

# Summary of the Old Testament



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# The Old Testament

IN THE BEGINNING, God created the heaven and the earth<sup>1</sup> in six days<sup>2</sup> and rested on the seventh day<sup>3</sup>. God created Adam<sup>4</sup> and placed him in the Garden of Eden<sup>5</sup>. God then brought to Adam the beasts of the field and the birds so he could name them<sup>6</sup>. When no suitable companion was found for him<sup>7</sup>, God caused Adam to fall asleep, took one of his ribs, used it to create Eve, and then brought her to him<sup>8</sup>. God allowed them to eat of any tree except for the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil; if they ate from that one they would surely die<sup>9</sup>. The serpent tempted Eve to eat from that tree<sup>10</sup>; Eve ate of it and gave its fruit to Adam, who ate it as well<sup>11</sup>. They then realized they were naked and hid themselves from God<sup>12</sup>. God confronted them<sup>13</sup>, cursing the snake, Adam, and Eve for their respective sins<sup>14</sup>, then sent Adam and Eve out of the Garden<sup>15</sup>. Mankind had fallen into sin and was now subject to death<sup>16</sup>, and the very ground was cursed<sup>17</sup> - but God promised to send a Messiah to save them<sup>18</sup>. God put cherubims in the Garden to guard the Tree of Life, so no one could eat of it and live forever<sup>19</sup>.

Adam and Eve had two sons - Cain and Abel<sup>20</sup>. Cain murdered Abel<sup>21</sup> because his brother was righteous and he was not<sup>22</sup>. God cursed Cain to be a vagabond<sup>23</sup>, but put a mark on him so no one would kill him<sup>24</sup>. Cain's descendants invented animal husbandry<sup>25</sup>, musical instruments<sup>26</sup>, and iron and brass working<sup>27</sup> - but they were just as evil as Cain<sup>28</sup>.

After Abel was murdered, Adam and Eve had a son named Seth<sup>29</sup>. In the line of Seth, five generations later<sup>30</sup>, Enoch<sup>31</sup> the prophet<sup>32</sup> was born. Enoch never died<sup>33</sup>; after 365 years<sup>34</sup> God simply took him, because he walked with God<sup>35</sup>.

In those days people commonly lived to be more than 900 years old<sup>36</sup>, but the wickedness of man was exceedingly great<sup>37</sup>. Fallen angels<sup>38</sup> married human women<sup>39</sup> and created the giants (Nephilim) – wicked beings of terrible power<sup>40</sup>. God decided to destroy mankind<sup>41</sup> – but Enoch's great-grandson Noah walked with God<sup>42</sup> and found grace in His sight<sup>43</sup>. God told Noah that He was going to send a Flood to destroy the world<sup>44</sup>, and commanded him to build an Ark<sup>45</sup> to house animals<sup>46</sup> and his family<sup>47</sup>. Noah did everything God commanded<sup>48</sup>. After Noah and the animals were on the Ark<sup>49</sup>, when Noah was 600 years old<sup>50</sup>, God sent the Flood. It rained for 40 days and nights<sup>51</sup>. The waters rose above the highest mountain<sup>52</sup> for 150 days<sup>53</sup>, and everything and everyone on land died<sup>54</sup>. However, God remembered Noah and used a wind to calm the waters<sup>55</sup>. A year after Noah boarded the Ark<sup>56</sup> God told everyone to disembark<sup>57</sup>. When Noah built an altar and offered burnt offerings<sup>58</sup>, God made a covenant with Noah<sup>59</sup> and promised to never again send another worldwide flood<sup>60</sup>. As a token of this promise God put the rainbow in the clouds<sup>61</sup>.

Some time after this the godless rebel Nimrod created the city of Babel<sup>62</sup>, which later became Babylon. At Babel men rebelled against God and created a tower<sup>63</sup>. To force men to stop building the city, God confounded their language<sup>64</sup> and scattered them<sup>65</sup>.

Job lived in the land of Uz; he was perfect and upright<sup>66</sup>, had 7 sons and 3 daughters<sup>67</sup>, and was very wealthy<sup>68</sup>. When Satan told God that Job only served Him because He had made him wealthy<sup>69</sup>, God gave him permission to touch his possessions<sup>70</sup>. Satan took away Job's wealth<sup>71</sup> and killed all of his children<sup>72</sup> in a single day<sup>73</sup>. Job responded by saying the Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord<sup>74</sup>. Since Job did not sin<sup>75</sup> Satan then asked for permission to take away his health<sup>76</sup>; when God granted it<sup>77</sup> he smote Job with sore boils<sup>78</sup>. Job's wife told

him to curse God<sup>79</sup> but Job refused<sup>80</sup>. Job's three friends came and told him that God had cursed him because he was an incredibly wicked man<sup>81</sup>. Job said he had done nothing wrong<sup>82</sup> and wished he could bring his case before God<sup>83</sup> because God had wronged him<sup>84</sup> and cruelly oppressed him<sup>85</sup>. Job wished that God would answer him<sup>86</sup>. After Job's three friends stopped talking to him because Job was righteous in his own eyes<sup>87</sup>, Elihu spoke up. He condemned Job for several reasons: for justifying himself instead of God<sup>88</sup>, for saying he was righteous and God had taken away his judgment<sup>89</sup>, and for claiming that he was more righteous than God<sup>90</sup>. The Lord then spoke to Job and condemned him for speaking without knowledge<sup>91</sup>, and demanded that if Job really knew everything that he prove it by answering God's questions about His creation<sup>92</sup>. Have the gates of death been opened to Job<sup>93</sup>? Where was Job when God laid the foundations of the earth<sup>94</sup>? When Job was horrified and said he was vile<sup>95</sup>, the Lord rebuked him for condemning God in order to justify himself<sup>96</sup> and demanded to know if Job had God's power<sup>97</sup>. Job then repented<sup>98</sup>. God told Job's three friends that He was angry with them because of their speeches<sup>99</sup>; after they offered a burnt offering and Job prayed for them God forgave them<sup>100</sup>. God then blessed Job and gave him twice as much as he had before<sup>101</sup>, and gave him 7 sons and 3 daughters<sup>102</sup>. Job lived 140 years after this and then died<sup>103</sup>.

God called Abraham to leave his family<sup>104</sup> and travel to Canaan<sup>105</sup>, and Abraham obeyed<sup>106</sup>. God made a covenant with Abraham, gave his descendants the land of Canaan as an everlasting possession<sup>107</sup>, and promised that one of his descendants would bless everyone on earth<sup>108</sup>. God also said that his descendants would be slaves in a foreign land for 400 years<sup>109</sup>, after which God would deliver them<sup>110</sup>, bring them to Canaan, and give them the land. God also promised to give Abraham and his wife Sarah a child<sup>111</sup>

and said their descendants would be as numerous as the stars<sup>112</sup>. However, when they grew older and remained childless they decided to take matters into their own hands. Sarah gave Abraham her maidservant Hagar<sup>113</sup>, and they had a child named Ishmael<sup>114</sup>. God promised to bless Ishmael<sup>115</sup> but said He was making His covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah would give birth to the following year<sup>116</sup>.

Before Isaac was born God came and investigated Sodom<sup>117</sup>, an exceedingly wicked city<sup>118</sup>. When the Lord told Abraham that He was going to destroy it, Abraham interceded to save any righteous people that might be living there<sup>119</sup>. God still destroyed the cities of the plain<sup>120</sup>, but first He sent angels to rescue Abraham's nephew Lot<sup>121</sup>. Lot and his two daughters escaped into Zoar<sup>122</sup>, but after Sodom's destruction they became afraid and moved into a cave<sup>123</sup>. There Lot's two daughters got him drunk and had sex with him<sup>124</sup>; they then gave birth to children who were the fathers of the Moabites and the Ammonites<sup>125</sup> – two nations that became a plague to the Israelites.

When Abraham was 100 years old<sup>126</sup> Isaac was born. After Isaac was weaned, Sarah had Abraham send Ishmael away<sup>127</sup>. Some time later God told Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice<sup>128</sup> – but when Abraham was about to do so God intervened and provided a ram in his place<sup>129</sup>. When Sarah died<sup>130</sup>, Abraham purchased the cave of Machpelah and buried her in it<sup>131</sup>. Abraham then sent his servant back to his home country to find a wife for Isaac<sup>132</sup>, and he returned with Rebekah, who was Abraham's brother's granddaughter<sup>133</sup>. Abraham married Keturah<sup>134</sup> and had numerous children<sup>135</sup>, but he gave them gifts and sent them away<sup>136</sup>. He gave Isaac everything he had<sup>137</sup>. When Abraham died, Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah<sup>138</sup>.

Isaac's wife Rebekah gave birth to twins – Jacob and Esau<sup>139</sup>. Isaac loved Esau but Rebekah loved Jacob<sup>140</sup>. After Esau sold his birthright for a single meal<sup>141</sup>, Rebekah helped



Jacob steal Isaac's blessing<sup>142</sup> and then told him to flee to the home of Laban (her brother) so Esau wouldn't kill him<sup>143</sup>. There Jacob married Rachel and Leah<sup>144</sup>, who gave birth to the men who would become the heads of the tribes of Israel: Reuben<sup>145</sup>, Simeon<sup>146</sup>, Levi<sup>147</sup>, Judah<sup>148</sup>, Dan<sup>149</sup>, Naphtali<sup>150</sup>, Gad<sup>151</sup>, Asher<sup>152</sup>, Issachar<sup>153</sup>, Zebulun<sup>154</sup>, Joseph<sup>155</sup>, and Benjamin<sup>156</sup> (as well as a daughter named Dinah<sup>157</sup>). When Jacob finally left Laban<sup>158</sup> and was on the way home to confront Esau he spent the night wrestling with God<sup>159</sup>; during that encounter the Lord changed his name to Israel<sup>160</sup>. Esau accepted Jacob's gifts<sup>161</sup> and went his way<sup>162</sup>; his descendants became the Edomites<sup>163</sup>, who plagued Israel.

Joseph was hated by his brothers<sup>164</sup> and they sold him into slavery<sup>165</sup>. In Egypt Potiphar put Joseph in charge of his whole house<sup>166</sup>, but when Joseph refused to have sex with Potiphar's wife she had him imprisoned<sup>167</sup>. Later, when Pharaoh had a dream he could not understand, his butler remembered that Joseph had correctly interpreted his dream, and Joseph was brought out of prison<sup>168</sup>. Joseph told Pharaoh that his dream meant there would be 7 years of plenty followed by 7 years of famine<sup>169</sup>. Pharaoh made Joseph his second-in-command<sup>170</sup>, and Joseph began storing food for the coming famine<sup>171</sup>. When the famine came, his brothers came to Egypt to buy food<sup>172</sup>. Joseph forgave them<sup>173</sup> and brought them all to Egypt where he could take care of them<sup>174</sup>.

In Egypt the Israelites multiplied<sup>175</sup>. A new generation arose that did not know Joseph, and they oppressed the Israelites and made them their slaves<sup>176</sup>. When Pharaoh commanded that the male Israelite children be thrown into the river<sup>177</sup>, the parents of one child built an ark and floated their son down the river<sup>178</sup>. There Pharaoh's daughter found him and named him Moses<sup>179</sup>. When Moses was grown, he saw an Egyptian oppressing an Israelite and

killed the Egyptian<sup>180</sup>. He then fled to the land of Midian<sup>181</sup> and spent 40 years there tending sheep<sup>182</sup>.

One day God appeared to Moses in a burning bush<sup>183</sup> and told him to go to Pharaoh and demand that he let the Israelites go<sup>184</sup>. When Pharaoh refused to let them go God sent ten plagues upon Egypt<sup>185</sup>. In the final plague God killed all the firstborn in Egypt<sup>186</sup> – save for those who were in homes that had their doorposts painted in the blood of a lamb<sup>187</sup>. (This was the establishment of the Passover, which remembered the time the Lord had passed over them and spared their lives<sup>188</sup>.) Pharaoh then panicked and let Israel go<sup>189</sup>, but after they were gone he changed his mind and sent his armies after them<sup>190</sup>. God rescued Israel by parting the Red Sea and having them cross over<sup>191</sup>; when the Egyptians attempted to follow them He drowned them all<sup>192</sup>.

During their trip to Mount Sinai<sup>193</sup> the Israelites repeatedly complained and murmured against Moses<sup>194</sup>. God fed the Israelites with manna from heaven<sup>195</sup> but they still were not satisfied<sup>196</sup>. At Sinai God gave Israel His Law and established His covenant with them<sup>197</sup>, promising to bless them if they obeyed<sup>198</sup> and curse them if they disobeyed<sup>199</sup>. God established the sacrificial system<sup>200</sup> and gave them the pattern for the tabernacle<sup>201</sup>, which they later built<sup>202</sup>. However, Israel quickly turned aside from God. They decided that Moses had been up on the mountain for too long and had Moses' brother Aaron build them a golden calf to worship<sup>203</sup>. When God saw it He almost killed them all<sup>204</sup>, but Moses interceded and saved them<sup>205</sup>. When Moses became angry and broke the two tablets of stone that God had written the law upon<sup>206</sup>, God had Moses create two more tablets so that He could rewrite the law<sup>207</sup>.

God set aside Aaron and his sons to serve as priests for the Israelites<sup>208</sup> and made them responsible for offering sacrifices<sup>209</sup>. The rest of the tribe of Levi was made responsible for the upkeep of the tabernacle (and later the Temple)<sup>210</sup>.

The Levites were not given a portion of the land of Canaan; instead, 48 cities were set aside for them<sup>211</sup>. The priests were to be supported by the tithe<sup>212</sup> and the firstfruits offerings<sup>213</sup>.

After the law was given the Lord commanded that a census be taken of all of Israel<sup>214</sup> except for the Levites<sup>215</sup>. There were 603,550 men who were at least 20 years old and could go to war<sup>216</sup>.

On the way to Canaan the Israelites started complaining again<sup>217</sup>. Moses became so upset that he asked God to kill him, because he couldn't take it anymore<sup>218</sup>. In order to help Moses the Lord appointed 70 elders to help him bear the burden of the Israelites<sup>219</sup>. When the nation finally reached Canaan, God commanded Moses to send out 12 men to spy out the country<sup>220</sup>. The spies reported that the land was good<sup>221</sup> but it was guarded by giants<sup>222</sup> (Nephilim). Joshua and Caleb said Israel should trust God and go possess the land<sup>223</sup>, but the rest of the spies convinced Israel that they should stone Moses, Joshua, and Caleb<sup>224</sup> and return to Egypt<sup>225</sup>. The Lord was going to kill them all<sup>226</sup>, but Moses interceded<sup>227</sup>. Instead God decided that Israel would wander around in the wilderness until that entire generation died<sup>228</sup>. Israel then decided they had sinned<sup>229</sup> and tried to invade Canaan without God's help<sup>230</sup>, but they were soundly defeated<sup>231</sup>. After this Korah led a rebellion against Moses<sup>232</sup>; God opened the ground beneath them and the earth swallowed them<sup>233</sup>. When Israel murmured against Moses for this<sup>234</sup> God sent a plague that killed 14,700 people<sup>235</sup>.

Israel then complained that there was no water<sup>236</sup>. God commanded Moses to speak to the rock<sup>237</sup>, but Moses and Aaron did not believe God and so Moses struck the rock instead<sup>238</sup>. Because of this act of unbelief Moses and Aaron were not allowed to enter the promised land<sup>239</sup>.

After this Israel tried to pass through the land of the Edomites, but they refused to allow it<sup>240</sup>. God then said it was time for Aaron to die<sup>241</sup>, so Aaron died<sup>242</sup>.

On the way back to Canaan, Moses led the Israelites into battle and defeated King Arad<sup>243</sup>, the Amorites<sup>244</sup>, and Og (King of Bashan)<sup>245</sup>. These military victories scared Moab<sup>246</sup>, who hired Balaam to curse Israel<sup>247</sup>. When Balaam agreed to help the Moabites God sent the angel of the Lord to kill him<sup>248</sup>; however, his donkey saw the angel and tried to avoid him<sup>249</sup>. When Balaam hit his donkey with his staff<sup>250</sup> the Lord opened the donkey's mouth and the donkey talked to Balaam, asking him why he hit him<sup>251</sup>. Balaam then saw the angel and became afraid<sup>252</sup>. He agreed to only say what God told him to say<sup>253</sup> and went on to bless Israel three times<sup>254</sup>. The Moabites were not happy with this so they sent women into the Israelite camp<sup>255</sup>; when some Israelites committed fornication with them and served Baal<sup>256</sup> the Lord commanded that they be killed<sup>257</sup>.

After all of this God commanded that another census be taken<sup>258</sup>. The census revealed that everyone in the previous generation had died except for Joshua and Caleb<sup>259</sup>. God told Moses to go up to Mount Abarim to see Canaan, and then he would die<sup>260</sup>. Joshua would be his successor<sup>261</sup>. Before Moses died he led Israel to destroy the Midianites<sup>262</sup>. When the Israelites saved the Midianite women Moses condemned them<sup>263</sup> because the women had led Israel to worship Baal<sup>264</sup>. All of the women who were not virgins were killed<sup>265</sup>.

The tribes Reuben and Gad asked that they be given the land west of the Jordan<sup>266</sup>. They agreed to go with Israel to conquer the rest of Canaan, and then they would return to their homes<sup>267</sup>. Moses gave his farewell address and urged Israel to obey God<sup>268</sup>. He warned them to utterly destroy all of the Canaanites<sup>269</sup>, because if they did not the Canaanites

would lead them away from God<sup>270</sup>. Moses then went up and God showed him the land of Canaan<sup>271</sup>; he then died<sup>272</sup>.

Joshua sent spies to Jericho<sup>273</sup>; they reported that the city was terrified<sup>274</sup>. Israel then crossed over the Jordan River and it parted before them<sup>275</sup>. On the other side of the river the nation was circumcised<sup>276</sup>. When they ate the food of the land<sup>277</sup> the manna stopped<sup>278</sup>. The captain of the host of the Lord<sup>279</sup> gave Joshua instructions for conquering Jericho<sup>280</sup> and Joshua obeyed them: the Israelites marched around the city<sup>281</sup> and its walls fell<sup>282</sup>. The Israelites burned the city<sup>283</sup> and killed its inhabitants<sup>284</sup>. Joshua pronounced a curse on anyone who dared to rebuild the city<sup>285</sup>.

No one was allowed to keep loot from Jericho<sup>286</sup>, but Achan took some things<sup>287</sup>, including a Babylonian garment<sup>288</sup>. Because of this, Israel was defeated when they attacked Ai<sup>289</sup>. Israel cast lots and found that Achan was responsible<sup>290</sup>, so the congregation killed him and his family<sup>291</sup>. God then blessed them again<sup>292</sup> and they were able to conquer Ai and burn it<sup>293</sup>. After this Joshua read the entire Law of Moses to the congregation<sup>294</sup>.

When the Gibeonites saw Jericho and Ai fall<sup>295</sup> they came to Joshua, pretending to be a distant nation<sup>296</sup>, and tricked Israel into signing a peace treaty with them<sup>297</sup>. This terrified the surrounding nations<sup>298</sup>, so five kings (including Adonizedek King of Jerusalem) attacked the Gibeonites<sup>299</sup>. Israel came to defend them, and during the battle Joshua asked that the sun and moon be still until he won<sup>300</sup>. God granted his request, delaying sunset for about a whole day<sup>301</sup>. After Joshua slaughtered the attacking cities<sup>302</sup> he took the five kings and executed them<sup>303</sup>. King Jabin then assembled a coalition to fight Israel<sup>304</sup>, but God delivered them into Joshua's hand<sup>305</sup>. Joshua did everything that the Lord commanded Moses<sup>306</sup>. The Lord hardened the hearts of the nations<sup>307</sup> so that no one else made peace with Isra-

el<sup>308</sup>. Joshua took the whole land and gave it to Israel as an inheritance<sup>309</sup>.

When Joshua was old he divided the land among the tribes<sup>310</sup>. He appointed the cities of refuge<sup>311</sup> and gave the Levites their cities<sup>312</sup>. The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh were sent back to their home east of the Jordan<sup>313</sup>. Joshua commanded Israel to fear God and serve Him<sup>314</sup>, and to destroy the Canaanites and not intermarry with them<sup>315</sup>. He then died at 110 years old<sup>316</sup>.

God said that Judah should be the first to fight the Canaanites<sup>317</sup>; they defeated kings<sup>318</sup> and conquered Jerusalem<sup>319</sup>. However, when Israel was strong they decided to not destroy the Canaanites and instead put them to tribute<sup>320</sup>. The angel of the Lord came and rebuked them for this<sup>321</sup>, and told them that God would no longer drive out the nations before them<sup>322</sup>. Instead God left the nations in the land to prove Israel and see if they would serve Him or not<sup>323</sup>.

When Israel served Baalim<sup>324</sup>, God gave Israel into the hand of Chushanrishatham King of Mesopotamia for 8 years<sup>325</sup>. When they cried out, God raised up Othniel to deliver them<sup>326</sup> and the land had rest for 40 years<sup>327</sup>. When Israel did evil again God raised up Eglon King of Moab<sup>328</sup>, who oppressed Israel for 18 years<sup>329</sup>. When Israel cried out, God raised up Ehud to deliver them<sup>330</sup> and the land had rest for 80 years<sup>331</sup>. Shamgar used an ox goad to kill 600 Philistines, and delivered Israel<sup>332</sup>.

When Israel did evil again<sup>333</sup> God gave them into the hand of Jabin King of Canaan<sup>334</sup>, and he mightily oppressed Israel for 20 years<sup>335</sup>. Deborah the prophetess told Barak to fight Jabin's army<sup>336</sup> but he refused to go unless she went with him<sup>337</sup>, which she agreed to do<sup>338</sup>. During the battle the Lord fought for Israel<sup>339</sup> and Sisera (the captain of Jabin's army) fled to the tent of Jael<sup>340</sup>. When he was lying in her tent, Jael took a hammer and drove a nail through his skull,

killing him<sup>341</sup>. Israel destroyed King Jabin<sup>342</sup> and the land had rest for 40 years<sup>343</sup>.

When Israel did evil again God delivered them over to the Midianites for 7 years<sup>344</sup>. When Israel cried out<sup>345</sup>, God sent an angel to Gideon and told him that he would defeat the Midianites<sup>346</sup>. Gideon sent out messengers to gather an army<sup>347</sup> and used a fleece twice to make sure that the message was truly from God<sup>348</sup>. When his army assembled God said that it was too large<sup>349</sup> and had Gideon pare it down until only 300 men remained<sup>350</sup>. God then used that army to destroy the Midianites<sup>351</sup>. Israel tried to set up Gideon as their king<sup>352</sup> but he refused<sup>353</sup>. The land had rest for 40 years<sup>354</sup>. When he died, Israel went back to serving Baalim<sup>355</sup>.

Abimelech, the son of Gideon's concubine<sup>356</sup>, persuaded the men of Shechem to make him their king<sup>357</sup>. He then went to his father's house and murdered his 70 brothers; only Jotham escaped<sup>358</sup>. After he ruled for 3 years<sup>359</sup> God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and Shechem<sup>360</sup>. In the end Abimelech killed the men of Shechem<sup>361</sup>, and Abimelech was killed as well<sup>362</sup>.

Tola judged Israel for 23 years and then died<sup>363</sup>. Jair judged Israel for 22 years<sup>364</sup>.

Israel again did evil and served false gods<sup>365</sup>, so God gave them over to the Philistines and the Ammonites, and they vexed Israel for 18 years<sup>366</sup>. When Israel cried out<sup>367</sup> God refused to help them<sup>368</sup> and said they should ask their false gods for help<sup>369</sup>. Israel then put away their false gods and served the Lord<sup>370</sup>. When the Ammonites attacked Israel<sup>371</sup> the elders of Gilead asked Jephthah to lead the fight<sup>372</sup> and promised to make him their ruler<sup>373</sup>. Jephthah vowed that if God granted him the victory, he would sacrifice whatever came out to meet him when he returned home<sup>374</sup>. God gave the Ammonites into his hands<sup>375</sup>. When he returned home, though, his daughter came out to meet

him<sup>376</sup>. He was deeply grieved<sup>377</sup> but he still sacrificed her<sup>378</sup>. He judged Israel for 6 years and then died<sup>379</sup>.

Ibzan judged Israel for 7 years and then died<sup>380</sup>. Elhon judged Israel for 10 years and then died<sup>381</sup>. Abdon judged Israel for 8 years and then died<sup>382</sup>.

When Israel did evil again, the Lord delivered them over to the Philistines for 40 years<sup>383</sup>. The angel of the Lord appeared to Manoah's wife<sup>384</sup> and told her that her son would be a Nazarite from the womb and that his hair must never be cut<sup>385</sup>. The woman named her son Samson<sup>386</sup>. Samson fought the Philistines, burning their fields<sup>387</sup> and slaughtering their men<sup>388</sup>, but he became enslaved by them<sup>389</sup> when he told his secret to Delilah<sup>390</sup> and she had a man come and cut his hair<sup>391</sup>. The Philistines brought him to a party they were holding in order to thank their god Dagan for delivering Samson over to them<sup>392</sup>. During this party Samson asked God for strength<sup>393</sup> and brought down the two middle pillars of the house, killing himself and the Philistines<sup>394</sup>. He judged Israel for 20 years<sup>395</sup>.

Micah the Ephraimite's mother created some false gods<sup>396</sup>. Micah created a house for them and made one of his sons priest<sup>397</sup>. When he met a Levite he made him his priest<sup>398</sup>. After this the Danites stole Micah's false gods and the Levite<sup>399</sup>, then slaughtered the city of Laish<sup>400</sup> and built the city of Dan<sup>401</sup>. The Danites set up the graven image they had taken as an idol, and the descendants of Jonathan were priests to this false god until the time of the captivity<sup>402</sup>.

In those days a Levite's concubine left him<sup>403</sup>, and he went and got her back<sup>404</sup>. On their way home they stopped at the city of Gibeah of the tribe of Benjamin<sup>405</sup> and stayed with an old man<sup>406</sup>. During the night a mob demanded that the Levite be brought outside so they could rape him<sup>407</sup>; instead, the Levite sent his concubine outside and the mob raped her until she died<sup>408</sup>. The next day the Levite cut her into 12 pieces and sent them across Israel to show what



happened<sup>409</sup>. Israel was horrified<sup>410</sup> and demanded that the Benjamites bring the guilty ones to justice<sup>411</sup>, but the Benjamites refused and decided to attack Israel<sup>412</sup>. When Israel asked God who should lead the attack He said Judah<sup>413</sup>, but when Judah attacked, the Benjamites defeated them and killed 22,000 of them<sup>414</sup>. When Israel asked God if they should keep fighting God said yes<sup>415</sup>, but when they attacked again the Benjamites killed 18,000 of them<sup>416</sup>. The Israelites then came to the house of God and wept, fasted, and offered burnt offerings<sup>417</sup>. When they asked God once more if they should continue to fight He said that He would deliver them this time<sup>418</sup>, and during the battle the Lord smote the Benjamites<sup>419</sup>. The Israelites slaughtered the city of Gibeah<sup>420</sup>, killed the people of Benjamin, and burned their cities, leaving only a few alive<sup>421</sup>. Israel then realized that there were few survivors<sup>422</sup> and everyone had vowed to not give their daughters to the Benjamites as wives<sup>423</sup>, which made them worried that the tribe of Benjamin would vanish<sup>424</sup>. Since no one from Jabeshgilead had come to fight Benjamin<sup>425</sup>, Israel slaughtered everyone there and gave their virgins to the Benjamites<sup>426</sup>. When that was not enough<sup>427</sup>, Israel told the Benjamites to go to Shiloh and kidnap women during the festival dances<sup>428</sup>.

There was no king in Israel; every man did that which was right in his own eyes<sup>429</sup>.

In the days of the judges there was a famine in Israel<sup>430</sup>, so Elimelech moved to Moab with his wife Naomi and their two sons<sup>431</sup>. While they were there Elimelech and his sons died<sup>432</sup>. Naomi moved back to Bethlehem with her daughter-in-law Ruth the Moabite<sup>433</sup>. To support them<sup>434</sup> Ruth went to glean in the fields and happened to pick one owned by Boaz<sup>435</sup>, one of her kinsmen<sup>436</sup>. Boaz took notice of her<sup>437</sup> and, using his right as her kinsman-redeemer<sup>438</sup>, married her<sup>439</sup>. They had a son named Obed<sup>440</sup>, who was the father of Jesse<sup>441</sup>, the father of King David<sup>442</sup>.

There was a man named Elkanah<sup>443</sup> who had two wives<sup>444</sup>. His wife Hannah had no children<sup>445</sup>, so his other wife Peninnah provoked her<sup>446</sup>. When they went to the tabernacle at Shiloh<sup>447</sup> Hannah told God that if He gave her a son she would give him to the Lord and make him a Nazarite<sup>448</sup>. The Lord gave Hannah a son<sup>449</sup>; she named him Samuel<sup>450</sup> and gave the child to Eli the priest<sup>451</sup>.

Now, Eli's sons were evil<sup>452</sup> and defiled the sacrifices that were offered to the Lord<sup>453</sup>. Eli rebuked them<sup>454</sup> but they ignored him<sup>455</sup>. A man of God came to Eli and condemned him for refusing to stop his sons<sup>456</sup>, and said God would punish his house<sup>457</sup> and kill his two sons on the same day<sup>458</sup>.

The child Samuel ministered to the Lord<sup>459</sup>. Through Samuel<sup>460</sup>, God again told Eli that He would judge Eli's house for his refusal to restrain his sons<sup>461</sup>. As Samuel grew up, everyone realized that he was a prophet<sup>462</sup>.

One day after Israel fought the Philistines and lost<sup>463</sup>, they decided to take the Ark of the Covenant into battle with them<sup>464</sup>. The Philistines captured it and killed Eli's two sons<sup>465</sup>. When Eli was told what happened, he fell backward and died<sup>466</sup>. The Philistines brought the Ark to the house of Dagon<sup>467</sup>; however, the idol fell on its face before the Ark and its head and palms were cut off<sup>468</sup>. When the Lord smote the men of Ashdod with emerods<sup>469</sup> the Philistines began moving the Ark around to other cities<sup>470</sup>, but each city where the Ark rested became cursed<sup>471</sup>. After seven months<sup>472</sup> the Philistines finally sent the Ark back to Israel<sup>473</sup>. When it arrived at Bethshemesh the people rejoiced<sup>474</sup> – but when they looked into the Ark God killed 50,070 men<sup>475</sup>. The people then had the men of Kirjathjearim come and get the Ark<sup>476</sup>, and it stayed there for 20 years<sup>477</sup>.

When Samuel told Israel to put away their false gods and repent<sup>478</sup>, they did so<sup>479</sup>. When the Philistines gathered

against them<sup>480</sup> Samuel cried out to God<sup>481</sup>, and the Lord gave the Philistines into their hands<sup>482</sup>. Samuel judged Israel all of his life<sup>483</sup>. When he was old he made his sons judges<sup>484</sup>, but his sons were evil<sup>485</sup> so Israel asked Samuel to get them a king<sup>486</sup>. God said Israel was doing this because they had rejected Him as their king<sup>487</sup>. He told Samuel to warn the people that a king would abuse them<sup>488</sup> – but Israel refused to listen<sup>489</sup>. So Samuel anointed Saul as king over Israel<sup>490</sup>.

When Nahash the Ammonite came against Jabeshgilead<sup>491</sup>, Saul gathered an army<sup>492</sup> and defeated them<sup>493</sup>. In Saul's second year<sup>494</sup> the Philistines gathered to fight Israel<sup>495</sup>. Saul waited for Samuel at Gilgal for 7 days<sup>496</sup>, but when he did not appear Saul offered the burnt offering himself<sup>497</sup>. Samuel rebuked him and told him that since he had done this, his kingdom would be given to someone else<sup>498</sup>. Saul fought the Philistines all of his life<sup>499</sup>.

Samuel told Saul that God wanted him to utterly destroy Amalek<sup>500</sup>, but Saul spared the king<sup>501</sup> and the best animals<sup>502</sup>. Samuel rebuked Saul and said because he had done this, God had rejected him as king<sup>503</sup>. Samuel stopped coming to see Saul, but he mourned for him<sup>504</sup>.

God sent Samuel to Jesse<sup>505</sup> and had him anoint David<sup>506</sup>. David played the harp for Saul when an evil spirit troubled the king<sup>507</sup>, and he became Saul's armor bearer<sup>508</sup>. When the Philistines gathered at Shochoh<sup>509</sup>, David brought food to his brothers<sup>510</sup> and killed the giant Goliath<sup>511</sup>, which caused the Philistines to flee<sup>512</sup>. Saul then took David into his own home<sup>513</sup> and put him over his men of war<sup>514</sup>. When Saul grew jealous of David<sup>515</sup> and tried to kill him<sup>516</sup>, David fled to the cave at Adullam<sup>517</sup>. Saul found out that Ahimelech the priest had helped David<sup>518</sup>, so he killed Ahimelech, along with 85 priests and the entire priestly city of Nob<sup>519</sup>.

Saul pursued David and eventually found him at Engedi<sup>520</sup>. David could have killed Saul in his sleep, but instead he spared him<sup>521</sup>. Saul wept<sup>522</sup> and said David was more righteous than he was<sup>523</sup>, and he returned home<sup>524</sup>. Samuel then died<sup>525</sup>.

Saul gave David's wife Michal to Phalti<sup>526</sup>. When the Ziphites told Saul where David was hiding<sup>527</sup> he came after him<sup>528</sup>. David again had a chance to kill Saul<sup>529</sup> but he refused<sup>530</sup>. Instead he confronted Saul<sup>531</sup>, who admitted he had sinned<sup>532</sup> and returned home<sup>533</sup>. David realized that Saul would never stop hunting him, so he moved to the land of the Philistines<sup>534</sup>. There he lived with King Achish at Gath<sup>535</sup> for a year and four months<sup>536</sup>.

In those days, Saul saw that the Philistines were gathering to attack and he was greatly afraid<sup>537</sup>. When God refused to answer his inquiries<sup>538</sup> he went to a witch at Endor<sup>539</sup> and asked her to bring up Samuel from the dead<sup>540</sup>. When Samuel appeared he told Saul that he and his sons were going to be killed the next day<sup>541</sup>. The next day Saul<sup>542</sup> and his sons<sup>543</sup> were slain in battle by the Philistines<sup>544</sup>.

David and his men wept over the death of Saul and Jonathan<sup>545</sup>. God then told David to go to Hebron<sup>546</sup>, and when he did the men of Judah made David their king<sup>547</sup>. However, Abner took Saul's son Ishbosheth and made him king over Israel<sup>548</sup>, where he reigned for two years<sup>549</sup>. Saul's house fought the house of David but grew weaker<sup>550</sup>. Joab eventually tricked Abner and murdered him<sup>551</sup>. Rechab and Baanah then killed Ishbosheth<sup>552</sup> and brought David his head<sup>553</sup>. David had both men executed<sup>554</sup>.

Israel made David their king<sup>555</sup> and he reigned for 40 years<sup>556</sup>. He took Jerusalem from the Jebusites<sup>557</sup>, he became great<sup>558</sup>, and he married more wives<sup>559</sup>. David moved the Ark of the Covenant but used an ox cart to do so<sup>560</sup>; when the oxen stumbled Uzzah grabbed the Ark to steady it<sup>561</sup> and God killed him<sup>562</sup>. Three months later<sup>563</sup> David moved

the Ark again<sup>564</sup>, but this time he used the method prescribed in the Mosaic Law<sup>565</sup>. After the Ark was moved to the tabernacle<sup>566</sup> David decided to build a house for it<sup>567</sup>, but God told him he could not do so because he had been a man of war<sup>568</sup>. Instead, one of his sons would build it<sup>569</sup>.

David found Jonathan's son Mephibosheth<sup>570</sup> and treated him well; he ate at the king's table<sup>571</sup>.

David sent his armies to fight the Ammonites, but he stayed behind in Jerusalem<sup>572</sup>. From the roof of his palace he saw Bathsheba bathing<sup>573</sup>; he had her brought to his palace and committed adultery with her<sup>574</sup>. When he found out that she was pregnant<sup>575</sup> he had her husband Uriah moved to the front lines and arranged for him to be killed<sup>576</sup>. He then married her and she gave birth to his son<sup>577</sup>. God, however, was displeased<sup>578</sup>, and sent Nathan to rebuke the king<sup>579</sup> and tell him that as punishment He would raise up evil against him out of his own house<sup>580</sup>. David repented<sup>581</sup> but the Lord still killed the child<sup>582</sup>. After this, David and Bathsheba had a son named Solomon, whom the Lord loved<sup>583</sup>.

David's son Ammon loved his sister Tamar<sup>584</sup>, and raped her<sup>585</sup>. Two years later David's son Absalom invited David's sons to a feast<sup>586</sup>, and during that feast he had Ammon killed<sup>587</sup>. Absalom fled to Geshur for three years<sup>588</sup>, until Joab manipulated David into allowing him to return<sup>589</sup>. Two years later<sup>590</sup>, Absalom used Joab to get him an audience with the king<sup>591</sup>. After this, Absalom stole the hearts of Israel and began a rebellion<sup>592</sup>. David was warned about the uprising and fled the city<sup>593</sup>. As he left, Shimei shouted curses and threw stones at him<sup>594</sup>. Since the wise Ahithophel (Bathsheba's grandfather<sup>595</sup>) was supporting Absalom<sup>596</sup>, David told Hushai to stay in the city and try to defeat Ahithophel's counsel<sup>597</sup>. Hushai was successful<sup>598</sup> and gave David the time he needed<sup>599</sup>. When the servants of David fought Absalom, David commanded them to

spare his son<sup>600</sup> but Joab killed him anyway<sup>601</sup>. David wept for his son<sup>602</sup>. When the king returned, the men of Judah got into an argument with the men of Israel<sup>603</sup> and Sheba drew Israel away from following David<sup>604</sup>. Joab's men pursued Sheba and cornered him in a city<sup>605</sup>. A wise woman convinced the town to cut off Sheba's head and throw it over the wall<sup>606</sup>. When they did so, Joab left<sup>607</sup>.

After this, God sent a three-year famine<sup>608</sup>. David inquired of God and discovered it was punishment for Saul's slaying of the Gibeonites<sup>609</sup>. In order to pay his debt<sup>610</sup>, seven of Saul's sons were given to the Gibeonites and they hanged them before the Lord<sup>611</sup>.

David made Joab take a census of Israel<sup>612</sup>, which displeased God<sup>613</sup>. As punishment the Lord sent pestilence over the land, and 70,000 people died<sup>614</sup>. At Gad's instruction<sup>615</sup> David bought the threshingfloor of Araunah<sup>616</sup>, where he built an altar and offered burnt offerings<sup>617</sup>. The Lord then stopped the plague<sup>618</sup>.

When David was old he could not stay warm<sup>619</sup>. His servants searched for a woman to lie with him<sup>620</sup> and found Abishag<sup>621</sup>, and she ministered to him<sup>622</sup>. After this his son Adonijah exalted himself to be king<sup>623</sup> (using the help of Joab and Abiathar<sup>624</sup>). When Bathsheba told David<sup>625</sup>, he swore that Solomon would reign<sup>626</sup>. When Nathan and others proclaimed that Solomon was king<sup>627</sup>, Adonijah's supporters fled<sup>628</sup>. Solomon ordered Adonijah to be released and sent home<sup>629</sup>.

When it came time for David to die<sup>630</sup> he told Solomon to obey God<sup>631</sup>, kill Joab<sup>632</sup>, and kill Shimei<sup>633</sup>. He also gave Solomon the plans he had made for the Temple<sup>634</sup> and the supplies he had set aside for it<sup>635</sup>. He then died<sup>636</sup>. After he died, Adonijah tried to marry Abishag<sup>637</sup>; Solomon interpreted it as an attempt to gain royal power<sup>638</sup> and had him executed<sup>639</sup>. Since Abiathar had helped in Adonijah's rebellion, he had him removed from his job as priest<sup>640</sup>, ful-

filling God's word to Eli<sup>641</sup>. Joab fled for his life and grabbed the horns of the altar<sup>642</sup>; Solomon had him killed there<sup>643</sup>. He then ordered Shimei to stay in Jerusalem and told him if he ever left the city he would be executed<sup>644</sup>. After three years, however, Shimei left to chase two runaway servants<sup>645</sup>, so Solomon had him executed<sup>646</sup>.

At Gibeon, Solomon offered 1000 burnt offerings<sup>647</sup>. At night the Lord appeared to him in a dream and asked what He should give him<sup>648</sup>. When Solomon asked for wisdom<sup>649</sup> God promised to give him wisdom, riches, and honor<sup>650</sup> – and added that if Solomon walked in His ways then He would give him long life as well<sup>651</sup>. Solomon's wisdom was demonstrated<sup>652</sup> when two prostitutes came before him<sup>653</sup> and argued over who was the rightful mother of a child<sup>654</sup>. When Solomon ordered the child cut in half and split between them<sup>655</sup> the real mother begged for his life<sup>656</sup>. Solomon pointed her out and gave the child to her<sup>657</sup>.

Solomon spent 7 years building the Temple<sup>658</sup> and 13 years building his house<sup>659</sup>. All of Israel was assembled when Solomon dedicated the Temple<sup>660</sup>. Once the Ark was brought into the Temple<sup>661</sup> the glory of the Lord filled the building<sup>662</sup>. Solomon then addressed the people<sup>663</sup> and prayed<sup>664</sup>. When he finished praying, fire came down from Heaven and consumed the offerings<sup>665</sup>. Solomon then held a 14-day feast<sup>666</sup>.

Solomon became exceedingly wealthy<sup>667</sup>. The Queen of Sheba heard about his greatness and paid Solomon a visit<sup>668</sup>; she was overwhelmed at what she saw<sup>669</sup>. Solomon was richer and wiser than any other king<sup>670</sup> – so much so that the whole earth sought to hear the wisdom God had given him<sup>671</sup>.

The proverbs of Solomon<sup>672</sup> were written to give wisdom and instruction<sup>673</sup> to the simple<sup>674</sup> and to the wise<sup>675</sup>. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of both wisdom<sup>676</sup> and knowledge<sup>677</sup>, but fools despise wisdom<sup>678</sup>. Solomon told

the simple to gain wisdom<sup>679</sup> and said wisdom was better than fine gold<sup>680</sup>; those who find wisdom find life<sup>681</sup>, but those who hate wisdom love death<sup>682</sup>. He said to fear the Lord and depart from evil<sup>683</sup>. He repeatedly<sup>684</sup> urged people to avoid the adulteress<sup>685</sup> and said her ways lead to death<sup>686</sup>. He condemned laziness<sup>687</sup> and said it leads to poverty<sup>688</sup>, but diligence leads to wealth<sup>689</sup>. He said to not reprove a scorner<sup>690</sup> because he would hate you<sup>691</sup>, but instead rebuke a wise man because he would love you<sup>692</sup>. He said that righteousness delivers from death<sup>693</sup>, but the wicked will not be unpunished<sup>694</sup>. He said a virtuous woman is hard to find and is worth far more than rubies<sup>695</sup>; she is a crown to her husband<sup>696</sup>. The last section in Proverbs is devoted to extolling the character and qualities of a virtuous woman<sup>697</sup>.

In Ecclesiastes the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem<sup>698</sup>, proclaimed that all is vanity<sup>699</sup> and there is nothing new under the sun<sup>700</sup>. Pleasure is vanity<sup>701</sup> and laughter is mad<sup>702</sup>; wisdom is better than folly<sup>703</sup> but both the wise and the fool die and are forgotten<sup>704</sup>. There is nothing better for a man than to eat and drink and enjoy good in his labor, for this is from God<sup>705</sup>. There is a season for everything<sup>706</sup>. Because of oppressors, it is better to be dead than alive<sup>707</sup>; it is better to be with someone than alone<sup>708</sup>, because a three-fold cord is not quickly broken<sup>709</sup>. The day of death is better than the day of birth<sup>710</sup>, and the end of a thing is better than its beginning<sup>711</sup>. Sorrow is better than laughter because sadness makes the heart better<sup>712</sup>. Although a sinner does great evil and his days are prolonged, it will be well with those who fear God<sup>713</sup> – but it will not be well with the wicked<sup>714</sup>. The race is not to the swift and the battle is not to the strong, but time and chance happens to everyone<sup>715</sup>. The Preacher urges men to remember their Creator in the days of their youth, before they become old and their years are filled with pain<sup>716</sup>. His conclusion is that men ought to



fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man<sup>717</sup>. God will bring every work and every secret thing into judgment<sup>718</sup>.

In the Song of Solomon the lover and the beloved proclaimed their love for one another<sup>719</sup> and delighted in each other's beauty<sup>720</sup> and love<sup>721</sup>. The book is filled with many tactful but passionate references to the act and joys of lovemaking, and to the ways the lover and the beloved delighted in each other<sup>722</sup>.

Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines<sup>723</sup>, and when he was old they turned his heart to false gods<sup>724</sup>. Because of this, God told Solomon He was going to take the kingdom away from him and give it to his servant<sup>725</sup>. God also stirred up Hadad and Rezon to be Solomon's adversaries<sup>726</sup>.

Solomon put Jeroboam in charge of the house of Joseph<sup>727</sup>. The prophet Ahijah told him that God was going to give him 10 tribes<sup>728</sup>, and if he followed God then the Lord would build him a sure house<sup>729</sup>. Solomon tried to kill Jeroboam, but he fled to Egypt and stayed there until the king died<sup>730</sup>. Solomon reigned for 40 years<sup>731</sup>, then died; his son Rehoboam reigned in his stead<sup>732</sup>.

After his death, Jeroboam asked Rehoboam to lighten the load that Solomon had put on the people<sup>733</sup>. When Rehoboam refused<sup>734</sup>, Israel rebelled<sup>735</sup> and made Jeroboam their king<sup>736</sup>. Rehoboam gathered an army to fight Israel<sup>737</sup>, but when God sent Shemaiah to say that that this was of God<sup>738</sup>, the armies went home<sup>739</sup>.

After this, in order to stop Israel from going to Jerusalem (which Rehoboam ruled) to offer sacrifices<sup>740</sup>, Jeroboam set up two golden calves and told Israel to worship them<sup>741</sup>. Jeroboam cast out all of the Levites, so they went to Rehoboam<sup>742</sup>. A man of God came and told Jeroboam that Josiah would take the king's false priests and burn their bones on his false altar<sup>743</sup>, but the king still did not repent<sup>744</sup>. When

Jeroboam's son Abijah became sick<sup>745</sup> he sent his wife to talk to the prophet Ahijah<sup>746</sup>. The prophet told her that the child would die<sup>747</sup> and that God was going to utterly destroy Jeroboam's house<sup>748</sup> for their sin<sup>749</sup>. However, since God had found something good in the sick child, he alone (out of all her children) would be buried in a grave<sup>750</sup>. Jeroboam reigned for 22 years<sup>751</sup>, then the Lord struck him and he died<sup>752</sup>; his son Nadab reigned in his stead<sup>753</sup>.

In Judah, Rehoboam reigned for 17 years<sup>754</sup>. Under his rule Judah did more evil than their fathers<sup>755</sup>, building high places<sup>756</sup> and allowing sodomites<sup>757</sup>. Shishak king of Egypt attacked Jerusalem<sup>758</sup>; he looted the Temple and the palace<sup>759</sup>. When Rehoboam died, Abijam his son reigned in his stead<sup>760</sup>. Abijam reigned over Judah for 3 years<sup>761</sup>; he did evil<sup>762</sup>. However, when Jeroboam attacked Judah<sup>763</sup>, Abijam relied on God<sup>764</sup> and the Lord gave them the victory<sup>765</sup>; 500,000 men of Israel were slain<sup>766</sup>. When Abijam died his son Asa reigned over Judah<sup>767</sup> for 41 years<sup>768</sup>. Asa did that which was right<sup>769</sup>, removing the sodomites and the idols from the land<sup>770</sup>. When an army of a million Ethiopians came against him<sup>771</sup>, he prayed<sup>772</sup> and God defeated them<sup>773</sup>. However, when Baasha king of Israel came against him<sup>774</sup>, Asa looted the Temple and used the money to hire the Syrians<sup>775</sup>, who defeated Baasha<sup>776</sup>. When Hanani rebuked Asa for not trusting God<sup>777</sup>, the king had him thrown in prison<sup>778</sup>. When Asa became diseased in his feet, he did not seek the Lord<sup>779</sup>. When Asa died, his son Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah in his stead<sup>780</sup>.

In Israel, Nadab reigned for 2 years<sup>781</sup>, and did evil<sup>782</sup>. Baasha killed him<sup>783</sup> and the entire house of Jeroboam<sup>784</sup>; he then reigned for 24 years<sup>785</sup> and did evil<sup>786</sup>. Since Baasha walked in the ways of Jeroboam<sup>787</sup>, God told Jehu<sup>788</sup> that He was going to make the house of Baasha like the house of Jeroboam<sup>789</sup>. When Baasha died, Elah his son reigned over Israel<sup>790</sup> for 2 years<sup>791</sup>. His servant Zimri killed him<sup>792</sup> and

the entire house of Baasha<sup>793</sup>. Zimri reigned for 7 days<sup>794</sup>; when Omri (whom Israel had made king<sup>795</sup>) besieged the city<sup>796</sup>, Zimri burned down the king's house and died<sup>797</sup>. After this, part of Israel supported Tibni while others supported Omri<sup>798</sup>, but in the end Tibni died and Omri won<sup>799</sup>. Omri reigned over Israel for 12 years<sup>800</sup> and did worse evil than those who came before him<sup>801</sup>. When he died, his son Ahab reigned<sup>802</sup> over Israel for 22 years<sup>803</sup>. He did worse evil than those who came before him<sup>804</sup>; he married Jezebel and worshiped Baal<sup>805</sup>.

Hiel rebuilt Jericho by offering his oldest and youngest child as human sacrifices, thus fulfilling the word of the Lord spoken by Joshua<sup>806</sup>.

After this, Elijah said there would be no rain except by his word<sup>807</sup>. He then fled to the brook Cherith<sup>808</sup>, and ravens fed him<sup>809</sup>. When the brook dried up<sup>810</sup> God sent him to a widow in Zarephath<sup>811</sup>, where he stayed many days<sup>812</sup>. When the widow's son fell sick<sup>813</sup> Elijah raised him from the dead<sup>814</sup>. In the third year, God told Elijah to go to Ahab<sup>815</sup>. Elijah told Ahab to gather 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of the groves<sup>816</sup>. Elijah then held a contest: the prophets were to build an altar and get their god to call down fire to light the sacrifice<sup>817</sup>. When they failed<sup>818</sup>, Elijah repaired the broken altar of God<sup>819</sup> and prayed<sup>820</sup>; fire fell from Heaven and consumed the sacrifice and the altar<sup>821</sup>. Elijah then commanded that the prophets of Baal be killed<sup>822</sup>. Once they were dead, Elijah told Ahab that it was going to rain<sup>823</sup> and it did<sup>824</sup>. Jezebel told Elijah that she was going to kill him<sup>825</sup>, so he fled to Horeb<sup>826</sup> into a cave<sup>827</sup>. There God spoke to him in a still small voice<sup>828</sup> and told him to anoint Hazael as king over Syria<sup>829</sup>, Jehu as king over Israel, and Elisha as his successor<sup>830</sup>.

Benhadad king of Syria fought against Samaria<sup>831</sup>. When God delivered them into Ahab's hands Ahab defeated them<sup>832</sup>, but instead of destroying them he made peace with

Benhadad and sent him away<sup>833</sup>. God sent a prophet to tell Ahab that since he refused to kill Benhadad, God would kill him instead<sup>834</sup>. After this Ahab wanted Naboth's vineyard<sup>835</sup> but Naboth refused to sell it<sup>836</sup>, so Jezebel arranged for Naboth to be killed<sup>837</sup>. When Ahab went to take possession of the vineyard<sup>838</sup> Elijah told him that the dogs would lick Ahab's blood in the same place they licked Naboth's blood<sup>839</sup>, and God would make Ahab's house like the house of Jeroboam and Baasha<sup>840</sup>. When Ahab put on sackcloth and wept<sup>841</sup>, God said He would bring the evil in the days of Ahab's sons, and not in Ahab's days<sup>842</sup>.

After this Jehoshaphat agreed to help Ahab attack Ramothgilead<sup>843</sup>. However, the prophet Micaiah warned that the battle would be lost<sup>844</sup> because God had arranged it to kill Ahab<sup>845</sup>. King Ahab had Micaiah put in prison<sup>846</sup>. During the battle Ahab was shot by a chance arrow and killed<sup>847</sup>, and the dogs licked his blood<sup>848</sup>. His son Ahaziah reigned over Israel<sup>849</sup> for two years<sup>850</sup>; he did evil and served Baal<sup>851</sup>. Ahaziah fell sick and asked Baalzebub if he would recover<sup>852</sup>. Elijah told him that since he had inquired of Baalzebub he would die<sup>853</sup>, and he died<sup>854</sup>. Since he had no son, Jehoram reigned over Israel in his stead<sup>855</sup> for 12 years<sup>856</sup>, and did evil<sup>857</sup>.

Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah for 25 years<sup>858</sup>; he did what was right<sup>859</sup> and removed the sodomites<sup>860</sup>, but he did not take away the high places<sup>861</sup>. The king sent out men to teach God's law to the people of Judah<sup>862</sup>. The fear of the Lord fell on the surrounding countries<sup>863</sup> and they brought him tribute<sup>864</sup>. However, when he returned home after helping Ahab, the prophet Jehu rebuked him for helping the ungodly<sup>865</sup>. When Moab and Ammon came against him<sup>866</sup> the king proclaimed a fast<sup>867</sup> and the people sought the Lord<sup>868</sup>. Jahaziel the Levite said God would fight for them<sup>869</sup>, and the Lord ambushed the invaders and they fought each other<sup>870</sup>. Later, when Jehoshaphat teamed up

with wicked King Ahaziah to send ships to Tarshish<sup>871</sup>, Eliezer rebuked him and God broke the ships<sup>872</sup>. When Jehoshaphat died his son Jehoram reigned over Judah<sup>873</sup>.

Elijah called Elisha<sup>874</sup> and he ministered to him<sup>875</sup>. When it came time for Elijah to go, Elisha asked for a double portion of Elijah's spirit<sup>876</sup>. God then took Elijah up to Heaven in a chariot of fire<sup>877</sup>. Elisha used the mantle of Elijah to part the Jordan river<sup>878</sup>; he also cast salt into a poisoned spring and healed it<sup>879</sup>. When a mob of children came out and told Elisha they wanted him to die<sup>880</sup>, he cursed them in the name of the Lord; two bears then came out of the woods and mauled 42 of the children<sup>881</sup>.

After this Moab rebelled against Israel<sup>882</sup>. Jehoshaphat agreed to help<sup>883</sup> the king of Edom and Jehoram the king of Israel<sup>884</sup> attack Moab. When the three kings went for 7 days without finding water<sup>885</sup> they called for Elisha<sup>886</sup>, who told them to dig ditches<sup>887</sup>. The ditches filled with water<sup>888</sup> and the Moabites mistook the water for blood<sup>889</sup>. When the Moabites came out, Israel defeated them<sup>890</sup>.

Elisha did many miracles. He told a poor widow<sup>891</sup> to fill her house with pots<sup>892</sup>; she then used a single pot of oil to fill all the pots in her house<sup>893</sup>. Elisha told her to sell the oil to pay her debts<sup>894</sup>. There was a great woman in Shunem that Elisha often stayed with<sup>895</sup>; in return, Elisha told her that she would have a son<sup>896</sup>. When the son died<sup>897</sup>, Elisha prayed and raised him from the dead<sup>898</sup>. Another time the sons of the prophets made a pot of food<sup>899</sup>, but it was accidentally poisoned<sup>900</sup>; Elisha healed it by casting in meal<sup>901</sup>. In another occasion a man came from Baalshalisha and brought 20 loaves of barley and some ears of corn<sup>902</sup>; Elisha told him to give it to the people, and 100 men ate and had leftovers<sup>903</sup>. Elisha also made an axe head float<sup>904</sup>.

Naaman (captain of the Syrian host) was a leper<sup>905</sup>. When he heard that there was a prophet in Samaria who could cure him<sup>906</sup> he came to Elisha<sup>907</sup>, who told him to

wash in the Jordan River 7 times<sup>908</sup>. At first he was angry<sup>909</sup>, but when he washed he was cleansed of his leprosy<sup>910</sup>. Elisha refused the rewards Naaman offered<sup>911</sup>, but Elisha's servant Gehazi went behind his back<sup>912</sup> and accepted some of them<sup>913</sup>. Elisha condemned him for this<sup>914</sup> and told him that Naaman's leprosy would cling to Gehazi and his offspring forever<sup>915</sup>.

After this the king of Syria repeatedly tried to kill the king of Israel, but thanks to Elisha's warnings he was able to escape<sup>916</sup>. When the king of Syria found out what Elisha was doing<sup>917</sup> and learned that he was staying in Dothan<sup>918</sup>, he sent his army to surround the town<sup>919</sup>. When Elisha's servant saw the Syrian army he panicked<sup>920</sup>. Elisha then opened his eyes and showed him that the Syrians were surrounded by an army of chariots of fire<sup>921</sup>. When Elisha prayed, God smote the Syrians with blindness<sup>922</sup>; he then led them to Samaria<sup>923</sup>, where he had the king feed them and send them home<sup>924</sup>. After that the bands of Syria stopped coming into Israel<sup>925</sup>.

When Benhadad besieged Samaria<sup>926</sup> there was a famine that was so great that people began eating their own children<sup>927</sup>. The king of Israel decided to kill Elisha<sup>928</sup>, but Elisha told him that the famine would be over the next day<sup>929</sup>. When one of the lords doubted this, Elisha told him that he would see it but not eat of it<sup>930</sup>. After this, four lepers went into the Syrian camp to give themselves up<sup>931</sup> and found it empty<sup>932</sup>; the Lord had made the Syrians hear the noise of chariots and they had fled<sup>933</sup>. When the lepers told the city porter the news<sup>934</sup>, the people rushed out and spoiled the Syrians<sup>935</sup> – and trampled to death the lord who had doubted Elisha<sup>936</sup>.

Because of the famine, Elisha told the woman whose son he had raised from the dead to flee<sup>937</sup>. When she returned to claim her land<sup>938</sup>, Gehazi identified her to the king<sup>939</sup> and he restored her land<sup>940</sup>.

When Benhadad was sick, he sent Hazael to ask Elisha if he would recover<sup>941</sup>. Elisha told Hazael to lie to Benhadad and say he would get well<sup>942</sup>. He then told Hazael that he would become king over Syria<sup>943</sup> and do terrible things to Israel<sup>944</sup>. Hazael then returned to Benhadad<sup>945</sup>, murdered him, and became king over Syria<sup>946</sup>.

In Judah, Jehoram (son of Jehoshaphat)<sup>947</sup> reigned for 8 years<sup>948</sup>; he did evil, and was married to Ahab's daughter<sup>949</sup>. He killed all of his brothers<sup>950</sup>. Elijah told him that since he did evil, God would curse him and he would die<sup>951</sup>. When he died, Ahaziah his son reigned over Judah<sup>952</sup> for 1 year;<sup>953</sup> he did evil<sup>954</sup>.

Elisha sent one of the children of the prophets to Ramothgilead and had him anoint Jehu as king over Israel<sup>955</sup>. The prophet told him to destroy the whole house of Ahab<sup>956</sup>. Jehu then went to Jezreel<sup>957</sup> and killed Jehoram, king of Israel<sup>958</sup>. He also had Jezebel thrown out of the window<sup>959</sup>, and the dogs ate her<sup>960</sup>. He had Ahab's 70 sons executed<sup>961</sup> and killed all that remained of his house<sup>962</sup>. After that he called together all the worshippers of Baal<sup>963</sup>, killed them<sup>964</sup>, and destroyed Baal's temple and idols<sup>965</sup>. However, Jehu did not destroy the golden calves<sup>966</sup>, nor did he depart from the sins of Jeroboam<sup>967</sup> – but since Jehu destroyed the house of Ahab, God told him that his children would sit on the throne of Israel<sup>968</sup> to the fourth generation. Jehu reigned over Israel for 28 years<sup>969</sup>; when he died, Jehoahaz his son reigned in his stead<sup>970</sup>.

In Judah, when Ahaziah the king died, his mother Athaliah killed the entire royal family<sup>971</sup> – but Ahaziah's sister Jehosheba took Joash his son<sup>972</sup> and hid him in the Temple for 6 years<sup>973</sup>. In the seventh year Jehoiada the priest crowned Joash king<sup>974</sup> and executed Athaliah<sup>975</sup>. Jehoiada made a covenant that the people should serve the Lord<sup>976</sup>, and they destroyed the house of Baal and executed Baal's priests<sup>977</sup>. Joash reigned over Judah for 40 years<sup>978</sup>; he

served God all the days of Jehoiada<sup>979</sup>. He repaired the Temple<sup>980</sup>, but when Jehoiada died the king stopped serving God<sup>981</sup>. When Jehoiada's son Zechariah rebuked him<sup>982</sup>, the king had him stoned<sup>983</sup>. When Hazael king of Syria attacked<sup>984</sup>, Joash looted the Temple to pay him to leave<sup>985</sup>. After this the servants of Joash killed him<sup>986</sup>, and Amaziah his son reigned in his stead<sup>987</sup>.

The prophet Joel<sup>988</sup> (who seems to have prophesied during the days of Joash) warned that the day of the Lord was at hand<sup>989</sup> – a great and terrible<sup>990</sup> day of darkness that was unlike any other<sup>991</sup>. Joel commanded people to turn to God<sup>992</sup> and called on the priests to intercede<sup>993</sup>. Joel spoke of a time when God would gather all nations to the valley of Jehoshaphat and judge them for the way they had treated Israel<sup>994</sup>. He said Egypt and Edom would become a desolation<sup>995</sup>, but Judah and Jerusalem would dwell forever<sup>996</sup>. Joel finished by saying that the Lord dwells in Zion<sup>997</sup>.

In Israel, Jehoahaz son of Jehu reigned for 17 years<sup>998</sup>; he did evil<sup>999</sup>. When he died, his son Joash reigned<sup>1000</sup> for 16 years<sup>1001</sup>; he also did evil<sup>1002</sup>. During his reign Elisha fell sick and Joash came to see him<sup>1003</sup>. Elisha told him to shoot arrows into the ground<sup>1004</sup>, explaining that the arrows represented military victories over Syria<sup>1005</sup>, and the king shot three arrows<sup>1006</sup>. Elisha became angry with him and told him that because of this Joash would only defeat Syria three times<sup>1007</sup>. Elisha then died and was buried<sup>1008</sup>. Later, when someone else was being buried, a band of Midianites came into the land. In a panic, people threw the corpse into Elisha's grave – and the dead man revived and stood up<sup>1009</sup>. When Joash died, Jeroboam became king of Israel<sup>1010</sup>. When Hazael king of Syria died, Benhadad reigned in his stead<sup>1011</sup>.

In Judah, Amaziah son of Joash reigned<sup>1012</sup> for 29 years<sup>1013</sup>; he did what was right but did not take away the high places<sup>1014</sup>. He executed the servants who murdered his



father<sup>1015</sup>. After defeating Edom and Selah<sup>1016</sup> he brought their false gods back home with him and worshiped them<sup>1017</sup>. When the Lord sent a prophet to rebuke him<sup>1018</sup>, Amaziah told the prophet to be silent or he would kill him<sup>1019</sup>. The king then decided to attack Israel<sup>1020</sup>. The king of Israel warned him not to fight<sup>1021</sup> but he refused to listen<sup>1022</sup>. Israel defeated Judah<sup>1023</sup>, broke down the wall of Jerusalem<sup>1024</sup>, and looted the Temple<sup>1025</sup>. After this a conspiracy rose up against Amaziah and he was murdered<sup>1026</sup>. Azariah his son (also known as Uzziah<sup>1027</sup>) was made king<sup>1028</sup>.

Isaiah's ministry began in the days of Uzziah (when he saw the Lord sitting on His throne<sup>1029</sup>) and continued through the reign of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah<sup>1030</sup>. Through him the Lord said that He would bring ruin upon Jerusalem because of Judah's great wickedness<sup>1031</sup>. However, the Lord also spoke of the last days<sup>1032</sup>, when all nations would be at peace with one another<sup>1033</sup> and would come to the Lord's house in Israel<sup>1034</sup> so they could learn God's ways and obey God's laws<sup>1035</sup>. Isaiah prophesied extensively about the coming Messiah<sup>1036</sup> and said He would be born of a virgin<sup>1037</sup>, He would be a light to the Gentiles<sup>1038</sup>, and He would suffer for our sins<sup>1039</sup> and die<sup>1040</sup>. Isaiah also prophesied against Assyria<sup>1041</sup>, Babylon<sup>1042</sup>, Palestina<sup>1043</sup>, Moab<sup>1044</sup>, Damascus<sup>1045</sup>, Egypt<sup>1046</sup>, and Tyre<sup>1047</sup>. He spoke of Lucifer's fall<sup>1048</sup>, of a new heaven and earth<sup>1049</sup>, and said Cyrus<sup>1050</sup> would rebuild the Temple<sup>1051</sup>.

Hosea's ministry began in the days of Uzziah and continued through the reign of Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah, and Jeroboam<sup>1052</sup>. As a sign to the nation of Israel (because they had committed adultery by going after false gods) God commanded Hosea to marry a prostitute<sup>1053</sup>, so he married Gomer<sup>1054</sup>. God commanded him to name their first daughter Jezreel (for God would soon avenge the blood of Jezreel)<sup>1055</sup>, their second daughter Loruhamah (because He

would no longer have mercy on Israel)<sup>1056</sup>, and their son Loammi (because Israel was not God's people and He was not their God)<sup>1057</sup>. God commanded Israel to repent<sup>1058</sup> and spoke of coming judgment<sup>1059</sup> – but He also spoke of a time when He would take Israel back and bless her<sup>1060</sup>. When Gomer left Hosea, God commanded him to buy her back<sup>1061</sup> and he did<sup>1062</sup>. God said Israel would abide for many days without a king, but then Israel would return and seek the Lord<sup>1063</sup>. God warned that judgment was coming because of Israel's sin, and said Israel, Ephraim, and Judah would fall<sup>1064</sup>. Hosea urged Israel to return to the Lord<sup>1065</sup>.

Amos's ministry began in the days of Uzziah and continued through the reign of Jeroboam<sup>1066</sup>. Amos warned that God would punish Damascus<sup>1067</sup>, Gaza<sup>1068</sup>, Tyrus<sup>1069</sup>, Edom<sup>1070</sup>, the Ammonites<sup>1071</sup>, Moab<sup>1072</sup>, Judah<sup>1073</sup>, and Israel<sup>1074</sup> for their transgressions. God told Israel that if they sought Him they would live; otherwise judgment would come<sup>1075</sup>. When God showed Amos a plague of grasshoppers he interceded on Israel's behalf, and God agreed to not send them<sup>1076</sup>. When God showed Amos a fire he interceded again and God agreed again<sup>1077</sup>. God then showed Amos a plumbline and said He was going to lay waste to Israel<sup>1078</sup>. When Amaziah the priest tried to stop him from prophesying<sup>1079</sup>, Amos told him God would send judgment upon him and his family<sup>1080</sup>. God showed Amos a basket of summer fruit and said Israel's end had come<sup>1081</sup> and there would be many dead bodies everywhere<sup>1082</sup>. God said He would send a famine of hearing the word of God<sup>1083</sup>; He would also watch over them for evil, not for good<sup>1084</sup>, and would sift the house of Israel among all nations<sup>1085</sup>. Yet God said that one day He would raise up the fallen tabernacle of David<sup>1086</sup> and bless Israel<sup>1087</sup>, and they would rebuild the waste cities<sup>1088</sup>. God said He would plant them in the land and they would not be pulled out of it again<sup>1089</sup>.

Jonah (whose ministry seems to have taken place around this same time) was told by God to go to Nineveh and cry against its wickedness<sup>1090</sup>. However, Jonah instead boarded a ship to Tarshish<sup>1091</sup>. When God sent a mighty storm against the ship<sup>1092</sup>, Jonah was found out and confessed that he was the cause<sup>1093</sup>, and at his request the sailors threw him overboard<sup>1094</sup>. God then sent a great fish to swallow Jonah, and he stayed in that fish for three days and three nights<sup>1095</sup>. When Jonah prayed<sup>1096</sup>, God had the fish vomit Jonah out<sup>1097</sup> and again told him to go to Nineveh<sup>1098</sup>. Jonah went and cried against the city<sup>1099</sup>, and the Ninevites repented<sup>1100</sup>. When God saw this He decided to not destroy the city<sup>1101</sup> – which made Jonah very angry<sup>1102</sup>. When Jonah sat outside the city to see what would happen to it<sup>1103</sup>, God made a plant grow to give him shade<sup>1104</sup> – and then killed the plant the next day<sup>1105</sup>. When Jonah became angry<sup>1106</sup>, God pointed out that Jonah had pity on the plant, which came up one day and died the next<sup>1107</sup>; shouldn't God also have pity on the great city of Nineveh, which was home to tens of thousands of people<sup>1108</sup>?

In Israel, Jeroboam reigned for 41 years<sup>1109</sup> and did evil<sup>1110</sup>. The Lord saw the affliction of Israel and used Jeroboam to save them<sup>1111</sup>. When he died, Zachariah his son reigned in his stead<sup>1112</sup>.

In Judah, Azariah son of Amaziah reigned<sup>1113</sup> for 52 years<sup>1114</sup>; he did that which was right but did not remove the high places<sup>1115</sup>. However, he became proud, and one day he went into the Temple to burn incense<sup>1116</sup>. When the priests tried to stop him the king became angry with him<sup>1117</sup>, and the Lord smote the king so that he was a leper until he died<sup>1118</sup>. When he died, Jotham his son reigned in his stead<sup>1119</sup> for 16 years<sup>1120</sup>; he did right<sup>1121</sup> but did not remove the high places<sup>1122</sup>, and the people behaved corruptly<sup>1123</sup>. Jotham defeated the Ammonites<sup>1124</sup> and became

mighty, because he prepared his ways before the Lord<sup>1125</sup>. When he died, Ahaz his son reigned in his stead<sup>1126</sup>.

Micah's ministry began in the days of Jotham and continued through the reign of Ahaz and Hezekiah<sup>1127</sup>. Micah warned that because of Israel's transgressions<sup>1128</sup>, the Lord would come and tread down the high places of the Earth<sup>1129</sup>; Samaria<sup>1130</sup> and Jerusalem would become a heap and Zion would become a plowed field<sup>1131</sup>. Micah also prophesied that in the last days the house of the Lord would be established in the top of the mountains<sup>1132</sup>, and the nations would come to it so that they could learn God's ways<sup>1133</sup>. He said that God would rebuke strong nations, and they would beat their swords into plowshares, and the nations would no longer learn war<sup>1134</sup>. The Lord would reign over them in Mount Zion forever<sup>1135</sup>. Micah also prophesied that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem<sup>1136</sup>.

In Israel, Zachariah reigned for 6 months<sup>1137</sup> and did evil<sup>1138</sup>. Shallum conspired against him and killed him, and reigned in his stead<sup>1139</sup>. (Thus God fulfilled his promise to Jehu that his children would sit on the throne for 4 generations<sup>1140</sup>.) Shallum reigned for one month<sup>1141</sup>, and then Menahem killed him and reigned in his stead<sup>1142</sup>. Menahem reigned for 10 years<sup>1143</sup> and did evil<sup>1144</sup>. When Pul king of Assyria came against Israel, Menahem paid him 1000 talents of silver to leave<sup>1145</sup>; he obtained the money by taxing the wealthy<sup>1146</sup>. When he died, Pekahiah his son reigned in his stead<sup>1147</sup> for two years<sup>1148</sup>, and did evil<sup>1149</sup>. Pekah conspired against him and killed him, and reigned in his stead<sup>1150</sup> for 20 years<sup>1151</sup>; he did evil<sup>1152</sup>. In his days Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria conquered parts of Israel and led them away as captives<sup>1153</sup>. Hoshea conspired against Pekah and killed him, then reigned in his stead<sup>1154</sup>. Hoshea reigned for 9 years<sup>1155</sup> and did evil<sup>1156</sup>. When he conspired against the king of Assyria the king had Hoshea put in

prison<sup>1157</sup> and carried Israel away captive<sup>1158</sup>. God told Israel to repent<sup>1159</sup> but they refused<sup>1160</sup>, so God removed them from His sight<sup>1161</sup>.

During Israel's time in captivity<sup>1162</sup> God commanded Ezekiel to warn that Jerusalem would be judged for her sins<sup>1163</sup>, conquered<sup>1164</sup>, and go into captivity<sup>1165</sup>. Ezekiel was given an amazing vision of the glory of God<sup>1166</sup>, witnessed the glory of God leaving the Temple<sup>1167</sup>, and saw the valley of dry bones<sup>1168</sup> that God brought back to life<sup>1169</sup>. Ezekiel also prophesied against the Ammonites<sup>1170</sup>, Tyrus<sup>1171</sup>, Egypt<sup>1172</sup>, Mount Seir<sup>1173</sup>, Gog and Magog<sup>1174</sup>, and a being called the King of Tyrus<sup>1175</sup> who was the anointed cherub<sup>1176</sup> and who was in the Garden of Eden<sup>1177</sup>. Finally, Ezekiel was given a vision of a future Temple<sup>1178</sup>.

In Judah, Ahaz reigned for 16 years<sup>1179</sup>; he did evil and offered his son as a burnt offering<sup>1180</sup>. Syria and Israel attacked him but could not defeat him<sup>1181</sup>. Ahaz looted the Temple to hire the Assyrians<sup>1182</sup>, and Tiglathpileser came to his aid<sup>1183</sup>. Ahaz then built an altar like one he had seen in Assyria<sup>1184</sup>, and he commanded that sacrifices be offered on it instead of at the Temple<sup>1185</sup>. When he died, Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead<sup>1186</sup>. Hezekiah reigned over Judah for 29 years<sup>1187</sup>. He obeyed God, removed the high places<sup>1188</sup>, repaired the Temple<sup>1189</sup>, restarted the sacrifices<sup>1190</sup>, and kept the Passover<sup>1191</sup>. The Lord was with him<sup>1192</sup>. Hezekiah rebelled against Assyria<sup>1193</sup> and defeated the Philistines<sup>1194</sup>. After Assyria defeated Samaria<sup>1195</sup>, Sennacherib came against Judah<sup>1196</sup>. The king of Assyria fined Hezekiah<sup>1197</sup>, and he paid it by looting the Temple<sup>1198</sup>. The king of Assyria sent a great army against Jerusalem<sup>1199</sup>, and Rabshakeh taunted Hezekiah<sup>1200</sup>. Isaiah told the king that God would make him return to his own land<sup>1201</sup>, and Rabshakeh did<sup>1202</sup>. After Rabshakeh left, he sent messengers to threaten Israel<sup>1203</sup>. However, God said He would defend the city<sup>1204</sup>. That night the angel of the Lord went to the Assyrian camp

and killed 185,000 people<sup>1205</sup>. When Sennacherib returned to Nineveh<sup>1206</sup> his sons murdered him<sup>1207</sup>. Hezekiah then fell sick, and Isaiah told him he would die<sup>1208</sup>. When Hezekiah begged God to spare him<sup>1209</sup>, the Lord added 15 years to his life<sup>1210</sup>. The king of Babylon heard that Hezekiah had been sick and sent an envoy to him<sup>1211</sup>. When Hezekiah showed them all his wealth<sup>1212</sup>, Isaiah told him that everything he showed them would be carried to Babylon<sup>1213</sup> – including his children<sup>1214</sup>. When Hezekiah died, Manasseh reigned in his stead<sup>1215</sup>.

Habakkuk (which may have been written during the reign of Manasseh) complained to God that the wicked were persecuting the righteous and God was not doing anything about it<sup>1216</sup>. God said He was raising up the terrible Chaldeans, and they would march through the land and destroy it<sup>1217</sup>. Habakkuk asked how God could allow that, since the Chaldeans were even worse than the wicked people he had been complaining about<sup>1218</sup>. God said the just would live by faith<sup>1219</sup>, pronounced woe upon the wicked<sup>1220</sup>, and said the Earth would be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea<sup>1221</sup>. Habakkuk then prayed<sup>1222</sup>, proclaiming the glory of the Lord<sup>1223</sup> and that God was his strength<sup>1224</sup>.

Manasseh began reigning over Judah when he was 12 years old; he reigned for 55 years<sup>1225</sup>, and he seduced Israel to do more evil than the Amorites<sup>1226</sup>. He served Baal<sup>1227</sup>, put pagan alters in the Temple<sup>1228</sup>, offered his sons as burnt offerings<sup>1229</sup>, and shed much innocent blood. Because of him the Lord said He would destroy Jerusalem<sup>1230</sup> and deliver Judah to their enemies<sup>1231</sup>. The Lord sent Assyria, who bound Manasseh and carried him to Babylon<sup>1232</sup>. While the king was there he humbled himself and prayed, and God brought him back to Jerusalem<sup>1233</sup>. When he returned he took away the false gods<sup>1234</sup>, repaired the altar, and commanded Judah to serve God<sup>1235</sup>. When he died, Amon his

son became king<sup>1236</sup>; he reigned for 2 years<sup>1237</sup> and did evil<sup>1238</sup>. Amon's servants killed him<sup>1239</sup> and were then killed themselves<sup>1240</sup>. Amon's son Josiah became king in his stead<sup>1241</sup>.

Josiah reigned over Judah for 31 years<sup>1242</sup> and did right<sup>1243</sup>. He told the high priest Hilkiah to repair the Temple<sup>1244</sup>, and during that process the priest found the book of the Law<sup>1245</sup>. Shaphan the scribe read it to the king<sup>1246</sup>, and when the king heard it he tore his clothes<sup>1247</sup>. Josiah enquired of the Lord<sup>1248</sup> and God told him that he was going to bring evil upon Jerusalem<sup>1249</sup>, but since Josiah had humbled himself and wept he would not do it until after Josiah died<sup>1250</sup>. Josiah gathered everyone to Jerusalem<sup>1251</sup> and read them the law<sup>1252</sup>, then made a covenant with them to obey God<sup>1253</sup>. He ended Baal worship<sup>1254</sup>, destroyed the houses of the sodomites<sup>1255</sup>, and defiled the high places<sup>1256</sup>. He destroyed the altar that Jeroboam had made<sup>1257</sup> (thus fulfilling the ancient prophecy<sup>1258</sup>) and commanded Israel to keep the Passover<sup>1259</sup>. After this Josiah went up against the king of Egypt and was killed<sup>1260</sup>, and his son Jehoahaz was made king<sup>1261</sup>.

Nahum (who seems to have prophesied during the reign of Josiah) foretold God's judgment upon Nineveh<sup>1262</sup>. He prophesied woe against the bloody city<sup>1263</sup> and said God would make her empty, void, and waste<sup>1264</sup>.

Zephaniah's ministry took place in the days of Josiah<sup>1265</sup>. He warned that the great day of the Lord was near<sup>1266</sup>, and that God would bring distress upon all men because they had sinned against him<sup>1267</sup>. He urged people to seek the Lord so that they could be hid in the day of the Lord's anger<sup>1268</sup>. He said Gaza would be forsaken<sup>1269</sup>, Moab and the Ammonites would become a perpetual desolation<sup>1270</sup>, the Ethiopians would be slain<sup>1271</sup>, and Assyria and Nineveh would be destroyed<sup>1272</sup>. He said God would gather the nations and pour out His indignation upon them<sup>1273</sup>. God

would undo all those who afflicted Israel<sup>1274</sup>, and He would make them a name and a praise among all people of the Earth<sup>1275</sup>.

Jeremiah's ministry began in the 13<sup>th</sup> year of Josiah<sup>1276</sup> and continued through the reign of Jehoiakim and Zedekiah, until the nation was carried away captive<sup>1277</sup>. God commanded Jeremiah to cry against Jerusalem<sup>1278</sup> and tell them to return to God<sup>1279</sup>. He said that if the nation repented God would not remove them from the land<sup>1280</sup>, but the Israelites did not repent<sup>1281</sup>. Instead, they repeatedly<sup>1282</sup> tried to kill Jeremiah<sup>1283</sup>. God said He would bring a distant nation to destroy them<sup>1284</sup> because of their disobedience<sup>1285</sup> but He would not utterly wipe them out<sup>1286</sup>; instead they would be captive in Babylon for 70 years<sup>1287</sup>. Jeremiah prophesied against Egypt<sup>1288</sup>, the Philistines<sup>1289</sup>, Moab<sup>1290</sup>, the Ammonites<sup>1291</sup>, Edom<sup>1292</sup>, Damascus<sup>1293</sup>, Hazor<sup>1294</sup>, Elam<sup>1295</sup>, and Babylon<sup>1296</sup>.

Jehoahaz reigned over Judah for three months<sup>1297</sup> and did evil<sup>1298</sup>. The king of Egypt imprisoned him and brought him to Egypt, where he died<sup>1299</sup>. He then made Josiah's son Jehoiakim king over Judah<sup>1300</sup>. Jehoiakim reigned for 11 years<sup>1301</sup>, and did evil<sup>1302</sup>. Jehoiakim rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon<sup>1303</sup>. Because of the sins of Manasseh<sup>1304</sup> the Lord sent many foes against Judah in order to destroy it<sup>1305</sup>. When Jehoiakim died, Jehoiachin his son reigned<sup>1306</sup> for three months<sup>1307</sup> and did evil<sup>1308</sup>. Nebuchadnezzar conquered Jerusalem<sup>1309</sup>; he looted the city and the Temple<sup>1310</sup> and carried away its people, leaving only the very poorest behind<sup>1311</sup>. He made Zedekiah king over Judah<sup>1312</sup>. Zedekiah reigned for 11 years<sup>1313</sup> and did evil<sup>1314</sup>, and rebelled against Babylon<sup>1315</sup>. Jeremiah told the king that God was going to fight for Nebuchadnezzar and against Israel<sup>1316</sup>, and said if the king did not do right then God would destroy His Temple<sup>1317</sup>. When Babylon besieged Je-



Jerusalem Zedekiah put Jeremiah in prison<sup>1318</sup>, and he remained there until the city was taken<sup>1319</sup>.

Nebuchadnezzar then came against Jerusalem and conquered it<sup>1320</sup>. He killed Zedekiah's sons, put out the king's eyes, and carried him away to Babylon<sup>1321</sup>. He also burned the Temple, burned Jerusalem<sup>1322</sup>, and destroyed the city's walls<sup>1323</sup>. Judah was carried out of the land<sup>1324</sup> and Nebuchadnezzar made Gedaliah ruler over Judah<sup>1325</sup>. (However, Ishmael killed Gedaliah<sup>1326</sup> and the people fled with him to Egypt<sup>1327</sup>). Nebuchadnezzar freed Jeremiah<sup>1328</sup> and told Nebuzaradan to look after him<sup>1329</sup>. The remnant that was left in the land told Jeremiah that they would do whatever God commanded<sup>1330</sup>, but when Jeremiah told them that God would kill them if they left Israel and went to Egypt<sup>1331</sup>, they said that he was lying<sup>1332</sup> and went to Egypt anyway<sup>1333</sup>.

The book of Lamentations bewails the captivity of Judah<sup>1334</sup> and the terrible things that the nation had suffered<sup>1335</sup> because of their sins<sup>1336</sup>. Yet, despite all this, they continued to hope in the Lord<sup>1337</sup> and wait for His salvation<sup>1338</sup>.

When Nebuchadnezzar conquered Jerusalem<sup>1339</sup>, her best children were made eunuchs to serve in the king's palace<sup>1340</sup>. This included Daniel (renamed Belteshazzar), Hananiah (renamed Shadrach), Mishael (renamed Meshach), and Azariah (renamed Abednego)<sup>1341</sup>. These four men were found to be the best, so they stood before the king<sup>1342</sup>. When Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that troubled him<sup>1343</sup>, Daniel interpreted it<sup>1344</sup> and told him that the image in his dream represented a series of kingdoms that would govern the world<sup>1345</sup>. After this Nebuchadnezzar built an image of gold<sup>1346</sup> and commanded everyone to worship it<sup>1347</sup>. When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused<sup>1348</sup>, he had them thrown into the fiery furnace<sup>1349</sup> - and was shocked<sup>1350</sup> when they were unharmed and the Son of God

appeared in their midst<sup>1351</sup>. He asked them to come out of the fire<sup>1352</sup> and promoted them<sup>1353</sup>. After this, when Nebuchadnezzar boasted of his greatness<sup>1354</sup>, God took away his sanity<sup>1355</sup>; he was driven from men and ate grass<sup>1356</sup> for seven years<sup>1357</sup>. After that time his understanding returned to him and he blessed God and praised Him<sup>1358</sup> – after which his kingdom and honor was returned to him<sup>1359</sup>.

During the reign of Nebuchadnezzar's descendent Belshazzar<sup>1360</sup> Daniel dreamed of four great beasts<sup>1361</sup> and had a vision of a ram and a goat<sup>1362</sup>. The visions troubled<sup>1363</sup> and astonished<sup>1364</sup> Daniel. When Belshazzar made a great feast and used the Temple vessels to praise idols<sup>1365</sup>, a man's hand appeared<sup>1366</sup> and wrote "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin"<sup>1367</sup> on the wall. Daniel provided the interpretation<sup>1368</sup>: God had weighed Belshazzar and found him wanting<sup>1369</sup>, and He was giving his kingdom to the Medes and Persians<sup>1370</sup>. That night Belshazzar was slain<sup>1371</sup> and Darius the Median took the kingdom<sup>1372</sup>. In the first year of Darius, Daniel realized that the Jewish captivity was only to last for 70 years<sup>1373</sup> and prayed on behalf of his people<sup>1374</sup>. Gabriel then came<sup>1375</sup> and told him about the 70 weeks<sup>1376</sup> and the coming of the Messiah<sup>1377</sup>.

Darius set three presidents over the kingdom and put Daniel in charge of them<sup>1378</sup>. Since the other presidents could find no fault in Daniel<sup>1379</sup> they persuaded Darius to make it illegal to pray to anyone except him<sup>1380</sup>. When Daniel broke the law<sup>1381</sup> he was thrown into the lion's den<sup>1382</sup> – but the next day he was found unharmed<sup>1383</sup>. Darius then took him out of the den<sup>1384</sup> and had the other presidents and their families thrown in, and the lions killed them<sup>1385</sup>. Darius issued a decree saying everyone should fear before God<sup>1386</sup>, and Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and Cyrus<sup>1387</sup>. In the third year of Cyrus<sup>1388</sup> an angel came to Daniel<sup>1389</sup> and told him about future events<sup>1390</sup> regarding

kings of the north and south<sup>1391</sup>, a time of great trouble<sup>1392</sup>, and a resurrection of the dead<sup>1393</sup>.

Cyrus made a proclaimed that the Jews should return to Judah and build a Temple<sup>1394</sup>, so a group of Jews went<sup>1395</sup>. Cyrus returned the Temple furnishings that Nebuchadnezzar had taken<sup>1396</sup>. When the people gathered at Jerusalem<sup>1397</sup>, the altar was rebuilt<sup>1398</sup> and offerings were made for the Jewish feasts<sup>1399</sup>. When the Temple's foundation was laid the people shouted for joy<sup>1400</sup>, but the old people wept because they remembered the previous temple<sup>1401</sup>. However, adversaries arose<sup>1402</sup> and persuaded Ahasuerus to stop the Temple from being rebuilt<sup>1403</sup>.

In the second year of Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, God used Haggai to speak to Zerubbabel<sup>1404</sup>. God condemned the people for living in nice houses while His Temple was in ruins<sup>1405</sup>, and said that was why He had withheld His blessings<sup>1406</sup>. God commanded the people to rebuild the Temple, and Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the remnant began work again on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of that same month<sup>1407</sup>. On the 21<sup>st</sup> day of the seventh month, God told them through Haggai that although this new Temple did not seem as glorious as the old one<sup>1408</sup>, the glory of this house would be greater than the former<sup>1409</sup>. In a little while God would shake the nations, and the desire of all nations would come<sup>1410</sup>.

In the second year of Darius, in the eighth month, God spoke to the prophet Zechariah<sup>1411</sup> and told him to tell the people to turn from their evil ways<sup>1412</sup>. God gave him the vision of the red horse<sup>1413</sup>, the vision of the four horns<sup>1414</sup>, the vision of the four carpenters<sup>1415</sup>, and the vision of the man with a measuring line<sup>1416</sup>. Zechariah saw the vision of Joshua the high priest; his filthy garments were taken away and new ones were given to him<sup>1417</sup>. He saw the vision of the seven lamps<sup>1418</sup>, the vision of the flying roll<sup>1419</sup>, the vision of the ephah<sup>1420</sup>, the vision of the two women with

wings<sup>1421</sup>, and the vision of the four chariots<sup>1422</sup>. God condemned the people for fasting falsely<sup>1423</sup> and told them to show mercy and compassion<sup>1424</sup>. Zechariah prophesied of a time when many nations would come to seek the Lord in Jerusalem<sup>1425</sup>. He also said that Tyre would be devoured with fire<sup>1426</sup> and the pride of the Philistines would be cut off<sup>1427</sup>; the scepter would depart from Egypt and the pride of Assyria would be brought down<sup>1428</sup>. He told Jerusalem to rejoice because her king was coming, riding upon a donkey<sup>1429</sup>. He also asked for a price, and they gave him 30 pieces of silver<sup>1430</sup>; God told him to cast it to the potter, and he did so in the Temple<sup>1431</sup>. God also said that He would make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all nations<sup>1432</sup>; whoever burdened themselves with it would be cut in pieces<sup>1433</sup>, and God would seek to destroy all nations that come against her<sup>1434</sup>. God promised to pour the spirit of grace upon the house of David, and they would look upon Him whom they have pierced and bitterly mourn for him<sup>1435</sup>.

Finally, Zechariah spoke of the day of the Lord<sup>1436</sup>. In that day God will gather all nations to attack Jerusalem<sup>1437</sup>; they will take the city<sup>1438</sup>, but then the Lord will go forth and fight against them<sup>1439</sup>. His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives and the mountain will cleave in two<sup>1440</sup>. The Lord will smite those who fought against Jerusalem by making their flesh consume away while they are standing<sup>1441</sup>. In that day the Lord will be king over all the Earth<sup>1442</sup>. All those who survive among the nations will come to Jerusalem every year to worship the King and keep the feast of tabernacles<sup>1443</sup>.

When Zerubbabel began rebuilding the Temple<sup>1444</sup>; the adversaries tried to stop it<sup>1445</sup> but the Jews sent a letter to Darius in their defense<sup>1446</sup>. Darius found the edit from Cyrus<sup>1447</sup> and commanded that the opposition cease<sup>1448</sup>. The Jews finished rebuilding the Temple in the sixth year of Da-

rius<sup>1449</sup>, and they offered sacrifices<sup>1450</sup> and kept the Passover<sup>1451</sup>.

In the days of Artaxerxes<sup>1452</sup>, Ezra left Babylon and went to Jerusalem<sup>1453</sup>. The king made a decree that allowed the other Levites to accompany him<sup>1454</sup>, and sent along an offering<sup>1455</sup>. Since Ezra's group was bringing treasure to Jerusalem<sup>1456</sup>, they fasted and prayed that God would protect them on their journey there<sup>1457</sup> (because they didn't want to have to ask the king for an armed guard<sup>1458</sup>). God watched over them and they reached Jerusalem safely<sup>1459</sup>, where they offered burnt offerings<sup>1460</sup>. When Ezra learned that the Jews and the Levites had been intermarrying with pagans<sup>1461</sup> he became very upset<sup>1462</sup>; he prayed and confessed the nation's sin<sup>1463</sup>. A proclaimed was made for everyone to come to Jerusalem<sup>1464</sup>. When the people were gathered<sup>1465</sup>, Ezra chastised them<sup>1466</sup> and commanded that they separate from their pagan wives<sup>1467</sup>. The people agreed<sup>1468</sup>, but since many had intermarried they said it would take time<sup>1469</sup>. Jonathan and Jahaziah were appointed to help, and Meshullam and Shabbethai helped them<sup>1470</sup>. By the first day of the first month the task was done<sup>1471</sup>.

Hanani told Nehemiah that the Jews in Israel were suffering and the walls of Jerusalem had been broken down<sup>1472</sup>. When Nehemiah heard this he wept, fasted, and prayed<sup>1473</sup>. King Artaxerxes saw that Nehemiah was sad and asked what the problem was<sup>1474</sup>. Nehemiah explained<sup>1475</sup>, and the king sent him to repair Jerusalem<sup>1476</sup> and provided resources to help<sup>1477</sup>. Nehemiah went to Jerusalem<sup>1478</sup>, surveyed the situation<sup>1479</sup>, and led the people to begin rebuilding the city's walls<sup>1480</sup>. Sanballat and Tobiah became very upset<sup>1481</sup>. When Nehemiah learned that they were making plans to stop the Jews<sup>1482</sup>, he told the people building the wall to keep their swords with them<sup>1483</sup> and be ready to fight. Half of the people worked and the other half guarded them<sup>1484</sup>.

Nehemiah rebuked the nobles for oppressing the poor<sup>1485</sup>, and the nobles agreed to restore what they had taken<sup>1486</sup>. Nehemiah was appointed governor of Judah, but because the people were suffering he did not take a salary<sup>1487</sup>. The enemies of the Jews tried to lure Nehemiah away and kill him<sup>1488</sup>, but he was not deceived<sup>1489</sup>. When the wall was finished<sup>1490</sup>, Israel's enemies were depressed because they knew God had done it<sup>1491</sup>. Nehemiah gave his brother Hanani (along with Hananiah) charge over Jerusalem<sup>1492</sup>. Ezra read the Law to the people<sup>1493</sup> and they kept the festival of booths<sup>1494</sup>. Israel separated themselves from the pagans in the land<sup>1495</sup>, confessed their sins<sup>1496</sup>, and made an oath to obey God's law<sup>1497</sup>. Lots were cast to decide who should live in Jerusalem<sup>1498</sup>, and some people volunteered willingly<sup>1499</sup>. When the book of Moses was read, the people found out that the Ammonites and Moabites were prohibited from entering the congregation<sup>1500</sup>, so Israel separated themselves from the mixed multitude<sup>1501</sup>. Nehemiah cast Tobiah's goods out of the Temple<sup>1502</sup>, cleansed the chambers<sup>1503</sup>, and criticized the rulers for not paying the Temple workers<sup>1504</sup>. When Nehemiah saw people selling goods on the Sabbath<sup>1505</sup> he commanded that the city's gates be shut on the Sabbath<sup>1506</sup>, and when people still kept coming to sell<sup>1507</sup> he threatened them<sup>1508</sup>. He also cursed the Jews who had married pagans<sup>1509</sup>, and cleansed the priesthood of all strangers<sup>1510</sup>.

King Ahasuerus made a feast and showed off his kingdom<sup>1511</sup>; during the feast he called for Queen Vashti<sup>1512</sup>. When she refused to come<sup>1513</sup> he removed her from being queen<sup>1514</sup>. After the feast was over he ordered that all the fair young virgins be gathered to the palace so he could choose a new queen<sup>1515</sup>, and Esther was included among them<sup>1516</sup>. Esther's uncle Mordecai warned her not to reveal that she was a Jew, and she obeyed<sup>1517</sup>. After each woman had spent 12 months being purified she spent the night

with the king<sup>1518</sup>. The king loved Esther and made her queen<sup>1519</sup>. After this, Mordecai overheard a plot against the king<sup>1520</sup> and told Esther. She told the king<sup>1521</sup>, and the plotters were hanged<sup>1522</sup>. Ahasuerus promoted Haman above the other princes<sup>1523</sup>; everyone bowed to him, but Mordecai refused<sup>1524</sup>. This enraged Haman<sup>1525</sup> and he decided to kill all the Jews<sup>1526</sup>. He picked a date for their execution by casting lots<sup>1527</sup>, and convinced the king to issue the decree<sup>1528</sup>. When Mordecai found out about it he sat at the king's gate in sackcloth<sup>1529</sup> and told Esther to talk to the king about it<sup>1530</sup>. Esther said she was only allowed to see the king when he called for her, and could be killed if she went in unasked<sup>1531</sup>. Mordecai warned her that if she did nothing the Jews would still be delivered, but she would be doomed for not acting<sup>1532</sup>. Esther told the Jews to fast for three days, and then she would go see the king<sup>1533</sup>.

On the third day Esther went to see the king<sup>1534</sup>. He accepted her<sup>1535</sup>, and she invited him and Haman to a banquet that day<sup>1536</sup>. At the banquet Esther invited him and Haman to another banquet the following day, and promised to tell the king what she wanted at that banquet<sup>1537</sup>. Haman was delighted to be included<sup>1538</sup> but became angry when he saw Mordecai<sup>1539</sup>, and had a gallows made 50 cubits high so he could hang him<sup>1540</sup>. That night the king could not sleep, so he had the chronicles read to him<sup>1541</sup>. He discovered that Mordecai had saved his life but had not been honored<sup>1542</sup>. Since Haman happened to be in court<sup>1543</sup> (he wanted to ask the king to execute Mordecai<sup>1544</sup>), the king had Haman lavishly honor Mordecai<sup>1545</sup>. Haman did so<sup>1546</sup> and then returned home humiliated<sup>1547</sup>. Haman was then brought to the banquet Esther had prepared<sup>1548</sup>. At the banquet, Esther told the king that Haman was determined to kill her and her people<sup>1549</sup>. The king became angry and left<sup>1550</sup>. When he returned he saw Haman pleading with Esther and thought he was trying to rape her<sup>1551</sup>. Harbonah

told the king that Haman had made a gallows to hang Mordecai, and the king ordered that Haman be hanged on it<sup>1552</sup>. The king then put Mordecai in Haman's place, and Esther put him over Haman's house<sup>1553</sup>. Since the king could not reverse his decree<sup>1554</sup>, he instead issued a new one that allowed the Jews to defend themselves<sup>1555</sup>. When the day came, the Jews defended themselves<sup>1556</sup> and killed their enemies<sup>1557</sup>. The Jews made the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of Adar days of gladness<sup>1558</sup>; the days were called Purim because Haman cast a lot (Pur)<sup>1559</sup>. Mordecai was great among the Jews and sought the wealth and peace of his people<sup>1560</sup>.

The prophet Malachi condemned the people for despising God by offering polluted sacrifices<sup>1561</sup>. God warned the priests that if they did not glorify His name then He would curse them<sup>1562</sup>. He also condemned them for dealing treacherously with the wife of their youth<sup>1563</sup> and for claiming that God delighted in those who do evil<sup>1564</sup>. Malachi prophesied that God would send His messenger, who would prepare the way before Him<sup>1565</sup>. He also said that the Messiah would come suddenly into the Temple<sup>1566</sup> and would be like a refiner's fire<sup>1567</sup>. Malachi condemned the people for withholding their tithes<sup>1568</sup> and said that if they resumed tithing God would bless them<sup>1569</sup>. He closed by saying that before the day of the Lord came he would send them Elijah the prophet<sup>1570</sup>, who would turn the heart of fathers to the children and the heart of children to their fathers<sup>1571</sup>.

Obadiah (whose time of ministry is unknown) prophesied against the nation of Edom<sup>1572</sup> for all the terrible things they had done to the children of Judah<sup>1573</sup>. Obadiah warned that the day of the Lord was near<sup>1574</sup>, and said the house of Jacob would utterly wipe out the house of Esau<sup>1575</sup>.

The book of I Chronicles contains a lot of genealogical information, including the genealogy from Adam to No-



ah<sup>1576</sup>, the descendants of Noah's sons<sup>1577</sup>, the descendants of Ishmael<sup>1578</sup> and Isaac<sup>1579</sup>, the genealogy<sup>1580</sup> and descendants<sup>1581</sup> of David, and the descendants of Jacob's children<sup>1582</sup>. It also contains listings of Levites<sup>1583</sup>, the way David divided the priesthood into 24 divisions<sup>1584</sup>, the chief men of David's kingdom<sup>1585</sup>, and the officers that served David<sup>1586</sup>.

The book of Psalms contains 150 different psalms that cover a wide variety of themes. The psalmists cry out to God for help<sup>1587</sup> and deliverance<sup>1588</sup>, and say that the Lord is their shield and defender<sup>1589</sup>. They pray for judgment on their enemies<sup>1590</sup> and upon the wicked<sup>1591</sup>, and sing the Lord's praises<sup>1592</sup>. The psalms also talk about the work<sup>1593</sup>, priesthood<sup>1594</sup>, and suffering of the Messiah<sup>1595</sup>, and speak of the Lord's forgiveness<sup>1596</sup> and mercy<sup>1597</sup>. They also glorify the Lord's works<sup>1598</sup>, urge everyone to praise God<sup>1599</sup>, and speak of a time when all nations would serve God<sup>1600</sup>. They urge men to fear God<sup>1601</sup> and speak of Israel's history<sup>1602</sup>, of God's eternal existence<sup>1603</sup>, and of God's omniscience<sup>1604</sup> and omni-presence<sup>1605</sup>. We are told to pray for the peace of Jerusalem<sup>1606</sup> and reminded that God protects His people Israel<sup>1607</sup> and has chosen them as His peculiar treasure<sup>1608</sup>. The final psalm closes by saying "Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."<sup>1609</sup>

1	Genesis 1:1	49	Genesis 7:13-16	105	Genesis 12:5
2	Exodus 20:11	50	Genesis 7:6	106	Genesis 12:4
3	Genesis 2:2	51	Genesis 7:12	107	Genesis 17:8
4	Genesis 1:27	52	Genesis 7:19	108	Genesis 22:18
5	Genesis 2:8	53	Genesis 7:24	109	Genesis 15:13
6	Genesis 2:19	54	Genesis 7:22	110	Genesis 15:14
7	Genesis 2:20	55	Genesis 8:1	111	Genesis 15:4
8	Genesis 2:21-22	56	Genesis 8:13	112	Genesis 15:5
9	Genesis 2:16-17	57	Genesis 8:15-16	113	Genesis 16:2-3
10	Genesis 3:1-5	58	Genesis 8:20	114	Genesis 16:16
11	Genesis 3:6	59	Genesis 9:8-9	115	Genesis 17:20
12	Genesis 3:7-8	60	Genesis 9:11	116	Genesis 17:21
13	Genesis 3:11	61	Genesis 9:12-17	117	Genesis 18:20-21
14	Genesis 3:14-19	62	Genesis 10:8-10	118	Genesis 13:13
15	Genesis 3:23	63	Genesis 11:4	119	Genesis 18:23
16	Genesis 3:19	64	Genesis 11:7	120	Genesis 19:24-5
17	Genesis 3:17	65	Genesis 11:8	121	Genesis 19:12-13
18	Genesis 3:15	66	Job 1:1	122	Genesis 19:23
19	Genesis 3:22,24	67	Job 1:2	123	Genesis 19:30
20	Genesis 4:1-2	68	Job 1:3	124	Genesis 19:33,35
21	Genesis 4:8	69	Job 1:9-11	125	Genesis 19:37,38
22	1 John 3:12	70	Job 1:12	126	Genesis 21:5
23	Genesis 4:12	71	Job 1:14-17	127	Genesis 21:8-10
24	Genesis 4:15	72	Job 1:18-19	128	Genesis 22:2
25	Genesis 4:20	73	Job 1:13-19	129	Genesis 22:13
26	Genesis 4:21	74	Job 1:21	130	Genesis 23:1
27	Genesis 4:22	75	Job 1:22	131	Genesis 23:7-17
28	Genesis 4:23-4	76	Job 2:4-5	132	Genesis 24:2-4
29	Genesis 4:25	77	Job 2:6	133	Genesis 24:24, 11:27
30	Genesis 5:1-18	78	Job 2:7	134	Genesis 25:1
31	Genesis 5:18	79	Job 2:9	135	Genesis 25:2
32	Jude 1:14	80	Job 2:10	136	Genesis 25:6
33	Hebrews 11:5	81	Job 11:6	137	Genesis 25:5
34	Genesis 5:23	82	Job 23:11-12	138	Genesis 25:8-9
35	Genesis 5:24	83	Job 23:3-4	139	Genesis 25:24-26
36	Genesis 5:5, 8, 11, 20, etc.	84	Job 27:2	140	Genesis 25:28
37	Genesis 6:5	85	Job 30:20-21	141	Genesis 25:34
38	The phrase "sons of God" in Genesis 6:2 appears three other times in the OT: Job 1:6, Job 2:1, and Job 38:7. Each of those three times refers to angels.	86	Job 31:35	142	Genesis 27:6-10
39	Genesis 6:2	87	Job 32:1	143	Genesis 27:42-4
40	Genesis 6:4	88	Job 32:2	144	Genesis 29:22-28
41	Genesis 6:7	89	Job 34:5	145	Genesis 29:32
42	Genesis 6:9	90	Job 35:2	146	Genesis 29:33
43	Genesis 6:8	91	Job 38:1-2	147	Genesis 29:34
44	Genesis 6:17	92	Job 38:18	148	Genesis 29:35
45	Genesis 6:14	93	Job 38:17	149	Genesis 30:6
46	Genesis 6:19	94	Job 38:4	150	Genesis 30:8
47	Genesis 6:18	95	Job 40:3-4	151	Genesis 30:11
48	Genesis 6:22	96	Job 40:8	152	Genesis 30:13
		97	Job 40:9	153	Genesis 30:18
		98	Job 42:6	154	Genesis 30:20
		99	Job 42:7	155	Genesis 30:24
		100	Job 42:8-9	156	Genesis 35:18
		101	Job 42:10	157	Genesis 30:21
		102	Job 42:13	158	Genesis 31
		103	Job 42:16	159	Genesis 32:24
		104	Genesis 12:1		

160	Genesis 32:28	212	Numbers 18:24	267	Numbers 32:17-18
161	Genesis 33:11	213	Numbers 18:12-14	268	Deut. 4:1-6
162	Genesis 33:16	214	Numbers 1:1-3	269	Deut. 7:1-3
163	Genesis 36:9	215	Numbers 1:47-50	270	Deut. 7:4
164	Genesis 37:4	216	Numbers 1:45-6	271	Deut. 34:1-3
165	Genesis 37:28	217	Numbers 11:10	272	Deut. 34:5
166	Genesis 39:4	218	Numbers 11:11-15	273	Joshua 2:1
167	Genesis 39:12-20	219	Numbers 11:16-17	274	Joshua 2:24
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169	Genesis 41:25-32	221	Numbers 13:27	276	Joshua 5:2-3
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