

Judges Introdushon

Dis book tok about all di trobol wey follow Israel pipol as dem dey break di kovenant anyhow and dis kon make dem dey sofa under oda nashons. So dem kry to God for help and God ansa dem kon raiz judges wey fight and save dem. But e nor dey tey before Israel pipol kon begin sin again Di Judges dem na men and wimen, some na sojas and odas na ordinary pipol. Jos as Israel bi twelf tribes, na so too di books tell us about twelf judges. But as di pipol choose to go dia own way, wi kon si sey dem don rijet dia true Judge and Ruler. As di leaders and judges dey kom and go, na so too Israel pipol kon dey wont to get dia own king to rule dem.

Judah And Simeon Take Di Land

¹ Afta Joshua die, Israel pipol kon ask God, “Na wish tribe go first go attack Kanaan pipol?”

² God ansa, “Na Judah tribe, bikos I don give dem viktory ova di land.”

³ Den Judah men tell dia relashon from Simeon tribe sey, “Make una join us go fight Kanaan pipol wey dey di aria wey God give us. Den wi go follow una go fight and win una own aria too.” So Simeon men follow Judah pipol.

⁴ Wen Judah men attack, God make dem win Kanaan and Periz pipol and dem kill 10,000 men wey dey fight war for Bezek town. ⁵ As dem dey Bezek, dem meet King Adoni-Bezek kon fight am. Dem win Kanaan and Periz pipol. ⁶ King Adoni-Bezek kon dey run, but Israel pipol porshu and katch am, den dem kut en big finger from en hand and en big toe for en leg komot.

⁷ So Adoni-Bezek sey, “I don kut seventy kings hand and leg komot won’s and I make dem chop food from under my tabol. But naw, God don pay mi back for wetin I do to dem.” So, dem karry am go Jerusalem and e die for der.

⁸ Den Judah men attack and seize Jerusalem; dem kill all di pipol kon burn di town rish groun.

⁹ Afta, dem go fight Kanaan pipol wey dey stay for di hill kountry; Negev and for di hill bottom wey dey for di west side. ¹⁰ Dem mash against Kanaan pipol for Hebron (wey dem dey koll Kiriath-Arba before), dem stay der kon fight and win Sheshai, Ahiman and Talmai pipol.

¹¹ From der, dem go fight doz wey dey Debir town (wey dem dey koll Kiriath-Sefer before). ¹² Den Kaleb sey, “I go give my dota Aksah as wife to anybody wey go attack and seize Kiriath-Sefer.” ¹³ Kenaz wey bi Kaleb yonga broda, na-im pikin Othniel attack and seize Kiriath-Sefer. So Kaleb pikin, Aksah kon bi Othniel wife.

¹⁴ Di day wen Othniel dey marry Aksah, e kon tell di girl sey make e ask en papa for land. So as di girl kom down from en donkey, Kaleb kon ask am, “Na wetin yu wont?”

¹⁵ E ansa, “Abeg make yu give mi anoda gift. Yu don already give mi land for Negev, but naw, I wont make yu give mi place where wota dey.” Den Kaleb kon gi-am di spring for up-and-down.

¹⁶ Moses fada-in-law shidren-shidren, wey bi Ken pipol, follow Judah pipol komot from Jeriko, di palm trees town, till dem rish di wildaness for Judah. Dem go stay with doz wey dey der, near Arad town for Negev.

¹⁷ Afta, Judah pipol join Simeon pipol go fight Kanaan pipol for Zefat and dem skata di town finish. Leta, dem kon koll di town, Hormah. ¹⁸ Dem still attack Gaza, Ashkelon and Ekron town and di oda towns wey dey near der.

¹⁹ God dey with Judah pipol, so dem take di hill kountry. But dem nor fit drive di pipol wey dey di koast aria komot, bikos di pipol shariot, bi like iron. ²⁰ So dem give

Kaleb, Hebron town just as Moses promise. So Kaleb porshu Anak generashon komot der. ²¹ Benjamin tribe nor fit porshu Jebus pipol komot Jerusalem finish, so till today, Jebus pipol still dey stay for Jerusalem with Benjamin pipol.

²² Josef shidren-shidren, attack Bethel town and God help dem. ²³ Dem send men go spy Bethel (wey dem dey koll Luz before). ²⁴ Dem meet one man dey kom out from di town kon ask am, "Make yu show us how to enter dis town and wi nor go kill yu." ²⁵ So e show dem and dem kill evribody wey dey di town, escept di man and en family. ²⁶ Leta, di man komot from der kon go Hit pipol land and e build en own town wey e koll, Luz for der. Naim dem still dey koll am till today.

²⁷ Manasseh pipol nor fit drive di pipol for Bet-Shean, Taanak, Dor, Ibleam, Megiddo and doz wey dey near der. So doz pipol still dey stay der. ²⁸ Israel pipol kon get pawa well-well and dem force and turn Kanaan pipol to dia slave, but dem nor drive all of dem komot from di land. ²⁹ Ephraim tribe nor fit drive Kanaan pipol wey dey Geza, so Kanaan pipol still dey stay der with dem. ³⁰ Zebulun tribe nor fit drive di pipol wey dey Kitron and Nahalol, so Kanaan pipol still dey stay among dem. But dem force and turn Kanaan pipol to dia slave. ³¹ Asher tribe nor fit drive di pipol wey dey Akko, Sidon, Ahlab, Akzib, Helbah, Afek and Rehob, komot. ³² Instead, Asher pipol dey stay and kontrol Kanaan pipol wey dey di land, bikos dem nor fit porshu dem komot. ³³ Na so too, Naftali tribe nor fit drive Bet-Shemesh and Bet-Anat pipol komot, instead, dem dey stay and kontrol Kanaan pipol wey dey di land. Dem force di pipol to work for dem as dia slave. ³⁴ Amor pipol force Dan tribe go stay for di kountries wey dey di hill and dem nor let dem kom down again. ³⁵ Amor pipol still dey stay for Mount Heres, Aijalon and Shaalbim, but wen Josef shidren-shidren don strong well-well, dem kon force Amor pipol to work as dia slave. ³⁶ Amor pipol borda start from Skorpion Pass go rish Sela and e still kontinue from der go.

2

God Messenja For Bochim

¹ God angel komot from Gilgal go Bokim kon tell Israel pipol, "Na mi bring una kom out from Egypt kon put una for dis land wey I promise to give una grand-grand papa and I tok sey I nor go break my promise with una. ² I sey make una nor make kovenant with di pipol wey dey dis land and make una distroy dia altar, but una nor do wetin I tell una. 'Wetin make una do like dis?' ³ For dat time, I tell una sey, if una disobey mi, I nor go drive di pipol wey dey stay for una land komot again. Dem go bi wahala to una and dia god go dey sweet una to serve."

⁴ Wen God angel don tok to Israel pipol finish, all of dem kon dey kry. ⁵ So dem koll di place Bokim (wey mean "Cry") kon offa sakrifice give God.

How Joshua Take Die

⁶ Afta Joshua don sey make di pipol dey go, each tribe komot go take di land wey dem divide for dem. ⁷ So thru-out Joshua time, Israel pipol serve God and even afta e don die, dem still kontinue to dey serve am, since di leaders wey si all di good-good tins wey God do for dem still dey alive.

⁸ Joshua wey bi Nun pikin, God savant, die wen e bi one hundred and ten years. ⁹ Dem beri am for en land wey dey Timnat-Heres, for Ephraim hill kountry, near di nort side for Mount Gaash.

Israel Pipol Sin

¹⁰ Afta dat generashon die finish, di next generashon forget God and evritin wey E don do for dem. ¹¹ Israel pipol sin against God and dem kon start to serve one juju wey dem dey koll Baal. ¹² Dem forget di Oga wey bi dia grand-grand papa God wey bring dem kom out from Egypt kon bigin follow and woship di pipol wey dey around dem, gods. ¹³ Dem forget God kon dey serve Baal and Ashtoret image. ¹⁴ Bikos of dis, God vex well-well for

dem, so E let tif karry all wetin dem get. E allow dia enemies opress dem and dem nor fit protet demself again. ¹⁵ Anytime wen Israel pipol go fight war, God dey-dey against dem, just as God tok before and dem sofa well-well.

¹⁶ Den God give Israel pipol leaders wey kom save dem from dia enemies hand. ¹⁷ But dem nor still listin to di leaders, instead dem still dey serve and woship oda gods and dem nor do like dia grand-grand papa wey obey all God kommand. ¹⁸ As long as di leaders wey God give di pipol dey alive, E help and diliver dem from dia enemies. God sorry for dem well-well wen dem kry to am with pain, bikos of wetin dia enemies dey do dem. ¹⁹ But anytime di leaders die, dem go-go kontinue di bad-bad tins wey dem dey do. Dia own kon even worse pass di ones wey dia grand-grand papa do. Dem follow oda gods; dey serve and woship dem; dem nor gri stop dia sturbones and dem still dey do bad-bad tins.

²⁰ So, God vex well-well for dem kon sey, “Bikos dis pipol don break my kovenant wey I make with dia grand-grand papa and forget my kommand, ²¹ I nor go drive any of di nashon wey Joshua nor fit win before e die. ²² I go use am take test dem weda dem go follow mi, just as dia grand-grand papa do.” ²³ Na dis make God leave di nashons for der. E nor drive dem komot or allow Joshua win all of dem.

3

Di Remainin Nashons

¹ Dis na di nashons wey God leave for di land to take test Israel pipol wey neva fight war with Kanaan pipol before. ² E leave doz nashon for der, bikos E won use dem take tish di yong pipol for Israel wey neva fight war before. ³ Na di nashon dem bi dis: Filistia pipol (doz wey dey under di five Filistia rulers), all Kanaan, Sidon and Hiv pipol wey dey stay for Mount Lebanon; from Baal-Hermon mountin go rish Lebo-Hamat. ⁴ God leave dis pipol to take test Israel pipol, weda dem go obey di kommand wey E give dem thru Moses, dia grand-grand papa.

⁵ So Israel pipol kon dey stay among Kanaan, Hit, Amor, Perez, Hiv and Jebus pipol ⁶ and dem marry demself too. Israel sons marry Kanaan girls; while Israel girls marry Kanaan sons and Israel pipol kon dey serve Kanaan gods.

Otniel

⁷ Israel pipol forget di Oga dia God; dem sin against am kon begin serve Baal and Asherah juju. ⁸ So God vex well-well kon send dem go serve King Kushan-Rishataim for Aram Naharaim for eight years. ⁹ Wen Israel pipol kry give God make E help dem, God kon send one man among dem wey save dem. En name na Otniel wey en papa na Kenaz wey bi Kaleb yonga broda. ¹⁰ God Spirit enter am, so e kon bi leader for Israel. E go war go fight against King Kushan-Rishataim and God kon help Otniel, win am. ¹¹ So peace kon dey di land for forty years. Den Otniel wey bi Kenaz pikin kon die.

Ehud

¹² Israel pipol sin against God again, so God kon give dem to King Eglon for Moab. ¹³ King Eglon join Ammon and Amalek pipol kon fight and win Israel pipol, den dem take Jeriko town wey palm tree full. ¹⁴ Israel pipol serve King Eglon for Moab, for eighteen years.

¹⁵ But wen Israel pipol kry give God for help, God kon still send one man go save dem. En name na Ehud, Gera pikin. Na left hand e dey use pass and e kom from Benjamin tribe. Israel pipol send Ehud go meet King Eglon for Moab with many gift. ¹⁶ Ehud make swod wey get two mout and e long small. E hide am for di rite side under en klot. ¹⁷ Den e take gift go give King Eglon wey fat well-well. ¹⁸ Wen Ehud don gi-am di gift, en and di men wey bring di gift kon dey go house back. ¹⁹ But Ehud go back go meet King Eglon and wen e rish di Idol Stone near Gilgal, e kon tell am, “My oga, I get one sekret message for yu.”

So di king kommand en savants, “Make una kwayet!” Den e sey make dem komot from di room.

²⁰ So Ehud waka go meet Eglon for where e sidan alone for one kool room for upstairs, den e sey, “I get one message from God for yu!” As King Eglon get up from en chair, ²¹ Ehud use en left hand bring out di swod for where e hide am put kon shuk di king for belle. ²² Di swod enter di King belle well-well sotey e kover di swod head. So Ehud nor fit pul di swod komot from en belle and all di king intestine kon kom out. ²³ Den Ehud go outside, klose and lock di door, den e kon pass di toilet run go.

²⁴ Afta Ehud don go, di king savant kon si sey di room door dey lock. Dem tink sey di king dey di toilet for di palor, ²⁵ so dem kon dey wait, but afta sometaim wen e nor kom out, dem take di key open di door kon si dia masta don die for groun.

²⁶ Ehud run pass di Idol Stone go Seirah, as di oda savants still dey wait. ²⁷ Wen e rish di hill kountry for Efraim, e blow trumpet kon koll Israel men for war; den e lead dem kom down from di hill.

²⁸ E tell dem, “Make una follow mi, bikos God don give una viktory ova una enemies, (Moab pipol).” So dem follow am kon seize di place wey Moab pipol dey pass cross go Jordan River and dem nor allow anybody cross. ²⁹ Dat day, dem kill about 10,000 men wey strong well-well for Moab and no one among dem fit eskape. ³⁰ So Israel pipol win Moab pipol dat day and peace kon dey di land for eight years.

Shamgar Judge Israel Pipol

³¹ Afta Ehud, di next leader wey Israel get na, Shamgar, Anat pikin and en too save Israel pipol wen e use animal bone take kill 600 Filistia pipol.

4

Deborah And Barak

¹ Afta Ehud die, Israel pipol sin against God again. ² So God kon give dem to King Jabin for Hazor for Kanaan make e rule dem. Di kommander for en sojas na Sisera, wey kom from Haroshet-Haggoyim. ³ Sisera, get 900 iron war horse and e opress and rule Israel pipol with wikedness for twenty years, before Israel pipol kon kry give God make E help dem.

⁴ Dat time, Deborah wey bi Lappidot wife, na profetes and judge for Israel. ⁵ E dey always sidan under one palm tree wey dey between Rama and Bethel for Efraim hill kountry and Israel pipol dey go der go meet am, make e judge dem. ⁶ One day, e send message go koll Barak, Abinoam pikin, wey dey stay for Kedesh for Naftali land kon tell am, “Dis na wetin di Oga wey bi Israel God kommand sey make yu do: Make yu koll 10,000 warriors from Naftali and Zebulun tribe go Mount Tabor. ⁷ And I go bring Sisera, kommander for Jabin sojas, with en war horse and warrior kom Kishon River and for der, I go give una viktory ova am.”

⁸ But Barak ansa, “If yu nor follow mi go, I nor go-go anywhere.”

⁹ Den Deborah sey, “Okay! I go follow yu go, but nobody go praiz yu for dis war, bikos God don sey na woman go kill Sisera.” So Deborah kon follow Barak go Kedesh. ¹⁰ Barak koll Zebulun and Naftali tribe kon gada dem togeda for Kedesh and na 10,000 warriors follow am. Deborah still follow am go too.

¹¹ By dis time, Heba, one Kenite man, komot from where en oda tribe pipol dey, go build en tent for near Kedesh, near one oak tree for Zaanannim. Na Moses broda-in-law wey Hobab bi en grand-grand papa.

¹² Wen dem tell Sisera sey, Barak, Abinoam pikin don go Mount Tabor, ¹³ e koll en 900 iron war horse and en men, den dem mash komot from Haroshet-Haggoyim go Kishon River.

¹⁴ Deborah tell Barak, “Make yu ready, bikos God dey lead yu and today E go give yu viktory ova Sisera.” So Barak kom down from Mount Tabor with en 10,000 men. ¹⁵ Wen Barak attack, God kon confuse Sisera and en men. Sisera kom down from en war horse

kon take leg dey run. ¹⁶ But Barak porshu di war horse and Sisera men go Haroshet-Haggoyim kon kill all of dem for der.

¹⁷ By dat time, Sisera run go meet Jael wey bi Herber from Kenite, wife. Bikos King Jabin for Hazor and Herber family na friends.

¹⁸ Jael go outside go meet Sisera kon tell am, “My oga! Make yu kom inside my house. Make yu nor fear at-all.” So Sisera go inside, den di woman hide am kon take blanket kover am.

¹⁹ Sisera tell am, “Abeg, make yu give mi wota drink, bikos my trot don dry.” So di woman gi-am milk from one leda bag, den kon kover am again.

²⁰ Den Sisera tell di woman, “Make yu stand for di door and if anybody kom ask yu weda pesin dey here, make yu sey no.”

²¹ But as Sisera dey sleep, bikos e don taya well-well, Jael kon take hammer and nail waka small-small go near am kon nail en head from di korna join groun, so Sisera kon die.

²² Wen Barak find Sisera rish der, Jael tell am, “Make yu kom si di man wey yu dey find.” So Barak follow di woman enter di tent and e kon si sey Sisera don die, bikos di woman nail en head join groun.

²³ So for dat day, God kon give Israel pipol viktory ova Jabin wey bi Kanaan pipol king.

²⁴ From dat time go, Israel pipol kon get pawa and strong more-more pass King Jabin, until dem distroy am finish.

5

Deborah Song

¹ For dat day, Deborah and Barak, Abinoam pikin, sing dis song:

² “Make una praiz God!

Israel leaders agri to go fight
and di pipol happy follow dem.

³ Una wey bi king, make una listin!

Una wey bi rulers, make una hear mi!

Bikos I go sing and play music give God,
di Oga for Israel.

⁴ My God, wen Yu komot from Seir go Edom,
di eart shake and rain start to fall from di sky;

⁵ di Oga wey bi Sinai
and Israel God, mountins skata for yor present.

⁶ For di time wey Shamgar, Anat pikin
and Jael dey rule,

pipol nor dey gri pass di main road
and dem dey hide travel.

⁷ Na only few pipol remain for Israel village,
until Deborah kom stand
as Israel pipol mama.

⁸ Den war start for di town
bikos Israel pipol bigin serve oda gods.

But e get any man for Israel among di 40,000 men
wey karry shield or spear go fight?

⁹ I like doz leaders for Israel
and doz wey gri to fight war.
Make wi praiz God!

¹⁰ Una wey dey ride fine donkey;
wey dey use fine blanket for una horse
and doz wey dey take leg waka,

make una tok about am. ¹¹ Make una listin,
doz wey dey near di well dey sing,
bikos God and Israel pipol don win!
Den God pipol go mash
kom from dia towns.
¹² Deborah, make yu wake-up!
Deborah, I sey make yu wake-up!
Make yu wake-up kon sing song!
Barak wey bi Abinoam pikin,
make yu stand up go free doz wey dey prison.
¹³ Den doz wey remain kom down from Tabor go meet dia leaders. God pipol dey ready
to fight.
¹⁴ Dem from Ephraim go di valley,
di land wey bi Amalek pipol own before
and dem follow Benjamin tribe with en men.
Di kommanders kom from Makir
and di ofisas kom from Zebulun.
¹⁵ Di prince dem for Issakar dey with Deborah
and Barak.
Dem follow Barak go di valley.
But Reuben tribe divide,
bikos dem nor gri kom.
¹⁶ Why una sidan for house with di sheep?
Na to listin to di shepad wen dem koll dia animals?
'Yes!' Reuben tribe divide
and dem nor gri kom.
¹⁷ Gilead pipol dey for Jordan River east,
while Dan pipol dey near di sheep.
Asher pipol nor gri komot from di wotaside,
dem dey stay near di river.
¹⁸ But Zebulun and Naftali pipol risk dia life
kon go fight war.
¹⁹ Kanaan kings kom fight
for Taanak near Megiddo wota,
but dem nor take any silva komot der.
²⁰ From di sky, di stars dey move
and fight against Sisera.
²¹ Kishon River karry dem go.
So I go mash face dem with full force!
²² Di horse dem dey shake di groun,
bikos dem dey mash am pass with force.
²³ God angel sey, 'Make una curse Meroz pipol.
Make curse follow dem,
bikos dem nor gri help God pipol;
dem nor kom fight for dem.'
²⁴ Jael wey en husband na Heba
wey kom from Kanaan,
na-im dey bless pass among evry woman.
Na Jael God bless pass all di wimen
wey dey stay tent.
²⁵ Sisera ask am for wota, but e gi-am milk.
E use fine bowl take bring di milk for am.
²⁶ Den e use en left hand take hold di nail

- kon hammer Sisera thru en head with en rite hand.
²⁷ Sisera fall kon knee down for di woman front.
 Na di woman leg e fall near and na der e for die
²⁸ Sisera mama look outside from window,
 bikos e dey wait for Sisera make e kom,
 den e kon sey,
 ‘Why en shariot nor kwik kom?
 Why wi nor dey hear en shariot nois?’
²⁹ Di wise wimen dem ansa am,
 but di woman still dey tell ensef sey,
³⁰ ‘May bi dem dey divide di tins wey dem seize;
 dat is, one girl or two for evry man.
 Sisera dey gada fine klot;
 klot wey dem design well.
 Yes! Fine-fine robe wey dem design for di two side,
 dey join wetin dem seize.’
³¹ My God, make all yor enemies die like Sisera!
 But make doz wey love Yu, shine like sun!’
 So peace kon dey for di land for forty years.

6

Gideon

- ¹ Israel pipol sin against God again, so E allow Midian pipol rule dem for seven years.
² Midian pipol get pawa well-well and Israel pipol kon dey hide for rock and oda place wey dey save for di hills. ³ Anytime wen Israel pipol plant, Midian, Amalek pipol and anoda tribe for di desert go kon attack dem. ⁴ Dem go kamp for di land kon distroy all dia plants from di aria for sout go rish Gaza. Dem go karry all di animals and dem nor go leave anytin make Israel pipol chop. ⁵ Dem go kom with dia kattle and tent wey tick like lokust. Dem go use dia kamel take skata di land ⁶ and Israel pipol nor fit do dem anytin.
⁷ Den, Israel pipol kon kry give God make E help dem. ⁸ So God send one profet go meet dem with dis message: “Dis na wetin di Oga wey bi Israel God dey tok: ‘I take una komot Egypt for where una for bi slave. ⁹ I save una from Egypt pipol and from all di pipol wey oppress una. I porshu all una enemies kon give una dia land. ¹⁰ Den I tell una sey, “Na mi bi una Oga and God. Una must nor woship Amor pipol gods; even doh una dey stay dia land naw.” But una nor gri listin to mi.’ ”

Gideon And God

- ¹¹ Den God angel kom Ofrah village kon sidan under di oak tree, wey bi Joash wey kom from Abiezer family, own. Den, en pikin Gideon dey hide pick wheat for one wine press, so dat Midian pipol nor go si am. ¹² Di angel appear to am kon sey, “Strong man, God dey with yu!”
¹³ Gideon ansa, “My Oga! If God really dey with us, wetin make all dis tins dey happen to us? And where all di mirakle wey awa grand-grand papa dem tell us? Bikos dem sey, ‘Na God take us komot from Egypt!’ But naw, God don forget us kon allow Midian pipol dey rule us.” ¹⁴ Den God angel turn kon tell am, “Make yu go with di pawa wey yu get kon save Israel pipol from Midian pipol, bikos na mi dey send yu!”
¹⁵ Gideon ansa, “My Oga! Na how I go take save Israel pipol? Na my family weak pass for Manasseh tribe and na mi small pass for di family!” ¹⁶ Den di angel tell am, “Yu go fit do am, bikos I go dey with yu and yu go distroy Midian pipol like sey yu dey fight one pesin.” ¹⁷ Gideon sey, “If yu go really help mi, den make yu show mi sign, so dat I go know sey na di Oga God really dey tok to mi. ¹⁸ Abeg, make yu nor komot until I bring food kon offa give yu.”
 Di angel ansa, “I go stay here until yu kom.”

¹⁹ Den Gideon rush go house go kook one yong goat den e use flower bake bread wey nor get yist. E put di meat for basket kon put di bread for pot, den e karry am go give di angel wey dey under di oak tree.

²⁰ Di angel tell am, “Make yu put di meat and di bread for dis rock, den pour di oil on-top.” So Gideon do as e tok. ²¹ God angel tosh di meat and bread with di stik wey e hold and fire kom out from di rock kon burn di food finish. Den di angel disappear. ²² Gideon bigin kry, wen e kon know sey na God angel bi dat, den e sey, “My Oga God wey get pawa, I don si yor angel face-to-face!”

²³ But God tell am, “Nor worry or fear, bikos yu nor go die.”

²⁴ So Gideon build one altar for der give God kon koll am, “Yahweh Shalom wey mean, ‘Na Oga God bi peace.’ ” Till today, di altar still dey for Ofrah wey bi Abiezer family land.

Gideon Destroy Di Altar

²⁵ Dat nite, God tell Gideon, “Make yu take yor papa melu and anoda seven years melu, den destroy and skata yor papa Baal altar and di Asherah juju wey dey near am. ²⁶ Den, yu go build betta altar for di Oga yor God on-top dis hill. Afta yu don build di altar, yu go take di sekond melu kon burn am as ofrin for di altar and yu go use di Asherah juju pole wey yu skata, take do firewood.”

²⁷ So Gideon take ten among en savant follow body go do wetin God tok. But e do am for nite, bikos e dey fear en family and di pipol for di town.

²⁸ Wen di pipol wake-up di next day, dem si sey dem don destroy di juju altar kon skata di Asherah juju wey dey near am. Dem kon si di sekond melu wey dem burn as ofrin on-top di new altar wey dem build for der.

²⁹ So dem ask demsef, “Na who do dis tin?” Afta dem don ask evribody, dem kon know sey na Gideon wey bi Joash pikin, do am.

³⁰ So di pipol tell Joash, “Make yu bring yor pikin kom out, bikos e must die for wetin e do so.”

³¹ But Joash tell di pipol wey kom meet am, “Why una dey fight for di juju? Una dey defend am? Anybody wey won fight or defend di juju, dem go kill-am before morning! If Baal really bi god, den make e defend ensef kon destroy and kill di pesin wey skata en altar!” ³² From dat time go, dem kon dey koll Gideon, “Jerub-Baal,” bikos Joash sey, “Make Baal defend ensef, bikos na en altar dem destroy.”

Gideon Gada Di Sojas

³³ Leta, Midian, Amalek pipol and anoda tribe for di desert gada togeda kon cross Jordan River go kamp for Jezrel Valley. ³⁴ Na wons God Spirit enter Gideon body, so e blow trumpet take koll all Abiezer family kom out make dem follow am. ³⁵ E send messenjas go Manasseh, Asher, Zebulun and Naftali sey make all dia sojas kom and dem kon follow am.

³⁶ Den Gideon tell God, “If Yu won really use mi take save Israel, just as Yu promise, ³⁷ den make Yu show mi with di sign wey I go ask for: Dis nite, I go put wool for where wi for dey pick wheat, but wen day break and I si sey dew wet di wool and di groun dey dry, den I go know sey Yu go help mi save Israel pipol, just as Yu promise.” ³⁸ And evritin happen as Gideon tok am. Wen Gideon wake-up for morning, e skwiz di wool and di wota wey kom out, full one bowl.

³⁹ Den Gideon tell God, “Abeg! Make Yu nor vex for mi sey I still won tok, bikos I still like do one test with di wool and dis time, I like make di wool dey dry, while di groun go soak with wota.”

⁴⁰ So dat nite, God do wetin Gideon ask for. Di next day, di wool dry well-well, but dew soak di groun.

¹ One day, Gideon and en men get up for early morning kon go stay near Harod where wota dey flow pass. Midian pipol kamp dey for di valley near di nort side wey divide dem from Moreh hill. ² God kon tell Gideon, “Di men wey yu get too many for mi to give una viktory ova Midian pipol. Dem go tink sey na dem win by demsef and bikos of dat, dem nor go kon tank mi. ³ So make yu tell dem, ‘Anybody wey dey fear, make e go back to en house and wi go stay here for Mount Gilead.’ ” So 22,000 pipol kon go house back, but 10,000 pipol still remain.

⁴ But God still tell Gideon, “Di men wey yu get still too many, make yu take dem go di wota and I go choose di ones wey I wont, for der. If I tell yu sey, ‘Make dis man follow yu,’ e go follow and if I sey, ‘Make dis man nor follow,’ e nor go follow yu.”

⁵ So Gideon take di men go di wota, den God tell am, “Make yu take doz wey drink di wota like dog and nor bi doz wey go knee down drink am.” ⁶ And na only three hundred men drink di wota like dog, but di rest knee down drink am.

⁷ God tell Gideon, “I go use dis three hundred men wey drink di wota like dog, take save and give yu viktory ova Midian pipol. So, make yu tell di remainin pipol make dem dey go dia house back.” ⁸ So Gideon send di men go dia house, escept di three hundred men wey follow di rules and na dem dey keep di trumpets. Midian pipol kamp dey under Israel pipol own for di valley.

God Tok With Gideon

⁹ Dat nite, God tell Gideon, “Get up make yu go attack Midian pipol, bikos I don give yu viktory. ¹⁰ But if yu dey fear to attack, make yu and yor savant Purah, go di kamp ¹¹ and una go hear wetin dem dey tok, den from der, yu go get di mind to attack.” So Gideon and en savant Purah kon go near dia enemy kamp. ¹² Midian and Amalek pipol and di men wey dey stay di desert, many for di valley like worm and dia kamel many like san-san for wotaside.

¹³ Wen Gideon rish der, e hear one man dey tell en friend about di dream wey e dream kon sey, “I dream sey, bread wey nor get yist roll enter awa kamp kon nak and skata awa tents for groun.”

¹⁴ So di friend ansa, “True-true, Gideon, Joash pikin wey kom from Israel, na en swod bi dat o-o! Na wetin di dream mean bi dat! God don gi-am viktory ova Midian pipol and all awa sojas.”

Gideon Destroy En Enemies

¹⁵ Wen Gideon hear di dream and wetin e mean, e knee down kon woship God. Den e go back to en kamp kon sey, “Make una get up! Bikos God don give us viktory ova Midian sojas.” ¹⁶ E divide en three hundred men into three groups kon give each pesin trumpet and cup wey tosh dey inside.

¹⁷ E tell dem, “Wen wi rish di kamp korna, make una do anytin wey I do. ¹⁸ And as mi and my group blow awa trumpet, make una blow una own round di kamp kon shaut, ‘Dis one na for God and for Gideon!’ ”

¹⁹ As dem just shange doz wey dey guide before mid-nite, Gideon and en hundred men kom di kamp korna kon blow dia trumpet and break di cup wey dey dia hand, ²⁰ den di oda group, do di same tin too. All of dem hold dia tosh for dia left hand, while di trumpet dey dia rite hand and dem kon shaut, “One swod for God and for Gideon!” ²¹ Each man stand for one place round di kamp and dia enemies sojas kon dey shaut run komot from di place wey dem dey.

²² Wen Gideon men dey blow dia trumpet, God make di enemies bigin fight demsef with dia swod. So dem run go Zaretan, wey far rish Bet-Shittah and Abel-Meholah town, near Tabbat. ²³ Israel pipol from Naftali Asher and Manasseh tribes kom out kon porshu Midian pipol.

Gideon And Ephraim Pipol

²⁴ Gideon send messenjas go all di hill kountry for Efraim sey, “Make una kom join mi fight Midian pipol and make una guide Jordan River and di small rivers go rish Bet-Barah, so dat Midian pipol nor go cross go der.” So Efraim men kon go guide di river. ²⁵ Dem katch two Midian shief wey bi, Oreb and Zeeb. Dem kill Oreb for Oreb rock and Zeeb for where dem dey press wine and di place name na Zeeb. Israel pipol still porshu Midian pipol, but dem bring Oreb and Zeeb head kom give Gideon for Jordan River east.

8

¹ Den Efraim men tell Gideon, “Why yu do us like dis? Wen yu dey go fight Midian pipol, why yu nor koll us?” Dem kon dey komplain about am.

² But e tell dem, “Make una nor vex! Even doh una nor kwik kom, wetin una do still big pass di ones wey mi and my men do. E just bi like wen dem harvest grape: di grape wey Efraim tribe waka leave for groun, betta pass all di ones wey Abiezer harvest! ³ Si, na una use God pawa take kill Midian pipol two shief, wey bi Oreb and Zeeb. Wetin I do wey rish dat one?” Wen e tok like dis finish, di pipol kon stop to vex.

Gideon Katch Midian King

⁴ For dis time, Gideon and en three hundred men don cross Jordan River. Dem don taya, but dem still dey porshu dia enemies. ⁵ Wen dem rish Sukkot, Gideon tell di men for di town sey, “Abeg, make una give my men some bread make dem chop, dem don taya and I dey porshu Zebah and Zalmunna wey bi Midian pipol kings.”

⁶ But Sukkot leaders ansa, “Why yu wont make wi give yor men food wen una neva katch Zebah and Zalmunna.”

⁷ So Gideon ansa, “Okay no problem! By di time wey God go put dem for my hand, I go flog una with kane and shuku-shuku wey I plok from desert!”

⁸ So Gideon go Penuel go meet di pipol wey dey der kon beg dem for di same tin, but dem ansa am, just like Sukkot leaders. ⁹ E tell dem, make una nor worry, “I dey go, I go kom back alive and nor-tin go do mi. And by di time wey I kom back, I go distroy una towel!”

¹⁰ By dat time, Zebah and Zalmunna and dia soja, dey Karkor. Dem bi only 15,000 wey remain from all di men wey dey di desert tribe and dem don kill 120,000 of dia soja.

¹¹ Gideon pass di road wey dey di desert korna for di east side for Nobah and Jogbehah kon go attack di sojas for der. ¹² Di two Midian king wey bi Zebah and Zalmunna run komot, but e porshu and katch dem and dis tin kon make all di sojas sopraiz.

¹³ Wen Gideon dey kom back from di war, e kon pass thru Heres Pass and ¹⁴ e katch one man from Sukkot kon ask am kweshon, den di man rite di 77 leaders name for Sukkot, give Gideon. ¹⁵ Den Gideon go meet Sukkot men kon tell dem, “Una remember di time wen una sey una nor go fit help mi? Una sey una nor go fit give my sojas wey don taya food to chop, bikos I neva katch Zebah and Zalmunna. Naw, make una si dem!” ¹⁶ So e take kane and shuku-shuku from di desert kon flog Sukkot leaders. ¹⁷ E still distroy Penuel towa kon kill di men wey dey di town.

¹⁸ Den, Gideon ask Zebah and Zalmunna, “Di men wey una kill for Tabor, make una tell mi how dem bi!” Dem ansa, “Dem bi like yu, all of dem bi like king pikin.” ¹⁹ So Gideon sey, “Dem bi my brodas, my mama shidren. If to sey una nor kill dem, I swear I nor for kill una.” ²⁰ Den e tell en senior pikin Jeta, “I kommand yu make yu kill dem!” But di pikin nor gri bring out en swod, e dey fear, bikos e still bi small boy.

²¹ So Zebah and Zalmunna kon tell Gideon, “Make yu kill us yorsef, bikos yu nid to get heart like man first, before yu go fit do wetin man dey do.” So Gideon kill dem kon take di gold wey dey dey dia kamel neck.

Gideon Rijet Crown

²² Leta, Israel pipol tell Gideon, “Make yu bi awa ruler, yu and yor shidren-shidren, bikos yu don save us from Midian pipol hand.”

²³ But Gideon ansa, “I nor go fit bi una ruler, even my pikin nor fit. Na God go bi una ruler.” ²⁴ And e still sey, “Make I beg una for one tin. Make all of una give mi di ear-ring wey una take from Midian pipol.” (dis na bikos, Midian pipol and oda desert pipol, dey wear gold ear-ring.)

²⁵ Di pipol ansa, “Wi go dey happy to give yu.” So dem put klot for groun and evribody kon put di ear-ring wey dem take. ²⁶ Di gold ear-ring wey Gideon kollekt, heavy rish 20 kilogram and dis ones nor join di fine-fine gold, necklaces and di purpol klot wey Midian king dem dey wear and di kollar wey dey round dia kamel neck. ²⁷ So Gideon make image with di gold kon put am for Ofrah wey bi en own town. Israel pipol forget God kon go der dey go woship di image. And e kon turn wahala for Gideon and en family.

Gideon die

²⁸ So Israel pipol win Midian pipol and dem nor kon dey fear dem again. Di land kon get peace for forty years until Gideon die. ²⁹ Gideon go back to en own town kon stay der. ³⁰ E get 70 sons, bikos e marry many wife. ³¹ E still get one girl-friend for Shekem wey born one pikin for am and e kon koll am, Abimelek. ³² Gideon, Joash pikin, old well-well before e die and dem beri am for en papa Joash grave, for Ofrah wey dey Abiezer town.

Israel Pipol Go Serve Baal Again

³³ Afta Gideon don die, Israel pipol kon dey sin against God, bikos dem dey woship Baal. ³⁴ So dem nor kon dey serve and woship di Oga God wey save dem from all dia enemies wey dey around dem. ³⁵ Even with all di good tins wey Gideon do for Israel pipol, dem still dey trit en family anyhow.

9

Abimelek Kill En Brodas

¹ Naw, Abimelek wey bi Gideon pikin, go Shekem town, where all en mama family dey stay kon tell dem ² make dem ask Shekem men sey, “Wetin make una wont make Gideon 70 shidren rule una, wen e bi sey only one man fit rule una? Make una remember sey, Abimelek na una own flesh and blood o-o.”

³ So en mama family kon tok to di men and dem kon agri to follow Abimelek, bikos e bi dia own family pesin. ⁴ Dem gi-am 70 pieces for silva from Baal temple and e use am take go hire wiked men wey nor dey obey di law. ⁵ Den e go en papa house for Ofrah kon kill en step brodas, di 70 son wey Gideon born. E kill all of dem on-top one stone. But na only Jotam wey bi Gideon last born, run bikos e hide. ⁶ All di leaders for Shekem and Bet-Millo kon make Abimelek king for di oak tree near di pila for Shekem.

Jotam Parabol

⁷ Wen Jotam hear wetin happen, e go stand on-top Mount Gerizim kon shaut tell di pipol wey dey groun sey, “Shekem leaders, make una hear mi, so dat God go hear una! ⁸ One day, all di tree gada togeda to choose king for demsef. Dem tell di olive tree sey, ‘Kom bi awa king!’

⁹ “But di olive tree ansa, ‘I nor go fit stop to produce my oil wey dem dey use take dey honor gods and human being, just bikos I won bi king!’

¹⁰ “Den all di tree tell di fig sey, ‘Make yu kom bi awa king.’

¹¹ “But di fig tree ansa, ‘I nor go fit stop to produce my good sweet fruit, just bikos I won bi una king.’

¹² “So dem tell di grape vine sey, ‘Make yu kom bi awa king.’

¹³ “But di grape vine ansa, ‘I nor go fit stop to produce my wine wey dey make gods and human being happy, just bikos I won bi una king.’

¹⁴ “Den all di tree kon tell shuku-shuku sey, ‘Make yu kom bi awa king.’

¹⁵ “Di shuku-shuku ansa, ‘If una really wont make I bi una king, den make una kom stay under mi. If not, fire go from my shuku-shuku branches burn Lebanon cedars.’ ”

¹⁶ Naw Jotam kon sey, “Wen una make Abimelek una king, una really dey honest and sincere? Una respet Gideon kon trit en family well since e deserve am? ¹⁷ Make una remember sey, my papa fight and risk en life take save una from Midian pipol hand. ¹⁸ But today, una don turn una back against my papa family. Una kill en 70 son on-top one stone. Abimelek na en pikin wey di savant woman born for am and na una family, so una kon make am king for Shekem. ¹⁹ So, if wetin una do to Gideon and en family, dey good and honest, den make una happy with Abimelek and e go happy with una too. ²⁰ But if e nor dey good for una eye, make Abimelek burn Shekem and Bet-Millo men with fire. Den fire go kom out from Shekem and Bet-Millo kon burn and kill Abimelek too.” ²¹ Bikos Jotam dey fear Abimelek en broda, e kon run go stay for Beer.

God Do Wetin Jotam Tok

²² Abimelek rule Israel pipol for three years. ²³ Den God kon make Abimelek and Shekem men begin fight demself and dem kon go against am. ²⁴ Dis tin happen so dat, Abimelek and di men for Shekem wey enkourage am to kill Gideon 70 shidren, go sofa for wetin dem do. ²⁵ Shekem leaders hide some men for bush dey wait Abimelek and to rob anybody wey pass der. But Abimelek kon know about dia plan. ²⁶ So wen Gaal, Ebed pikin kom Shekem with en brodas, di men for Shekem kon put dia hope on am. ²⁷ All of dem go dia vineyard go pick grape kon make wine take do party. Dem go dia god temple dey drink, chop and curse Abimelek.

²⁸ So Gaal sey, “Who bi dis Abimelek wey wi Shekem men dey serve? Nor bi Gideon pikin e bi? Zebul dey take orda from am, but why wi go serve am sef? Make una serve Hamor shidren, wey bi Shekem papa. ²⁹ I wish sey, I dey lead dis pipol, I go kill Abimelek! I for tell am sey, ‘Make yu gada all yor soja kom out kon fight!’ ”

³⁰ Wen Zebul wey dey rule di town, hear wetin Gaal tok, e kon dey vex. ³¹ E send messenjas go meet Abimelek for Arumah sey, “Gaal, Ebed pikin and en brodas kom Shekem and dem sey, dem nor go allow yu enter di town. ³² So naw, make yu and yor men kom out for nite kon hide for di town bush. ³³ For morning, before sun kom out, make una attack di town, wen Gaal and en men kom out kon fight una, make una distroy dem finish!”

³⁴ So Abimelek and en men kom out for nite; divide demself kon hide for di bush outside Shekem. ³⁵ Wen Abimelek and en men si sey, Gaal kom out kon stand for di town gate, dem stand up from where dem hide put.

³⁶ Gaal si dem, so e kon tell Zebul sey, “Look! Some men dey kom down from di mountin!”

Zebul ansa, “Nor bi human being dey kom! Na shadow yu dey si.”

³⁷ But Gaal tell am again, “Look! Some men dey kom from di mountin centre and one group dey kom from di tree where pipol wey dey si vishon dey stay!”

³⁸ Den Zebul tell am, “Nor bi yu sey, who bi Abimelek wey wi won serve? Dis nor bi di men wey yu curse? Go na! Make yu go fight dem!”

³⁹ So Gaal lead Shekem men go fight Abimelek. ⁴⁰ Gaal run and Abimelek kon porshu am. Many pipol wound go rish di town gate. ⁴¹ Abimelek go back to Arumah and Zebul kon drive Gaal and en brodas komot for Shekem.

Abimelek Take-ova Shekem Town

⁴² For di next day, Shekem pipol kon go di field and wen Abimelek hear am, ⁴³ e take en men, divide dem into three group kon hide for di bush around di field. Wen e si di pipol dey kom out from di town, en and en men kom out kon attack dem. ⁴⁴ Abimelek and en group, attack kon block di road wey dem dey pass enter di town. Den di remainin two group kon attack and kill di pipol wey dey for di field. ⁴⁵ Thru-out dat day, Abimelek fight for di town. E kill all di pipol for di town kon seize am. Den e skata di town kon pour salt full di groun.

⁴⁶ Wen all di leaders for Shekem Towa hear wetin happen, dem kon run go hide for El-Berit temple. ⁴⁷ Abimelek hear sey, all di leaders for Shekem Towa, gada for one place,

⁴⁸ so en and en men go on-top Mount Zalmon. E take axe for en hand kon kut one branch from one tree. E put am for en shoulder kon tell en men, "Make una kwik-kwik do wetin una si mi dey do!" ⁴⁹ So en men kut one-one branch kon follow am. Dem put di branches near di place where dem dey hide put kon lite fire der. All di pipol wey dey inside, die and dem bi like 1,000 men and wimen.

⁵⁰ Den Abimelek go Tebez and e kom surround and seize am. ⁵¹ E get one strong towa for di town centre, so all di men, wimen and di leaders, run go der, lock di door kon go hide for di roof. ⁵² Wen Abimelek kom attack di towa, e go di door won kon lite fire put, ⁵³ but one woman trow grindin stone from up kon land for en head and en brain kon krack.

⁵⁴ E kwik-kwik koll di pesin wey karry en weapon kon tell am, "Make yu kill mi with yor swod, so dat dem nor go sey, 'Na woman kill mi.' " So di pesin use en swod take shuk am and e kon die. ⁵⁵ Wen Israel pipol si sey, Abimelek don die, dem kon go back to dia house.

⁵⁶ God pay Abimelek back for di bad tins wey e do to en papa, bikos e kill en 70 brodas. ⁵⁷ God still pay Shekem pipol back for di bad-bad tins wey dem do. And di curse wey Jotam, Jerub-Baal (wey bi Gideon) pikin curse dem, really follow dem.

10

Peace Kon Dey

¹ Afta Abimelek don die, one day, Tola wey dey stay Shamir for Efraim hill kountry, wey Puah bi en papa and na Dodo wey kom from Issakar tribe bi en grand-papa, kon save Israel pipol. ² E lead Israel pipol for 23 years before e die and dem beri am for Shamir. ³ Afta am, Jair wey kom from Gilead kon lead Israel for 22 years. ⁴ E get 30 sons wey dey ride 30 donkey and dem get 30 towns for Gilead, wey dem still dey koll Jair village. ⁵ Jair die and dem beri am for Kamon. ⁶ Israel pipol sin against God, bikos dem kon dey woship Baal, Ashtoret and Siria, Sidon, Moab, Ammon and Filistia pipol gods. Dem forget God kon stop to woship am.

Jeftah

⁷ So, God kon dey vex for Israel pipol, den E make Ammon and Filistia pipol win dem. ⁸ Dem opress and sofa Israel pipol wey dey stay Amor kountry, for Jordan River east wey dey Gilead, for 18 years. ⁹ Ammon pipol cross Jordan River go fight Judah, Benjamin and Efraim tribe. And dis tin make Israel pipol weak well-well. ¹⁰ Den Israel pipol kon kry give God sey, "Wi don sin against Yu. Wi leave Yu kon dey woship Baal juju."

¹¹ So God ansa dem, "Wen Egypt, Amor, Ammon, Filistia, ¹² Sidon, Amalek and Maon pipol, opress una before and wen una kry give mi, I nor kom save una from dia hand? ¹³ But una still leave mi kon dey woship oda gods, so I nor go save una again. ¹⁴ Make una go kry give di gods wey una don choose, so dat dem go kom save una wen una dey trobol."

¹⁵ But Israel pipol tell God, "Wi don sin. So do us anytin wey Yu like, but today, wi dey beg sey make Yu kom save us." ¹⁶ So dem skata all dia yeye gods kon begin woship God; den God kon sorry for Israel pipol, bikos of dia sofa.

¹⁷ Ammon sojas kon ready to fight, so dem build dia kamp for Gilead. And Israel pipol gada kon kamp for Mizpa for Ramot. ¹⁸ For der, Israel pipol and di leaders kon dey ask demsef, "Who won lead us go fight Ammon pipol? Di pesin wey go lead us, go bi awa leader for Gilead."

11

Jeftah Rule Israel

¹ Jeftah na one strong man for Jabesh-Gilead. En mama na ashawo and na en papa bi Gilead. ² Gilead wife for house still born oda sons for am and wen di oda sons don big, dem kon tell Jeftah, "Make yu nor tink sey yu go get any of awa papa propaty, bikos na

ashawo born yu. So make yu komot awa house.” ³ So Jeftah komot from di house kon go stay for Tob town. Na for der e for make sturbon friends kon dey follow dem waka.

⁴ E nor too tey, before Ammon pipol kom fight Israel pipol. ⁵ Wen di fight start, Gilead leaders kon go tell Jeftah for Tob town ⁶ sey, “Make yu kom lead us go fight Ammon pipol.”

⁷ But Jeftah ansa, “Nor bi bikos una hate mi well-well, naim make una force mi komot from my papa house. Why una kom meet mi naw wen una dey trobol?”

⁸ Dem ansa, “Wi kom meet yu, bikos wi wont make yu lead all of us for Gilead go fight Ammon pipol.”

⁹ Den Jeftah tell dem, “If I follow una go fight Ammon pipol and God give mi viktory, I go bi una ruler?”

¹⁰ Dem ansa, “Yes! Wi agri and na God bi awa witness.” ¹¹ So, Jeftah follow Gilead leaders go back and di pipol kon make am dia leader and ruler. Jeftah tell dem wetin e wont wen dem dey God present for Mizpa.

Jeftah And Ammon King

¹² Afta, Jeftah send messenjas go meet Ammon king kon ask am, “Wetin make yu won attack awa land?”

¹³ Ammon king ansa, “Na bikos Israel pipol take my land, wen dem dey kom out from Egypt. Dem take my land wey start from Arnon River for sout go rish Jabbok River for nort and Jordan River for west. So make una give mi back, so dat peace go dey.”

¹⁴ Jeftah kon send messenjas go back go meet Ammon king ¹⁵ sey,

“Israel pipol nor take Moab and Ammon pipol land. ¹⁶ Wen dem komot from Egypt, dem travel pass di desert from di Red Sea till dem rish Kadesh. ¹⁷ Israel pipol send messenjas go meet Edom king sey, ‘Abeg make yu allow us pass yor land.’ But Edom king nor gri. Dem still tell Moab king di same tin, but e nor gri too. Den Israel pipol kon stay for Kadesh.

¹⁸ Israel pipol pass thru di desert and dem nor tosh Edom or Moab pipol with dia land. Dem travel go east for Moab land kon go kamp for di oda side for Arnon River, but dem nor cross Arnon, bikos Arnon divide Moab kountry.

¹⁹ Israel pipol send messenjas go meet King Sihon for Amor wey dey rule from Heshbon sey, ‘Abeg make yu allow us pass yor land go awa land.’ ²⁰ But King Sihon nor gri, instead, e gada all en sojas, go kamp for Jahza kon attack dem.

²¹ But di Oga wey bi Israel pipol God, make dem win King Sihon and en sojas. So dem kon take di land wey bi Amor pipol own. ²² Dem take Amor land, from Arnon River for sout go rish Jabbok River for nort and from di desert wey dey for east go rish Jordan River for west.

²³ Since di Oga wey bi Israel pipol God don drive Amor pipol komot bikos of en pipol, yu tink sey yu go fit just kom take am from dem? ²⁴ Yu fit take anytin wey Kemosh yor god give yu, but wi go take all di land wey di Oga awa God give us. ²⁵ Yu tink sey yu betta pass Balak, Zippor pikin wey bi Moab king? E try to shalenge Israel pipol, abi e nor do am? E nor ever fit fight us. ²⁶ For three hundred years naw, Israel pipol dey stay for Heshbon and di towns wey dey near am; Aroer and di towns wey dey near am and di oda town wey dey Arnon! Why yu nor kom klaim di land, dat time? ²⁷ I neva do yu any bad tin, but naw, yu dey do mi bad as yu kom attack mi. Make God wey dey judge, judge today between Israel and Ammon pipol!”

²⁸ But Ammon king, nor listin to Jeftah message.

²⁹ Dat time, God Spirit dey with Jeftah and e kon go Gilead and Manasseh town. E lead en sojas from Mizpa wey dey Jabesh-Gilead, go fight Ammon pipol. ³⁰ Jeftah make vow give God sey, “If Yu make mi win Ammon pipol, ³¹ anytin wey go first kom out from my house kom welkom mi, I go sakrifice am as burn ofrin give Yu.”

³² So, Jeftah lead en sojas go fight Ammon pipol and God gi-am viktory. ³³ E kill Ammon pipol kon distroy about twenty towns, from Aroer go rish one aria wey near Minnit till e distroy rish Abel-Keramin. Na like dis Israel pipol take win Ammon pipol.

³⁴ Wen Jeftah rish en house for Mizpa, en only pikin wey e get for en life, run kom out kon meet am, dey dance and play tamborin with happiness. ³⁵ Wen e si am, e vex kon tear en klot. E kry kon shaut, "Oh my dota! Yu don distroy mi! Yu don kause wahala for mi! I don make vow give God and I nor go fit take am back."

³⁶ Naim di girl sey, "Papa, if yu make vow give God, den yu must do wetin yu vow, bikos na God give yu viktory ova yor enemies, Ammon pipol. ³⁷ But first allow mi go do dis one tin: Allow mi go on-top di hill go roll and kry with my friends for two mont first, bikos I go die as virgin."

³⁸ Jeftah tell am, "Yu fit go." So Jeftah allow am go for two monts. Di pikin and en friends kon go di hill for two monts dey kry, bikos e nor go ever born shidren. ³⁹ Wen e rish house, di papa do di vow wey e make give God kon kill di girl as virgin.

So dis tin kon bi tradishon for all di yong girls wey dey for Israel. ⁴⁰ So Israel yong wimen, dey komot for four days evry year go mourn, bikos of wetin happen to Jeftah pikin.

12

Jeftah And Efraim Pipol

¹ Efraim pipol gada sojas kon cross Jordan River go Zafon. Dem send dis message go meet Jeftah, "Why yu nor koll us wen yu dey go fight Ammon pipol? Bikos of dat, wi go burn yu and yor house togeda!"

² But Jeftah ansa, "I koll una wen di fight just start, but una nor gri kom join mi fight Ammon pipol! ³ So, as I si sey una nor gri kom, I kon risk my life go fight dem without una and God give mi viktory ova dem. So why una won kom fight mi?"

⁴ Den Efraim pipol sey, "Una, Gilead pipol, nor bi slave una bi to Efraim and Manasseh pipol?" Bikos of dat, Jeftah gada all Jabesh-Gilead men kon go attack and win Efraim pipol. ⁵ Jeftah seize di place where dem dey pass cross Jordan River and if anybody from Efraim won try cross go back, Gilead men go shalenge and ask am, "Yu bi Efraim pesin?" If di pesin say, "No, I nor kom from der," ⁶ dem go tell am make e sey, "Shibbolet." If e kom from Efraim, e go sey, "Sibbolet," bikos Efraim pipol nor fit koll dat word well. Den dem go take am go kill for Jordan River korna. Na 42,000 Efraim pipol dem kill for dat time.

⁷ Jeftah lead Israel for six years, before e die and dem beri am for one of di town for Gilead.

Peace Kon Dey Again

⁸ Afta Jeftah die, Ibzan wey kom from Betlehem kon rule Israel pipol. ⁹ E get thirty sons and thirty dotas. E make en girls shidren marry men from outside en town and en boys shidren marry dia wife from anoda town too. Ibzan rule Israel pipol for seven years.

¹⁰ Wen e die, dem beri am for Betlehem.

¹¹ Afta Ibzan die, Elon wey kom from Zebulun tribe kon rule Israel for ten years. ¹² Wen e die, dem beri am for Aijalon for Zebulun.

¹³ Afta Elon die, Abdon wey bi Hillel pikin, wey kom from Piraton kon rule Israel pipol. ¹⁴ E get forty sons and thirty grand-shidren wey dey ride seventy donkey. E rule Israel pipol for eight years. ¹⁵ So wen e die, dem beri am for Piraton for Efraim, for Amalek pipol hill kountry.

13

Dem Born Samson

¹ Israel pipol sin against God again, so E kon allow Filistia pipol rule dem for forty years.

² For dat time, Manoah, one man wey kom from Dan tribe, dey stay for Zorah. E nor get any pikin, bikos en wife neva born. ³ God angel appear to Manoah wife kon tell am, “Even doh yu neva fit born pikin, yu go soon get belle and yu go born boy. ⁴ So make yu dey kareful and make yu nor drink wine or any oda strong drink or chop any food wey dem dey forbid. ⁵ Afta yu don born am, make yu nor ever kut en hair, bikos from di day wey dem born am, dem go dedikate am give God as Nazirite. E go save Israel pipol from Filistia pipol hand.”

⁶ Den di woman run go tell en husband, “One man from God appear to mi! E look like God angel and if yu si am, yu go fear. I nor ask am where e from kom and e nor tell mi en name. ⁷ But e tell mi sey, ‘I go get belle kon born boy.’ E still sey, ‘Make I nor drink wine or any strong drink or chop food wey dem dey forbid, bikos from di day wen I go born di pikin go rish di day wey e go die, dem go dedikate am give God as Nazirite.’ ”

⁸ Den Manoah pray give God, “My God! Abeg, make yor angel kom again kon tell us more tins wey wi go do about di pikin, wen dem don born am.”

⁹ God do wetin Manoah ask for and en angel kom back kon meet di woman wen e sidan for field. Dat time, en husband Manoah, nor dey with am. ¹⁰ So di woman run go tell en husband kwik-kwik sey, “Di man wey appear to mi dat day, don kom again!”

¹¹ So Manoah get up kon follow en wife and wen e si di angel, e kon sey, “Na yu bi di man wey tok to my wife dat day?”

Di angel ansa, “Yes! Na mi.”

¹² Den Manoah sey, “If wetin yu tok so happen, wish kind tins di boy go dey do and wish kind life e go live?”

¹³ God angel ansa, “Make sure sey, yor wife do di tins wey I sey make e do. ¹⁴ E must nor chop anytin wey dem make from grape vine; make e nor drink wine or any strong drink or chop food wey dem dey forbid.”

¹⁵ Den Manoah tell God angel, “Abeg stay here make wi kill and kook one small goat make yu chop.”

¹⁶ Di angel ansa, “I go stay, but I nor go chop anytin. Instead, make yu kook and burn am as ofrin give God.” (Manoah tok like dis, bikos e nor know sey na God angel dey with am.)

¹⁷ Den Manoah ask God angel, “Wetin bi yor name, so dat wi go honor yu wen all dis tins don happen.”

¹⁸ Di angel ansa, “Why yu won know my name? My name too dey wonderful to undastand.” ¹⁹ Den Manoah take small goat and some korn kon offa dem for di altar on-top rock as ofrin to God wey dey do wonders. ²⁰ As di smoke dey go up for di altar, Manoah and en wife kon si God angel inside di smoke dey go heaven, so dem kon fall face groun. ²¹ Na den dem kon know sey di man na God angel, so e nor appear to dem again.

²² Manoah tell en wife, “Wi go die, bikos wi don si God!”

²³ But di wife ansa, “If God won kill us, E nor for asept awa burnt ofrin and E nor for appear to us kon tell us all dis wonderful tins or do dis mirakle.”

²⁴ So wen di woman born, e kon koll di pikin, “Samson.” Di pikin grow well and God kon bless am. ²⁵ God Spirit gi-am pawa and e dey stay for Dan wey dey between Zorah and Eshtaol.

14

Samson Marriage

¹ One day, Samson go Timnah, where e for si one Filistia girl and e like am well-well. ² Wen e go house back, e kon tell en papa and mama, “I si one Filistia girl for Timnah wey I like, make una bring am for mi, bikos I won marry am.”

³ But en papa and mama nor happy. So dem ask am, “Yu nor si any woman wey yu like for awa family or di whole Israel wey yu fit marry? Why e bi sey na Filistia woman yu won marry?”

But Samson tell en papa, “Make una go marry am for mi, bikos e look like betta pesin to mi.” ⁴ En papa and mama nor know sey, na God dey lead Samson make e do am, bikos God dey find way wey E won take fight Filistia pipol, bikos na dem dey rule Israel pipol. ⁵ Wen Samson, en papa and mama dey go Timnah, as dem pass di vineyard, one yong lion just kom attack Samson. ⁶ At wons, God Spirit make Samson strong and e tear di lion with en ordinary hand like sey na small goat. But e nor tell en papa and mama wetin happen. ⁷ Wen Samson rish Timnah, e go tok to di girl, bikos e like am.

⁸ Leta, as Samson dey go marry di girl, e kon branch go look di lion wey e kill and e sopraiz to si bee and some honey inside di lion dead body. ⁹ E take some of di honey for en hand kon dey lick am as e dey waka go. Den e take some go give en papa and mama. Dem lick am, but Samson nor tell dem sey na from lion dead body e for take am.

¹⁰ Wen Samson papa dey make di final arrangement for di marriage, Samson kon do party for der, bikos dis na wetin di yong men dem dey do. ¹¹ Wen di girl papa si am, dem selet thirty men for di town make dem stay with am.

¹² So Samson tell dem, “Make I tell una one problem, if una fit solve am for di next seven days, I go give una thirty fine linen robe and thirty klot wey dem take dey go party. ¹³ But if una nor fit solve am, una go give mi thirty fine linen robe and thirty klot wey dem take dey go party.”

So dem kon gri.

¹⁴ Samson tell dem,
 “Di pesin wey chop,
 na-im dey bring wetin dem go chop
 and na from wetin strong,
 sweet tin for dey kom out.”

Afta three days, dem neva still fit solve am.

¹⁵ For di fourt day, dem kon tell Samson wife to bi, “Deceive yor husband to bi, so dat e go tell yu di ansa of wetin e tell us; if not, wi go burn yu and yor papa family togeda, bikos e bi like sey yu invite us kom here, so dat wi go dey poor.”

¹⁶ So Samson wife to bi kry go meet am sey, “Yu nor love mi; yu hate mi! Yu tell my pipol sometin and yu neva tell mi di ansa.”

But Samson tell am, “I neva even tell my papa and mama di ansa, so wetin go make mi tell yu?” ¹⁷ Thru-out di seven days wey dem do di party, di woman dey always kry for Samson. But for di sevent day, Samson kon tell am di ansa, bikos e dey always disturb am. Den di woman go tell di pipol.

¹⁸ So for di sevent day, as evening dey rish, di men kon tell Samson di ansa sey,
 “Na wetin go fit dey sweet pass honey
 or wish tin or animal strong pass lion?”

But Samson ansa dem,
 “If to sey, una nor work with my melu,
 una nor for know di ansa.”

¹⁹ At wons God Spirit enter Samson kon make am strong, so e go Ashkelon kon kill thirty men, den e take dia klot, kon give dem to di men wey solve di problem. Leta, e go back to en papa and mama house kon dey vex bikos of wetin happen. ²⁰ So dem kon give Samson wife to bi to Samson best man for di marriage.

15

Samson And Filistia Pipol

¹ For di time wen dem dey harvest wheat, Samson kon take one small goat go visit en wife to bi. Wen e rish der, e tell en wife papa, “I won go my wife room.” But di papa nor gri.

² Den di man tell Samson, “I bin tink sey yu hate my dota, so I kon gi-am to yor best man as en wife. But si, en yonga sista fine pass am well-well. Yu fit marry dat one.”

³ But Samson sey, “Dis time, dem nor go blame mi for wetin I go do Filistia pipol.” ⁴ So e go outside kon go katch 300 fox, e tie dia tail two-two togeda with rope. ⁵ Den e lite fire put for di rope wey dey dia tail kon porshu dem enter Filistia pipol farm and dem burn all wetin dem plant for di farm rish groun. E even still distroy dia vineyards and olive trees.

⁶ So Filistia pipol ask, “Who do dis tin?” Dem kon sey, “Na Samson, bikos en fada-in-law to bi wey kom from Timnah, give di woman to en best man.”

So Filistia pipol vex kon go burn di girl, en papa and dia house rish groun.

⁷ Samson tell dem, “Na so una dey bihave! I swear, I nor go stop until I pay una back!”

⁸ So e attack dem with vexnashon kon kill many of dem. Afta, e kon go stay for inside rock for Etam kave.

⁹ Filistia pipol kom kamp for Judah, near Lehi town. ¹⁰ Den, Judah men ask Filistia pipol, “Wetin make una won fight us?”

Den Filistia pipol ansa, “Wi wont Samson. Wi kom pay am back for wetin e do us.”

¹¹ So 3,000 men from Judah go di kave for di rock for Etam, go meet Samson kon tell am, “Yu nor know sey na Filistia pipol dey rule us? Wetin yu do to us so?”

Samson ansa dem, “I pay dem back for wetin dem do mi.”

¹² But dem tell am, “Wi kom here kon tie yu, so dat wi go karry yu give dem.”

So Samson sey, “Okay! But make una promise mi sey, una nor go kill mi by unasef.”

¹³ Dem gri kon sey, “Wi nor go kill yu; na only tie wi won tie yu karry give dem.” So dem tie am with two new rope kon karry am komot from di rock. ¹⁴ As Samson rish Lehi, Filistia sojas kom dey happy dey shaut. At wons, God pawa enter Samson and e kut di rope wey dem take tie am like sey na tread wey dey burn. ¹⁵ One donkey wey dem just kill, Samson si en bone for groun. So e pick di bone kon use am kill 1,000 Filistia sojas.

¹⁶ Den Samson sey,
 “Na with donkey bone I take
 kill 1,000 men
 kon gada dia bones togeda.”

¹⁷ Afta e don boast finish, e trowey di bone kon koll di place, “Bone Hill.”

¹⁸ Leta, Samson kon dey hongry for wota, den e kry give God sey, “Yu give mi dis viktory finish, make dis wiked Filistia pipol kon katch and kill mi, bikos wota dey hongry mi?” ¹⁹ So God allow wota kom out from one place for di groun for Lehi, den Samson drink until e beleful. So e kon koll di place “En-Hakkore” and e still dey for Lehi till today.

²⁰ Samson lead Israel pipol for twenty years, even doh Filistia pipol still dey rule di land.

16

Samson Go Gaza

¹ One day, Samson go Gaza wey bi Filistia pipol town and e stay der thru-out with one ashawo. ² Gaza pipol kon know sey, Samson dey for der, so dem gada for di town gate dey wait for am till day break. Dem sidan kwayet dey tok for dia mind sey, “If morning rish, wi go kill-am.”

³ But Samson stay bed go rish mid-nite, den e get up go di town gate pul am with di two pila kon karry am for en shoulder go Hebron hill.

Samson and Delilah

⁴ Afta sometaim, Samson kon love one woman wey en name na Delilah, wey dey stay for Sorek Valley. ⁵ All di five rulers for Filistia go meet Delilah kon sey, “Make yu deceive Samson, so dat e go tell yu wetin make am dey strong and how dem fit take stop am. Den yu go find way take tie am with rope well-well. Afta evritin, each of us go give yu 1,000 one hundred silva.”

⁶ So Delilah go meet Samson kon tell, “Abeg, make yu tell mi, ‘Wetin make yu dey strong like dis and wetin pesin go fit do, if e won tie yu?’ ”

⁷ Den Samson ansa, “If dem tie mi with seven new strong rope wey nor dry, I go dey weak well-well.”

⁸ So Filistia rulers bring seven new strong rope kon give Delilah, den e use am take tie Samson. ⁹ By dat time, Delilah hide some men for di oda room, den e shaut, “Samson! Filistia pipol don kom katch yu o-o!” But Samson kut di rope, just as tread dey kut if yu take fire tosh am. So dem nor still know di sekret wey make am get pawa.

¹⁰ Leta, Delilah kon tell Samson, “Si, yu dey lie for mi kon make mi bi like fool! Abeg, make yu tell mi di trut, na how dem fit take tie yu?”

¹¹ Samson ansa am, “If dem tie mi with new rope wey dem neva use before, I go weak well-well.”

¹² So Delilah take new rope kon tie am. Di men dey di oda room dey wait, so e kon shaut, “Samson! Filistia pipol don kom katch yu!” But e kut di rope komot for en hand like sey na tread.

¹³ Den Delilah tell am, “Yu still dey lie and fool mi! So naw, make yu tell mi how pesin fit take tie yu.”

Den Samson ansa am, “If yu plait my hair into seven part kon use peg take make am tit, I go dey weak well-well.” So wen Samson dey sleep, Delilah kon plait di hair into seven part. ¹⁴ Den e tit am with di peg.

E kon shaut again, “Samson! Filistia pipol don kon katch yu o-o!” So Samson wake-up, remove di peg, den luz en hair.

¹⁵ Den Delilah vex kon tell am, “Why yu dey tell mi sey, ‘I love yu’ and yu nor fit trust mi kon tell mi yor sekret? Yu don fool mi three times naw and yu neva still tell mi wetin make yu dey strong!” ¹⁶ Delilah kontinue to dey tok and komplain until Samson kon taya for en wahala, ¹⁷ so e tell am di trut at last.

E sey, “Dem neva kut my hair wons, bikos wen dem born mi, dem dedikate mi give God as Nazirite. So if yu kut my hair, my pawa go leave mi and I go kon dey weak just like anybody.”

¹⁸ Delilah just know sey Samson don tell am di trut, so e send message go give Filistia rulers sey, “Make una kom back just dis last time, bikos e don tell mi di trut.” So dem bring di money follow body kom. ¹⁹ Delilah deceive Samson sleep for en lap, den koll one man make e kut di seven hair komot. Den e put am for groun small-small, bikos en pawa don leave am.

²⁰ Den e shaut, “Samson! Filistia pipol don kon katch yu!”

E wake-up kon tell ensef, “I go do as I dey do before, I go shake mysef and dey free.” E nor know sey Oga God don leave am.

²¹ So Filistia pipol katch am kon blind en eye, den dem tie am with bronze shain; take am go Gaza kon force am make e dey grind korn for prison. ²² But e nor too tey, before en hair kon dey grow kom again.

Samson Viktory

²³ Filistia rulers dey do party, offa sakrifise and dey praiz dia god wey bi Dagon kon dey sey, “Awa god don give us viktory ova Samson wey bi awa enemy!”

²⁴ Wen di pipol si am, dem praiz dia god sey,
“Awa god don diliver awa enemy give us!

Di pesin wey kill many of awa pipol
don dey under awa pawa naw!”

²⁵ Many of dem don drink by naw, so dem sey, “Make una bring Samson kom out make e kon make us laf!” So dem bring am kom out from di prison and e stand between di two pila wey dey support di building. Dem kon dey play with am, so dat e go make dem laf.

²⁶ Den Samson tell di boy wey hold en hand sey, “Make yu put my two hand for di pila wey hold di temple, bikos I won rest my body.” ²⁷ By dis time, di temple don already full with pipol. All di five Filistia rulers dey der and about 3,000 men and wimen dey der dey wosh Samson as e dey make dem laf. ²⁸ Den Samson pray give God sey, “Oga God wey get

pawa, remember mi again. My God! Abeg make Yu give mi pawa one more time. Make I pay Filistia pipol back for my eye wey dem blind.” ²⁹ Samson put en two hand for di pila wey hold di temple kon push am, ³⁰ den e pray sey, “My God, make Yu allow mi die with Filistia pipol wey bi my enemies.” Den di temple fall skata for di five rulers and di pipol head. Di pipol wey Samson kill wen e dey die, many pass di ones wey e kill wen e dey alive.

³¹ Afta, en brodas and family kon karry en dead body. Dem take am go beri between Zorah and Eshtaol, where dem beri en papa Manoah put. Samson lead Israel pipol for twenty years.

17

Mikaya Juju

¹ E get one man, e name na Mikaya and e dey stay for Efraim hill kountry. ² One day, e tell en mama, “Yor 1,000 one hundred silva wey dem tif wey kon make yu curse di tif, dey my hand.” Na mi tif am.

Den en mama sey, “Bikos yu gri sey na yu tif am, make God bless yu!”

³ So e give di money back to en mama, den di mama sey, “Bikos I nor wont make di curse follow my pikin, I dey dedikate dis money give God. I go use am take buy wood kon make juju wey dem kover with silva.”

⁴ So wen di pikin give en mama di money, di woman take two hundred silva kon give pesin wey turn am to juju and dem kon put am for Mikaya house.

⁵ So, Mikah build shrine for di juju, den e make one priest garment kon wear am for en pikin, so dat e go bi en priest. ⁶ Dat time, Israel pipol nor get king; so all di pipol dey do wetin dem like.

Mikaya Hire Pesin

⁷ One day, one Levi man wey dey stay Betlehem for Judah kon kom di aria. ⁸ E komot for Betlehem go look for anoda place where e go stay. Wen e dey travel, e kon rish Mikah house for di hill kountry wey dey Efraim.

⁹ Mikah ask am, “Na where yu from kom?”

Di man ansa, “I bi Levi from Betlehem for Judah and I dey look for where to stay.” ¹⁰ So, Mikah tell am, “Yu fit stay here with mi and yu go bi my papa and priest. Evry year, I go dey give yu ten silva, klot and food.” ¹¹ Di Levi man gri and e kon bi priest like Mikah pikin too. ¹² So e stay Mikah house and Mikah kon make di man e own pesinal priest.

¹³ Den Mikah sey, “I know sey God go bless mi naw, bikos I get Levi pesin as my priest.”

18

Mikaya And Dan Tribe

¹ Dat time, Israel pipol nor get king.

And Dan tribe dey find where dem go stay, bikos dem neva fit pak go di land wey dem divide give dem, wen dem dey divide land give all di tribe for Israel. ² So Dan pipol choose five strong warrior from Zorah and Eshtaol town, so dat dem go find land where dem go stay.

Wen dis men rish Efraim hill kountry, dem kon go stay for Mikah house till di next day.

³ As dem dey Mikah house, dem notis di Levi priest for der, so dem kon ask am, “Na who bring yu kom here? Na wetin yu dey do for here and wetin make yu dey here?”

⁴ E ansa dem, “I get agriment with Mikah, to bi en pesinal priest and e dey pay mi.”

⁵ Den dem tell am, “Ask God for us weda awa journey go get head.”

⁶ Di priest tell dem, “Make una go in peace, bikos God dey with una for di journey.”

⁷ So di five men kon go Laish town and dem si sey, di pipol for der dey live dia life well like Sidon pipol; dem dey peaceful and save. Di pipol get money well-well, bikos di land dey produce betta food. Dem dey stay far from Sidon pipol and dem nor dey fight with anybody.

⁸ Wen di men kom back to Zorah and Eshtaol, dia pipol kon ask dem, “Wetin una find?”

⁹ Dem ansa, “Make una kom, make wi attack dem! Wi don si di land and e dey very good. Wetin una dey wait for? Make wi nor waste time, make wi go take am. ¹⁰ Wen wi rish der, una go si sey di pipol dey leave eazy life. Di land big well-well and e get evritin wey pesin wont. God don gi-am to us.”

¹¹ So six hundred men from Dan tribe wey ready for war kon komot go Zorah and Eshtaol. ¹² Dem kamp for Kiriath-Jearim west for Judah and na dis make dem dey koll di place Dan till today. ¹³ Dem from der pass go Mikah house for Ephraim hill kountry.

¹⁴ Den di five men wey go spy Laish land kon tell di oda pipol, “Dis house wey una dey si so, get holy garment and some oda juju wey dem karve, dey der too. Wetin una wont make wi do?” ¹⁵ So dem enter Mikah house where di yong priest dey stay kon greet am well. ¹⁶ As di six hundred men from Dan tribe wey ready to fight war, stand for di gate to enter di kompond, ¹⁷ di five men wey go spy, enter di shrine karry di image wey dem karve, di efod and di juju dem. While di priest stand for di gate with di six hundred men.

¹⁸ Wen di priest si sey di men dey karry di holy tins dey komot from di shrine, e kon ask dem, “Wetin una dey do so?”

¹⁹ Dem ansa am, “Kwayet and make yu follow us kon bi awa papa and priest. E nor good sey make yu bi priest for Israel tribe and family, down for one man?” ²⁰ So di priest happy kon follow dem and e karry all di holy tins. ²¹ Dem kon dey go with dia shidren, animals and all wetin dem get.

²² Wen Dan pipol don go far from Mikah house, Mikah kon koll all en neighbours make dem follow am porshu Dan pipol. ²³ Dem porshu Dan pipol katch. Den, Dan men turn back kon ask Mikah, “Wetin happen? Why yu koll all dis men make dem porshu us like dis?”

²⁴ Mikah ansa, “Wetin una mean by, ‘Wetin happen?’ Una don take all di gods wey I make and my priest dey go, wetin remain for mi naw!”

²⁵ So Dan men tell am, “Mind wetin yu dey tok! Unless yu wont make all dis men attack kon kill yu and yor family.” ²⁶ Den, Dan pipol kon waka dey go. Wen Mikah si sey di pipol too many for am to attack, e kon leave dem go back to en house.

²⁷ Afta Dan pipol don take Mikah holy tins and priest, dem kon rish Laish land where di pipol dey kwayet well-well. Dem attack dem with swod kon burn di town rish groun. ²⁸ Nobody dey to save dem, bikos dem dey stay far from Sidon pipol and dem nor get any business with oda pipol.

Den, Dan tribe build di place kon dey stay der. And dis tin happen for di valley near Bet-Rehob. ²⁹ Dem shange di town name from Laish to Dan, bikos of dia grand-grand papa wey bi Jakob pikin. ³⁰ Den, dem arrange di juju kon make Jonatan wey bi Gershom pikin, dia priest and na Moses born Gershom. So na dat family bi priest until dem go Babilon. ³¹ So Mikah juju dey der, as long as God Tabanako dey for Shiloh.

19

Di Levi Priest And En Girl-friend

¹ For dat time, Israel pipol nor get king. But e get one man from Levi tribe wey dey stay for Ephraim hill kountry. One day, e bring one girl kom from Bethlehem for Judah as en girl-friend. ² But di girl dey vex for am, so e kon go back to en papa house for Bethlehem. Afta four monts don pass, ³ en boy-friend kon go Bethlehem go tok to am make e kom back. E take en savant and two donkey follow body. Wen e rish di girl papa house, di papa kon welkom am. ⁴ Di papa beg am make e stay small, so e stay der; chop, drink and sleep for three days.

⁵ For di fourt day, di man kwik wake-up kon ready to go, but di girl papa tell am, “Make yu chop sometin, before yu go.” ⁶ So di two men sidan kon chop and drink, den di papa kon sey, “Abeg stay for just dis nite make yu enjoy yorsef.” ⁷ Di man stand up won kon go, but di papa still dey beg make e stay, so e kon agri to stay for dat nite. ⁸ For di fift day,

e kon kwik wake-up make e dey go. Again, di girl papa kon sey, “Make yu chop sometin; den yu fit go for aftanoon.” So dem sidan kon chop.

⁹ Afta, wen di man, en girl-friend and en savant dey ready to go, di papa kon sey, “Look, evening don almost rish. Make una stay and enjoy for dis nite, den tumoro morning, una fit get up early kon go.” ¹⁰ But dis time, di man don make up en mind to go. So e take en two donkey and en girl-friend kon pass thru Jebus (wey bi Jerusalem).

¹¹ Time don go far before dem rish Jebus, so di man savant tell am, make wi stop for Jebus town kon sleep for der.

¹² But di masta sey, “No! Wi nor go fit stay for dis town wey Israel pipol nor dey, instead wi go-go Gibeah. ¹³ Make wi waka fast, so dat wi go fit rish Gibeah or Rama, den wi go sleep for any of di towns.” ¹⁴ So dem kontinue. Evening don dey rish wen dem rish Gibeah town for Benjamin land, ¹⁵ so dem stop kon sleep for der. Dem sleep for di town hall, bikos nobody allow dem sleep for dia house.

¹⁶ Dat evening, one old man just dey kom back from farm where e for go work. E kom from Ephraim tribe, but e dey stay for Gibeah, wey all di pipol kom from Benjamin tribe. ¹⁷ Wen e si dem sidan for di town hall, e kon ask dem, “Where una from kom and where una dey go.”

¹⁸ Di Levi man ansa, “Wi dey kom from Betlehem for Judah and wi dey go di oda side for Ephraim hill kountry, bikos na der wi dey stay. I travel go Betlehem before and naw I dey go back to my house. But nobody gri make wi sleep for dia house dis nite, ¹⁹ even doh sey wi get evritin wey wi wont. Wi get food for awa donkey, plenty bread and wine for awasef.”

²⁰ Den di old man sey, “Make una kom my house, I go give una anytin wey una wont. Una nor nid to stay for di town hall.” ²¹ So e take dem go en house kon feed dia donkey. Afta dem don wosh dia leg, dem kon chop and drink togeda.

²² As dem dey chop and drink, some pipol wey dey kause trobol for di town kon surround di house. Dem begin nok di door dey shout for di old man, “Make yu bring di man wey dey stay with yu, so dat wi go sleep with am.”

²³ But di old man go outside go meet dem kon tell dem, “No! My brodas, abeg make una nor do dis kind evil tin! Dis man na my visitor and dis kind tin na shame. ²⁴ Look, make una take my dota wey bi virgin and di man girl-friend. I go bring dem kom out for una, make una take dem do wetin una like, but make una nor do dis kind bad tin to di man.”

²⁵ But dem nor gri listin to di man. So di Levi kon push en girl-friend go outside for dem. So dem rape am, do am anyhow till day break. ²⁶ Wen day break, di woman kom di old man house where en boy-friend dey kon fall for di gate, e stay der until sun kom out for morning.

²⁷ Wen di boy-friend open door for morning make e dey go, e si en girl-friend liedan for der and e hand dey di door-mot. ²⁸ So e tell am, “Make yu get up make wi dey go!” But di woman nor ansa. So e karry am put for en donkey kon take am go house.

²⁹ Wen e rish house, e take knife kon kut en girl-friend body into twelf part, den e send one part go each of di twelf tribe for Israel. ³⁰ Evribody wey si am kon sey, “Wi neva hear dis kind tin before! Dis kind tin neva happen wons since Israel pipol komot from Egypt! Wi nid to do sometin about am! So dem kon dey tok among demsef dey ask, ‘Na wetin wi go do naw?’ ”

20

Israel Ready For War

¹ Israel pipol for nort for Dan kountry go rish Beersheba for sout and even Gilead land for east, ansa di koll. Dem gada togeda as one for God present for Mizpa. ² Di leaders for all di tribe for Israel dey with God pipol too and dem bi 400,000 sojas. ³ By dat time,

Benjamin pipol don hear sey all di oda tribe for Israel, don gada for Mizpa. Israel pipol kon ask, "Make una tell us how dis bad tin take happen?"

⁴ So di Levi wey dem kill en girl-friend kon sey, "Mi and my girl-friend go spend one nite for Gibeah, wey bi Benjamin pipol town. ⁵ Dat nite, some men for Gibeah kon surround di house won kon kill mi. Dem kon rape my girl-friend until e die. ⁶ So I take en body, kut am into twelf part, den I send one-one go each tribe for Israel. Dis pipol don do evil and wiked tin. ⁷ So naw, Israel pipol must decide wetin wi go do about dis tin!"

⁸ All di pipol get up di same time kon sey, "Non of us go-go house back! ⁹ Dis na wetin wi go do Gibeah pipol; wi go pick pipol wey go attack dem. ¹⁰ Wi go still pick one out of evry ten from di men for each tribe, wey go dey supply di sojas food, den wi wey remain go attack Gibeah for Benjamin town, bikos of wetin dem do to Israel." ¹¹ So Israel pipol gada with one mind to go attack Gibeah town.

¹² Israel pipol send message go Benjamin tribe sey, "Wetin bi dis wiked tin wey una do so? ¹³ Make una release doz wiked men, di trobol-makers from Gibeah, so dat wi go kill dem take klean Israel land from dis bad tin wey una do."

But Benjamin pipol nor gri. ¹⁴ Instead dem komot from dia towns kon gada for Gibeah to fight Israel pipol. ¹⁵ Dem koll 26,000 sojas from all dia town and 700 special men wey dey stay der. ¹⁶ Di 700 men dey use left hand and each of dem dey stone without sey dem miss.

¹⁷ Israel pipol get 400,000 sojas wey dem don train.

¹⁸ Before dem go for di war, Israel pipol go Bethel go ask God, "Na wish tribe go first attack Benjamin pipol?"

God ansa, "Make Judah go first."

¹⁹ So Israel pipol kwik komot for early morning go kamp near Gibeah. ²⁰ Den dem mash go Gibeah go attack Benjamin men. ²¹ But Benjamin sojas wey dey guide di town kom kill 22,000 Israel pipol dat day. ²² Israel pipol enkourage each oda kon stay for di same place where dem for fight before. ²³ Bikos dem don go Bethel go kry for God present till evening kon dey sey, "Make wi fight against awa rilative for Benjamin tribe again?"

God ansa dem, "Make una go fight dem."

²⁴ So di next day, dem kon go fight against Benjamin men, ²⁵ but Benjamin men still kill anoda 18,000 Israel pipol wey sabi fight well-well.

²⁶ Den all Israel pipol kon go Bethel again go kry and fast for God present till evening. Dem still bring burnt ofrin and peace ofrin kon give God. ²⁷ Israel pipol kon dey ask for direcshon from God (bikos before-before, God Kovenant Box dey for Bethel ²⁸ and na Finehas, wey bi Eleazar pikin and Aaron grand-pikin, bi di priest wey dey kare for am). Den Israel pipol ask God again, "Make wi go fight against awa rilative for Benjamin tribe or not?"

God ansa. "Make una go! Tumoro, I go give dem to una."

²⁹ So dem kon set trap round Gibeah. ³⁰ Israel pipol kon attack Benjamin tribe for di third day and dem kamp for Gibeah just as dem do before. ³¹ Wen Benjamin pipol kom out kon fight, dem lead dem komot for di town. Just as before, dem bigin kill some Israel pipol, dem kill rish thirty Israel pipol for di open land and di road wey dem dey pass go Bethel and Gibeah.

³² Den Benjamin sojas shaut, "Wi dey win dem, just as wi do before!" But Israel pipol don plan before sey, dem go run komot from di town, so dat Benjamin men go porshu dem enter road.

³³ Wen Israel main sojas rish Baal-Tamar, dem take dia pozishon, while di ones wey surround west for Gibeah rush kom out wons from where dem hide put kon attack. ³⁴ Na 10,000 special sojas wey dem choose from Israel tribe kon attack Gibeah. Di fight strong well-well sotey Benjamin sojas nor know sey dem go soon distroy dem finish. ³⁵ God help Israel pipol win Benjamin pipol and dat day, Israel pipol kill 25,000 men wey bi di best sojas for Benjamin tribe. ³⁶ Den Benjamin sojas kon know sey, dem don luz.

Israel main sojas bin dey run from Benjamin sojas, bikos dem won give doz wey still hide for bush, di shance to attack Gibeah town. ³⁷ Den doz wey hide, rush kom out kon kill evribody for di town. ³⁸ Dem don arrange sey, dem go send big kloud of smoke from di town as signa. ³⁹ Wen Israel pipol si di smoke, dem turn kon attack Benjamin sojas.

By dat time, Benjamin sojas don kill thirty Israel sojas, so dem kon sey, “Wi don dey win dem, just as wi do for di first fight!” ⁴⁰ But wen Benjamin sojas look back kon si sey smoke dey go up from evriwhere for di town, ⁴¹ Israel sojas kon begin attack dem. Naw, Benjamin sojas kon dey fear, bikos dem know sey, dem don die finish. ⁴² So dem turn kon dey run from Israel sojas go di open land, but dem nor fit eskape di fight and dem kill all di pipol wey kom out from di town wey dey near der too. ⁴³ Israel sojas set trap for dia enemies and dem porshu dem sotey go rish Gibeah east kon dey kill dem as dem dey go. ⁴⁴ Dat day, Benjamin 18,000 strong sojas die for di war. ⁴⁵ Di ones wey manage survive run enter wildaness near Rimon Rock, but Israel sojas kill 5,000 for di road side. Dem porshu dem, until dem kill anoda 2,000 near Gidom.

⁴⁶ So dat day, Benjamin tribe lost 25,000 strong sojas. ⁴⁷ Di sojas wey remain na di six hundred wey run go Rimon Rock and dem stay der for four monts. ⁴⁸ Israel pipol still go back go kill Benjamin pipol wey remain; di men, wimen, shidren and even all di animals. Dem burn all di towns for der.

21

Wifes For Benjamin Tribe

¹ Wen Israel pipol gada for Mizpa, dem kon vow sey, “Wi nor go ever marry awa dotas give Benjamin tribe.”

² So dem go Bethel, sidan for God present till evening kon dey kry well-well. ³ Dem sey, “Awa Oga wey bi Israel God! Wetin make dis kind tin happen for Israel? Naw one of awa tribe don dey miss from Israel!”

⁴ Di next day for early morning, di pipol build altar kon bring dia burnt and peace ofrin kom.

⁵ Den dem sey, “Wish tribe for Israel nor dey with us wen wi gada for God present for Mizpa?” By dat time, dem don swear before God sey, anybody wey nor gri kom, dem go kill-am.

⁶ So Israel pipol kon dey sorry for dia broda, Benjamin tribe den dem kon sey, “Today, Israel don lost one of en tribe. ⁷ How wi go fit take find wife for di pipol wey remain, since wi don swear with God sey, wi nor go give dem awa dotas marry? ⁸ Na dis make us ask sey, ‘Wish tribe for Israel nor dey with us wen wi gada for God present for Mizpa?’ ” Den dem kon notis sey, Jabesh nor follow dem gada for Mizpa. ⁹ Bikos wen dem kount all di pipol finish, dem si sey nobody for Jabesh dey der.

¹⁰ So di pipol kon send anoda 12,000 for dia best sojas go Jabesh town for Gilead sey, make dem kill evribody, even di wimen and shidren. ¹¹ Dem sey, dis na wetin una go do, “Kill all di sons and any woman wey nor bi virgin.” ¹² For all di pipol wey dey Jabesh, dem si 400 yong virgin wey neva sleep with man before kon bring dem kom di kamp for Shiloh wey dey Kanaan land.

¹³ Den di pipol send message go give di pipol wey remain for Benjamin tribe, wey dey stay for Rimon Rock. ¹⁴ So Benjamin men go back to dia house and Israel pipol kon give dem di girls from Jabesh wey dem nor kill make dem marry. But dem nor many rish.

¹⁵ Di pipol sorry for Benjamin pipol, bikos God don separate dem from di oda Israel tribes. ¹⁶ So di leaders kon ask, “How wi fit take find wife for di pipol wey remain, since all Benjamin wimen don die finish? ¹⁷ Bikos doz wey survive for Benjamin tribe must get shidren, so dat one tribe for Israel nor go die finish. ¹⁸ But wi nor go fit marry awa dotas give dem, bikos wi don swear sey anybody wey do am go dey under God curse.” ¹⁹ Den, dem tink of di sakrifice wey dem dey do for God and na evry year for Shiloh, wey dey

sout for Lebonah and nort for Bethel, dem for dey do am. E still dey east for di road wey dey between Bethel and Shekem.

²⁰ So dem tell Benjamin men wey still nid wife sey, “Make una go hide for di vineyards.

²¹ Anytime una si di yong wimen for Shiloh kom out kon dance for di festival, una go rush kom out kon katch dem one-by-one go house for Benjamin town as una wife! ²² Den wen dia papa and brodas kom meet us with vexnashon, wi go tell dem sey, ‘Abeg make una sorry for us. Make una allow dem marry una dotas, bikos wi nor fit find wife for all of dem wen wi distroy Ramot. And nor-tin go do una if una break di vow, bikos una nor really marry una dotas give dem from una mind.’ ”

²³ So Benjamin men do as dem tell dem. Each man katch one woman as dem dey dance for di festival kon karry am go as en wife. Dem go back to dia own land kon build house and stay der again.

²⁴ Den Israel pipol komot from der. Evry man go back to en tribe, family and evritin wey e get.

²⁵ For dat time, Israel nor get king; so evribody dey do wetin dem tink sey dey good for dia eye.