰Heap on wood,

kindle the fire,

22 I EZEKIEL 25

consume the flesh,
and spice it well,
and let the bones be burned.

Then set it empty upon the coals thereof,
that the brass of it may be hot, and may burn,
and that the filthiness of it may be molten in it,
that the scum of it may be consumed.

She hath wearied herself with lies,
and her great scum went not forth out of her;
her scum shall be in the fire.

¹³In thy filthiness is lewdness; because I have purged thee, and thou wast not purged, thou shalt not be purged from thy filthiness anymore, till I have caused my fury to rest upon thee.

¹⁴I the LORD have spoken it; it shall come to pass, and I will do it; I will not go back, neither will I spare, neither will I repent; according to thy ways, and according to thy doings, shall they judge thee, saith the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel's wife dies

¹⁵Also the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹⁶Son of man, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke; yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down. ¹⁷Forbear to cry, make no mourning for the dead, bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy shoes upon thy feet, and cover not thy lips, and eat not the bread of men.

 18 So I spake unto the people in the morning; and at even my wife died; and I did in the morning as I was commanded.

¹⁹And the people said unto me, "Wilt thou not tell us what these things are to us, that thou doest so?" ²⁰Then I answered them, "The word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²¹Speak unto the house of Israel, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will profane my sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes, and that which your soul pitieth; and your sons and your daughters whom ye have left shall fall by the sword. ²²And ye shall do as I have done; ye shall not cover your lips, nor eat the bread of men. ²³And your tires shall be upon your heads, and your shoes upon your feet; ye shall not mourn nor weep but ye shall pine away for your iniquities, and mourn one toward another. ²⁴Thus Ezekiel is unto you a sign; according to all that he hath done shall ye do; and when this cometh, ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.'

²⁵Also, thou Son of man, shall it not be in the day when I take from them their strength, the joy of their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds, their sons and their daughters, ²⁶that he that escapeth in that day shall come unto thee, to cause thee to hear it with thine ears? ²⁷In that day shall thy mouth be opened to him which is escaped, and thou shalt speak, and be no more dumb; and thou shalt be a sign unto them; and they shall know that I am the LORD."

A prophecy against Ammon

The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying:

²Son of man, set thy face against the Ammonites, and prophesy against them; ³and say unto the Ammonites: Hear the word of the Lord GOD. Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because thou saidst, 'Aha,' against my sanctuary, when it was profaned; and against

EZEKIEL 26 222

the land of Israel, when it was desolate; and against the house of Judah, when they went into captivity; 4behold, therefore I will deliver thee to the men of the east for a possession, and they shall set their palaces in thee, and make their dwellings in thee; they shall eat thy fruit, and they shall drink thy milk. 5And I will make Rabbah a stable for camels, and the Ammonites a couching place for flocks; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

⁶For thus saith the Lord GOD: Because thou hast clapped thine hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced in heart with all thy despite against the land of Israel; ⁷behold, therefore I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and will deliver thee for a spoil to the heathen; and I will cut thee off from the people, and I will cause thee to perish out of the countries; I will destroy thee; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

A prophecy against Moab

⁸Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because that Moab and Seir do say, 'Behold, the house of Judah is like unto all the heathen;' ⁹therefore, behold, I will open the side of Moab from the cities, from his cities which are on his frontiers, the glory of the country, Bethjeshimoth, Baal-meon, and Kiriathaim, ¹⁰unto the men of the east with the Ammonites, and will give them in possession, that the Ammonites may not be remembered among the nations. ¹¹And I will execute judgments upon Moab; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

A prophecy against Edom

¹²Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them; ¹³therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword. ¹⁴And I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel; and they shall do in Edom according to mine anger and according to my fury; and they shall know my vengeance, saith the Lord GOD.

A prophecy against the Philistines

¹⁵Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because the Philistines have dealt by revenge, and have taken vengeance with a despiteful heart, to destroy it for the old hatred; ¹⁶therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold I will stretch out mine hand upon the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethim, and destroy the remnant of the seacoast. ¹⁷And I will execute great vengeance upon them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall lay my vengeance upon them.

A prophecy against Tyre

And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, because that Tyrus hath said against Jerusalem, 'Aha, she is broken that was the gates of the people; she is turned unto me; I shall be replenished, now she is laid waste;' ³therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against thee, O Tyrus, and will cause many nations to come up against thee, as the sea causeth his waves to come up. ⁴And they shall destroy the walls of Tyrus, and break down her towers; I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock. ⁵It shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea; for I have spoken it, saith the

Lord GOD; and it shall become a spoil to the nations. ⁶And her daughters which are in the field shall be slain by the sword; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

For thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will bring upon Tyrus Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, from the north, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and companies, and much people. ⁸He shall slay with the sword thy daughters in the field; and he shall make a fort against thee, and cast a mount against thee, and lift up the buckler against thee. 9And he shall set engines of war against thy walls, and with his axes he shall break down thy towers. 10 By reason of the abundance of his horses their dust shall cover thee; thy walls shall shake at the noise of the horsemen, and of the wheels, and of the chariots, when he shall enter into thy gates, as men enter into a city wherein is made a breach. With the hooves of his horses shall he tread down all thy streets; he shall slay thy people by the sword, and thy strong garrisons shall go down to the ground. 12 And they shall make a spoil of thy riches, and make a prey of thy merchandise; and they shall break down thy walls, and destroy thy pleasant houses; and they shall lay thy stones and thy timber and thy dust in the midst of the water. ¹³And I will cause the noise of thy songs to cease; and the sound of thy harps shall be no more heard. 14And I will make thee like the top of a rock; thou shalt be a place to spread nets upon; thou shalt be built no more; for I the LORD have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁵Thus saith the Lord GOD to Tyrus: Shall not the isles shake at the sound of thy fall, when the wounded cry, when the slaughter is made in the midst of thee? ¹⁶Then all the princes of the sea shall come down from their thrones, and lay away their robes, and put off their broidered garments; they shall clothe themselves with trembling; they shall sit upon the ground, and shall tremble at every moment, and be astonished at thee. ¹⁷And they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and say to thee:

'How art thou destroyed,

that wast inhabited of seafaring men,

the renowned city,

which wast strong in the sea,

she and her inhabitants,

which cause their terror to be on all that haunt it!'

¹⁸Now shall the isles tremble in the day of thy fall;

yea, the isles that are in the sea shall be troubled at thy departure.

¹⁹For thus saith the Lord GOD: When I shall make thee a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited; when I shall bring up the deep upon thee, and great waters shall cover thee; ²⁰when I shall bring thee down with them that descend into the pit, with the people of old time, and shall set thee in the low parts of the earth, in places desolate of old, with them that go down to the pit, that thou be not inhabited; and I shall set glory in the land of the living; ²¹I will make thee a terror, and thou shalt be no more; though thou be sought for, yet shalt thou never be found again, saith the Lord GOD.

A lamentation for Tyre

The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying:

²Now, thou Son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyrus; ³and say unto Tyrus, O thou that art situate at the entry of the sea, which art a merchant of the people for many isles, Thus saith the Lord GOD:

EZEKIEL 27 224

O Tyrus, thou hast said,

'I am of perfect beauty.'

⁴Thy borders are in the midst of the seas,

thy builders have perfected thy beauty.

⁵They have made all thy ship boards of fir trees of Senir;

they have taken cedars from Lebanon to make masts for thee.

6Of the oaks of Bashan have they made thine oars;

the company of the Ashurites have made thy benches of ivory, brought out of the isles of Chittim.

⁷Fine linen with broidered work from Egypt was that which thou spreadest forth to be thy sail;

blue and purple from the isles of Elishah was that which covered thee.

⁸The inhabitants of Zidon and Arvad were thy mariners;

thy wise men, O Tyrus, that were in thee, were thy pilots.

⁹The ancients of Gebal and the wise men thereof were in thee thy caulkers; all the ships of the sea with their mariners were in thee to occupy thy merchandise.

¹⁰They of Persia and of Lud and of Phut were in thine army, thy men of war; they hanged the shield and helmet in thee; they set forth thy comeliness.

The men of Arvad with thine army were upon thy walls round about, and the Gammadim were in thy towers;

they hanged their shields upon thy walls round about;

they have made thy beauty perfect.

¹²Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all kinds of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in thy fairs.

¹³Javan, Tubal, and Meshech, they were thy merchants; they traded the persons of men and vessels of brass in thy market.

¹⁴They of the house of Togarmah traded in thy fairs with horses and horsemen and mules

¹⁵The men of Dedan were thy merchants; many isles were the merchandise of thine hand; they brought thee for a present, horns of ivory and ebony.

¹⁶Syria was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of the wares of thy making; they occupied in thy fairs with emeralds, purple, and broidered work, and fine linen, and coral, and agate.

¹⁷Judah, and the land of Israel, they were thy merchants; they traded in thy market wheat of Minnith, and Pannag, and honey, and oil, and balm.

¹⁸Damascus was thy merchant in the multitude of the wares of thy making, for the multitude of all riches; in the wine of Helbon, and white wool.

¹⁹Dan also and Javan going to and fro occupied in thy fairs; bright iron, cassia, and calamus, were in thy market.

²⁰Dedan was thy merchant in precious clothes for chariots.

²¹Arabia, and all the princes of Kedar, they occupied with thee in lambs, and rams, and goats; in these were they thy merchants.

²²The merchants of Sheba and Raamah, they were thy merchants; they occupied in thy fairs with chief of all spices, and with all precious stones, and gold.

²³Haran, and Canneh, and Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Asshur, and Chilmad, were thy merchants.

²⁴These were thy merchants in all sorts of things, in blue clothes, and broidered work, and in chests of rich apparel, bound with cords, and made of cedar, among thy merchandise.

²⁵The ships of Tarshish did sing of thee in thy market;

and thou wast replenished, and made very glorious in the midst of the seas.

²⁶Thy rowers have brought thee into great waters;

the east wind hath broken thee in the midst of the seas.

²⁷Thy riches, and thy fairs, thy merchandise,

thy mariners, and thy pilots, thy caulkers,

and the occupiers of thy merchandise,

and all thy men of war, that are in thee,

and in all thy company which is in the midst of thee,

shall fall into the midst of the seas in the day of thy ruin.

²⁸The suburbs shall shake

at the sound of the cry of thy pilots.

²⁹And all that handle the oar, the mariners, and all the pilots of the sea,

shall come down from their ships, they shall stand upon the land;

30and shall cause their voice to be heard against thee,

and shall cry bitterly,

and shall cast up dust upon their heads,

they shall wallow themselves in the ashes;

31 And they shall make themselves utterly bald for thee,

and gird them with sackcloth,

and they shall weep for thee

with bitterness of heart and bitter wailing.

32And in their wailing they shall take up a lamentation for thee,

and lament over thee, saying,

'What city is like Tyrus,

like the destroyed in the midst of the sea?'

³³When thy wares went forth out of the seas,

thou filledst many people;

thou didst enrich the kings of the earth

with the multitude of thy riches and of thy merchandise.

³⁴In the time when thou shalt be broken by the seas

in the depths of the waters,

thy merchandise and all thy company

in the midst of thee shall fall.

35 All the inhabitants of the isles shall be astonished at thee,

and their kings shall be sore afraid,

they shall be troubled in their countenance.

³⁶The merchants among the people shall hiss at thee;

thou shalt be a terror,

and never shalt be anymore.

A prophecy against the king of Tyre

²The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying: ²Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus:

EZEKIEL 28 226

Thus saith the Lord GOD:

Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas.' Yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God. ³Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel? There is no secret that they can hide from thee? ⁴With thy wisdom and with thine understanding thou hast gotten thee riches, and hast gotten gold and silver into thy treasures. ⁵By thy great wisdom and by thy traffic hast thou increased thy riches, and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches. ⁶Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God; ⁷behold, therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, the terrible of the nations; and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of thy wisdom, and they shall defile thy brightness. 8They shall bring thee down to the pit, and thou shalt die the deaths of them that are slain in the midst of the seas. ⁹Wilt thou yet say before him that slayeth thee, 'I am God'? But thou shalt be a man, and no god, in the hand of him that slayeth thee. ¹⁰Thou shalt die the deaths of the uncircumcised by the hand of strangers; for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD. □ Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying: ¹²Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him: Thus saith the Lord GOD: Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. 13Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold; the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. ¹⁴Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth: and I have set thee so; thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

¹⁵Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

¹⁶By the multitude of thy merchandise

they have filled the midst of thee with violence,

and thou hast sinned;

therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God;

and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub,

from the midst of the stones of fire.

¹⁷Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty,

thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness;

I will cast thee to the ground,

I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

¹⁸Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities,

by the iniquity of thy traffic;

therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee,

it shall devour thee,

and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth

in the sight of all them that behold thee.

¹⁹All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee;

thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be anymore.

A prophecy against Sidon

²⁰Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²¹Son of man, set thy face against Zidon, and prophesy against it, ²²and say:

Thus saith the Lord GOD:

Behold, I am against thee, O Zidon;

and I will be glorified in the midst of thee;

and they shall know that I am the LORD,

when I shall have executed judgments in her,

and shall be sanctified in her.

²³For I will send into her pestilence,

and blood into her streets;

and the wounded shall be judged in the midst of her

by the sword upon her on every side;

and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Israel will be gathered

²⁴And there shall be no more a pricking brier unto the house of Israel, nor any grieving thorn of all that are round about them, that despised them; and they shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

²⁵Thus saith the Lord GOD: When I shall have gathered the house of Israel from the people among whom they are scattered, and shall be sanctified in them in the sight of the heathen, then shall they dwell in their land that I have given to my servant Jacob. ²⁶And they shall dwell safely therein, and shall build houses, and plant vineyards; yea, they shall dwell with confidence, when I have executed judgments upon all those that despise them round about them; and they shall know that I am the LORD their God.

EZEKIEL 29 228

A prophecy against Egypt

In the tenth year, in the tenth month, in the twelfth day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, set thy face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him, and against all Egypt. ³Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD:

Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt,

the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers,

which hath said, 'My river is mine own,

and I have made it for myself."

⁴But I will put hooks in thy jaws,

and I will cause the fish of thy rivers to stick unto thy scales,

and I will bring thee up out of the midst of thy rivers,

and all the fish of thy rivers shall stick unto thy scales.

⁵And I will leave thee thrown into the wilderness,

thee and all the fish of thy rivers;

thou shalt fall upon the open fields;

thou shalt not be brought together, nor gathered;

I have given thee for meat to the beasts of the field

and to the fowls of the heaven.

⁶And all the inhabitants of Egypt shall know that I am the LORD.

Because they have been a staff of reed to the house of Israel, ⁷when they took hold of thee by thy hand, thou didst break, and rend all their shoulder; and when they leaned upon thee, thou brake st, and madest all their loins to be at a stand.

⁸Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will bring a sword upon thee, and cut off man and beast out of thee. ⁹And the land of Egypt shall be desolate and waste; and they shall know that I am the LORD

Because he hath said, 'The river is mine, and I have made it.' ¹⁰Behold, therefore I am against thee, and against thy rivers, and I will make the land of Egypt utterly waste and desolate, from the tower of Syene even unto the border of Ethiopia. ¹¹No foot of man shall pass through it, nor foot of beast shall pass through it, neither shall it be inhabited forty years. ¹²And I will make the land of Egypt desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate, and her cities among the cities that are laid waste shall be desolate forty years; and I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries.

¹³Yet thus saith the Lord GOD: At the end of forty years will I gather the Egyptians from the people whither they were scattered; ¹⁴and I will bring again the captivity of Egypt, and will cause them to return into the land of Pathros, into the land of their habitation; and they shall be there a base kingdom. ¹⁵It shall be the basest of the kingdoms; neither shall it exalt itself anymore above the nations; for I will diminish them, that they shall no more rule over the nations. ¹⁶And it shall be no more the confidence of the house of Israel, which bringeth their iniquity to remembrance, when they shall look after them; but they shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

¹⁷And it came to pass in the seven and twentieth year, in the first month, in the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹⁸Son of man, Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon caused his army to serve a great service against Tyrus; every head was made bald, and every shoulder was peeled; yet had he no wages, nor his army, for Tyrus, for the service that he had served against it.

¹⁹Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will give the land of Egypt unto Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall take her multitude, and take her spoil, and take her prey; and it shall be the wages for his army. ²⁰I have given him the land of Egypt for his labor wherewith he served against it, because they wrought for me, saith the Lord GOD.

²¹In that day will I cause the horn of the house of Israel to bud forth, and I will give thee the opening of the mouth in the midst of them; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying:

²Son of man, prophesy and say: Thus saith the Lord GOD:

Howl ye;

Woe worth the day!

³For the day is near,

even the day of the LORD is near,

a cloudy day;

it shall be the time of the heathen.

⁴And the sword shall come upon Egypt,

and great pain shall be in Ethiopia,

when the slain shall fall in Egypt,

and they shall take away her multitude,

and her foundations shall be broken down.

⁵Ethiopia, and Libya, and Lydia, and all the mingled people, and Chub, and the men of the land that is in league, shall fall with them by the sword.

⁶Thus saith the LORD:

They also that uphold Egypt shall fall;

and the pride of her power shall come down;

from the tower of Syene

shall they fall in it by the sword, saith the Lord GOD.

⁷And they shall be desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate,

and her cities shall be in the midst of the cities that are wasted.

8And they shall know that I am the LORD,

when I have set a fire in Egypt,

and when all her helpers shall be destroyed.

⁹In that day shall messengers go forth from me in ships to make the careless Ethiopians afraid, and great pain shall come upon them, as in the day of Egypt; for, lo, it cometh.

¹⁰Thus saith the Lord GOD:

I will also make the multitude of Egypt to cease

by the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon.

He and his people with him, the terrible of the nations,

shall be brought to destroy the land;

and they shall draw their swords against Egypt,

and fill the land with the slain.

¹²And I will make the rivers dry,

and sell the land into the hand of the wicked:

and I will make the land waste, and all that is therein,

by the hand of strangers; I the LORD have spoken it.

EZEKIEL 31 230

¹³Thus saith the Lord GOD: I will also destroy the idols, and I will cause their images to cease out of Noph; and there shall be no more a prince of the land of Egypt; and I will put a fear in the land of Egypt. ¹⁴And I will make Pathros desolate, and will set fire in Zoan, and will execute judgments in No. ¹⁵And I will pour my fury upon Sin, the strength of Egypt; and I will cut off the multitude of No. ¹⁶And I will set fire in Egypt; Sin shall have great pain, and No shall be rent asunder, and Noph shall have distresses daily. ¹⁷The young men of Aven and of Pi-beseth shall fall by the sword; and these cities shall go into captivity. ¹⁸At Tehaphnehes also the day shall be darkened, when I shall break there the yokes of Egypt; and the pomp of her strength shall cease in her; as for her, a cloud shall cover her, and her daughters shall go into captivity. ¹⁹Thus will I execute judgments in Egypt; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

²⁰And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first month, in the seventh day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²¹Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and, lo, it shall not be bound up to be healed, to put a roller to bind it, to make it strong to hold the sword. ²²Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and will break his arms, the strong, and that which was broken; and I will cause the sword to fall out of his hand. ²³And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries. ²⁴And I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, and put my sword in his hand; but I will break Pharaoh's arms, and he shall groan before him with the groanings of a deadly wounded man. ²⁵But I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, and the arms of Pharaoh shall fall down; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall stretch it out upon the land of Egypt. ²⁶And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and disperse them among the countries; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the third month, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

2Son of man, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, and to his multitude:

Whom art thou like in thy greatness?

³Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar in Lebanon with fair branches, and with a shadowing shroud,

and of a high stature;

and his top was among the thick boughs.

⁴The waters made him great, the deep set him up on high 23 I EZEKIEL 32

with her rivers running round about his plants,

and sent out her little rivers unto all the trees of the field.

⁵Therefore his height was exalted above all the trees of the field, and his boughs were multiplied,

and his branches became long because of the multitude of waters, when he shot forth.

⁶All the fowls of heaven made their nests in his boughs,

and under his branches did all the beasts of the field bring forth their young, and under his shadow dwelt all great nations.

⁷Thus was he fair in his greatness,

in the length of his branches;

for his root was by great waters.

⁸The cedars in the garden of God could not hide him;

the fir trees were not like his boughs,

and the chestnut trees were not like his branches;

not any tree in the garden of God was like unto him in his beauty.

⁹I have made him fair by the multitude of his branches;

so that all the trees of Eden,

that were in the garden of God, envied him.

¹⁰Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Because thou hast lifted up thyself in height, and he hath shot up his top among the thick boughs, and his heart is lifted up in his height; ¹¹I have therefore delivered him into the hand of the mighty one of the heathen; he shall surely deal with him; I have driven him out for his wickedness. ¹²And strangers, the terrible of the nations, have cut him off, and have left him; upon the mountains and in all the valleys his branches are fallen, and his boughs are broken by all the rivers of the land; and all the people of the earth are gone down from his shadow, and have left him. ¹³Upon his ruin shall all the fowls of the heaven remain, and all the beasts of the field shall be upon his branches; ¹⁴to the end that none of all the trees by the waters exalt themselves for their height, neither shoot up their top among the thick boughs, neither their trees stand up in their height, all that drink water; for they are all delivered unto death, to the nether parts of the earth, in the midst of the children of men, with them that go down to the pit.

Thus saith the Lord GOD: In the day when he went down to the grave I caused a mourning; I covered the deep for him, and I restrained the floods thereof, and the great waters were stayed; and I caused Lebanon to mourn for him, and all the trees of the field fainted for him. ¹⁶I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them that descend into the pit; and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, shall be comforted in the nether parts of the earth. ¹⁷They also went down into hell with him, unto them that be slain with the sword; and they that were his arm, that dwelt under his shadow in the midst of the heathen.

¹⁸To whom art thou thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden? Yet shalt thou be brought down with the trees of Eden unto the nether parts of the earth; thou shalt lie in the midst of the uncircumcised with them that be slain by the sword.

This is Pharaoh and all his multitude, saith the Lord GOD.

And it came to pass in the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

EZEKIEL 32 232

²Son of man, take up a lamentation for Pharaoh king of Egypt, and say unto him: Thou art like a young lion of the nations, and thou art as a whale in the seas; and thou camest forth with thy rivers, and troubledst the waters with thy feet, and fouledst their rivers. ³Thus saith the Lord GOD: I will therefore spread out my net over thee with a company of many people; and they shall bring thee up in my net. ⁴Then will I leave thee upon the land, I will cast thee forth upon the open field, and will cause all the fowls of the heaven to remain upon thee, and I will fill the beasts of the whole earth with thee. ⁵And I will lay thy flesh upon the mountains, and fill the valleys with thy height. 6I will also water with thy blood the land wherein thou swimmest, even to the mountains: and the rivers shall be full of thee. 7And when I shall put thee out, I will cover the heaven, and make the stars thereof dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon shall not give her light. 8All the bright lights of heaven will I make dark over thee, and set darkness upon thy land, saith the Lord GOD. ⁹I will also vex the hearts of many people, when I shall bring thy destruction among the nations, into the countries which thou hast not known. ¹⁰Yea, I will make many people amazed at thee, and their kings shall be horribly afraid for thee, when I shall brandish my sword before them; and they shall tremble at every moment, every man for his own life, in the day of thy fall. □For thus saith the Lord GOD: The sword of the king of Babylon shall come upon thee. ¹²By the swords of the mighty will I cause thy multitude to fall, the terrible of the nations, all of them; and they shall spoil the pomp of Egypt, and all the multitude thereof shall be destroyed. ¹³I will destroy also all the beasts thereof from beside the great waters; neither shall the foot of man trouble them anymore, nor the hooves of beasts trouble them. ¹⁴Then will I make their waters deep, and cause their rivers to run like oil, saith the Lord GOD. 15When I shall make the land of Egypt desolate, and the country shall be destitute of that whereof it was full, when I shall smite all them that dwell therein. then shall they know that I am the LORD. ¹⁶This is the lamentation wherewith they shall lament her; the daughters of the nations shall lament her; they shall lament for her, even for Egypt, and for all her multitude, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁷It came to pass also in the twelfth year, in the fifteenth day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹⁸Son of man, wail for the multitude of Egypt, and cast them down, even her, and the daughters of the famous nations, unto the nether parts of the earth, with them that go down into the pit. ¹⁹Whom dost thou pass in beauty? Go down, and be thou laid with the uncircumcised. ²⁰They shall fall in the midst of them that are slain by the sword; she is delivered to the sword; draw her and all her multitudes. ²¹The strong among the mighty shall speak to him out of the midst of hell with them that help him; they are gone down, they lie uncircumcised, slain by the sword.

²²Asshur is there and all her company; his graves are about him; all of them slain, fallen by the sword; ²³whose graves are set in the sides of the pit, and her company is round about her grave; all of them slain, fallen by the sword, which caused terror in the land of the living.

²⁴There is Elam and all her multitude round about her grave; all of them slain, fallen by the sword, which are gone down uncircumcised into the nether parts of the earth, which caused their terror in the land of the living; yet have they borne their shame with them that go down to the pit. ²⁵They have set her a bed in the midst of the slain with all her multitude; her graves are round about him; all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword; though their terror was caused in the land of the living, yet have they borne their shame with them that go down to the pit; he is put in the midst of them that be slain.

²⁶There is Meshech, Tubal, and all her multitude; her graves are round about him; all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword, though they caused their terror in the land of the living. ²⁷And they shall not lie with the mighty that are fallen of the uncircumcised, which are gone down to hell with their weapons of war; and they have laid their swords under their heads, but their iniquities shall be upon their bones, though they were the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.

²⁸Yea, thou shalt be broken in the midst of the uncircumcised, and shalt lie with them that are slain with the sword.

²⁹There is Edom, her kings, and all her princes, which with their might are laid by them that were slain by the sword; they shall lie with the uncircumcised, and with them that go down to the pit.

³⁰There be the princes of the north, all of them, and all the Zidonians, which are gone down with the slain; with their terror they are ashamed of their might; and they lie uncircumcised with them that be slain by the sword, and bear their shame with them that go down to the pit.

³¹Pharaoh shall see them, and shall be comforted over all his multitude, even Pharaoh and all his army slain by the sword, saith the Lord GOD. ³²For I have caused my terror in the land of the living; and he shall be laid in the midst of the uncircumcised with them that are slain with the sword, even Pharaoh and all his multitude, saith the Lord GOD.

The duty of a watchman

?? Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, 'When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman; ³if when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the

EZEKIEL 33 234

trumpet, and warn the people; 4then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. ⁵He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul. ⁶But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.'

⁷So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me. ⁸When I say unto the wicked, 'O wicked man, thou shalt surely die;' if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. ⁹Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

¹⁰Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel, "Thus ye speak, saying, 'If our transgressions and our sins be upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?" "Say unto them, "As I live,' saith the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

¹²Therefore, thou son of man, say unto the children of thy people, "The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression; as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day that he turneth from his wickedness; neither shall the righteous be able to live for his righteousness in the day that he sinneth. ¹³When I shall say to the righteous, that he shall surely live; if he trust to his own righteousness, and commit iniquity, all his righteousness shall not be remembered; but for his iniquity that he hath committed, he shall die for it. ¹⁴Again, when I say unto the wicked, 'Thou shalt surely die;' if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right; ¹⁵if the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die. ¹⁶None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him; he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live."

¹⁷Yet the children of thy people say, 'The way of the LORD is not equal.' But as for them, their way is not equal. ¹⁸When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die thereby. ¹⁹But if the wicked turn from his wickedness, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall live thereby. ²⁰Yet ye say, 'The way of the LORD is not equal.' O ye house of Israel, I will judge you everyone after his ways.

Jerusalem's fall explained

²¹And it came to pass in the twelfth year of our captivity, in the tenth mount, in the fifth day of the month, that one that had escaped out of Jerusalem came unto me, saying, "The city is smitten." ²²Now the hand of the LORD was upon me in the evening, afore he that was escaped came; and had opened my mouth, until he came to me in the morning; and my mouth was opened, and I was no more dumb.

²³Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²⁴Son of man, they that inhabit those wastes of the land of Israel speak, saying, Abraham was one, and he inherited the land; but we are many; the land is given us for inheritance. ²⁵Wherefore say unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: Ye eat with the

blood, and lift up your eyes toward your idols, and shed blood; and shall ye possess the land? ²⁶Ye stand upon your sword; ye work abominations, and ye defile everyone his neighbor's wife; and shall ye possess the land?"

²⁷Say thou thus unto them, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: As I live, surely they that are in the wastes shall fall by the sword, and him that is in the open field will I give to the beasts to be devoured, and they that be in the forts and in the caves shall die of the pestilence. ²⁸For I will lay the land most desolate, and the pomp of her strength shall cease, and the mountains of Israel shall be desolate, that none shall pass through. ²⁹Then shall they know that I am the LORD, when I have laid the land most desolate, because of all their abominations, which they have committed."

³⁰Also, thou son of man, the children of thy people still are talking against thee by the walls and in the doors of the houses, and speak one to another, everyone to his brother, saying, 'Come, I pray you, and hear what is the word that cometh forth from the LORD.' ³¹And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them; for with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness. ³²And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument; for they hear thy words, but they do them not.

³³And when this cometh to pass, (lo, it will come) then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them.

A prophecy against the shepherds of Israel

And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds:

Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? ³Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed; but ye feed not the flock. ⁴The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them. ⁵And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd; and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered. ⁶My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill; yea, my flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek after them.

Therefore, ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD. ⁸As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock; ⁹therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD. ¹⁰Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves anymore, for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.

¹¹For thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where thy have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. ¹³And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their

EZEKIEL 35 236

own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be; there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick; but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

¹⁷And as for you, O my flock, thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between cattle and cattle, between the rams and the he goats. ¹⁸Seemeth it a small thing unto you to have eaten up the good pasture, but ye must tread down with your feet the residue of your pastures? And to have drunk of the deep waters, but ye must foul the residue with your feet? ¹⁹And as for my flock, they eat that which ye have trodden with your feet; and they drink that which ye have fouled with your feet.

²⁰Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD unto them: Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat cattle and between the lean cattle. ²¹Because ye have thrust with side and with shoulder, and pushed all the diseased with your horns, till ye have scattered them abroad; ²²therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle. ²³And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd. ²⁴And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it.

²⁵And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land; and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods. ²⁶And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing. ²⁷And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them. ²⁸And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beasts of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid. ²⁹And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen anymore. ³⁰Thus shall they know that I the LORD their God am with them, and that they, even the house of Israel, are my people, saith the Lord GOD. ³¹And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord GOD.

A prophecy against mount Seir

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it, ³and say unto it, Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate. ⁴I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

⁵Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end; ⁶therefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will prepare thee unto blood, and blood shall pursue thee; since thou hast not hated blood, even blood shall pursue thee. ⁷Thus will I make mount Seir most desolate, and cut off from it him that passeth out and him that returneth. ⁸And I will fill his mountains with his slain men;

in thy hills, and in thy valleys, and in all thy rivers, shall they fall that are slain with the sword. ⁹I will make thee perpetual desolations, and thy cities shall not return; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

¹⁰Because thou hast said, 'These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it;' whereas the LORD was there; ¹¹therefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will even do according to thine anger, and according to thine envy, which thou hast used out of thy hatred against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I have judged thee. ¹²And thou shalt know that I am the LORD, and that I have heard all thy blasphemies which thou hast spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, 'They are laid desolate, they are given us to consume.' ¹³Thus with your mouth ye have boasted against me, and have multiplied your words against me; I have heard them. ¹⁴Thus saith the Lord GOD: When the whole earth rejoiceth, I will make thee desolate. ¹⁵As thou didst rejoice at the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do unto thee; thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Idumea, even all of it; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

A prophecy to the mountains of Israel

Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, and say, Ye mountains 36 of Israel hear the word of the LORD. ²Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because the enemy hath said against you, 'Aha, even the ancient high places are ours in possession;' 3therefore prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because they have made you desolate, and swallowed you up on every side, that ye might be a possession unto the residue of the heathen, and ye are taken up in the lips of talkers, and are an infamy of the people; 4therefore, ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD. Thus saith the Lord GOD to the mountains and to the hills, to the rivers and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes and to the cities that are forsaken, which became a prey and derision to the residue of the heathen that are round about; 5therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Surely in the fire of my jealousy have I spoken against the residue of the heathen, and against all Idumea, which have appointed my land into their possession with the joy of all their heart, with despiteful minds, to cast it out for a prey. ⁶Prophesy therefore concerning the land of Israel, and say unto the mountains and to the hills, to the rivers and to the valleys, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I have spoken in my jealousy and in my fury, because ye have borne the shame of the heathen; 7therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, I have lifted up mine hand, Surely the heathen that are about you, they shall bear their shame."

But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come. For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and ye shall be tilled and sown; and I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel; even all of it; and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded; and I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit; and I will settle you after your old estates, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. Yea, I will cause men to walk upon you, even my people Israel; and they shall possess thee, and thou shalt be their inheritance, and thou shalt no more henceforth bereave them of men.

¹³Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because they say unto you, 'Thou land devourest up men, and hast bereaved thy nations;' ¹⁴therefore thou shalt devour men no more, neither bereave thy nations anymore, saith the Lord GOD. ¹⁵Neither will I cause men

EZEKIEL 36 238

to hear in thee the shame of the heathen anymore, neither shalt thou bear the reproach of the people anymore, neither shalt thou cause thy nations to fall anymore, saith the Lord GOD.

¹⁶Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹⁷Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings; their way was before me as the uncleanness of a removed woman. ¹⁸Wherefore I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land, and for their idols wherewith they had polluted it; ¹⁹and I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries; according to their way and according to their doings I judged them. ²⁰And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, 'These are the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of this land.' ²¹But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went.

²²Therefore say unto the house of Israel, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. ²³And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

²⁴For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. ²⁵Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean; from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. ²⁶A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments and do them. ²⁸And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God. ²⁹I will also save you from all your uncleanness; and I will call for the corn, and will increase it, and lay no famine upon you. ³⁰And I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field, that ye shall receive no more reproach of famine among the heathen. ³¹Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations. ³²Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord GOD, be it known unto you; be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel."

³³Thus saith the Lord GOD: In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded. ³⁴And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by. ³⁵And they shall say, 'This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.' ³⁶Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that which was desolate; I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.

³⁷Thus saith the Lord GOD: I will yet for this be inquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock. ³⁸As the holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her solemn feasts; so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

The valley of dry bones

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, ² and caused me to pass by them round about; and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry.

³And he said unto me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, thou knowest."

⁴Again he said unto me, "Prophesy upon these bones, and say unto them, 'O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live; ⁶and I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. ⁸And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above, but there was no breath in them.

⁹Then said he unto me, "Prophesy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.'" ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

Then he said unto me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel; behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost; we are cut off for our parts.'

Therefore prophesy and say unto them, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves. And shall put my Spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land; then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD."

Two sticks, one nation

¹⁵The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying:

¹⁶Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick and write upon it, 'For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions;' then take another stick, and write upon it, 'For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions;' ¹⁷and join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

¹⁸And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, 'Wilt thou not show us what thou meanest by these?' ¹⁹Say unto them, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.' ²⁰And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes. ²¹And say unto them, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land; ²²And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all; and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms anymore at all; ²³neither shall they

EZEKIEL 38 240

defile themselves anymore with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will save them out of all their dwelling places, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them; so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.'

²⁴And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd; they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. ²⁵And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children forever; and my servant David shall be their prince forever. ²⁶Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them forevermore. ²⁷My tabernacle also shall be with them; yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ²⁸And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them forevermore.

A prophecy against Gog and Magog

And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

²Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, ³and say, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; ⁴and I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armor, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords; ⁵Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet; ⁶Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands; and many people with thee.

⁷Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them. ⁸After many days thou shalt be visited; in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste; but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. ⁹Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee."

Thus saith the Lord GOD: It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought; "and thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, to take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land. Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? Hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? To carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?

¹⁴Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it? ¹⁵And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, and great company, and a mighty army; ¹⁶and thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the

latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes."

¹⁷Thus saith the Lord GOD: Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years, that I would bring thee against them? 18 And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face. 19For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel; 20So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. ²¹And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD; every man's sword shall be against his brother. 22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. ²³Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, "Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; ²and I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel; ³and I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. ⁴Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee; I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field, to be devoured. ⁵Thou shalt fall upon the open field; for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD. ⁶And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles; and they shall know that I am the LORD."

39

⁷So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name anymore; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel. ⁸Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord GOD; this is the day whereof I have spoken.

⁹And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the hand-staves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years; ¹⁰so that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire; and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea; and it shall stop the noses of the passengers; and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude; and they shall call it, The valley of Hamon-Gog.

¹²And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land. ¹³Yea, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord GOD. ¹⁴And they shall sever out men of continual employment, passing through the land, to bury with the passengers those that remain upon the face of the earth, to cleanse it.

EZEKIEL 40 242

After the end of seven months shall they search, ¹⁵ and the passengers that pass through the land, when any seeth a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamon-Gog. ¹⁶ And also the name of the city shall be Hamonah. Thus shall they cleanse the land.

¹⁷And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD, speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field: Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh and drink blood. ¹⁸Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan. ¹⁹And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you. ²⁰Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD.

²¹And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them. ²²So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward. ²³And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity; because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies; so fell they all by the sword. ²⁴According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions have I done unto them, and hid my face from them.

²⁵Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; ²⁶After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid. ²⁷When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; ²⁸then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen; but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them anymore there. ²⁹Neither will I hide my face anymore from them; for I have poured out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

A vision of the temple

In the five and twentieth year of our captivity, in the beginning of the year, in the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after that the city was smitten, in the selfsame day the hand of the LORD was upon me, and brought me thither. In the visions of God brought he me into the land of Israel, and set me upon a very high mountain, by which was as the frame of a city on the south. And he brought me thither, and, behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of brass, with a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring reed; and he stood in the gate. And the man said unto me, Son of man, behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears, and set thine heart upon all that I shall show thee; for to the intent that I might show them unto thee are thou brought hither; declare all that thou seest to the house of Israel.

⁵And behold a wall on the outside of the house round about, and in the man's hand a measuring reed of six cubits long by the cubit and a handbreadth; so he measured the breadth of the building, one reed; and the height, one reed.

⁶Then came he unto the gate which looketh toward the east, and went up the stairs thereof, and measured the threshold of the gate, which was one reed broad; and the other

threshold of the gate, which was one reed broad. ⁷And every little chamber was one reed long, and one reed broad; and between the little chambers were five cubits; and the threshold of the gate by the porch of the gate within was one reed.

⁸He measured also the porch of the gate within, one reed. ⁹Then measured he the porch of the gate, eight cubits; and the posts thereof, two cubits; and the porch of the gate was inward.

¹⁰And the little chambers of the gate eastward were three on this side, and three on that side; they three were of one measure; and the posts had one measure on this side and on that side. ¹¹And he measured the breadth of the entry of the gate, ten cubits; and the length of the gate, thirteen cubits. ¹²The space also before the little chambers was one cubit on this side, and the space was one cubit on that side; and the little chambers were six cubits on this side, and six cubits on that side. ¹³He measured then the gate from the roof of one little chamber to the roof of another; the breadth was five and twenty cubits, door against door. ¹⁴He made also posts of threescore cubits, even unto the post of the court round about the gate. ¹⁵And from the face of the gate of the entrance unto the face of the porch of the inner gate were fifty cubits. ¹⁶And there were narrow windows to the little chambers, and to their posts within the gate round about, and likewise to the arches; and windows were round about inward; and upon each post were palm trees.

¹⁷Then brought he me into the outward court, and, lo, there were chambers and a pavement made for the court round about; thirty chambers were upon the pavement. ¹⁸And the pavement by the side of the gates over against the length of the gates was the lower pavement. ¹⁹Then he measured the breadth from the forefront of the lower gate unto the forefront of the inner court without, a hundred cubits eastward and northward.

²⁰And the gate of the outward court that looked toward the north, he measured the length thereof, and the breadth thereof. ²¹And the little chambers thereof were three on this side and three on that side; and the posts thereof and the arches thereof were after the measure of the first gate; the length thereof was fifty cubits, and the breadth five and twenty cubits. ²²And their windows, and their arches, and their palm trees, were after the measure of the gate that looketh toward the east; and they went up unto it by seven steps; and the arches thereof were before them. ²³And the gate of the inner court was over against the gate toward the north, and toward the east; and he measured from gate to gate a hundred cubits.

²⁴After that he brought me toward the south, and behold a gate toward the south; and he measured the posts thereof, and the arches thereof, according to these measures. ²⁵And there were windows in it and in the arches thereof round about, like those windows; the length was fifty cubits, and the breadth five and twenty cubits. ²⁶And there were seven steps to go up to it, and the arches thereof were before them; and it had palm trees, one on this side, and another on that side, upon the posts thereof. ²⁷And there was a gate in the inner court toward the south; and he measured from gate to gate toward the south a hundred cubits.

²⁸And he brought me to the inner court by the south gate; and he measured the south gate according to these measures; ²⁹and the little chambers thereof, and the posts thereof, and the arches thereof, according to these measures; and there were windows in it and in the arches thereof round about; it was fifty cubits long, and five and twenty cubits broad.

³⁰And the arches round about were five and twenty cubits long, and five cubits broad.

³¹And the arches thereof were toward the outer court; and palm trees were upon the posts thereof; and the going up to it had eight steps.

EZEKIEL 41 244

³²And he brought me into the inner court toward the east; and he measured the gate according to these measures. ³³And the little chambers thereof, and the posts thereof, and the arches thereof, were according to these measures; and there were windows therein and in the arches thereof round about; it was fifty cubits long, and five and twenty cubits broad. ³⁴And the arches thereof were toward the outward court; and palm trees were upon the posts thereof, on this side, and on that side; and the going up to it had eight steps.

³⁵And he brought me to the north gate, and measured it according to these measures; ³⁶the little chambers thereof, the posts thereof, and the arches thereof, and the windows to it round about; the length was fifty cubits, and the breadth five and twenty cubits. ³⁷And the posts thereof were toward the outer court; and palm trees were upon the posts thereof, on this side, and on that side; and the going up to it had eight steps.

³⁸And the chambers and the entries thereof were by the posts of the gates, where they washed the burnt offering. ³⁹And in the porch of the gate were two tables on this side, and two tables on that side, to slay thereon the burnt offering and the sin offering and trespass offering. ⁴⁰And at the side without, as one goeth up to the entry of the north gate, were two tables; and on the other side, which was at the porch of the gate, were two tables. ⁴¹Four tables were on this side and four tables on that side, by the side of the gate; eight tables, whereupon they slew their sacrifices. ⁴²And the four tables were of hewn stone for the burnt offering, of a cubit and a half long, and a cubit and a half broad, and one cubit high; whereupon also they laid the instruments wherewith they slew the burnt offering and the sacrifice. ⁴³And within were hooks, a hand broad, fastened round about; and upon the tables was the flesh of the offering.

⁴⁴And without the inner gate were the chambers of the singers in the inner court, which was at the side of the north gate; and their prospect was toward the south; one at the side of the east gate having the prospect toward the north. ⁴⁵And he said unto me, This chamber, whose prospect is toward the south, is for the priests, the keepers of the charge of the house. ⁴⁶And the chamber whose prospect is toward the north is for the priests, the keepers of the charge of the altar; these are the sons of Zadok among the sons of Levi, which come near to the LORD to minister unto him.

⁴⁷So he measured the court, a hundred cubits long, and a hundred cubits broad, foursquare; and the altar that was before the house.

⁴⁸And he brought me to the porch of the house, and measured each post of the porch, five cubits on this side, and five cubits on that side; and the breadth of the gate was three cubits on this side, and three cubits on that side. ⁴⁹The length of the porch was twenty cubits, and the breadth eleven cubits; and he brought me by the steps whereby they went up to it; and there were pillars by the posts, one on this side, and another on that side.

¹Afterward he brought me to the temple, and measured the posts, six cubits broad on the one side, and six cubits broad on the other side, which was the breadth of the tabernacle. ²And the breadth of the door was ten cubits; and the sides of the door were five cubits on the one side, and five cubits on the other side; and he measured the length thereof, forty cubits, and the breadth, twenty cubits.

³Then went he inward, and measured the post of the door, two cubits; and the door, six cubits; and the breadth of the door, seven cubits. ⁴So he measured the length thereof, twenty cubits; and the breadth, twenty cubits, before the temple; and he said unto me, 'This is the most holy place.'

⁵After he measured the wall of the house, six cubits; and the breadth of every side chamber, four cubits, round about the house on every side. ⁶And the side chambers were

245 EZEKIEL 42

three, one over another, and thirty in order; and they entered into the wall which was of the house for the side chambers round about, that they might have hold, but they had not hold in the wall of the house. ⁷And there was an enlarging, and a winding about still upward to the side chambers; for the winding about of the house went still upward round about the house; therefore the breadth of the house was still upward, and so increased from the lowest chamber to the highest by the midst.

⁸I saw also the height of the house round about; the foundations of the side chambers were a full reed of six great cubits. ⁹The thickness of the wall, which was for the side chamber without, was five cubits; and that which was left was the place of the side chambers that were within. ¹⁰And between the chambers was the wideness of twenty cubits round about the house on every side. ¹¹And the doors of the side chambers were toward the place that was left, one door toward the north, and another door toward the south; and the breadth of the place that was left was five cubits round about.

¹²Now the building that was before the separate place at the end toward the west was seventy cubits broad; and the wall of the building was five cubits thick round about, and the length thereof ninety cubits.

¹³So he measured the house, a hundred cubits long; and the separate place, and the building, with the walls thereof, a hundred cubits long; ¹⁴also the breadth of the face of the house, and of the separate place toward the east, a hundred cubits.

¹⁵And he measured the length of the building over against the separate place which was behind it, and the galleries thereof on the one side and on the other side, a hundred cubits, with the inner temple, and the porches of the court; ¹⁶the doorposts, and the narrow windows, and the galleries round about on their three stories, over against the door, ceiled with wood round about, and from the ground up to the windows, and the windows were covered; ¹⁷to that above the door, even unto the inner house, and without, and by all the wall round about within and without, by measure. ¹⁸And it was made with cherubim and palm trees, so that a palm tree was between a cherub and a cherub; and every cherub had two faces; ¹⁹so that the face of a man was toward the palm tree on the one side, and the face of a young lion toward the palm tree on the other side; it was made through all the house round about. ²⁰From the ground unto above the door were cherubim and palm trees made, and on the wall of the temple.

²¹The posts of the temple were squared, and the face of the sanctuary; the appearance of the one as the appearance of the other. ²²The altar of wood was three cubits high, and the length thereof two cubits; and the corners thereof, and the length thereof, and the walls thereof, were of wood; and he said unto me, 'This is the table that is before the LORD.' ²³And the temple and the sanctuary had two doors. ²⁴And the doors had two leaves apiece, two turning leaves; two leaves for the one door, and two leaves for the other door. ²⁵And there were made on them, on the doors of the temple, cherubim and palm trees, like as were made upon the walls; and there were thick planks upon the face of the porch without. ²⁶And there were narrow windows and palm trees on the one side and on the other side, on the sides of the porch, and upon the side chambers of the house, and thick planks.

Then he brought me forth into the outer court, the way toward the north; and he brought me into the chamber that was over against the separate place, and which was before the building toward the north. ²Before the length of a hundred cubits was the north door, and the breadth was fifty cubits. ³Over against the twenty cubits which were for the inner court, and over against the pavement which was for the outer court, was gallery against gallery in three stories. ⁴And before the chambers was a walk of ten cubits breadth

EZEKIEL 43 246

inward, a way of one cubit; and their doors toward the north. ⁵Now the upper chambers were shorter; for the galleries were higher than these, than the lower, and than the middlemost of the building. ⁶For they were in three stories, but had not pillars as the pillars of the courts; therefore the building was straitened more than the lowest and the middlemost from the ground. ⁷And the wall that was without over against the chambers, toward the outer court on the forepart of the chambers, the length thereof was fifty cubits. ⁸For the length of the chambers that were in the outer court was fifty cubits; and, lo, before the temple were a hundred cubits. ⁹And from under these chambers was the entry on the east side, as one goeth into them from the outer court.

¹⁰The chambers were in the thickness of the wall of the court toward the east, over against the separate place, and over against the building. ¹¹And the way before them was like the appearance of the chambers which were toward the north, as long as they, and as broad as they; and all their goings out were both according to their fashions, and according to their doors. ¹²And according to the doors of the chambers that were toward the south was a door in the head of the way, even the way directly before the wall toward the east, as one entereth into them.

13Then said he unto me:

The north chambers and the south chambers, which are before the separate place, they be holy chambers, where the priests that approach unto the LORD shall eat the most holy things; there shall they lay the most holy things, and the meat offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering; for the place is holy. ¹⁴When the priests enter therein, then shall they not go out of the holy place into the outer court, but there they shall lay their garments wherein they minister; for they are holy; and shall put on other garments, and shall approach to those things which are for the people.

¹⁵Now when he had made an end of measuring the inner house, he brought me forth toward the gate whose prospect is toward the east, and measured it round about. ¹⁶He measured the east side with the measuring reed, five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed round about. ¹⁷He measured the north side, five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed round about. ¹⁸He measured the south side, five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed. ¹⁹He turned about to the west side, and measured five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed. ²⁰He measured it by the four sides; it had a wall round about, five hundred reeds long, and five hundred broad, to make a separation between the sanctuary and the profane place.

God's glory returns to the temple

¹Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh toward the east; ²and, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east; and his voice was like a noise of many waters; and the earth shined with his glory. ³And it was according to the appearance of the vision which I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city; and the visions were like the vision that I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell upon my face. ⁴And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east. ⁵So the Spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

⁶And I heard him speaking unto me out of the house; and the man stood by me. ⁷And he said unto me:

Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcasses of their kings in their high places. 8In their setting of their threshold by my

247 EZEKIEL 43

thresholds, and their post by my posts, and the wall between me and them, they have even defiled my holy name by their abominations that they have committed; wherefore I have consumed them in mine anger. ⁹Now let them put away their whoredom, and the carcasses of their kings, far from me, and I will dwell in the midst of them forever.

¹⁰Thou son of man, show the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern. ¹¹And if they be ashamed of all that they have done, show them the form of the house, and the fashion thereof, and the goings out thereof, and the comings in thereof, and all the forms thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and all the forms thereof, and all the laws thereof; and write it in their sight, that they may keep the whole form thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and do them.

¹²This is the law of the house: Upon the top of the mountain the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house.

The altar

¹³And these are the measures of the altar after the cubits; the cubit is a cubit and a handbreadth; even the bottom shall be a cubit, and the breadth a cubit, and the border thereof by the edge thereof round about shall be a span; and this shall be the higher place of the altar. ¹⁴And from the bottom upon the ground even to the lower settle shall be two cubits, and the breadth one cubit; and from the lesser settle even to the greater settle shall be four cubits, and the breadth one cubit. ¹⁵So the altar shall be four cubits; and from the altar and upward shall be four horns. ¹⁶And the altar shall be twelve cubits long, twelve broad, square in the four squares thereof. ¹⁷And the settle shall be fourteen cubits long and fourteen broad in the four squares thereof; and the border about it shall be half a cubit; and the bottom thereof shall be a cubit about; and his stairs shall look toward the east.

18 And he said unto me:

Son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD: These are the ordinances of the altar in the day when they shall make it, to offer burnt offerings thereon, and to sprinkle blood thereon. ¹⁹And thou shalt give to the priests the Levites, that be of the seed of Zadok, which approach unto me, to minister unto me, saith the Lord GOD, a young bullock for a sin offering. ²⁰And thou shalt take of the blood thereof, and put it on the four horns of it, and on the four corners of the settle, and upon the border round about; thus shalt thou cleanse and purge it. ²¹Thou shalt take the bullock also of the sin offering, and he shall burn it in the appointed place of the house, without the sanctuary.

²²And on the second day thou shalt offer a kid of the goats without blemish for a sin offering; and they shall cleanse the altar, as they did cleanse it with the bullock.

²³When thou hast made an end of cleansing it, thou shalt offer a young bullock without blemish, and a ram out of the flock without blemish. ²⁴And thou shalt offer them before the LORD, and the priests shall cast salt upon them, and they shall offer them up for a burnt offering unto the LORD.

²⁵Seven days shalt thou prepare every day a goat for a sin offering; they shall also prepare a young bullock, and a ram out of the flock, without blemish. ²⁶Seven days shall they purge the altar and purify it; and they shall consecrate themselves. ²⁷And when these days are expired, it shall be, that upon the eighth day, and so forward, the

EZEKIEL 44 248

priests shall make your burnt offerings upon the altar, and your peace offerings; and I will accept you, saith the Lord GOD.

Restoration of Levitical priesthood

Then he brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary which looketh toward the east; and it was shut. ²Then said the LORD unto me:

This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the LORD the God of Israel hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut. It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the way of the same.

⁴Then brought he me the way of the north gate before the house; and I looked, and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD; and I fell upon my face. ⁵And the LORD said unto me:

Son of man, mark well, and behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears all that I say unto thee concerning all the ordinances of the house of the LORD, and all the laws thereof; and mark well the entering in of the house, with every going forth of the sanctuary. ⁶And thou shalt say to the rebellious, even to the house of Israel, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD: O ye house of Israel, let it suffice you of all your abominations, ⁷in that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart, and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to pollute it, even my house, when ye offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations. ⁸Ye have not kept the charge of mine holy things; but ye have set keepers of my charge in my sanctuary for yourselves. ⁹Thus saith the Lord GOD: No stranger, uncircumcised in heart, nor uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter into my sanctuary, of any stranger that is among the children of Israel.

¹⁰And the Levites that are gone away far from me, when Israel went astray, which went astray away from me after their idols; they shall even bear their iniquity. ¹¹Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary, having charge at the gates of the house, and ministering to the house; they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister unto them. ¹²Because they ministered unto them before their idols, and caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity; therefore have I lifted up mine hand against them, saith the Lord GOD, and they shall bear their iniquity. ¹³And they shall not come near unto me, to do the office of a priest unto me, nor to come near to any of my holy things, in the most holy place; but they shall bear their shame, and their abominations which they have committed. ¹⁴But I will make them keepers of the charge of the house, for all the service thereof, and for all that shall be done therein.

¹⁵But the priests the Levites, the sons of Zadok, that kept the charge of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me, they shall come near to me to minister unto me, and they shall stand before me to offer unto me the fat and the blood, saith the Lord GOD. ¹⁶They shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister unto me, and they shall keep my charge.

¹⁷And it shall come to pass, that when they enter in at the gates of the inner court, they shall be clothed with linen garments; and no wool shall come upon them, while they minister in the gates of the inner court, and within. ¹⁸They shall have linen bonnets upon their heads, and shall have linen breeches upon their loins; they shall not gird themselves with anything that causeth sweat. ¹⁹And when they go forth into the outer court, even into the outer court to the people, they shall put off their garments

249 EZEKIEL 45

wherein they ministered, and lay them in the holy chambers, and they shall put on other garments; and they shall not sanctify the people with their garments.

²⁰Neither shall they shave their heads, nor suffer their locks to grow long; they shall only poll their heads. ²¹Neither shall any priest drink wine when they enter into the inner court. ²²Neither shall they take for their wives a widow, nor her that is put away; but they shall take maidens of the seed of the house of Israel, or a widow that had a priest before. ²³And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

²⁴And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; and they shall judge it according to my judgments; and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my Sabbaths.

²⁵And they shall come at no dead person to defile themselves; but for father, or for mother, or for son, or for daughter, for brother, or for sister that hath had no husband, they may defile themselves. ²⁶And after he is cleansed, they shall reckon unto him seven days. ²⁷And in the day that he goeth into the sanctuary, unto the inner court, to minister in the sanctuary, he shall offer his sin offering, saith the Lord GOD.

²⁸And it shall be unto them for an inheritance; I am their inheritance; and ye shall give them no possession in Israel; I am their possession. ²⁹They shall eat the meat offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering; and every dedicated thing in Israel shall be theirs. ³⁰And the first of all the firstfruits of all things, and every oblation of all, of every sort of your oblations, shall be the priest's; ye shall also give unto the priest the first of your dough, that he may cause the blessing to rest in thine house. ³¹The priests shall not eat of anything that is dead of itself, or torn, whether it be fowl or beast.

Dividing the land for inheritance

45

Moreover, when ye shall divide by lot the land for inheritance, ye shall offer an oblation unto the LORD, a holy portion of the land; the length shall be the length of five and twenty thousand reeds, and the breadth shall be ten thousand. This shall be holy in all the borders thereof round about. ²Of this there shall be for the sanctuary five hundred in length, with five hundred in breadth, square round about; and fifty cubits round about for the suburbs thereof. ³And of this measure shalt thou measure the length of five and twenty thousand, and the breadth of ten thousand; and in it shall be the sanctuary and the most holy place. ⁴The holy portion of the land shall be for the priests the ministers of the sanctuary, which shall come near to minister unto the LORD; and it shall be a place for their houses, and a holy place for the sanctuary. ⁵And the five and twenty thousand of length, and the ten thousand of breadth, shall also the Levites, the ministers of the house, have for themselves, for a possession for twenty chambers.

⁶And ye shall appoint the possession of the city five thousand broad, and five and twenty thousand long, over against the oblation of the holy portion; it shall be for the whole house of Israel.

⁷And a portion shall be for the prince on the one side and on the other side of the oblation of the holy portion, and of the possession of the city, before the oblation of the holy portion, and before the possession of the city, from the west side westward, and from the east side eastward; and the length shall be over against one of the portions, from the west border unto the east border. ⁸In the land shall be his possession in Israel; and my princes shall no more oppress my people; and the rest of the land shall they give to the house of Israel according to their tribes.

EZEKIEL 46 250

⁹Thus saith the Lord GOD: Let it suffice you, O princes of Israel; remove violence and spoil, and execute judgment and justice, take away your exactions from my people, saith the Lord GOD. ¹⁰Ye shall have just balances, and a just ephah, and a just bath. ¹¹The ephah and the bath shall be of one measure, that the bath may contain the tenth part of a homer, and the ephah the tenth part of a homer; the measure thereof shall be after the homer. ¹²And the shekel shall be twenty gerahs; twenty shekels, five and twenty shekels, fifteen shekels, shall be your maneh.

This is the oblation that ye shall offer; the sixth part of an ephah of a homer of wheat, and ye shall give the sixth part of an ephah of a homer of barley. ¹⁴Concerning the ordinance of oil, the bath of oil, ye shall offer the tenth part of a bath out of the cor, which is a homer of ten baths; for ten baths are a homer; ¹⁵and one lamb out of the flock, out of two hundred, out of the fat pastures of Israel; for a meat offering, and for a burnt offering, and for peace offerings, to make reconciliation for them, saith the Lord GOD. ¹⁶All the people of the land shall give this oblation for the prince in Israel. ¹⁷And it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and drink offerings, in the feasts, and in the new moons, and in the Sabbaths, in all solemnities of the house of Israel; he shall prepare the sin offering, and the meat offering, and the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make reconciliation for the house of Israel.

¹⁸Thus saith the Lord GOD: In the first month, in the first day of the month, thou shalt take a young bullock without blemish, and cleanse the sanctuary; ¹⁹and the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering, and put it upon the posts of the house, and upon the four corners of the settle of the altar, and upon the posts of the gate of the inner court. ²⁰And so thou shalt do the seventh day of the month for every one that erreth, and for him that is simple; so shall ye reconcile the house.

²¹In the first month, in the fourteenth day of the month, ye shall have the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten. ²²And upon that day shall the prince prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bullock for a sin offering. ²³And seven days of the feast he shall prepare a burnt offering to the LORD, seven bullocks and seven rams without blemish daily the seven days; and a kid of the goats daily for a sin offering. ²⁴And he shall prepare a meat offering of an ephah for a bullock, and an ephah for a ram, and a hin of oil for an ephah.

²⁵In the seventh month, in the fifteenth day of the month, shall he do the like in the feast of the seven days, according to the sin offering, according to the burnt offering, according to the meat offering, and according to the oil.

¹Thus saith the Lord GOD: The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east shall be shut the six working days; but on the Sabbath it shall be opened, and in the day of the new moon it shall be opened. ²And the prince shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate without, and shall stand by the post of the gate, and the priests shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate; then he shall go forth; but the gate shall not be shut until the evening. ³Likewise the people of the land shall worship at the door of this gate before the LORD in the Sabbaths and in the new moons. ⁴And the burnt offering that the prince shall offer unto the LORD in the Sabbath day shall be six lambs without blemish, and a ram without blemish. ⁵And the meat offering shall be an ephah for a ram, and the meat offering for the lambs as he shall be able to give, and a hin of oil to an ephah. ⁶And in the day of the new moon it shall be a young bullock without blemish, and six lambs, and a ram; they shall be without blemish. ⁶And he shall prepare a meat offering, an ephah for a bullock, and an ephah for a ram, and for the

46

25 I EZEKIEL 47

lambs according as his hand shall attain unto, and a hin of oil to an ephah. ⁸And when the prince shall enter, he shall go in by the way of the porch of that gate, and he shall go forth by the way thereof.

⁹But when the people of the land shall come before the lord in the solemn feasts, he that entereth in by the way of the north gate to worship shall go out by the way of the south gate; and he that entereth by the way of the south gate shall go forth by the way of the north gate; he shall not return by the way of the gate whereby he came in, but shall go forth over against it. ¹⁰And the prince in the midst of them, when they go in, shall go in; and when they go forth, shall go forth. ¹¹And in the feasts and in the solemnities the meat offering shall be an ephah to a bullock, and an ephah to a ram, and to the lambs as he is able to give, and a hin of oil to an ephah.

¹²Now when the prince shall prepare a voluntary burnt offering or peace offerings voluntarily unto the LORD, one shall then open him the gate that looketh toward the east, and he shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, as he did on the Sabbath day; then he shall go forth; and after his going forth one shall shut the gate.

Thou shalt daily prepare a burnt offering unto the LORD of a lamb of the first year without blemish; thou shalt prepare it every morning. ¹⁴And thou shalt prepare a meat offering for it every morning, the sixth part of an ephah, and the third part of a hin of oil, to temper with the fine flour; a meat offering continually by a perpetual ordinance unto the LORD. ¹⁵Thus shall they prepare the lamb, and the meat offering, and the oil, every morning for a continual burnt offering.

¹⁶Thus saith the Lord GOD: If the prince give a gift unto any of his sons, the inheritance thereof shall be his sons'; it shall be their possession by inheritance. ¹⁷But if he give a gift of his inheritance to one of his servants, then it shall be his to the year of liberty; after, it shall return to the prince; but his inheritance shall be his sons' for them. ¹⁸Moreover the prince shall not take of the people's inheritance by oppression, to thrust them out of their possession; but he shall give his sons inheritance out of his own possession; that my people be not scattered every man from his possession.

¹⁹After he brought me through the entry, which was at the side of the gate, into the holy chambers of the priests, which looked toward the north; and, behold, there was a place on the two sides westward. ²⁰Then said he unto me:

This is the place where the priests shall boil the trespass offering and the sin offering, where they shall bake the meat offering; that they bear them not out into the outer court, to sanctify the people.

²¹Then he brought me forth into the outer court, and caused me to pass by the four corners of the court; and, behold, in every corner of the court there was a court. ²²In the four corners of the court there were courts joined of forty cubits long and thirty broad; these four corners were of one measure. ²³And there was a row of building round about in them, round about them four, and it was made with boiling places under the rows round about. ²⁴Then said he unto me:

These are the places of them that boil, where the ministers of the house shall boil the sacrifice of the people.

The river from the temple

Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward; for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under, from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar. ²Then brought he me out of the way of the gate northward,

EZEKIEL 47 252

and led me about the way without unto the outer gate by the way that looketh eastward; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side.

³And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles. ⁴Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins. ⁵Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over; for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over. ⁶And he said unto me, "Son of man, hast thou seen this?"

Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river. 7Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other. 8Then said he unto me:

These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea; which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed. ⁹And it shall come to pass, that everything that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live; and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither; for they shall be healed; and everything shall live whither the river cometh. ¹⁰And it shall come to pass, that the fishers shall stand upon it from En–Gedi even unto En–Eglaim; they shall be a place to spread forth nets; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the great sea, exceeding many. ¹¹But the miry places thereof and the marshes thereof shall not be healed; they shall be given to salt. ¹²And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed; it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary; and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

The borders of the land

¹³Thus saith the Lord GOD: This shall be the border, whereby ye shall inherit the land according to the twelve tribes of Israel; Joseph shall have two portions. ¹⁴And ye shall inherit it, one as well as another; concerning the which I lifted up mine hand to give it unto your fathers; and this land shall fall unto you for inheritance.

¹⁵And this shall be the border of the land toward the north side, from the great sea, the way of Hethlon, as men go to Zedad; ¹⁶Hamath, Berothah, Sibraim, which is between the border of Damascus and the border of Hamath; Hazar-hatticon, which is by the coast of Hauran. ¹⁷And the border from the sea shall be Hazar-enan, the border of Damascus, and the north northward, and the border of Hamath. And this is the north side.

¹⁸And the east side ye shall measure from Hauran, and from Damascus, and from Gilead, and from the land of Israel by Jordan, from the border unto the east sea. And this is the east side.

¹⁹And the south side southward, from Tamar even to the waters of strife in Kadesh, the river to the great sea. And this is the south side southward.

²⁰The west side also shall be the great sea from the border, till a man come over against Hamath. This is the west side.

²¹So shall ye divide this land unto you according to the tribes of Israel. ²²And it shall come to pass, that ye shall divide it by lot for an inheritance unto you, and to the

253 EZEKIEL 48

strangers that sojourn among you, which shall beget children among you; and they shall be unto you as born in the country among the children of Israel; they shall have inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel. ²³And it shall come to pass, that in what tribe the stranger sojourneth, there shall ye give him his inheritance, saith the Lord GOD.

The borders of the tribes

Now these are the names of the tribes. From the north end to the coast of the way of Hethlon, as one goeth to Hamath, Hazar-enan, the border of Damascus northward, to the coast of Hamath; for these are his sides east and west; a portion for Dan.

²And by the border of Dan, from the east side unto the west side, a portion for Asher.

³And by the border of Asher, from the east side even unto the west side, a portion for Naphtali.

⁴And by the border of Naphtali, from the east side unto the west side, a portion for Manasseh.

⁵And by the border of Manasseh, from the east side unto the west side, a portion for Ephraim.

⁶And by the border of Ephraim, from the east side even unto the west side, a portion for Reuben.

⁷And by the border of Reuben, from the east side unto the west side, a portion for Judah.

⁸And by the border of Judah, from the east side unto the west side, shall be the offering which ye shall offer of five and twenty thousand reeds in breadth, and in length as one of the other parts, from the east side unto the west side; and the sanctuary shall be in the midst of it.

⁹The oblation that ye shall offer unto the LORD shall be of five and twenty thousand in length, and of ten thousand in breadth. ¹⁰And for them, even for the priests, shall be this holy oblation; toward the north five and twenty thousand in length, and toward the west ten thousand in breadth, and toward the east ten thousand in breadth, and toward the south five and twenty thousand in length; and the sanctuary of the LORD shall be in the midst thereof. ¹¹It shall be for the priests that are sanctified of the sons of Zadok; which have kept my charge, which went not astray when the children of Israel went astray, as the Levites went astray. ¹²And this oblation of the land that is offered shall be unto them a thing most holy by the border of the Levites.

¹³And over against the border of the priests, the Levites shall have five and twenty thousand in length, and ten thousand in breadth; all the length shall be five and twenty thousand, and the breadth ten thousand. ¹⁴And they shall not sell of it, neither exchange, nor alienate the firstfruits of the land; for it is holy unto the LORD.

¹⁵And the five thousand, that are left in the breadth over against the five and twenty thousand, shall be a profane place for the city, for dwelling, and for suburbs; and the city shall be in the midst thereof. ¹⁶And these shall be the measures thereof; the north side four thousand and five hundred, and the south side four thousand and five hundred, and on the east side four thousand and five hundred, and the west side four thousand and five hundred and fifty hundred. ¹⁷And the suburbs of the city shall be toward the north two hundred and fifty, and toward the south two hundred and fifty, and toward the east two hundred and fifty. ¹⁸And the

EZEKIEL 48 254

residue in length over against the oblation of the holy portion shall be ten thousand eastward, and ten thousand westward; and it shall be over against the oblation of the holy portion; and the increase thereof shall be for food unto them that serve the city. ¹⁹And they that serve the city shall serve it out of all the tribes of Israel. ²⁰All the oblation shall be five and twenty thousand by five and twenty thousand; ye shall offer the holy oblation foursquare, with the possession of the city.

- ²¹And the residue shall be for the prince, on the one side and on the other of the holy oblation, and of the possession of the city, over against the five and twenty thousand of the oblation toward the east border, and westward over against the five and twenty thousand toward the west border, over against the portion for the prince; and it shall be the holy oblation; and the sanctuary of the house shall be in the midst thereof.

 ²²Moreover, from the possession of the Levites, and from the possession of the city, being in the midst of that which is the prince's, between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin, shall be for the prince.
- ²³As for the rest of the tribes, from the east side unto the west side, Benjamin shall have a portion.
- ²⁴And by the border of Benjamin, from the east side unto the west side, Simeon shall have a portion.
- ²⁵And by the border of Simeon, from the east side unto the west side, Issachar a portion.
- ²⁶And by the border of Issachar, from the east side unto the west side, Zebulun a portion.
- ²⁷And by the border of Zebulun, from the east side unto the west side, Gad a portion.
- ²⁸And by the border of Gad, at the south side southward, the border shall be even from Tamar unto the waters of strife in Kadesh, and to the river toward the great sea.
- ²⁹This is the land which ye shall divide by lot unto the tribes of Israel for inheritance, and these are their portions, saith the Lord GOD.

The gates of the city

- ³⁰And these are the goings out of the city on the north side, four thousand and five hundred measures. ³¹And the gates of the city shall be after the names of the tribes of Israel; three gates northward; one gate of Reuben, one gate of Judah, one gate of Levi.
- ³²And at the east side four thousand and five hundred; and three gates; and one gate of Joseph, one gate of Benjamin, one gate of Dan.
- ³³And at the south side four thousand and five hundred measures; and three gates; one gate of Simeon, one gate of Issachar, one gate of Zebulun.
- ³⁴At the west side four thousand and five hundred, with their three gates; one gate of Gad, one gate of Asher, one gate of Naphtali.
- ³⁵It was round about eighteen thousand measures; and the name of the city from that day shall be called, 'Holy;' for the LORD shall be there.

255 DANIEL I

DANIEL

Daniel's arrival in Babylon

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. ²And the LORD gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God; which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

³And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes; ⁴children in whom was no blemish, but well favored, and skillful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans. ⁵And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank; so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

⁶Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; ⁷unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names; for he gave unto Daniel the name of Beltheshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.

But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Now God had brought Daniel into favor and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs. And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink; for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? Then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.

Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, ¹²"Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. ¹³Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat; and as thou seest, deal with thy servants." ¹⁴So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

¹⁵And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat. ¹⁶Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

¹⁷As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

¹⁸Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore stood they before the king. ²⁰And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.

²¹And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

DANIEL 2 256

Nebuchadnezzar's dream

¹And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him. ²Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to show the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. ³And the king said unto them, "I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream."

⁴Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriac, "O king, live forever; tell thy servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation."

⁵The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "The thing is gone from me; if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill. ⁶But if ye show the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honor; therefore show me the dream, and the interpretation thereof."

⁷They answered again and said, "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation of it."

⁸The king answered and said, "I know of certainty that ye would gain the time, because ye see the thing is gone from me. ⁹But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you; for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed; therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can show me the interpretation thereof."

¹⁰The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, "There is not a man upon the earth that can show the king's matter; therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean. ¹¹And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can show it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh."

¹²For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. ¹³And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.

¹⁴Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon; ¹⁵he answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, "Why is the decree so hasty from the king?" Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel. ¹⁶Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation.

¹⁷Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions; ¹⁸that they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. ¹⁹Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. ²⁰Daniel answered and said:

Blessed be the name of God forever and ever;

for wisdom and might are his;

²¹ and he changeth the times and the seasons;

he removeth kings, and setteth up kings;

he giveth wisdom unto the wise,

and knowledge to them that know understanding;

²²he revealeth the deep and secret things;

he knoweth what is in the darkness,

257 DANIEL 2

and the light dwelleth with him.

23I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers,
who hast given me wisdom and might,
and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee;
for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

Daniel interprets the dream

²⁴Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon; he went and said thus unto him, "Destroy not the wise men of Babylon; bring me in before the king, and I will show unto the king the interpretation."

²⁵Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, "I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation."

²⁶The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof?"

²⁷Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said:

The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, show unto the king; ²⁸but there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these:

²⁹As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter; and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass. ³⁰But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

³¹Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee, and the form thereof was terrible. ³²This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, ³³his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. ³⁴Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. ³⁵Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them; and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

³⁶This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. ³⁷Thou, O king, art a king of kings; for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. ³⁸And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.

³⁹And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. ⁴⁰And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron; forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things; and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. ⁴¹And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. ⁴²And as the toes of the feet were part of iron,

DANIEL 3 258

and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. ⁴³And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men; but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

⁴⁴And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.
⁴⁵Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter; and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

⁴⁶Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshiped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odors unto him. ⁴⁷The king answered unto Daniel, and said, "Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret."

⁴⁸Then the king made Daniel a great man, and he gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon. ⁴⁹Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

The image of gold and the furnace

Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits; he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. ²Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counselors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. ³Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counselors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

⁴Then a herald cried aloud:

To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages, ⁵that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up; ⁶and whoso falleth not down and worshipeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

⁷Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of music, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshiped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

⁸Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews. ⁹They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar:

O king, live forever. ¹⁰Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image; ¹¹and whoso falleth not down and worshipeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. ¹²There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of

259 DANIEL 3

Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee; they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

¹³Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king. ¹⁴Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them:

Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up? ¹⁵Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well; but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

¹⁶Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king:

O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. ¹⁷If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. ¹⁸But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

¹⁹Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated. ²⁰And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace. ²¹Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. ²²Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. ²³And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

²⁴Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonied, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counselors, "Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?"

They answered and said unto the king, "True, O king."

²⁵He answered and said, "Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

²⁶Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither."

Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, came forth of the midst of the fire. ²⁷And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counselors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was a hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

²⁸Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said:

Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. ²⁹Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill; because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

³⁰Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.

DANIEL 4 260

Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a tree

▲ ¹Nebuchadnezzar the king,

Unto all people, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

²I thought it good to show the sings and wonders that the high God hath wrought toward me. ³How great are his signs! And how mighty are his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation.

⁴I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace; ⁵I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me. ⁶Therefore made I a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the interpretation of the dream. ⁷Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers; and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof. ⁸But at the last Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and before him I told the dream, saying:

⁹O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in thee, and no secret troubleth thee, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and the interpretation thereof. ¹⁰Thus were the visions of mine head in my bed; I saw, and behold a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great. ¹¹The tree grew, and was strong, and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the sight thereof to the end of all the earth; ¹²the leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it.

¹³I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and a holy one came down from heaven; ¹⁴he cried aloud, and said thus, "Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit; let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches; ¹⁵nevertheless, leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth; ¹⁶let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him. ¹⁷This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by thy word of the holy ones; to the intent that the living may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."

¹⁸This dream I king Nebuchadnezzar have seen. Now thou, O Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation; but thou art able; for the spirit of the holy gods is in thee.

Daniel interprets the dream

¹⁹Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonied for one hour, and his thoughts troubled him. The king spake, and said, Belteshazzar, let not the dream, or the interpretation thereof, trouble thee. Belteshazzar answered and said:

My lord, the dream be to them that hate thee, and the interpretation thereof to thine enemies. ²⁰The tree that thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth; ²¹whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of

261 DANIEL 5

the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation; ²²it is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong; for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth.

²³And whereas the king saw a watcher and a holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, "Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him;" ²⁴this is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High, which is come upon my lord the king; ²⁵that they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. ²⁶And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; thy kingdom shall be sure unto thee, after that thou shalt have known that the heavens do rule. ²⁷Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by showing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquility.

The dream is fulfilled

²⁸All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon. ³⁰The king spake, and said, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?"

³¹While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, "O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken, 'The kingdom is departed from thee.' ³²And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field; they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will."

³³The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar; and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

³⁴And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the Most High, and I praised and honored him that liveth forever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation; ³⁵and all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

³⁶At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honor and brightness returned unto me; and my counselors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me. ³⁷Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment; and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

The writing on the wall

Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink

DANIEL 5 262

therein. ³Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king and his princes, his wives and his concubines, drank in them. ⁴They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.

⁵In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. ⁶Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.

⁷The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, "Whosoever shall read this writing, and show me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom."

⁸Then came in all the king's wise men; but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof. ⁹Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonied.

¹⁰Now the queen, by reason of the words of the king and his lords, came into the banquet house; and the queen spake and said:

O king, live forever; let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed. ¹¹There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers; ¹²Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and showing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar; now let Daniel be called, and he will show the interpretation.

Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry? ¹⁴I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee. ¹⁵And now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof; but they could not show the interpretation of the thing; ¹⁶and I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations, and dissolve doubts; now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about thy neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.

¹⁷Then Daniel answered and said before the king:

Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation. ¹⁸O thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honor; ¹⁹and for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him; whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down. ²⁰But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him; ²¹and he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses;

263 DANIEL 6

they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.

²²And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this; ²³but hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know; and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways hast thou not glorified; ²⁴then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written.

²⁵And this is the writing that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

²⁶This is the interpretation of the thing;

MENE: God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

²⁷TEKEL: Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

²⁸UPHARSIN: Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

²⁹Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

³⁰In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. ³¹And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.

The den of lions

It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom a hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; ²and over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first, that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. ³Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm. ⁴Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. ⁵Then said these men, "We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God."

⁶Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him: King Darius, live forever. ⁷All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counselors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God, or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. ⁸Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes, and Persians, which altereth not.

⁹Wherefore King Darius signed the writing and the decree.

¹⁰Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and, his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime. ¹¹Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. ¹²Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree:

Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?

DANIEL 6 264

The king answered and said:

The thing is true, according to the law of Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

¹³Then answered they and said before the king:

That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

¹⁴Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

¹⁵Then these men assembled unto the king and said unto the king:

Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, that no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.

¹⁶Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel:

Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

¹⁷And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting; neither were instruments of music brought before him; and his sleep went from him.

¹⁹Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. ²⁰And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel, and the king spake and said to Daniel:

O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

²¹Then said Daniel unto the king:

O king, live forever. ²²My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me; forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

²³Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

²⁴And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

²⁵Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth:

Peace be multiplied unto you.

²⁶I make a decree, that in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel.

For he is the living God, and steadfast forever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end. ²⁷He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders 265 DANIEL 7

in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

²⁸So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Dream of four beasts

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed; then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters. ²Daniel spake and said:

I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. ³And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

- ⁴The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings; I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.
- ⁵And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it; and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.
- ⁶After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.
- ⁷After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth; it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it; and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.
- ⁸I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots; and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.
- ⁹I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool; his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. ¹⁰A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him; thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the judgment was set, and the books were opened.
- ¹¹I beheld then, because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake; I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. ¹²As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away; yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.
- ¹³I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. ¹⁴And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Interpretation of the dream

¹⁵I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me. ¹⁶I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

DANIEL 8 266

¹⁷These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. ¹⁸But the saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.

¹⁹Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the other, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; ²⁰And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. ²¹I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; ²²until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

23Thus he said:

The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. ²⁴And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise; and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. ²⁵And he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws; and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

²⁶But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. ²⁷And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

²⁸Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me; but I kept the matter in my heart.

Vision of a ram and a goat

In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. ²And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river Ulai. ³Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns; and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. ⁴I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

⁵And as I was considering, behold, a he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground; and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. ⁶And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. ⁷And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns; and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him; and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. ⁸Therefore the he goat waxed very great; and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

⁹And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. ¹⁰And it waxed great, even to

267 DANIEL 9

the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. The yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.

The And a host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.

¹³Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, "How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden underfoot?"

¹⁴And he said unto me, "Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed."

Interpretation of the vision

¹⁵And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man. ¹⁶And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision."

¹⁷So he came near where I stood; and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face; but he said unto me, "Understand, O son of man; for at the time of the end shall be the vision."

¹⁸Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground; but he touched me, and set me upright. ¹⁹And he said:

Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation; for at the time appointed the end shall be. ²⁰The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. ²¹And the rough goat is the king of Grecia; and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. ²²Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.

²³And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. ²⁴And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. ²⁵And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many; he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

²⁶And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true; wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days.

²⁷And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

Daniel's prayer

In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; ²in the first year of his reign, I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. ³And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes; ⁴and I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said:

DANIEL 9 268

O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; ⁵we have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments; ⁶neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither thou hast driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee. 8O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee. To the LORD our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; 10 neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets. "Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him. 12 And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil; for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem. 13As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us; yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth. 14Therefore hath the LORD watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth; for we obeyed not his voice.

¹⁵And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast gotten thee renown, as at this day; we have sinned, we have done wickedly. ¹⁶O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us. ¹⁷Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the LORD's sake. ¹⁸O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name; for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies. ¹⁹O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God; for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.

Prophecy of the seventy weeks

²⁰And while I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God; ²¹yea, while I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. ²²And he informed me, and talked with me, and said:

O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. ²³At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to show thee; for thou art greatly beloved; therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.

269 DANIEL 10

²⁴Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

²⁵Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem, unto the Messiah the Prince, shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

²⁶And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself; and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

²⁷And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Vision of a mighty man

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long; and he understood the thing and had understanding of the vision.

²In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. ³I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. ⁴And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel; ⁵then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz; ⁶his body also was like the beryl and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in color to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.

⁷And I Daniel alone saw the vision; for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. ⁸Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me; for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength. ⁹Yet heard I the voice of his words; and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.

¹⁰And, behold, a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands. ¹¹And said unto me, "O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright; for unto thee am I now sent." And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. ¹²Then said he unto me:

Fear not, Daniel; for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. ¹³But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days; but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. ¹⁴Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days; for yet the vision is for many days.

DANIEL I I 270

¹⁵And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb. ¹⁶And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips; then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me:

O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength. ¹⁷For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? For as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me.

¹⁸Then there came again and touched me, one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, ¹⁹and said, "O man greatly beloved, fear not; peace be unto thee; be strong, yea, be strong." And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, "Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me."

²⁰Then said he, "Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? And now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come. ²¹But I will show thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth; and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince."

The overthrow of Persia

Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him. ²And now will I show thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all; and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia. ³And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will. ⁴And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others besides those.

Kings of the south and north

⁵And the king of the south shall be strong, and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion. ⁶And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; for the king's daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement; but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm; but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times. ⁷But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate which shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail; ⁸and shall also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the north. ⁹So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land.

¹⁰But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces; and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through; then shall he return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress. ¹¹And the king of the south shall be moved with choler, and shall come forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north; and he shall set forth a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his hand. ¹²And when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many ten thousands; but he shall not be strengthened by it. ¹³For the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches.

271 DANIEL I I

¹⁴And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south; also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall. ¹⁵So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities; and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand. ¹⁶But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him; and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed. ¹⁷He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do; and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her; but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him. ¹⁸After this shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many; but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon him. ¹⁹Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land; but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.

²⁰Then shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom; but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle. ²¹And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honor of the kingdom; but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries. ²²And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflown from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant. 23 And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully; for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people. 24He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches; yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strongholds, even for a time. 25 And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand; for they shall forecast devices against him. 26 Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow; and many shall fall down slain. 27 And both these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper; for yet the end shall be at the time appointed. 28Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land.

²⁹At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter.

The western king

³⁰For the ships of Chittim shall come against him; therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant; so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. ³¹And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. ³²And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall be corrupt by flatteries; but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. ³³And they that understand among the people shall instruct many; yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. ³⁴Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help; but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. ³⁵And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end; because it is yet for a time appointed.

³⁶And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods, and

DANIEL 12 272

shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished; for that that is determined shall be done. ³⁷Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall magnify himself above all. ³⁸But in his estate shall he honor the God of forces; and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honor with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. ³⁹Thus shall he do in the most strongholds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory; and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.

⁴⁰And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him; and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

⁴¹He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. ⁴²He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries; and the land of Egypt shall not escape. ⁴³But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. ⁴⁴But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. ⁴⁵And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

Michael and the end times

¹And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered, everyone that shall be found written in the book. ²And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars forever and ever. ⁴But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book even to the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

⁵Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. ⁶And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, "How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?" ⁷And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and a half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

⁸And I heard, but I understood not; then said I, "O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?" ⁹And he said:

Go thy way, Daniel; for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. ¹⁰Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand. ¹¹And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. ¹²Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. ¹³But go thou thy way till the end be; for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

273 HOSEA I

HOSEA

The word of the LORD that came unto Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

Hosea's wife and children

²The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea: Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms; for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD.

³So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son. ⁴And the LORD said unto him:

Call his name Jezreel; for yet a little while, and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Israel. ⁵And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.

⁶And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And God said unto him:

Call her name Loruhamah; for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel; but I will utterly take them away. ⁷But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by the LORD their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen.

8Now when she had weaned Loruhamah, she conceived, and bare a son. 9Then said God: Call his name Loammi; for ye are not my people, and I will not be your God. 10Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, "Ye are the sons of the living God." 11Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land; for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

Say ye unto your brethren, Ammi, and to your sisters, Ruhamah.

²Plead with your mother, plead;
for she is not my wife,
neither am I her husband;
let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight,
and her adulteries from between her breasts;
³lest I strip her naked,
and set her as in the day that she was born,
and make her as a wilderness,
and set her like a dry land,
and slay her with thirst.
⁴And I will not have mercy upon her children;

for they be the children whoredoms.

⁵For their mother hath played the harlot;

she that conceived them hath done shamefully;

for she said, "I will go after my lovers,

that give me my bread and my water,

HOSEA 2 274

```
my wool and my flax,
    mine oil and my drink."
<sup>6</sup>Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns,
    and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths.
<sup>7</sup>And she shall follow after her lovers,
    but she shall not overtake them;
and she shall seek them;
    but shall not find them;
then shall she say, "I will go and return to my first husband;
    for then was it better with me than now."
<sup>8</sup>For she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil,
    and multiplied her silver and gold,
    which they prepared for Baal.
<sup>9</sup>Therefore will I return and take away my corn in the time thereof,
    and my wine in the season thereof,
and will recover my wool and my flax
    given to cover her nakedness.
<sup>10</sup>And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers,
    and none shall deliver her out of mine hand.
□I will also cause all her mirth to cease.
    her feast days, her new moons, and her Sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.
<sup>12</sup>And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees,
    whereof she hath said, "These are my rewards that my lovers have given me;"
and I will make them a forest,
    and the beasts of the field shall eat them.
<sup>13</sup>And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim,
    wherein she burned incense to them,
and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels,
    and she went after her lovers, and forgat me, saith the LORD.
<sup>14</sup>Therefore, behold, I will allure her,
    and bring her into the wilderness,
    and speak comfortably unto her.
<sup>15</sup>And I will give her her vineyards from thence,
    and the valley of Achor for a door of hope,
and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth,
    and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.
<sup>16</sup>And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD,
    that thou shalt call me Ishi;
    and shalt call me no more Baali.
<sup>17</sup>For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth,
    and they shall no more be remembered by their name.
<sup>18</sup>And in that day will I make a covenant for them
     with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping
    things of the ground;
and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth,
    and will make them to lie down safely.
<sup>19</sup>And I will betroth thee unto me forever;
    yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness and in judgment,
    and in loving-kindness and in mercies.
<sup>20</sup>I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness;
    and thou shalt know the LORD.
```

275 HOSEA 3

²¹And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens,

and they shall hear the earth;

22and the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil;

and they shall hear Jezreel.

²³And I will sow her unto me in the earth;

and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy;

and I will say to them which were not my people, "Thou art my people;" and they shall say, "Thou art my God."

Hosea redeems his wife

Then said the LORD unto me:

Go, yet, love a woman beloved of her friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine.

²So I bought her to me for ^afifteen pieces of silver, and for a ^bhomer of barley, and a half homer of barley; ³and I said unto her, "Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play the harlot, and thou shalt not be for another man; so will I also be for thee."

^a 6 oz or 170 g ^b 430 lb or 195 kg

⁴For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim; ⁵afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

4 Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel;

for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land,

because there is no truth, nor mercy,

nor knowledge of God in the land.

²By swearing, and lying, and killing,

and stealing and committing adultery,

they break out,

and blood toucheth blood.

³Therefore shall the land mourn.

and everyone that dwelleth therein shall languish,

with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven;

yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away,

⁴Yet let no man strive nor reprove another;

for thy people are as they that strive with the priest.

⁵Therefore shalt thou fall in the day,

and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother.

⁶My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

Because thou hast rejected knowledge,

I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me;

seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God,

I will also forget thy children.

⁷As they were increased,

so they sinned against me;

therefore will I change their glory into shame.

8They eat up the sin of my people,

and they set their heart on their iniquity.

HOSEA 5 276

⁹And there shall be, like people, like priest; and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings.

¹⁰For they shall eat, and not have enough;

they shall commit whoredom, and shall not increase; because they have left off to take heed to the LORD.

Whoredom and wine and new wine

take away the heart.

12My people ask counsel at their stocks,

and their staff declareth unto them;

for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err,

and they have gone a whoring from under their God.

¹³They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains,

and burn incense upon the hills,

under oaks and poplars and elms,

because the shadow thereof is good;

therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom,

and your spouses shall commit adultery.

¹⁴I will not punish your daughters when they commit whoredom, nor your spouses when they commit adultery;

for themselves are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots;

therefore the people that doth not understand shall fall.

15Though thou, Israel, play the harlot,

yet let not Judah offend;

and come not ye unto Gilgal, neither go ye up to Beth-Aven,

nor swear, "The LORD liveth."

¹⁶For Israel slideth back as a backsliding heifer;

now the LORD will feed them as a lamb in a large place.

¹⁷Ephraim is joined to idols;

let him alone.

¹⁸Their drink is sour;

they have committed whoredom continually;

her rulers with shame do love, Give ye.

¹⁹The wind hath bound her up in her wings,

and they shall be ashamed because of their sacrifices.

Judgment against Israel

Hear ye this, O priests;

and hearken, ye house of Israel;

and give ye ear, O house of the king;

for judgment is toward you,

because ye have been a snare on Mizpah,

and a net spread upon Tabor.

²And the revolters are profound to make slaughter,

though I have been a rebuker of them all.

3I know Ephraim,

and Israel is not hid from me;

for now, O Ephraim, thou committest whoredom,

and Israel is defiled.

277 HOSEA 6

⁴They will not frame their doings

to turn unto their God;

for the spirit of whoredoms is in the midst of them,

and they have not known the LORD.

⁵And the pride of Israel doth testify to his face;

therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity;

Judah also shall fall with them.

⁶They shall go with their flocks and with their herds

to seek the LORD;

but they shall not find him;

he hath withdrawn himself from them.

⁷They have dealt treacherously against the LORD;

for they have begotten strange children;

now shall a month devour them with their portions.

Blow ye the cornet in Gibeah,

and the trumpet in Ramah;

cry aloud at Beth-Aven,

after thee, O Benjamin.

9Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke;

among the tribes of Israel have I made known that which shall surely be.

¹⁰The princes of Judah were like them that remove the bound;

therefore I will pour out my wrath upon them like water.

Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment,

because he willingly walked after the commandment.

12Therefore will I be unto Ephraim as a moth,

and to the house of Judah as rottenness.

13When Ephraim saw his sickness,

and Judah saw his wound,

then went Ephraim to the Assyrian,

and sent to king Jareb;

yet could he not heal you,

nor cure you of your wound.

¹⁴For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion,

and as a young lion to the house of Judah;

I, even I, will tear and go away;

I will take away, and none shall rescue him.

15I will go and return to my place,

till they acknowledge their offense,

and seek my face;

in their affliction they will seek me early.

Israel unrepentant

Come, and let us return unto the LORD;

for he hath torn, and will heal us;

he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

²After two days will he revive us;

in the third day he will raise us up,

and we shall live in his sight.

³Then shall we know,

if we follow on to know the LORD;

HOSEA 7 278

his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth;

4O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee?

O Judah, what shall I do unto thee?

For your goodness is as a morning cloud,

and as the early dew it goeth away.

⁵Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets;

I have slain them by the words of my mouth;

and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth.

⁶For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice;

and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

⁷But they like men have transgressed the covenant;

there have they dealt treacherously against me.

8Gilead is a city of them that work iniquity,

and is polluted with blood.

⁹And as troops of robbers wait for a man,

so the company of priests murder in the way by consent;

for they commit lewdness.

¹⁰I have seen a horrible thing in the house of Israel;

there is the whoredom of Ephraim,

Israel is defiled.

Also, O Judah, he hath set a harvest for thee,

when I returned the captivity of my people.

7 When I would have healed Israel,

then the iniquity of Ephraim was discovered,

and the wickedness of Samaria;

for they commit falsehood;

and the thief cometh in,

and the troop of robbers spoileth without.

²And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness;

now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face.

³They make the king glad with their wickedness,

and the princes with their lies.

⁴They are all adulterers, as an oven heated by the baker,

who ceaseth from raising after he hath kneaded the dough, until it be leavened.

⁵In the day of our king, the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine;

he stretched out his hand with scorners.

⁶For they have made ready their heart like an oven,

while they lie in wait; their baker sleepeth all the night;

in the morning it burneth as a flaming fire.

⁷They are all hot as an oven,

and have devoured their judges;

all their kings are fallen;

there is none among them that called unto me.

⁸Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people;

Ephraim is a cake not turned.

⁹Strangers have devoured his strength,

and he knoweth it not;

279 HOSEA 8

yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.

¹⁰And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face; and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this.

¹¹Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart;

they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria.

12When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them;

I will bring them down as the fowls of the heaven;

I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard.

13Woe unto them!

For they have fled from me.

Destruction unto them!

Because they have transgressed against me;

though I have redeemed them,

yet they have spoken lies against me.

¹⁴And they have not cried unto me with their heart,

when they howled upon their beds;

they assemble themselves for corn and wine,

and they rebel against me.

¹⁵Though I have bound and strengthened their arms,

yet do they imagine mischief against me.

¹⁶They return, but not to the Most High;

they are like a deceitful bow;

their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue; this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt.

Israel will reap the whirlwind

Set the trumpet to thy mouth.

He shall come as an eagle against the house of the LORD,

because they have transgressed my covenant,

and trespassed against my law.

²Israel shall cry unto me,

"My God, we know thee."

³Israel hath cast off the thing that is good;

the enemy shall pursue him.

⁴They have set up kings, but not by me;

they have made princes, and I knew it not;

of their silver and their gold have they made them idols,

that they may be cut off.

⁵Thy calf, O Samaria, hath cast thee off;

mine anger is kindled against them;

how long will it be ere they attain to innocency?

⁶For from Israel was it also;

the workman made it;

therefore it is not God;

but the calf of Samaria shall be broken in pieces.

⁷For they have sown the wind

and they shall reap the whirlwind,

HOSEA 9 280

it hath no stalk;

the bud shall yield no meal;

if so be it yield,

the strangers shall swallow it up.

⁸Israel is swallowed up;

now shall they be among the Gentiles as a vessel wherein is no pleasure.

⁹For they are gone up to Assyria,

a wild ass alone by himself;

Ephraim hath hired lovers.

¹⁰Yea, though they have hired among the nations,

now will I gather them,

and they shall sorrow a little for the burden of the king of princes.

11 Because Ephraim hath made many altars to sin,

altars shall be unto him to sin.

¹²I have written to him the great things of my law,

but they were counted as a strange thing.

¹³They sacrifice flesh for the sacrifices of mine offerings, and eat it;

but the LORD accepteth them not;

now will he remember their iniquity, and visit their sins;

they shall return to Egypt.

¹⁴For Israel hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples;

and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities;

but I will send a fire upon his cities,

and it shall devour the palaces thereof.

Punishment for Israel

Rejoice not, O Israel,

for joy, as other people;

for thou hast gone a whoring from thy God,

thou hast loved a reward upon every cornfloor.

²The floor and the winepress shall not feed them,

and the new wine shall fail in her.

³They shall not dwell in the LORD's land;

but Ephraim shall return to Egypt,

and they shall eat unclean things in Assyria.

⁴They shall not offer wine offerings to the LORD,

neither shall they be pleasing unto him;

their sacrifices shall be unto them as the bread of mourners;

all that eat thereof shall be polluted;

for their bread for their soul

shall not come into the house of the LORD.

⁵What will ye do in the solemn day,

and in the day of the feast of the LORD?

⁶For, lo, they are gone because of destruction;

Egypt shall gather them up,

Memphis shall bury them;

the pleasant places for their silver,

nettles shall possess them;

thorns shall be in their tabernacles.

281 HOSEA 10

⁷The days of visitation are come, the days of recompense are come; Israel shall know it; the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred. ⁸The watchman of Ephraim was with my God; but the prophet is a snare of a fowler in all his ways, and hatred in the house of his God. ⁹They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah; therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins. ¹⁰I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the first ripe in the fig tree at her first time; but they went to Baalpeor, and separated themselves unto that shame; and their abominations were according as they loved. □As for Ephraim, their glory shall fly away like a bird, from the birth, and from the womb, and from the conception. ¹²Though they bring up their children, yet will I bereave them, that there shall not be a man left; yea, woe also to them when I depart from them! ¹³Ephraim, as I saw Tyrus, is planted in a pleasant place; but Ephraim shall bring forth his children to the murderer. 14Give them, O Lord; what wilt thou give? Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts. ¹⁵All their wickedness is in Gilgal; for there I hated them; for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more; all their princes are revolters. ¹⁶Ephraim is smitten, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit; yea, though they bring forth, yet will I slay even the beloved fruit of their womb. □7My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him; and they shall be wanderers among the nations. Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself; according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images. ²Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty; he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images.

³For now they shall say, "We have no king, because we feared not the LORD;

HOSEA 10 282

what then should a king do to us?" ⁴They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant; thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field. ⁵The inhabitants of Samaria shall fear because of the calves of Beth-Aven; for the people thereof shall mourn over it, and the priests thereof that rejoiced on it, for the glory thereof, because it is departed from it. 6It shall also be carried unto Assyria for a present to king Jareb; Ephraim shall receive shame, and Israel shall be ashamed of his own counsel. 7As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam upon the water. 8The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed; the thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, "Cover us;" and to the hills, "Fall on us." 9O Israel, thou hast sinned from the days of Gibeah; there they stood; the battle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity did not overtake them. ¹⁰It is in my desire that I should chastise them; and the people shall be gathered against them, when they shall bind themselves in their two furrows. □And Ephraim is as a heifer that is taught, and loveth to tread out the corn; but I passed over upon her fair neck; I will make Ephraim to ride; Judah shall plough, and Jacob shall break his clods. ¹²Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. ¹³Ye have ploughed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies; because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men. ¹⁴Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Beth-Arbel in the day of battle; the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children. ¹⁵So shall Beth-El do unto you because of your great wickedness;

in a morning shall the king of Israel utterly be cut off.

283 HOSEA I I

God's love for Israel

When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

²As they called them,

so they went from them;

they sacrificed unto Baalim,

and burned incense to graven images.

³I taught Ephraim also to go,

taking them by their arms;

but they knew not that I healed them.

⁴I drew them with the cords of a man,

with bands of love:

and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them.

⁵He shall not return unto the land of Egypt,

but the Assyrian shall be his king,

because they refused to return.

6And the sword shall abide on his cities,

and shall consume his branches, and devour them,

because of their own counsels.

⁷And my people are bent to backsliding from me;

though they called them to the Most High,

none at all would exalt him.

8How shall I give thee up, Ephraim?

How shall I deliver thee, Israel?

How shall I make thee as Admah?

How shall I set thee as Zeboim?

My heart is turned toward thee,

and my mercies are extended to gather thee.

9I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger,

I will not return to destroy Ephraim;

for I am God, and not man;

the Holy One in the midst of thee;

and I will not enter into the city.

¹⁰They shall walk after the LORD;

he shall roar like a lion;

when he shall roar,

then the children shall tremble from the west.

□They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt,

and as a dove out of the land of Assyria;

and I will place them in their houses, saith the LORD.

Israel's sin

¹²Ephraim compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit;

but Judah yet ruleth with God,

and is faithful with the saints.

Tephraim feedeth on wind,

and followeth after the east wind;

repentings are kindled together

HOSEA 13 284

he daily increaseth lies and desolation; and they do make a covenant with the Assyrians, and oil is carried into Egypt.

²The LORD hath also a controversy with Judah, and will punish Jacob according to his ways; according to his doings will he recompense him.

³He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God.

⁴Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed; he wept, and made supplication unto him;

he found him in Beth-El, and there he spake with us;

⁵even the LORD God of hosts;

the LORD is his memorial.

⁶Therefore turn thou to thy God;

keep mercy and judgment, and wait on thy God continually.

⁷He is a merchant,

the balances of deceit are in his hand;

he loveth to oppress.

⁸And Ephraim said, "Yet I am become rich, I have found me out substance; in all my labors they shall find none iniquity in me that were sin."

9And I that am the LORD

thy God from the land of Egypt

will yet make thee to dwell in tabernacles,

as in the days of the solemn feast.

 ${}^{\scriptscriptstyle{[0]}}\!I$ have also spoken by the prophets,

and I have multiplied visions,

and used similitudes,

by the ministry of the prophets.

□ Is there iniquity in Gilead?

Surely they are vanity;

they sacrifice bullocks in Gilgal;

yea, their altars are as heaps in the furrows of the fields.

¹²And Jacob fled into the country of Syria,

and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep.

¹³And by a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt,

and by a prophet was he preserved.

¹⁴Ephraim provoked him to anger most bitterly;

therefore shall he leave his blood upon him,

and his reproach shall his Lord return unto him.

Israel's punishment

📘 🧣 When Ephraim spake trembling,

he exalted himself in Israel;

but when he offended in Baal, he died.

²And now they sin more and more,

and have made them molten images of their silver,

and idols according to their own understanding,

all of it the work of the craftsmen;

285 HOSEA 13

they say of them,

"Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves."

³Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud,

and as the early dew that passeth away,

as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor,

and as the smoke out of the chimney.

⁴Yet I am the LORD

thy God from the land of Egypt,

and thou shalt know no god but me;

for there is no savior beside me.

⁵I did know thee in the wilderness,

in the land of great drought.

⁶According to their pasture, so were they filled;

they were filled, and their heart was exalted;

therefore have they forgotten me.

⁷Therefore I will be unto them as a lion;

as a leopard by the way will I observe them;

8I will meet them as a bear that is bereaved of her whelps,

and will rend the caul of their heart,

and there will I devour them like a lion;

the wild beast shall tear them.

9O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself;

but in me is thine help.

10I will be thy king; where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities?

And thy judges of whom thou saidst, "Give me a king and princes"?

□I gave thee a king in mine anger,

and took him away in my wrath.

12The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up;

his sin is hid.

¹³The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him;

he is an unwise son;

for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children.

14I will ransom them from the power of the grave;

I will redeem them from death;

O death, I will be thy plagues;

O grave, I will be thy destruction;

repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

15Though he be fruitful among his brethren, an east wind shall come,

the wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness,

and his spring shall become dry,

and his fountain shall be dried up;

he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels.

¹⁶Samaria shall become desolate;

for she hath rebelled against her God;

they shall fall by the sword;

their infants shall be dashed in pieces,

and their women with child shall be ripped up.

HOSEA 14 286

Repentance brings healing

↓ O Israel, return unto the LORD thy God;

for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity.

²Take with you words,

and turn to the LORD;

say unto him,

"Take away all iniquity,

and receive us graciously;

so will we render the calves of our lips.

³Asshur shall not save us;

we will not ride upon horses;

neither will we say anymore to the work of our hands,

'Ye are our gods;'

for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy."

⁴I will heal their backsliding,

I will love them freely;

for mine anger is turned away from him.

⁵I will be as the dew unto Israel;

he shall grow as the lily,

and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.

⁶His branches shall spread,

and his beauty shall be as the olive tree,

and his smell as Lebanon.

⁷They that dwell under his shadow shall return:

they shall revive as the corn,

and grow as the vine;

the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.

⁸Ephraim shall say, "What have I to do anymore with idols?"

I have heard him, and observed him;

I am like a green fir tree.

From me is thy fruit found.

9Who is wise, and he shall understand these things?

Prudent, and he shall know them?

For the ways of the LORD are right,

and the just shall walk in them;

but the transgressors shall fall therein.

287 JOEL I

JOEL

The word of the LORD that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

An invasion

²Hear this, ye old men,

and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land.

Hath this been in your days,

or even in the days of your fathers?

³Tell ye your children of it,

and let your children tell their children,

and their children another generation.

⁴That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten;

and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten;

and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten.

⁵Awake, ye drunkards, and weep;

and howl, all ye drinkers of wine,

because of the new wine;

for it is cut off from your mouth.

⁶For a nation is come up upon my land,

strong, and without number,

whose teeth are as the teeth of a lion,

and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.

⁷He hath laid my vine waste,

and barked my fig tree;

he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away;

the branches thereof are made white.

⁸Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth

for the husband of her youth.

⁹The meat offering and the drink offering is cut off from the house of the LORD;

the priests, the LORD's ministers, mourn.

¹⁰The field is wasted, the land mourneth;

for the corn is wasted;

the new wine is dried up,

the oil languisheth.

□Be ye ashamed, O ye husbandmen;

howl, O ye vinedressers,

for the wheat and for the barley;

because the harvest of the field is perished.

¹²The vine is dried up,

and the fig tree languisheth;

the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree,

even all the trees of the field, are withered;

because joy is withered away from the sons of men.

¹³Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests;

howl, ye ministers of the altar;

JOEL 2 288

come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God; for the meat offering and the drink offering

is withholden from the house of your God.

¹⁴Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD.

15 Alas for the day!

For the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

¹⁶Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, yea, joy and gladness from the house of our God? ¹⁷The seed is rotten under their clods.

The garners are laid desolate,

the barns are broken down;

for the corn is withered.

¹⁸How do the beasts groan!

The herds of cattle are perplexed,

because they have no pasture;

yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.

¹⁹O Lord, to thee will I cry;

for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame hath burned all the trees of the field.

²⁰The beasts of the field cry also unto thee; for the rivers of water are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain.

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD cometh,

for it is nigh at hand;

²a day of darkness and of gloominess,

a day of clouds and of thick darkness,

as the morning spread upon the mountains;

a great people and a strong;

there hath not been ever the like,

neither shall be anymore after it, even to the years of many generations.

³A fire devoureth before them:

and behind them a flame burneth;

the land is as the garden of Eden before them,

and behind them a desolate wilderness;

yea, and nothing shall escape them.

⁴The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses;

and as horsemen, so shall they run.

⁵Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble,

289 | OEL 2

as a strong people set in battle array.

⁶Before their face the people shall be much pained;

all faces shall gather blackness.

⁷They shall run like mighty men;

they shall climb the wall like men of war;

and they shall march everyone on his ways,

and they shall not break their ranks;

8neither shall one thrust another;

they shall walk everyone in his path;

and when they fall upon the sword,

they shall not be wounded.

⁹They shall run to and fro in the city;

they shall run upon the wall,

they shall climb up upon the houses;

they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.

¹⁰The earth shall quake before them;

the heavens shall tremble;

the sun and the moon shall be dark,

and the stars shall withdraw their shining;

11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army;

for his camp is very great,

for he is strong that executeth his word;

for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible;

and who can abide it?

Rend your heart

¹²Therefore also now, saith the LORD,

turn ye even to me with all your heart,

and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning;

¹³And rend your heart,

and not your garments,

and repent,

and turn unto the LORD your God;

for he is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger, and of great kindness,

and he will turn away the evil from you.

¹⁴Therefore repent,

and who knoweth but he will return and leave a blessing behind him;

that you may offer a meat offering,

and a drink offering, unto the LORD your God?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion,

sanctify a fast,

call a solemn assembly;

16gather the people,

sanctify the congregation,

assemble the elders,

gather the children,

and those that suck the breasts;

And repenteth him of the evil Who knoweth if he will return and repent

JOEL 2 290

let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.

The the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, "Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them; wherefore should they say among the people, "Where is their God?"

¹⁸Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.

"Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, "Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith; and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen.

²⁰But I will remove far off from you the northern army, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savor shall come up.

Because he hath done great things,

²¹Fear not, O land;

be glad and rejoice;

for the LORD will do great things.

²²Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field;

for the pastures of the wilderness do spring,

for the tree beareth her fruit,

the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.

²³Be glad then, ye children of Zion,

and rejoice in the LORD your God;

for he hath given you the former rain moderately,

and he will cause to come down for you the rain,

the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

²⁴And the floors shall be full of wheat,

and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

²⁵And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten,

the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm,

my great army which I sent among you.

²⁶And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied,

and praise the name of the LORD your God that hath dealt wondrously with you; and my people shall never be ashamed.

²⁷And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else; and my people shall never be ashamed.

The day of the Lord

²⁸And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

291 | OEL 3

your old men shall dream dreams,

your young men shall see visions;

²⁹And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids

in those days will I pour out my Spirit.

³⁰And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth,

blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

31 The sun shall be turned into darkness,

and the moon into blood,

before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

³²And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered;

for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance,

as the LORD hath said,

and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

For, behold, in those days, and in that time,

when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

²I will also gather all nations,

and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat,

and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel,

whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

³And they have cast lots for my people;

and have given a boy for a harlot,

and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.

⁴Yea, and what have ye to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? Will ye render me a recompense? And if ye recompense me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompense upon your own head; ⁵because ye have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things; ⁶the children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have ye sold unto the Grecians, that ye might remove them far from their border.

⁷Behold, I will raise them out of the place whither ye have sold them, and will return your recompense upon your own head; ⁸and I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hands of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off; for the LORD hath spoken it.

⁹Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles;

Prepare war.

Wake up the mighty men.

Let all the men of war draw near; let them come up.

¹⁰Beat your ploughshares into swords,

and your pruning hooks into spears;

let the weak say,

'I am strong.'

Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen,

and gather yourselves together round about.

Thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD.

¹²Let the heathen be wakened,

and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat;

for there will I sit

to judge all the heathen round about.

JOEL 3 292

¹³Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, get you down; for the press is full, the vats overflow; for their wickedness is great.

¹⁴Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision; for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

15 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.
16 The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake; but the LORD will be the hope of his people,

¹⁷So shall ye know that I am the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain; then shall Jerusalem be holy,

and the strength of the children of Israel.

and there shall no strangers pass through her anymore.

¹⁸And it shall come to pass in that day,

that the mountains shall drop down new wine,

and the hills shall flow with milk,

and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim.

¹⁹Egypt shall be a desolation,

and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness,

for the violence against the children of Judah,

because they have shed innocent blood in their land.

²⁰But Judah shall dwell forever,

and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

²¹For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed; for the LORD dwelleth in Zion.

293 AMOS I

AMOS

The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

²And he said:

The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.

Judgment against Israel's neighbors

³Thus saith the LORD: For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four,

I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

because they have threshed Gilead

with threshing instruments of iron;

4but I will send a fire into the house of Hazael,

which shall devour the palaces of Ben-Hadad.

⁵I will break also the bar of Damascus,

and cut off the inhabitant from the plain of Aven,

and him that holdeth the scepter from the house of Eden;

and the people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir, saith the LORD.

⁶Thus saith the LORD: For three transgressions of Gaza, and for four,

I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

because they carried away captive the whole captivity,

to deliver them up to Edom;

7but I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza,

which shall devour the palaces thereof;

⁸and I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod,

and him that holdeth the scepter from Ashkelon,

and I will turn mine hand against Ekron;

and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish, saith the Lord GOD.

⁹Thus saith the LORD: For three transgressions of Tyrus, and for four,

I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom,

and remembered not the brotherly covenant;

10but I will send a fire on the wall of Tyrus,

which shall devour the palaces thereof.

Thus saith the LORD: For three transgressions of Edom, and for four,

I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

because he did pursue his brother with the sword,

and did cast off all pity,

and his anger did tear perpetually,

and he kept his wrath forever;

12but I will send a fire upon Teman,

which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah.

AMOS 2 294

¹³Thus saith the LORD: For three transgressions of the children of Ammon, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

because they have ripped up the women with child, of Gilead,

that they might enlarge their border;

14but I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah,

and it shall devour the palaces thereof,

with shouting in the day of battle,

with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind;

15and their king shall go into captivity,

he and his princes together, saith the LORD.

Thus saith the LORD: For three transgressions of Moab, and for four,

I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime;

²But I will send a fire upon Moab,

and it shall devour the palaces of Kirioth;

and Moab shall die with tumult,

with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet;

3 and I will cut off the judge from the midst thereof,

and will slay all the princes thereof with him, saith the LORD.

⁴Thus saith the LORD: For three transgressions of Judah, and for four,

I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

because they have despised the law of the LORD,

and have not kept his commandments,

and their lies caused them to err,

after the which their fathers have walked;

5but I will send a fire upon Judah,

and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem.

⁶Thus saith the LORD: For three transgressions of Israel, and for four,

I will not turn away the punishment thereof;

because they sold the righteous for silver,

and the poor for a pair of shoes;

7that pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor,

and turn aside the way of the meek;

and a man and his father will go in unto the same maid,

to profane my holy name;

8and they lay themselves down upon clothes laid to pledge by every altar,

and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god.

⁹Yet destroyed I the Amorite before them,

whose height was like the height of the cedars,

and he was strong as the oaks;

yet I destroyed his fruit from above,

and his roots from beneath.

¹⁰Also I brought you up from the land of Egypt,

and led you forty years through the wilderness,

to possess the land of the Amorite.

11 And I raised up of your sons for prophets,

and of your young men for Nazarites.

295 AMOS 3

Is it not even thus, O ye children of Israel? Saith the LORD.

¹²But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, "Prophesy not."

13Behold, I am pressed under you,

as a cart is pressed that is full of sheaves.

14Therefore the flight shall perish from the swift,

and the strong shall not strengthen his force,

neither shall the mighty deliver himself.

¹⁵Neither shall he stand that handleth the bow;

and he that is swift of foot shall not deliver himself;

neither shall he that rideth the horse deliver himself.

¹⁶And he that is courageous among the mighty

shall flee away naked in that day, saith the LORD.

Hear this word that the LORD hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying:

²You only have I known of all the families of the earth;

therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

³Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

⁴Will a lion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey?

Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing?

⁵Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin is for him?

Shall one take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all?

6Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid?

Shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not known it?

⁷Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing,

until he revealeth the secret unto his servants the prophets.

The lion hath roared, who will not fear?

The Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?

⁹Publish in the palaces at Ashdod,

and in the palaces in the land of Egypt,

and say, "Assemble yourselves upon the mountains of Samaria,

and behold the great tumults in the midst thereof,

and the oppressed in the midst thereof."

10"For they know not to do right," saith the LORD,

"who store up violence and robbery in their palaces."

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, "An adversary there shall be even round about the land;

and he shall bring down thy strength from thee,

and thy palaces shall be spoiled."

¹²Thus saith the LORD, "As the shepherd taketh out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear;

so shall the children of Israel be taken out

that dwell in Samaria in the corner of a bed,

and in Damascus in a couch."

13"Hear ye, and testify in the house of Jacob," saith the Lord GOD, the God of hosts,

14"that, in the day that I shall visit the transgressions of Israel upon him,

296

```
AMOS 4
I will also visit the altars of Beth-El;
    and the horns of the altar shall be cut off,
    and fall to the ground.
15"And I will smite the winter house with the summer house;
    and the houses of ivory shall perish,
    and the great houses shall have an end," saith the LORD.
Hear this word, ye kine of Bashan, that are in the mountain of Samaria,
    which oppress the poor, which crush the needy,
    which say to their masters, "Bring, and let us drink."
<sup>2</sup>The Lord GOD hath sworn by his holiness, that, lo,
    "The days shall come upon you,
that he will take you away with hooks,
    and your posterity with fishhooks.
<sup>3</sup>And ye shall go out at the breaches,
    everyone before his enemy;
    and ye shall be cast out of your palaces," saith the LORD.
4"Come to Beth-El, and transgress;
    at Gilgal multiply transgression;
and bring your sacrifices every morning,
    and your tithes after three years;
5And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven,
    and proclaim and publish the free offerings;
    for thus do ye, O ye children of Israel," saith the Lord GOD.
6"Therefore I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities,
    and want of bread in all your places;
    yet have ye not returned unto me," saith the LORD.
<sup>7</sup>"And also I have withholden the rain from you,
    when there were yet three months to the harvest;
and I caused it to rain upon one city,
    and caused it not to rain upon another city;
one piece was rained upon,
    and the piece whereupon it rained not withered.

<sup>8</sup>So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water;

    but they were not satisfied;
    yet have ye not returned unto me," saith the LORD.
9"I have smitten you with blasting and mildew;
    when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees
    increased,
the palmerworm devoured them;
    yet have ye not returned unto me," saith the LORD.
<sup>10</sup>I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt;
    your young men have I slain with the sword,
    and have taken away your horses;
and I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils;
    yet have ye not returned unto me," saith the LORD.
```

"I have overthrown some of you,

as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah,

every cow at that which is before her; and ye shall cast

them into the palace

297 AMOS 5

and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning; yet have ye not returned unto me," saith the LORD. ¹²Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel; and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel. ¹³For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, the LORD, the God of hosts, is his name. Hear ye this word which I take up against you, even a lamentation, O house of Israel. ²The virgin of Israel is fallen; she shall no more rise; she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up. ³For thus saith the Lord GOD, "The city that went out by a thousand shall leave a hundred, and that which went forth by a hundred shall leave ten, to the house of Israel. ⁴For thus saith the LORD unto the house of Israel, "Seek ye me, and ye shall live. ⁵But seek not Beth-El, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not to Beersheba; for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Beth-El shall come to naught. 6Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. ⁷Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, 8Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night; that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth; The LORD is his name. ⁹That strengtheneth the spoiled against the strong, so that the spoiled shall come against the fortress. ¹⁰They hate him that rebuketh in the gate, and they abhor him that speaketh uprightly. ¹¹Forasmuch therefore as your treading is upon the poor, and ye take from him burdens of wheat; ye have built houses of hewn stone, but ye shall not dwell in them; ye have planted pleasant vineyards, but ye shall not drink wine of them.

AMOS 6 298

¹²For I know your manifold transgressions and your mighty sins; they afflict the just, they take a bribe,

and they turn aside the poor in the gate from their right.

¹³Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time; for it is an evil time.

14Seek good, and not evil,

that ye may live;

and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you,

as ye have spoken.

¹⁵Hate the evil, and love the good,

and establish judgment in the gate;

it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

¹⁶Therefore the LORD, the God of hosts, the LORD, saith thus:

"Wailing shall be in all streets;

and they shall say in all the highways, 'Alas! Alas!'

And they shall call the husbandman to mourning,

and such as are skillful of lamentation to wailing.

¹⁷And in all vineyards shall be wailing;

for I will pass through thee," saith the LORD.

The day of the Lord

¹⁸Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! To what end is it for you?

The day of the LORD is darkness, and not light.

¹⁹As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him;

or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

²⁰Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light?

Even very dark, and no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your feast days,

and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

²²Though ye offer me burnt offering and your meat offerings,

I will not accept them;

neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

²³Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs;

for I will not hear the melody of thy viols.

²⁴But let judgment run down as waters,

and righteousness as a mighty stream.

²⁵"Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings

in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?

²⁶But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images,

the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves.

²⁷Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus,"

saith the LORD, whose name is The God of hosts.

Woe to those at ease in Zion

Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came! 299 AMOS 7

²Pass ye unto Calneh, and see; and from thence go ye to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines; be they better than these kingdoms? Or their border greater than your border? ³Ye that put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near; 4that lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall; 5that chant to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of music, like David; 6that drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments; but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.

⁷Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed.

⁸The LORD God hath sworn by himself, saith the LORD the God of hosts, "I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces;

therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein.

⁹And it shall come to pass, if there remain ten men in one house, that they shall die. ¹⁰And a man's uncle shall take him up, and he that burneth him, to bring out the bones out of the house, and that say unto him that is by the sides of the house, 'Is there yet any with thee?' And he shall say, 'No.' Then shall he say, 'Hold thy tongue; for we may not make mention of the name of the LORD.'

For, behold, the LORD commandeth, and he will smite the great house with breaches, and the little house with clefts.

¹²Shall horses run upon the rock?

Will one plough there with oxen?

For ye have turned judgment into gall,

and the fruit of righteousness into hemlock;

¹³ye which rejoice in a thing of naught,

which say, 'Have we not taken to us horns by our own strength?'

14"But, behold, I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel," saith the LORD the God of hosts;

"and they shall afflict you

from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of the wilderness."

Locusts, fire, and a plumb line

Thus hath the Lord GOD showed unto me; and, behold, he formed grasshoppers in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and, lo, it was the latter growth after the king's mowings. ²And it came to pass, that when they had made an end of eating the

AMOS 8 300

grass of the land, then I said, "O Lord God, forgive, I beseech thee; by whom shall Jacob arise? For he is small."

³And the Lord said, concerning Jacob, "Jacob shall repent for this, therefore I will not utterly destroy him," saith the LORD.

⁴Thus hath the Lord GOD showed unto me; and, behold, the Lord GOD called to contend by fire, and it devoured the great deep, and did eat up a part. ⁵Then said I, "O Lord God, cease, I beseech thee; by whom shall Jacob arise? For he is small."

⁶And the Lord said, concerning Jacob, "Jacob shall repent of his wickedness; therefore I will not utterly destroy him," saith the Lord GOD.

⁷Thus he showed me; and, behold, the LORD stood upon a wall made by a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said unto me, "Amos, what seest thou?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then said the LORD, "Behold, I will set a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will not again pass by them anymore; ⁹and the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Amaziah

¹⁰Then Amaziah the priest of Beth-El sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying:
Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel; the land is not
able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos saith, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and
Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.'

¹²Also Amaziah said unto Amos:

O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there; ¹³but prophesy not again anymore at Beth-El; for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court.

¹⁴Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah:

I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was a herdman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruit; ¹⁵and the LORD took me as I followed the flock, and the LORD said unto me, 'Go prophesy unto my people Israel.' ¹⁶Now therefore hear thou the word of the LORD: Thou sayest, 'Prophesy not against Israel, and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac.' ¹⁷Therefore thus saith the LORD: Thy wife shall be a harlot in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy land shall be divided by line; and thou shalt die in a polluted land; and Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land.

A basket of fruit

Thus hath the Lord GOD showed unto me; and behold a basket of summer fruit. ²And he said, "Amos, what seest thou?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then said the LORD with me:

The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them anymore.

³ And the songs of the temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Lord GOD; there shall be many dead bodies in every place; they shall cast them forth with silence.

⁴Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail, ⁵saying, "When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? The LORD repented for this: It shall not be

The LORD repented for this: This also shall not be 301 AMOS 9

```
And the Sabbath,
     that we may set forth wheat,
making the ephah small,
     and the shekel great,
     and falsifying the balances by deceit?
<sup>6</sup>That we may buy the poor for silver,
     and the needy for a pair of shoes;
     yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?"
<sup>7</sup>The LORD hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, "Surely I will never forget any of
their works.
8Shall not the land tremble for this,
     and everyone mourn that dwelleth therein?
And it shall rise up wholly as a flood;
     and it shall be cast out and drowned,
     as by the flood of Egypt."
9"And it shall come to pass in that day," saith the Lord GOD,
"that I will cause the sun to go down at noon,
     and I will darken the earth in the clear day;
oand I will turn your feasts into mourning,
     and all your songs into lamentation;
and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins,
     and baldness upon every head;
and I will make it as the mourning of an only son,
     and the end thereof as a bitter day."
"Behold, the days come," saith the Lord GOD,
     "that I will send a famine in the land.
not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water,
     but of hearing the words of the LORD;
<sup>12</sup>and they shall wander from sea to sea,
     and from the north even to the east,
they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD,
     and shall not find it."
<sup>13</sup>In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst.
<sup>14</sup>They that swear by the sin of Samaria,
     and say, 'Thy god, O Dan, liveth;' and, 'The manner of Beersheba liveth;'
     even they shall fall, and never rise up again.
I saw the LORD standing upon the altar; and he said:
Smite the lintel of the door,
     that the posts may shake,
and cut them in the head, all of them;
     and I will slay the last of them with the sword;
he that fleeth of them shall not flee away,
     and he that escapeth of them shall not be delivered.
<sup>2</sup>Though they dig into hell,
     thence shall mine hand take them;
though they climb up to heaven,
```

thence will I bring them down;

AMOS 9 302

³and though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from my sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent, and he shall bite them; ⁴and though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them; and I will set mine eyes upon them for evil, and not for good. ⁵And the LORD God of hosts is he that toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn; and it shall rise up wholly like a flood; and shall be drowned, as by the flood of Egypt. 6It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth; The LORD is his name. 7"Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel?" saith the LORD. "Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? And the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir? ⁸Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD are upon a sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob," saith the LORD. 9"For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth. ¹⁰All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, 'The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us.' In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old; 12that they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name," saith the LORD that doeth this. 13"Behold, the days come," saith the LORD, "that the ploughman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt. ¹⁴And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. ¹⁵And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them," saith the LORD thy God.

303 OBADIAH I

OBADIAH

The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning Edom: We have heard a rumor from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, "Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle." ²"Behold, I have made thee small among the heathen; thou art greatly despised. The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, 'Who shall bring me down to the ground?' ⁴Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down," saith the LORD. ⁵If thieves came to thee, if robbers by night, (how art thou cut off!) would they not have stolen till they had enough? If the grape gatherers came to thee, would they not leave some grapes? 6How are the things of Esau searched out! How are his hidden things sought up! All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border; the men that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee; there is none understanding in him. 8"Shall I not in that day," saith the LORD, "even destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau? 9And thy mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, to the end that every one of the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter. ¹⁰For thy violence against thy brother Jacob shame shall cover thee, and thou shalt be cut off forever. IIIn the day that thou stoodest on the other side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even thou wast as one of them. ¹²But thou shouldest not have looked on the day of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress. ¹³Thou shouldest not have entered into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity;

yea, thou shouldest not have looked on their affliction

in the day of their calamity,

OBADIAH I 304

nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity;

14neither shouldest thou have stood in the crossway, to cut off those of his that did escape;
neither shouldest thou have delivered up those of his that did remain in the day of distress.

15For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen;

as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee;

thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

¹⁶For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually;

yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.

¹⁷But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance,

and there shall be holiness;

and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.

¹⁸And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame,

and the house of Esau for stubble,

and they shall kindle in them, and devour them;

and there shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau, for the LORD hath spoken it.

¹⁹And they of the south shall possess the mount of Esau; and they of the plain, the Philistines;

and they shall possess the fields of Ephriam, and the fields of Samaria; and Benjamin shall possess Gilead.

²⁰And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel

shall possess that of the Canaanites, even unto Zarephath;

and the captivity of Jerusalem, which is in Sepharad, shall possess the cities of the south.

²¹And saviors shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD's.

305 JONAH I

JONAH

Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah, the son of Amittai, saying:

²Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

³But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

⁴But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken. ⁵Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship, and he lay, and was fast asleep. ⁶So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, "What meanest thou, O sleeper? Arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not."

⁷And they said everyone to his fellow, "Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah. ⁸Then said they unto him, "Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? And whence comest thou? What is thy country? And of what people art thou?"

⁹And he said unto them, "I am a Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land."

¹⁰Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, "Why hast thou done this?" For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them. ¹¹Then said they unto him, "What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us?" For the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.

¹²And he said unto them, "Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you; for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you."

¹³Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not; for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them. ¹⁴Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, "We beseech thee, O Lord, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood; for thou, O Lord, hast done as it pleased thee."

¹⁵So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea; and the sea ceased from her raging. ¹⁶Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.

¹⁷Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, ²and said:
I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD,
and he heard me;
out of the belly of hell cried I,
and thou heardest my voice.

3For thou hadst cast me into the deep,
in the midst of the seas;

JONAH 3 306

and the floods compassed me about;

all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.

⁴Then I said, 'I am cast out of thy sight;

yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.'

⁵The waters compassed me about, even to the soul;

the depth closed me round about,

the weeds were wrapped about my head.

⁶I went down to the bottoms of the mountains;

the earth with her bars was about me forever;

yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O Lord my God.

When my soul fainted within me

I remembered the LORD;

and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple.

⁸They that observe lying vanities

forsake their own mercy.

⁹But I will sacrifice unto thee

with the voice of thanksgiving;

I will pay that that I have vowed.

Salvation is of the LORD.

¹⁰And the LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying:

²Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee

³So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey. ⁴And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey and he cried, and said, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown."

⁵So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. ⁶For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying:

Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock taste anything; let them not feed, nor drink water; *but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God; yea, let them turn everyone from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. *Who can tell, if we will repent, and turn unto God, but he will turn away from us his fierce anger, that we perish not?

¹⁰And God saw their works that they turned from their evil way <u>and repented</u>; and God <u>turned away</u> the evil that he had said he would bring upon them.

repented of

4 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. 2And he prayed unto the lord, and said:

I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish; for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil. ³Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

307 JONAH 4

⁴Then said the LORD, "Doest thou well to be angry?"

⁵So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city. ⁶And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd. ⁷But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered. ⁸And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

9And God said to Jonah, "Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd?"

And he said, "I do well to be angry, even unto death."

¹⁰Then said the LORD:

Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not labored, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night; "and should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

MICAH I 308

MICAH

The word of the LORD that came to Micah the Morasthite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

²Hear, all ye people;

hearken, O earth, and all that therein is;

and let the Lord GOD be witness against you,

the LORD from his holy temple. 3

For, behold, the LORD cometh forth out of his place,

and will come down and tread upon the high places of the earth.

⁴And the mountains shall be molten under him,

and the valleys shall be cleft,

as wax before the fire,

and as the waters that are poured down a steep place.

⁵For the transgression of Jacob is all this,

and for the sins of the house of Israel.

What is the transgression of Jacob?

Is it not Samaria?

And what are the high places of Judah?

Are they not Jerusalem?

⁶Therefore I will make Samaria as a heap of the field,

and as plantings of a vineyard;

and I will pour down the stones thereof into the valley,

and I will discover the foundations thereof.

7And all the graven images thereof shall be beaten to pieces,

and all the hires thereof shall be burned with the fire,

and all the idols thereof will I lay desolate;

for she gathered it of the hire of a harlot,

and they shall return to the hire of a harlot.

8Therefore I will wail and howl,

I will go stripped and naked;

I will make a wailing like the dragons,

and mourning as the owls.

9For her wound is incurable;

for it is come unto Judah;

he is come unto the gate of my people,

even to Jerusalem.

Declare ye it not at Gath,

weep ye not at all;

in the house of Aphrah

roll thyself in the dust.

□Pass ye away, thou inhabitant of Saphir,

having thy shame naked;

the inhabitant of Zaanan came not forth in the mourning of Beth-Ezel;

he shall receive of you his standing.

¹²For the inhabitant of Maroth waited carefully for good;

but evil came down from the LORD unto the gate of Jerusalem.

309 MICAH 2

¹³O thou inhabitant of Lachish,

bind the chariot to the swift beast;

she is the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion;

for the transgressions of Israel were found in thee.

¹⁴Therefore shalt thou give presents to Moresheth-Gath;

the houses of Achzib shall be a lie to the kings of Israel.

15Yet will I bring an heir unto thee,

O inhabitant of Mareshah;

he shall come unto Adullam

the glory of Israel.

16Make thee bald,

and poll thee for thy delicate children;

enlarge thy baldness as the eagle;

for they are gone into captivity from thee.

Woe to them that devise iniquity,

and work evil upon their beds!

When the morning is light, they practice it,

because it is in the power of their hand.

²And they covet fields, and take them by violence;

and houses, and take them away;

so they oppress a man and his house,

even a man and his heritage.

³Therefore thus saith the LORD,

"Behold, against this family do I devise an evil,

from which ye shall not remove your necks;

neither shall ye go haughtily;

for this time is evil.

4In that day shall one take up a parable against you,

and lament with a doleful lamentation,

and say, 'We be utterly spoiled;

he hath changed the portion of my people;

how hath he removed it from me!

Turning away he hath divided our fields."

⁵Therefore thou shalt have none that shall cast a cord by lot in the congregation of the LORD.

False prophets

6'Prophesy ye not,' say they to them that prophesy;

they shall not prophesy to them,

that they shall not take shame.

⁷O thou that art named 'The house of Jacob,'

is the Spirit of the LORD straitened?

Are these his doings?

Do not my words do good

to him that walketh uprightly?

⁸Even of late my people is risen up

as an enemy;

ye pull off the robe with the garment

from them that pass by securely

MICAH 3 310

as men averse from war.

9The women of my people have ye cast out

from their pleasant houses;

from their children

have ye taken away my glory for ever.

10 Arise ye, and depart;

for this is not your rest;

because it is polluted,

it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction.

11 If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying,

'I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink;'

he shall even be the prophet of this people.

¹²I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee;

I will surely gather the remnant of Israel;

I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah,

as the flock in the midst of their fold;

they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men.

¹³The breaker is come up before them;

they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it;

and their king shall pass before them, and the LORD on the head of them.

False prophets and corrupt leaders rebuked

? |And I said,

Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob,

and ye princes of the house of Israel;

Is it not for you to know judgment?

²Who hate the good, and love the evil;

who pluck off their skin from off them,

and their flesh from off their bones;

³who also eat the flesh of my people,

and flay their skin from off them;

and they break their bones,

and chop them in pieces, as for the pot,

and as flesh within the caldron.

⁴Then shall they cry unto the LORD,

but he will not hear them;

he will even hide his face from them at that time,

as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings.

⁵Thus saith the LORD, "Concerning the prophets

that make my people err,

that bite with their teeth, and cry, 'Peace;'

and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him;

6therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision;

and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine;

and the sun shall go down over the prophets,

and the day shall be dark over them.

⁷Then shall the seers be ashamed,

and the diviners confounded;

311 MICAH 4

yea, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer of God."

⁸But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the LORD, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.

⁹Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment,

and pervert all equity.

¹⁰They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.

The heads thereof judge for reward,

and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money;

yet will they lean upon the LORD,

and say, 'Is not the LORD among us?

None evil can come upon us.'

¹²Therefore shall Zion for your sake be ploughed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

The mountain of the Lord

4 But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

²And many nations shall come, and say,

'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

and to the house of the God of Jacob;

and he will teach us of his ways,

and we will walk in his paths.'

For the law shall go forth of Zion,

and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

³And he shall judge among many people,

and rebuke strong nations afar off;

and they shall beat their swords into plough-shares,

and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up a sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war any more.

⁴But they shall sit every man under his vine

and under his fig tree;

and none shall make them afraid;

for the mouth of the LORD of Hosts hath spoken it.

5For all people will walk

every one in the name of his god,

MICAH 5 312

and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

6"In that day," saith the LORD,

"will I assemble her that halteth,

and I will gather her that is driven out,

and her that I have afflicted;

7and I will make her that halted a remnant,

and her that was cast far off a strong nation;

and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion

from henceforth, even for ever.

8And thou, O tower of the flock,

the strong hold of the daughter of Zion,

unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion;

the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

⁹Now why dost thou cry out aloud;

is there no king in thee?

Is thy counselor perished?

For pangs have taken thee as a woman in travail.

¹⁰Be in pain, and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion,

like a woman in travail;

for now shalt thou go forth out of the city,

and thou shalt dwell in the field,

and thou shalt go even to Babylon;

there shalt thou be delivered;

there the LORD shall redeem thee

from the hand of thine enemies.

□Now also many nations

are gathered against thee,

that say, 'Let her be defiled,

and let our eye look upon Zion.'

¹²But they know not the thoughts of the LORD,

neither understand they his counsel;

for he shall gather them

as the sheaves into the floor.

¹³Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion;

for I will make thine horn iron.

and I will make thy hoofs brass;

and thou shalt beat in pieces many people;

and I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD,

and their substance unto the LORD of the whole earth.

Promised ruler from Bethlehem

Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops; he hath laid siege against us; they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.

²But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah,

though thou be little among the thousands of Judah,

313 MICAH 5

yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

³Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth; then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God; and they shall abide;

for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

⁵And this man shall be the peace,

when the Assyrian shall come into our land;

and when he shall tread in our palaces,

then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men.

6And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof;

thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian,

when he cometh into our land, and when he treadeth within our borders.

7And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from the LORD, as the showers upon the grass,

that tarrieth not for man,

nor waiteth for the sons of man.

8And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people,

as a lion among the beasts of the forest,

as a young lion among the flocks of sheep;

who, if he go through, both treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver.

⁹Thine hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off.

10"And it shall come to pass in that day," saith the LORD,

"that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee,

and I will destroy thy chariots;

□And I will cut off the cities of thy land,

and throw down all thy strong holds;

12And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more soothsayers.

¹³Thy graven images also will I cut off,

and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

¹⁴And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee; so will I destroy thy cities.

MICAH 6 314

¹⁵And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard."

The Lord's case against Israel

Hear ye now what the LORD saith:

"Arise, contend thou before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice.

²Hear ye, O mountains, the LORD's controversy,

and ye strong foundations of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with his people, and he will plead with Israel.

³O my people, what have I done unto thee?

And wherein have I wearied thee? Testify against me.

⁴For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt,

and redeemed thee out of the house of servants;

and I sent before thee Moses,

Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that ye may know the righteousness of the LORD."

⁶Wherewith shall I come before the LORD,

and bow myself before the high God?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,

with calves of a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,

or with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my first-born for my transgression,

the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8He hath showed thee, O man, what is good;

and what doth the LORD require of thee,

but to do justly, and to love mercy,

and to walk humbly with thy God?

Israel's guilt and punishment

⁹The LORD's voice crieth unto the city,

and the man of wisdom shall see thy name;

"Hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it.

¹⁰Are there yet the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked,

and the scant measure that is abominable?

11 Shall I count them pure with the wicked balances,

and with the bag of deceitful weights?

¹²For the rich men thereof are full of violence,

and the inhabitants thereof have spoken lies,

and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

¹³Therefore also will I make thee sick in smiting thee,

in making thee desolate because of thy sin.

14Thou shalt eat, but not be satisfied;

and thy casting down shall be in the midst of thee;

315 MICAH 7

and thou shalt take hold, but shalt not deliver;

and that which thou deliverest will I give up to the sword.

15Thou shalt sow, but thou shalt not reap;

thou shalt tread the olives, but thou shalt not anoint thee with oil; and sweet wine, but shalt not drink wine.

¹⁶For the statutes of Omri are kept,

and all the works of the house of Ahab,

and ye walk in their counsels;

that I should make thee a desolation,

and the inhabitants thereof a hissing;

therefore ye shall bear the reproach of my people.

Israel's misery and deliverance

7 ¹Woe is me!

For I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits,

as the grape gleanings of the vintage;

there is no cluster to eat;

my soul desired the first ripe fruit.

²The good man is perished out of the earth;

and there is none upright among men;

they all lie in wait for blood;

they hunt every man his brother with a net.

³That they may do evil with both hands earnestly,

the prince asketh, and the judge asketh for a reward;

and the great man, he uttereth his mischievous desire;

so they wrap it up.

⁴The best of them is as a brier;

the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge;

the day of thy watchman and thy visitation cometh;

now shall be their perplexity.

⁵Trust ye not in a friend,

put ye not confidence in a guide;

keep the doors of thy mouth

from her that lieth in thy bosom.

⁶For the son dishonoreth the father,

the daughter riseth up against her mother,

the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

a man's enemies are the men of his own house.

⁷Therefore I will look unto the LORD;

I will wait for the God of my salvation;

my God will hear me.

⁸Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy;

when I fall, I shall arise;

when I sit in darkness,

the LORD shall be a light unto me.

⁹I will bear the indignation of the LORD,

because I have sinned against him,

until he plead my cause,

and execute judgment for me;

MICAH 7 316

he will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness. ¹⁰Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her which said unto me, 'Where is the LORD thy God?' Mine eyes shall behold her; now shall she be trodden down as the mire of the streets. □In the day that thy walls are to be built, in that day shall the decree be far removed. ¹²In that day also he shall come even to thee from Assyria, and from the fortified cities, and from the fortress even to the river, and from sea to sea, and from mountain to mountain. ¹³Notwithstanding, the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings. ¹⁴Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel; let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old. ¹⁵According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I show unto him marvelous things. ¹⁶The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might; they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf. ¹⁷They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes like worms of the earth; they shall be afraid of the LORD our God, and shall fear because of thee. 18Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. ¹⁹He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea. ²⁰Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

317 NAHUM I

NAHUM

The burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

The Lord's anger against Nineveh

²God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth;

the LORD revengeth, and is furious;

The LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries,

and he reserveth wrath for his enemies.

³The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power,

and will not at all acquit the wicked;

the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm,

and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

⁴He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry,

and drieth up all the rivers;

Bashan languisheth, and Carmel,

and the flower of Lebanon languisheth.

⁵The mountains quake at him,

and the hills melt,

and the earth is burned at his presence,

yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

6Who can stand before his indignation?

And who can abide in the fierceness of his anger?

His fury is poured out like fire,

and the rocks are thrown down by him.

⁷The LORD is good,

a strong hold in the day of trouble;

and he knoweth them that trust in him.

8But with an everrunning flood

he will make an utter end of the place thereof,

and darkness shall pursue his enemies.

⁹What do ye imagine against the LORD?

He will make an utter end;

affliction shall not rise up the second time.

¹⁰For while they be folded together as thorns,

and while they are drunken as drunkards,

they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.

There is one come out of thee,

that imagineth evil against the LORD,

a wicked counselor.

¹²Thus saith the LORD, "Though they be quiet, and likewise many,

yet thus shall they be cut down, when he shall pass through.

Though I have afflicted thee,

I will afflict thee no more.

¹³For now will I break his yoke from off thee,

and will burst thy bonds in sunder.

¹⁴And the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee,

that no more of thy name be sown;

NAHUM 2 318

out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image; I will make thy grave; for thou art vile. ¹⁵Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows; for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off. Nineveh will fall He that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face; keep the munition, watch the way, make thy loins strong, fortify thy power mightily. ²For the LORD hath turned away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel; for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches. ³The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men are in scarlet; the chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of his preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken. ⁴The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall justle one against another in the broad ways; they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings. ⁵He shall recount his worthies; they shall stumble in their walk; they shall make haste to the wall thereof, and the defense shall be prepared. The gates of the rivers shall be opened, and the palace shall be dissolved. ⁷And Huzzab shall be led away captive, she shall be brought up, and her maids shall lead her as with the voice of doves, tabering upon their breasts. But Nineveh is of old like a pool of water; yet they shall flee away. 'Stand, stand,' shall they cry; but none shall look back. Take ye the spoil of silver, take the spoil of gold; for their is none end of the store

and glory out of all the pleasant furniture.

319 NAHUM 3

¹⁰She is empty, and void, and waste; and the heart melteth, and the knees smite together, and much pain is in all loins, and the faces of them all gather blackness. Where is the dwelling of the lions, and the feeding-place of the young lions, where the lion, even the old lion, walked, and the lion's whelp, and none made them afraid? ¹²The lion did tear in pieces enough for his whelps, and strangled for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey, and his dens with ravin. 13"Behold, I am against thee," saith the LORD of hosts, "and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword shall devour thy young lions; and I will cut off thy prey from the earth, and the voice of thy messengers shall no more be heard." Woe to the bloody city! It is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departeth not. ²The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the prancing horses, and of the jumping chariots. ³The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear; and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcasses; and there is none end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses; ⁴Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the well-favored harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts. 5"Behold, I am against thee," saith the LORD of hosts, "and I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, and I will show the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame. 6And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazing-stock. 7 And it shall come to pass, that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, 'Nineveh is laid waste, who will bemoan her?' Whence shall I seek comforters for thee?" 8Art thou better than populous 3No, that was situate among the rivers,

that had the waters round about it, whose rampart was the sea, and her wall was from the sea? ^a Thebes

NAHUM 3 320

⁹Ethiopia and Egypt were her strength, and it was infinite;

Put and Lubim were thy helpers. ¹⁰Yet was she carried away, she went into captivity; her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of all the streets; and they cast lots for her honorable men, and all her great men were bound in chains. □Thou also shalt be drunken; thou shalt be hid, thou also shalt seek strength because of the enemy. ¹²All thy strong holds shall be like fig trees with the first ripe figs; if they be shaken, they shall even fall into the mouth of the eater. ¹³Behold, thy people in the midst of thee are women; the gates of thy land shall be set wide open unto thine enemies; the fire shall devour thy bars. ¹⁴Draw thee waters for the siege, fortify thy strong holds; go into clay, and tread the mortar, make strong the brick kiln. 15There shall the fire devour thee; the sword shall cut thee off, it shall eat thee up like the cankerworms; make thyself many as the cankerworm, make thyself many as the locusts. ¹⁶Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above the stars of heavens; the cankerworm spoileth, and fleeth away. ¹⁷Thy crowned are as the locusts, and thy captains as the great grasshoppers, which camp in the hedges in the cold day, but when the sun ariseth they flee away, and their place is not known where they are. ¹⁸Thy shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria; thy nobles shall dwell in the dust; thy people is scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathereth them. ¹⁹There is no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee; for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?

32 I HABAKKUK I

HABAKKUK

The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

Habakkuk's complaint

²O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear!
Even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!
³Why dost thou show me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievances?
For spoiling and violence are before me; and there are that raise up strife and contention.
⁴Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth; for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

The Lord's answer

⁵Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously; for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you. ⁶For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwelling-places that are not theirs. ⁷They are terrible and dreadful; their judgment and their dignity shall proceed of themselves. ⁸Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves; and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat. ⁹They shall come all for violence; their faces shall sup up as the east wind, and they shall gather the captivity as the sand. ¹⁰And they shall scoff at the kings, and the princes shall be a scorn unto them; they shall deride every strong hold; for they shall heap dust, and take it. Then shall his mind change, and he shall pass over, and offend, imputing this his power unto his god.

Habakkuk's second complaint

¹²Art thou not from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy One? We shall not die.

O Lord, thou has ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction. ¹³Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity; wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he? ¹⁴And maketh men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them? ¹⁵They take up all of them with the angle, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their drag; therefore they rejoice and are glad. ¹⁶Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their drag; because by them their portion is fat, and their meat plenteous. ¹⁷Shall they therefore empty their net, and not spare continually to slay the nations? I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. The Lord's answer ²And the LORD answered me, and said: Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. ³For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie; though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. ⁴Behold, his soul, which is liften up is not upright in him; but the just shall live by his faith. ⁵Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people; 6shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, 'Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his! How long? And to him that ladeth himself with thick clay!' ⁷Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall bite thee, and awake that shall vex thee, and thou shalt be for booties unto them? ⁸Because thou hast spoiled many nations,

all the remnant of the people shall spoil thee;

because of men's blood,

and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.

⁹Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house,

that he may set his nest on high,

that he may be delivered from the power of evil!

¹⁰Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by cutting off many people,

and hast sinned against thy soul.

□For the stone shall cry out of the wall,

and the beam out of the timber shall answer it.

¹²Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood,

and establisheth a city by iniquity.

¹³Behold, is it not of the LORD of hosts that the people shall labor in the very fire, and the people shall weary themselves for very vanity?

¹⁴For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

15 Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink,

that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also,

that thou mayest look on their nakedness!

¹⁶Thou art filled with shame for glory;

drink thou also, and let thy foreskin be uncovered;

the cup of the LORD's right hand shall be turned unto thee,

and shameful spewing shall be on thy glory.

¹⁷For the violence of Lebanon shall cover thee,

and the spoil of beasts, which made them afraid, because of men's blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.

¹⁸What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it;

the molten image, and a teacher of lies,

that the maker of his work trusteth therein,

to make dumb idols?

19Woe unto him that saith to the wood, 'Awake;'

to the dumb stone, 'Arise,'

It shall teach?

Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver,

and there is no breadth at all in the midst of it.

²⁰But the LORD is in his holy temple;

let all the earth keep silence before him.

Habakkuk's prayer

A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth.

²O Lord, I have heard thy speech,

and was afraid, O Lord.

Revive thy work in the midst of the years,

in the midst of the years make known;

in wrath remember mercy.

³God came from Teman,

and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah.

His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. ⁴And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand; and there was the hiding of his power. ⁵Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet. ⁶He stood, and measured the earth; he beheld, and drove asunder the nations; and the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills did bow; his ways are everlasting. ⁷I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction; and the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble. 8Was the LORD displeased against the rivers? Was thine anger against the rivers? Was thy wrath against the sea, that thou didst ride upon thine horses and thy chariots of salvation? ⁹Thy bow was made quite naked, according to the oaths of the tribes, even thy word. Selah. Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers. ¹⁰The mountains saw thee, and they trembled. The overflowing of the water passed by; the deep uttered his voice, and lifted up his hands on high. The sun and moon stood still in their habitation; at the light of thine arrows they went, and at the shining of thy glittering spear. ¹²Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger. ¹³Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedest the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah. 14Thou didst strike through with his staves the head of his villages; they came out as a whirlwind to scatter me; their rejoicing was as to devour the poor secretly. ¹⁵Thou didst walk through the sea with thine horses, through the heap of great waters. ¹⁶When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice; rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble; when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops. ¹⁷Although the fig tree shall not blossom,

neither shall fruit be in the vines;

the labor of the olive shall fail,
and the fields shall yield no meat;
the flock shall be cut off from the fold,
and there shall be no herd in the stalls;

Byet I will rejoice in the LORD,
I will joy in the God of my salvation.

19The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.

To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

ZEPHANIAH I 326

ZEPHANIAH

The word of the LORD which came unto Zephaniah the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hizkiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah. ²I will utterly consume all things from off the land, saith the LORD. ³I will consume man and beast; I will consume the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumbling-blocks with the wicked; and I will cut off man from off the land, saith the LORD. ⁴I will also stretch out mine hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the Chemarim with the priests; ⁵and them that worship the host of heaven upon the house-tops; and them that worship and that swear by the LORD, and that swear by Malcham; ⁶And them that are turned back from the LORD; and those that have not sought the LORD, nor inquired for him. ⁷Hold thy peace at the presence of the Lord GOD; for the day of the LORD is at hand; for the LORD hath prepared a sacrifice, he hath bid his guests. 8 And it shall come to pass in the day of the LORD's sacrifice, that I will punish the princes, and the king's children, and all such as are clothed with strange apparel. ⁹In the same day also will I punish all those that leap on the threshold, which fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit. ¹⁰And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD, that there shall be the noise of a cry from the Fish Gate, and a howling from the second, and a great crashing from the hills. □Howl, ye inhabitants of Maktesh, for all the merchant people are cut down; all they that bear silver are cut off. ¹²And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees, that say in their heart, 'The LORD will not do good, neither will he do evil.' ¹³Therefore, their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation; they shall also build houses, but not inhabit them;

and they shall plant vineyards, but not drink the wine thereof.

327 ZEPHANIAH 2

14The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD; the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. 15That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹⁶A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. ¹⁷And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD; and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD's wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy; for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land. Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; ²before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD's anger come upon you. ³Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness; it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD's anger. ⁴For Gaza shall be forsaken, and Ashkelon a desolation; they shall drive out Ashdod at the noonday, and Ekron shall be rooted up. ⁵Woe unto the inhabitants of the sea coast, the nation of the Cherethites! The word of the LORD is against you; O Canaan, the land of the Philistines, I will even destroy thee, that there shall be no inhabitant. 6And the sea coast shall be dwellings and cottages for shepherds, and folds for flocks. 7And the coast shall be for the remnant of the house of Judah; they shall feed thereupon; in the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening; for the LORD their God shall visit them, and turn away their captivity. 8I have heard the reproach of Moab,

and the revilings of the children of Ammon,

ZEPHANIAH 3 328

whereby they have reproached my people, and magnified themselves against their border. Therefore, as I live, saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah, even the breeding of nettles, and saltpits, and a perpetual desolation; the residue of my people shall spoil them, and the remnant of my people shall possess them. ¹⁰This shall they have for their pride, because they have reproached and magnified themselves against the people of the LORD of hosts. □The LORD will be terrible unto them; for he will famish all the gods of the earth; and men shall worship him, every one from his place, even all the isles of the heathen. 12Ye Ethiopians also, ye shall be slain by my sword. ¹³And he will stretch out his hand against the north, and destroy Assyria; and will make Nineveh a desolation, and dry like a wilderness. ¹⁴And flocks shall lie down in the midst of her, all the beasts of the nations; both the cormorant and the bittern shall lodge in the upper lintels of it; their voice shall sing in the windows; desolation shall be in the thresholds; for he shall uncover the cedar work. ¹⁵This is the rejoicing city that dwelt carelessly, that said in her heart, 'I am, and there is none besides me;' how is she become a desolation, a place for beasts to lie down in! Every one that passeth by her shall hiss, and wag his hand. Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city! ²She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the LORD: she drew not near to her God. ³Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow. ⁴Her prophets are light and treacherous persons; her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law. ⁵The just Lord is in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity; every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not;

but the unjust knoweth no shame.

329 ZEPHANIAH 3

6I have cut off the nations;

their towers are desolate; I made their streets waste, that none passeth by; their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man, that there is none inhabitant. ⁷I said, 'Surely thou wilt fear me, thou wilt receive instruction;' so their dwelling should not be cut off, howsoever I punished them; but they rose early, and corrupted all their doings. 8Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey; for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger; for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy. ⁹For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent. ¹⁰From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, even the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering. In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against me; for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt no more be haughty because of my holy mountain. ¹²I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD. ¹³The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth; for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid. 14Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. 15The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy; the King of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee; thou shalt not see evil any more. ¹⁶In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, 'Fear thou not;' and to Zion. 'Let not thine hands be slack.' ¹⁷The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing. 18I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden. ¹⁹Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee; and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out;

ZEPHANIAH 3 330

and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.

20 At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you; for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the LORD.

331 HAGGAI I

HAGGAI

In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month; came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying:

²Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying: This people say, 'The time is not come, the time that the LORD's house should be built.'

³Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying:

⁴Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste?

⁵Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁶Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages, earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD. Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labor of the hands.

¹²Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the LORD.

¹³Then spake Haggai the LORD's messenger in the LORD's message unto the people, saying: "I am with you, saith the LORD."

¹⁴And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the LORD of hosts, their God, ¹⁵in the four and twentieth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai, saying:

²Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying, ³'Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? And how do ye see it now? Is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing? ⁴Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel,' saith the LORD, 'and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land,' saith the LORD, 'and work; for I am with you,' saith the LORD of hosts; ⁵'according to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you; fear ye not.'

⁶For thus saith the LORD of hosts, 'Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; ⁷and I will shake all nations, and the Desire of all nations shall come; and I will fill this house with glory,' saith the

HAGGAI 2 332

LORD of hosts. ⁹ 'The silver is mine, and the gold is mine,' saith the LORD of hosts. ⁹ 'The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former,' saith the LORD of hosts; 'and in this place will I give peace,' saith the LORD of hosts.

¹⁰In the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying:

"Thus saith the LORD of hosts, "Ask now the priests concerning the law, saying, 12'If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy?"

And the priests answered and said, "No."

Then said Haggai, "If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean?" And the priests answered and said, "It shall be unclean."

¹⁴Then answered Haggai, and said:

'So is this people, and so is this nation before me,' saith the LORD; 'and so is every work of their hands; and that which they offer there is unclean. ¹⁵And now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward, from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the LORD; ¹⁶since those days were, when one came to a heap of twenty measures, there were but ten; when one came to the pressfat for to draw out fifty vessels out of the press, there were but twenty. ¹⁷I smote you with blasting and with mildew and with hail in all the labors of your hands; yet ye turned not to me,' saith the LORD.

¹⁸Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of the LORD's temple was laid, consider it. ¹⁹Is the seed yet in the barn? Yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth; from this day will I bless you.

²⁰And again the word of the LORD came unto Haggai in the four and twentieth day of the month, saying:

²¹Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, 'I will shake the heavens and the earth; ²²and I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the heathen; and I will overthrow the chariots, and those that ride in them; and the horses and their riders shall come down, every one by the sword of his brother. ²³In that day,' saith the LORD of hosts, 'will I take thee, O Zerubbabel, my servant, the son of Shealtiel,' saith the LORD, 'and will make thee as a signet; for I have chosen thee,' saith the LORD of hosts.

333 ZECHARIAH I

ZECHARIAH

In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the LORD unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying:

²The LORD hath been sore displeased with your fathers. ³Therefore say thou unto them: Thus saith the LORD of hosts: 'Turn ye unto me,' saith the LORD of hosts, 'and I will turn unto you,' saith the LORD of hosts. ⁴'Be ye not as your fathers, unto whom the former prophets have cried, saying, "Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Turn ye now from your evil ways, and from your evil doings;" but they did not hear, nor hearken unto me,' saith the LORD.

⁵Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live for ever? ⁶But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not take hold of your fathers? And they returned and said, "Like as the LORD of hosts thought to do unto us, according to our ways, and according to our doings, so hath he dealt with us."

⁷Upon the four and twentieth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Sebat, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the LORD unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying:

⁸I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white.

⁹Then said I, "O my lord, what are these?" And the angel that talked with me said unto me, "I will shew thee what these be."

- ¹⁰And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These are they whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth."
- "And they answered the angel of the LORD that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, "We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest."
- ¹²Then the angel of the LORD answered and said, "O Lord of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years?"
- ¹³And the LORD answered the angel that talked with me with good words and comfortable words. ¹⁴So the angel that communed with me said unto me:

Cry thou, saying, "Thus saith the LORD of hosts: I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy. ¹⁵And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease; for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction.

¹⁶Therefore thus saith the LORD: I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies; my house shall be built in it, saith the LORD of hosts, and a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem.

¹⁷Cry yet, saying, "Thus saith the LORD of hosts: My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem."

Four horns and four carpenters

¹⁸Then lifted I up mine eyes, and saw, and behold four horns.

ZECHARIAH 2 334

¹⁹And I said unto the angel that talked with me, "What be these?" And he answered me, "These are the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem."

²⁰And the LORD shewed me four carpenters. ²¹Then said I, "What come these to do?" And he spake, saying:

These are the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man did lift up his head; but these are come to fray them, to cast out the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up their horn over the land of Judah to scatter it.

A man with a measuring line

I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. ²Then said I, "Whither goest thou?"

And he said unto me, "To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof."

³And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, ⁴and said unto him:

Run, speak to this young man, saying, 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein. For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her. Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the LORD; for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the LORD.

⁷Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon.

⁸For thus saith the LORD of hosts: After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you; for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye. ⁹For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to their servants; and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me.

¹⁰Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD. ¹¹And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people; and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee. ¹²And the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.

¹³Be silent, O all flesh, before the LORD; for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

Clean garments for the high priest

And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. ²And the LORD said unto Satan:

The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee; is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

³Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. ⁴And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And unto him he said, "Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment."

⁵And I said, "Let them set a fair mitre upon his head." So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by.

6And the angel of the LORD protested unto Joshua, saying:

⁷Thus saith the LORD of hosts: If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

⁸Hear now, O Joshua, the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee; for they are men wondered at; for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH. ⁹For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes; behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. ¹⁰In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbor under the vine and under the fig tree.

Gold candlestick and two olive trees

And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, 2and said unto me, "What seest thou?"

And I said, "I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof; ³and two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof." ⁴So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?"

⁵Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, "Knowest thou not what these be?"

And I said, "No, my lord."

⁶Then he answered and spake unto me, saying:

This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit,' saith the LORD of hosts. Who art thou, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain; and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, 'Grace, grace unto it.'

⁸Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

⁹The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. ¹⁰For who hath despised the day of small things? For they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the servants of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

"Then answered I, and said unto him, "What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof?" ¹²And I answered again, and said unto him, "What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves?"

¹³And he answered me and said, "Knowest thou not what these be?" And I said, "No, my lord."

¹⁴Then said he, "These are the two anointed ones, that stand before the LORD of the whole earth."

The flying scroll

 $\mathsf{\Gamma}$ Then I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a flying roll.

²And he said unto me, "What seest thou?" And I answered, "I see a flying roll; the length thereof is twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof ten cubits."

³Then said he unto me:

This is the curse that goeth forth over the face of the whole earth; for every one that stealeth shall be cut off as on this side according to it; and every one that sweareth shall be cut off as on that side according to it. 4I will bring it forth, saith the LORD of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him that sweareth falsely by my name; and it shall remain in the midst of his house, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof.

⁵Then the angel that talked with me went forth, and said unto me, "Lift up now thine eyes, and see what is this that goeth forth."

6And I said, "What is it?" And he said, "This is an ephah that goeth forth." He said moreover, "This is their resemblance through all the earth."

7 And, behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead; and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah. 8And he said, "This is wickedness." And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof.

Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork; and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven.

¹⁰Then said I to the angel that talked with me, "Whither do these bear the ephah?"

"And he said unto me, "To build it a house in the land of Shinar; and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base."

And I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came four chariots out from between two mountains; and the mountains were mountains of brass. 2In the first chariot were red horses; and in the second chariot black horses; 3 and in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grisled and bay horses.

⁴Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, "What are these, my lord?"

⁵And the angel answered and said unto me:

These are the four servants of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the LORD of all the earth. 6The black horses which are therein go forth unto the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grisled go forth toward the south country.

spirits

And the bay went forth, and sought to go that they might walk to and fro through the earth; and he said, 'Get ye hence, walk to and fro through the earth.' So they walked to and fro through the earth.

8Then cried he upon me, and spake unto me, saying, "Behold, these that go toward the north country have quieted my spirit in the north country."

9And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

¹⁰Take of them of the captivity, even of Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, and come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah; "then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest; ¹²and speak unto him, saying, "Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, 'Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD; ¹³even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.' 4And the crowns shall be to Helem,

and to Tobijah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of the LORD. ¹⁵And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. And this shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God.

- And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Darius, that the word of the LORD came unto Zechariah in the fourth day of the ninth month, even in Chisleu; ²when they had sent unto the house of God Sherezer and Regemmelech, and their men, to pray before the LORD, ³and to speak unto the priests which were in the house of the LORD of hosts, and to the prophets, saying, "Should I weep in the fifth month, separating myself, as I have done these so many years?"
 - ⁴Then came the word of the LORD of hosts unto me, saying:
 - ⁵Speak unto all the people of the land, and to the priests, saying, 'When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, even to me? ⁶And when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat for yourselves, and drink for yourselves? ⁷Should ye not hear the words which the LORD hath cried by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, and the cities thereof round about her, when men inhabited the south and the plain?'
 - 8 And the word of the LORD came unto Zechariah, saying:
 - ⁹Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, 'Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother; ¹⁰and oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.'
 - 11But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear. 12Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets; therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.
 - ¹³Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the LORD of hosts; ¹⁴but I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned; for they laid the pleasant land desolate.
- Again the word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying:
 - ²Thus saith the LORD of hosts: I was jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I was jealous for her with great fury.
 - ³Thus saith the LORD: I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain.
 - ⁴Thus saith the LORD of hosts: There shall yet old men and old women dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand for very age. ⁵And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof.
 - ⁶Thus saith the LORD of hosts: If it be marvelous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, should it also be marvelous in mine eyes? Saith the LORD of hosts.
 - ⁷Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Behold, I will gather my people from the east country, and from the west country; ⁸and I will bring them, and they shall dwell in

ZECHARIAH 9 338

the midst of Jerusalem; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

⁹Thus saith the LORD of hosts: Let your hands be strong, ye that hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets, which were in the day that the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built. ¹⁰For before these days there was no hire for man, nor any hire for beast; neither was there any peace to him that went out or came in because of the affliction; for I set all men every one against his neighbor. ¹¹But now I will not be unto the residue of this people as in the former days, saith the LORD of hosts.

¹²For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things. ¹³And it shall come to pass, that as ye were a curse among the heathen, O house of Judah, and house of Israel; so will I gather you, and ye shall be a blessing; fear not, but let your hands be strong.

¹⁴For thus saith the LORD of hosts; As I thought to punish you, when your fathers provoked me to wrath, saith the LORD of hosts, and I repented not; ¹⁵so again have I thought in these days to do well unto Jerusalem and to the house of Judah; fear ye not. ¹⁶These are the things that ye shall do: Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbor; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates; ¹⁷and let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbor; and love no false oath; for all these are things that I hate, saith the LORD.

¹⁸And the word of the LORD of hosts came unto me, saying:

¹⁹Thus saith the LORD of hosts: The fast of the fourth month, and the fast of the fifth, and the fast of the seventh, and the fast of the tenth, shall be to the house of Judah joy and gladness, and cheerful feasts; therefore love the truth and peace.

²⁰Thus saith the LORD of hosts: It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities; ²¹and the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Let us go speedily to pray before the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts; I will go also.' ²²Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD.

²³Thus saith the LORD of hosts: In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, 'We will go with you; for we have heard that God is with you.'

The burden of the word of the LORD in the land of Hadrach,

and Damascus shall be the rest thereof;

when the eyes of man, as of all the tribes of Israel,

shall be toward the LORD.

²And Hamath also shall border thereby;

Tyrus, and Zidon, though it be very wise.

³And Tyrus did build herself a strong hold,

and heaped up silver as the dust,

and fine gold as the mire of the streets.

⁴Behold, the LORD will cast her out,

and he will smite her power in the sea;

and she shall be devoured with fire.

5Ashkelon shall see it, and fear;

Gaza also shall see it, and be very sorrowful,

and Ekron, for her expectation shall be ashamed;

and the king shall perish from Gaza,
and Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.

6And a bastard shall dwell in Ashdod,
and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.

7And I will take away his blood out of his mouth,
and his abominations from between his teeth;
but he that remaineth, even he, shall be for our God,
and he shall be as a governor in Judah,
and Ekron as a Jebusite.

8And I will encamp about mine house because of the army,
because of him that passeth by, and because of him that returneth;
and no oppressor shall pass through them anymore;
for now have I seen with mine eyes.

The coming of Zion's king

9Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, thy King cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. ¹⁰And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off; and he shall speak peace unto the heathen; and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from river even to the ends of the earth. □As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water. ¹²Turn you to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope; even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee; ¹³when I have bent Judah for me, filled the bow with Ephraim, and raised up thy sons, O Zion, against thy sons, O Greece, and made thee as the sword of a mighty man.

The Lord will appear

14And the LORD shall be seen over them,
and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning;
and the LORD God shall blow the trumpet,
and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.

15The LORD of hosts shall defend them;
and they shall devour, and subdue with sling stones;
and they shall drink, and make a noise as through wine;
and they shall be filled like bowls, and as the corners of the altar.

16And the LORD their God shall save them in that day
as the flock of his people;
for they shall be as the stones of a crown,
lifted up as an ensign upon his land.

ZECHARIAH IO 340

¹⁷For how great is his goodness, and how great is his beauty! Corn shall make the young men cheerful, and new wine the maids. Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field. ²For the idols have spoken vanity, and the diviners have seen a lie, and have told false dreams; they comfort in vain; therefore they went their way as a flock, they were troubled, because there was no shepherd. 3Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds, and I punished the goats; for the LORD of hosts hath visited his flock the house of Judah, and hath made them as his goodly horse in the battle. 4Out of him came forth the corner, out of him the nail, out of him the battle bow, out of him every oppressor together. 5And they shall be as mighty men, which tread down their enemies in the mire of the streets in the battle; and they shall fight, because the LORD is with them, and the riders on horses shall be confounded. 6And I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again to place them; for I have mercy upon them; and they shall be as though I had not cast them off; for I am the LORD their God, and will hear them. ⁷And they of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, and their heart shall rejoice as through wine; yea, their children shall see it, and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the LORD. 8I will hiss for them, and gather them; for I have redeemed them; and they shall increase as they have increased. 9And I will sow them among the people; and they shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and turn again. ¹⁰I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Labanon; and place shall not be found for them. □And he shall pass through the sea with affliction,

and shall smite the waves in the sea,

341 ZECHARIAH I I

and all the deeps of the river shall dry up; and the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, a nd the sceptre of Egypt shall depart away. ¹²And I will strengthen them in the LORD; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the LORD.

Open thy doors, O Lebanon,

that the fire may devour thy cedars.

²Howl, fir tree; for the cedar is fallen;

because the mighty are spoiled.

Howl, O ye oaks of Bashan;

for the forest of the vintage is come down.

³There is a voice of the howling of the shepherds;

for their glory is spoiled;

a voice of the roaring of young lions;

for the pride of Jordan is spoiled.

Two shepherds

⁴Thus saith the LORD my God: Feed the flock of the slaughter; ⁵whose possessors slay them, and hold themselves not guilty; and they that sell them say, 'Blessed be the LORD; for I am rich;' and their own shepherds pity them not. ⁶For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD, but, lo, I will deliver the men every one into his neighbor's hand, and into the hand of his king; and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver them.

⁷And I will feed the flock of slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I took unto me two staves; the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bands; and I fed the flock.

⁸Three shepherds also I cut off in one month; and my soul loathed them, and their soul also abhorred me.

⁹Then said I, "I will not feed you; that that dieth, let it die; and that that is to be cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest eat every one the flesh of another."

¹⁰And I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it assunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people. ¹¹And it was broken in that day; and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the LORD.

¹²And I said unto them, "If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear." So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

¹³And the LORD said unto me, "Cast it unto the potter;" a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.

¹⁴Then I cut asunder mine other staff, even Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

15 And the LORD said unto me:

Take unto thee yet the instruments of a foolish shepherd. ¹⁶For, lo, I will raise up a shepherd in the land, which shall not visit those that be cut off, neither shall seek the young one, nor heal that that is broken, nor feed that that standeth still; but he shall eat the flesh of the fat, and tear their claws in pieces.

Two to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! The sword shall be upon his arm, ZECHARIAH I2 342

and upon his right eye; his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

Jerusalem will be attacked

The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel.

Saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him:

²Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. ³And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people; all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.

⁴In that day, saith the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness; and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness. ⁵And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, 'The inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be my strength in the LORD of hosts their God.'

⁶In that day will I make the governors of Judah like a hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left; and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem.

⁷The LORD also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah. ⁸In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them. ⁹And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

¹⁰And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. ¹¹In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. ¹²And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; ¹³the family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; ¹⁴all the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.

In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

²And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered; and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land. ³And it shall come to pass, that when any shall yet prophesy, then his father and his mother that begat him shall say unto him, 'Thou shalt not live; for thou speakest lies in the name of the LORD;' and his father and his mother that begat him shall thrust him through when he prophesieth.

⁴And it shall come to pass in that day, that the prophets shall be ashamed every one of his vision, when he hath prophesied; neither shall they wear a rough garment to deceive; ⁵but he shall say, 'I am no prophet, I am a husbandman; for man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.' ⁶And one shall say unto him, 'What are these wounds in thine hands?' Then he shall answer, 'Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.'

⁷Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts. Smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered; and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones. 8 And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. ⁹And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them; I will say, 'It is my people;' and they shall say, 'The LORD is my God.'

| A| Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.

²For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. ³Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. ⁴And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. ⁵And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal; yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah; and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.

⁶And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark; ⁷but it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night; but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.

⁸And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea; in summer and in winter shall it be.

⁹And the LORD shall be king over all the earth; in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

¹⁰All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the Corner Gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses. ¹¹And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

ZECHARIAH 14 344

¹²And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. ¹³And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor. ¹⁴And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. ¹⁵And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

¹⁶And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. ¹⁷And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. ¹⁸And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. ¹⁹This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

²⁰In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD's house shall be like the bowl's before the altar. ²¹Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts; and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein; and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts.

345 MALACHI I

MALACHI

The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.

The Lord's love for Israel

²"I have loved you," saith the LORD. Yet ye say, "Wherein hast thou loved us?" "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" saith the LORD; "yet I loved Jacob. ³And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness."

⁴Whereas Edom saith, "We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places;" thus saith the LORD of hosts, "They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall call them, 'The border of wickedness,' and, 'The people against whom the LORD hath indignation forever.' ⁵And your eyes shall see, and ye shall say, 'The LORD will be magnified from the border of Israel.'"

Polluted offerings

6"A son honoreth his father, and a servant his master; if then I be a father, where is mine honor? And if I be a master, where is my fear?" saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, "Wherein have we despised thy name?" 'Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, "Wherein have we polluted thee?" In that ye say, "The table of the LORD is contemptible." 8And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? Offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the LORD of hosts.

⁹And now, I pray you, beseech God that he will be gracious unto us; this hath been by your means; will he regard your persons? saith the LORD of hosts.

""Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for naught? Neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for naught. I have no pleasure in you," saith the LORD of hosts, "neither will I accept an offering at your hand. "For, from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same, my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering; for my name shall be great among the heathen," saith the LORD of hosts.

¹²"But ye have profaned it, in that ye say, 'The table of the LORD is polluted; and the fruit thereof, even his meat, is contemptible.' ¹³Ye said also, 'Behold, what a weariness is it!' And ye have snuffed at it," saith the LORD of hosts; "and ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering; should I accept this of your hand?" saith the LORD. ¹⁴"But cursed be the deceiver, which hath in his flock a male, and voweth, and sacrificeth unto the LORD a corrupt thing; for I am a great King," saith the LORD of hosts, "and my name is dreadful among the heathen."

Warning to the priests

2 "And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. 2If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name," saith the LORD of hosts, "I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings; yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart."

³ "Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it. ⁴And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi," saith the

MALACHI 3 346

LORD of hosts. 5"My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name. 6The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips; he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity."

⁷"For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth; for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts. ⁸But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi," saith the LORD of hosts. ⁹"Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law."

Judah's unfaithfulness

- ¹⁰Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?
- ¹¹Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god. ¹²The LORD will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts.
- ¹³And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering anymore, or receiveth it with good will at your hand. ¹⁴Yet ye say, "Wherefore?" Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously; yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.
- ¹⁵And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the Spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.
- ¹⁶For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away; for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts; therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.
- ¹⁷Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, "Wherein have we wearied him?" When ye say, "Everyone that doeth evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them;" or, "Where is the God of judgment?"

The messenger of the covenant

- "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the LORD whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in; behold, he shall come," saith the LORD of hosts.
 - ²But who may abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appeareth? For he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap; ³and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. ⁴Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.
 - 5"And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me," saith the LORD of hosts.

347 MALACHI 4

Robbing God

6"For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. 7Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you," saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, "Wherein shall we return?"

8"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me." But ye say, "Wherein have we robbed thee?"

"In tithes and offerings. ⁹Ye are cursed with a curse; for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. ¹⁰Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith," saith the LORD of hosts, "if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. ¹¹And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field," saith the LORD of hosts. ¹² "And all nations shall call you blessed; for ye shall be a delightsome land," saith the LORD of hosts.

"Your words have been stout against me," saith the LORD. Yet ye say, "What have we spoken so much against thee?"

¹⁴Ye have said, "It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts? ¹⁵And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered."

¹⁶Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another; and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. ¹⁷"And they shall be mine," saith the LORD of hosts, "in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. ¹⁸Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not."

The great day of the Lord

4 "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up," saith the LORD of hosts, "that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. ²But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. ³And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this," saith the LORD of hosts.

4"Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments."

⁵"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD; ⁶and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."