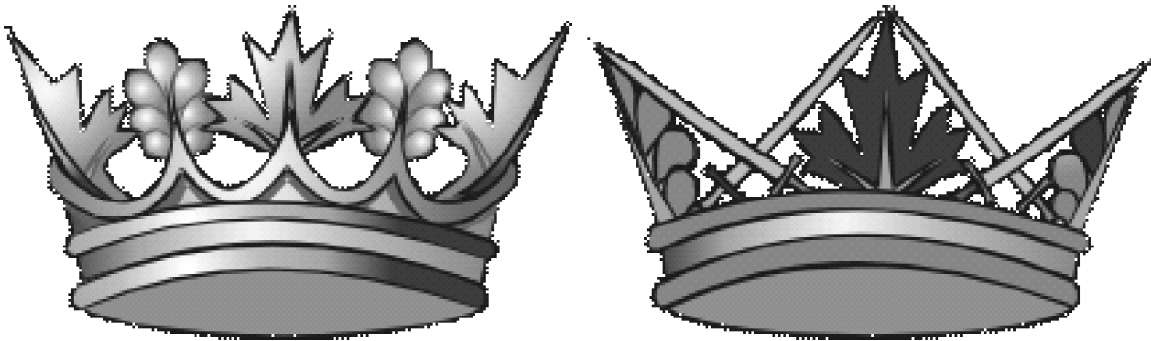


Early Prophets, Book 5

The First Book of

Kings

(I Kings)



In Large Print English

JB I International, Inc.

110 East 30th Street

New York, NY 10016

212-889-2525 800-433-1531

E-mail: library@JBILibrary.org

Website: JBILibrary.org

I Kings

Chapter 1

1. And king David was old and advanced in years; and they covered him with blankets, but he could not become warm.

2. And his servants said to him, Let there be sought for my lord the king a young virgin; and let her stand before the king, and be his attendant, and let her lie in your bosom, that my lord the king may become warm.

3. And they sought for a pretty girl throughout all the territory of Israel, and found Abishag a Shunemmite, and brought her to the king.

4. And the girl was very pretty, and she attended the king, and ministered to him; but the king knew her not.

5. Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king; and he set up chariots and horsemen for himself, and fifty men to run before him.

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6. And his father had not displeased him at any time by saying, Why have you done so? And he also was a very handsome man; and his mother bore him after Absalom.

7. And he conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah, and with Abiathar the priest; and they followed Adonijah and helped him.

8. But Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and Nathan the prophet, and Shimei, and Rei, and the mighty men who belonged to David, were not with Adonijah.

9. And Adonijah slew sheep and oxen and fat cattle by the stone of Zoheleth, which is by Ein-Rogel, and called all his brothers the king's sons, and all the men of Judah the king's servants;

10. But Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah, and the mighty men, and Solomon his brother, he called not.

11. And Nathan spoke to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, saying, Have you not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith is reigning, and David our lord

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knows it not?

12. And therefore come, let me, I beg you, give you counsel, that you may save your own life, and the life of your son Solomon.

13. Go and get you in to king David, and say to him, Did you not, my lord, O king, swear to your maidservant, saying, Assuredly Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne? Why then does Adonijah reign?

14. Behold, while you still talk there with the king, I also will come in after you, and confirm your words.

15. And Bathsheba went to the king into the chamber; and the king was very old; and Abishag the Shunemmite ministered to the king.

16. And Bathsheba bowed, and prostrated herself before to the king. And the king said, What do you want?

17. And she said to him, My lord, you swore by the Lord your God to your maidservant, saying, Assuredly Solomon your son shall reign after me,

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and he shall sit upon my throne.

18. And now, behold, Adonijah reigns; and now, my lord the king, you know it not;

19. And he has slaughtered oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and has called all the sons of the king, and Abiathar the priest, and Joab the captain of the army; but Solomon your servant he has not called.

20. And you, my lord, O king, the eyes of all Israel are upon you, that you should tell those who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him.

21. Otherwise it shall come to pass, when my lord the king shall sleep with his fathers, that I and my son Solomon shall be considered offenders.

22. And, behold, while she still talked with the king, Nathan the prophet also came in.

23. And they told the king, saying, Behold Nathan the prophet. And when he came in before the king, he bowed before the king with his face to the ground.

24. And Nathan said, My lord, O king, have you said,

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Adonijah shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne?

25. For he is gone down this day, and has slaughtered oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and has called all the king's sons, and the captains of the army, and Abiathar the priest; and, behold, they eat and drink before him, and say, Long live king Adonijah!

26. But me, your servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon, he has not called.

27. Is this thing done by my lord the king, and you have not informed your servant, who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?

28. Then king David answered and said, Call me Bathsheba. And she came to the king's presence, and stood before the king.

29. And the king swore, and said, As the Lord lives, who has redeemed my soul out of all distress,

30. As I swore to you by the Lord God of Israel,

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saying, Assuredly Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne in my place; so will I certainly do this day.

31. Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the earth, and prostrated herself to the king, and said, Let my lord king David live forever!

32. And king David said, Call me Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. And they came before the king.

33. And the king said to them, Take with you the servants of your lord, and have Solomon my son ride upon my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon;

34. And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there king over Israel; and blow with the trumpet, and say, Long live king Solomon!

35. Then you shall come up after him, that he may come and sit upon my throne; for he shall be king in my place; and I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah.

36. And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the

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king, and said, Amen; so say the Lord God of my lord the king too.

37. As the Lord has been with my lord the king, so be he with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord king David.

38. And Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Kerethites, and the Pelethites, went down, and had Solomon ride upon king David's mule, and brought him to Gihon.

39. And Zadok the priest took a horn of oil from the tabernacle, and anointed Solomon. And they blew the shofar; and all the people said, Long live king Solomon!

40. And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth was split with their sound.

41. And Adonijah and all the guests who were with him heard it as they were finishing eating. And when Joab heard the sound of the shofar, he said, Why is

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the city in an uproar?

42. And while he was still speaking, behold, Jonathan the son of Abiathar the priest came; and Adonijah said to him, Come in; for you are a brave man, and you bring good news.

43. And Jonathan answered and said to Adonijah, Truly our lord king David has made Solomon king.

44. And the king has sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Kerethites, and the Pelethites, and they have him riding upon the king's mule;

45. And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king in Gihon; and they have come up from there rejoicing, so that the city is in an uproar. This is the noise that you have heard.

46. And also Solomon sits on the throne of the kingdom.

47. And moreover the king's servants came to bless our lord king David, saying, God make the name of Solomon better than your name, and make his

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throne greater than your throne. And the king bowed on the bed.

48. And also thus said the king, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who has given one to sit on my throne this day, seeing it with my own eyes.

49. And all the guests who were with Adonijah were afraid, and rose up, and went every man his way.

50. And Adonijah feared because of Solomon, and arose, and went, and caught hold of the horns of the altar.

51. And it was told Solomon, saying, Behold, Adonijah fears king Solomon; for, behold, he has caught hold of the horns of the altar, saying, Let king Solomon swear to me today that he will not kill his servant with the sword.

52. And Solomon said, If he will show himself a worthy man, there shall not a hair of him fall to the earth; but if wickedness shall be found in him, he shall die.

53. And king Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar. And he came and bowed to king

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Solomon; and Solomon said to him, Go to your house.

Chapter 2

1. And the days of David drew near that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying,

2. I go the way of all the earth; be you strong therefore, and show yourself a man;

3. And keep the charge of the Lord your God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the Torah of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do, and wherever you turn yourself;

4. That the Lord may continue his word which he spoke concerning me, saying, If your children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail you, said he, a man on the throne of Israel.

5. And also you know what Joab the son of Zeruah

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did to me, and what he did to the two captains of the armies of Israel, to Abner, the son of Ner, and to Amasa, the son of Jether, whom he killed, and shed the blood of war in peace, and put the blood of war upon his girdle around his loins, and in his shoes that were on his feet.

6. Do therefore according to your wisdom, and let not his grey head go down to Sheol in peace.

7. But show kindness to the sons of Barzilai the Gileadite, and let them be of those who eat at your table; for so they came to me when I fled because of Absalom your brother.

8. And, behold, you have with you Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite of Bahurim, who cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim; but he came down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by the Lord, saying, I will not put you to death with the sword.

9. And therefore hold him not guiltless; for you are a wise man, and know what you ought to do to him;

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but his grey head bring down to Sheol with blood.

10. And David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.

11. And the days that David reigned over Israel were forty years; seven years he reigned in Hebron, and thirty three years he reigned in Jerusalem.

12. And Solomon sat on the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was firmly established.

13. And Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, Do you come peacefully? And he said, Peacefully.

14. And he said, I have something to say to you. And she said, Speak.

15. And he said, You know that the kingdom was mine, and that all Israel set their faces on me, that I should reign; but the kingdom is turned about, and has become my brother's; for it was his from the Lord.

16. And now I ask one petition of you, deny me not.

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And she said to him, Speak.

17. And he said, Speak, I beg you, to Solomon the king, for he will not say you no, that he give me Abishag the Shunemmite to wife.

18. And Bathsheba said, Well; I will speak for you to the king.

19. And Bathsheba went to king Solomon, to speak to him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her, and bowed to her, and sat down on his throne, and had a seat brought for the king's mother; and she sat on his right.

20. Then she said, I desire one small petition of you; I beg you, do not deny me. And the king said to her, Ask, my mother; for I will not deny you.

21. And she said, Let Abishag the Shunemmite be given to Adonijah your brother for a wife.

22. And king Solomon answered and said to his mother, And why do you ask Abishag the Shunemmite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom also; for he is my elder brother; for him, and for

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Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruah.

23. Then king Solomon swore by the Lord, saying, God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word against his own life.

24. And therefore, as the Lord lives, who has established me, and set me on the throne of David my father, and who has made me a house, as he promised, Adonijah shall be put to death this day.

25. And king Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he struck him and he died.

26. And to Abiathar the priest said the king, Go to Anathoth, to your own fields; for you deserve death; but I will not, at this time, put you to death, because you bore the ark of the Lord God before David my father, and because you were afflicted in all my father's afflictions.

27. And Solomon expelled Abiathar from being priest to the Lord; that he might fulfil the word of the Lord, which he spoke concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.

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28. Then news came to Joab; for Joab had supported Adonijah, though he had not supported Absalom. And Joab fled to the tabernacle of the Lord, and caught hold of the horns of the altar.

29. And it was told king Solomon that Joab had fled to the tabernacle of the Lord; and, behold, he is by the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, Go, strike him down.

30. And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the Lord, and said to him, Thus said the king, Come out. And he said, No; but I will die here. And Benaiah brought word back to the king, saying, Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me.

31. And the king said to him, Do as he has said, and strike him down, and bury him; that you may take away the innocent blood, which Joab shed, from me, and from the house of my father.

32. And the Lord shall return his blood upon his own head, who fell upon two men more righteous and better than he, and killed them with the sword, my

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father David not knowing of it, Abner the son of Ner, captain of the army of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, captain of the army of Judah.

33. Their blood shall therefore return upon the head of Joab, and upon the head of his seed forever; but upon David, and upon his seed, and upon his house, and upon his throne, shall there be peace forever from the Lord.

34. And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up, and struck him down, and killed him; and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness.

35. And the king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in place of him over the army; and Zadok the priest the king put in place of Abiathar.

36. And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said to him, Build a house in Jerusalem, and live there, and do not go from there anywhere.

37. For it shall be, that on the day that you go out, and pass over the brook Kidron, you shall know for certain that you shall surely die; your blood shall be

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upon your own head.

38. And Shimei said to the king, The saying is good; as my lord the king has said, so will your servant do. And Shimei lived in Jerusalem many days.

39. And it came to pass at the end of three years, that two of the slaves of Shimei ran away to Achish son of Maachah king of Gath. And they told Shimei, saying, Behold, your slaves are in Gath.

40. And Shimei arose, and saddled his ass, and went to Gath to Achish to seek his slaves; and Shimei went, and brought his slaves from Gath.

41. And it was told Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath, and had returned.

42. And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said to him, Did I not make you swear by the Lord, and did I not warn you, saying, Know for certain, on the day you go out, and walk abroad anywhere, that you shall surely die? and you said to me, The word that I have heard is good.

43. Why then have you not kept the oath of the Lord,

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and the commandment that I charged you with?

44. And the king said to Shimei, You know in your own heart all the wickedness that you did to David my father; therefore the Lord shall return your wickedness upon your own head;

45. And king Solomon shall be blessed, and the throne of David shall be established before the Lord forever.

46. And the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he went out, and struck him down, and he died. And the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

Chapter 3

1. And Solomon made a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her to the city of David, until he finished building his own house, and the house of the Lord, and the surrounding wall of Jerusalem.

2. Only the people sacrificed in high places, because

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there was no house built to the name of the Lord, until those days.

3. And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father; only he sacrificed and burned incense in high places.

4. And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place; a thousand burnt offerings Solomon offered upon that altar.

5. In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, Ask what I shall give you.

6. And Solomon said, You have shown to your servant David my father great mercy, because he walked before you in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great kindness, that you have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

7. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king instead of David my father; and I am but a little child; I know not how to go out or come in.

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8. And your servant is in the midst of your people which you have chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.

9. Give therefore your servant an understanding heart to judge your people, that I may discern between good and bad; for who is able to judge this your so great a people?

10. And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

11. And God said to him, Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked for yourself long life; neither have you asked riches for yourself; nor have you asked for the life of your enemies; but have asked for yourself understanding to discern judgment;

12. Behold, I have done according to your words; lo, I have given you a wise and understanding heart; so that there was none like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you.

13. And I have also given you that which you have not

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asked, both riches, and honor; so that there shall not be any among the kings like you all your days.

14. And if you will walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.

15. And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

16. Then came there two women, who were harlots, to the king, and stood before him.

17. And one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman live in one house; and I gave birth to a child with her in the house.

18. And it came to pass the third day after I had given birth, that this woman also gave birth; and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, only the two of us in the house.

19. And this woman's child died in the night; because

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she lay on it.

20. And she arose at midnight, and took my son from my side, while your maidservant slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom.

21. And when I rose in the morning to nurse my child, behold, it was dead; but when I had looked at it closely in the morning, behold, it was not my son, that I had borne.

22. And the other woman said, No; but the living child is my son, and the dead is your son. And this said, No; but the dead is your son, and the living is my son. Thus they spoke before the king.

23. Then said the king, One says, This is my son who lives, and your son is the dead; and the other says, No; but your son is the dead, and my son is the living.

24. And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king.

25. And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to one, and half to the other.

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26. Then the woman, whose son was the living child, spoke to the king, for her love was enkindled towards her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, but do not slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor yours, but divide it.

27. Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and do not slay it; she is its mother.

28. And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king; for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do judgment.

Chapter 4

1. And king Solomon was king over all Israel.

2. And these were the princes which he had: Azariah the son of Zadok the priest,

3. Elihoreph and Ahiah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder.

4. And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the army; and Zadok and Abiathar were the priests;

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5. And Azariah the son of Nathan was over the officers; and Zabud the son of Nathan was priest, and the king's friend;

6. And Ahishar was over the household; and Adoniram the son of Abda was over the tribute.

7. And Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel, who provided provisions for the king and his household; each man provided provisions for a month in the year.

8. And these are their names: The son of Hur, in Mount Ephraim;

9. The son of Dekar, in Makaz, and in Shaalbim, and Beth-Shemesh, and Elon-Beth-Hanan;

10. The son of Hessed, in Aruboth; to him belonged Socoh, and all the land of Hepher;

11. The son of Abinadab, in all the region of Dor; who had Taphath the daughter of Solomon as wife;

12. Baana the son of Ahilud; to him belonged Taanach and Megiddo, and all Beth-Shean, which is by

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Zaretanah beneath Jezreel, from Beth-Shean to Abel-Meholah, to the place that is beyond Jokneam;

13. Ben-Geber, in Ramoth-Gilead; to him belonged the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead; to him also belonged the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, sixty great cities with walls and bronze bars;

14. Ahinadab the son of Iddo had Mahanaim;

15. Ahimaaz was in Naphtali; he also took Basmath the daughter of Solomon as wife;

16. Baanah the son of Hushai was in Asher and in Aloth;

17. Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar;

18. Shimei the son of Elah, in Benjamin;

19. Geber the son of Uri was in the country of Gilead, in the country of Sihon king of the Amorites, and of Og king of Bashan; and he was the only officer who was in the land.

20. Judah and Israel were many, as the sand which is

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by the sea in multitude, eating and drinking, and were happy.

Chapter 5

1. And Solomon reigned over all the kingdoms from the river to the land of the Philistines, to the border of Egypt; they paid tribute, and served Solomon all the days of his life.

2. And Solomon's provision for one day was thirty measures of fine flour, and sixty measures of meal,

3. Ten fat oxen, and twenty oxen from the pastures, and a hundred sheep, apart from deer, and gazelles, and fallow deer, and geese.

4. For he had dominion over all the region on this side of the river, from Tiphseh to Azzah, over all the kings on this side of the river; and he had peace on all sides around him.

5. And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan to

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Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.

6. And Solomon had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen.

7. And those officers provided provisions for king Solomon, and for all who came to king Solomon's table, each one in his month; they lacked nothing.

8. Barley also and straw for the horses and swift steed brought they to the place where the officers were, every man according to his charge.

9. And God gave Solomon wisdom and much understanding, and greatness of heart, as the sand that is on the sea shore.

10. And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the people of the east, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

11. For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Kalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the surrounding nations.

12. And he uttered three thousand proverbs; and his

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songs were a thousand and five.

13. And he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that comes out of the wall; he spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of creeping things, and of fishes.

14. And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.

15. And Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon; for he had heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father; for Hiram had always loved David.

16. And Solomon sent to Hiram, saying,

17. You know how that David my father could not build a house to the name of the Lord his God on account of the wars which were around him on every side, until the Lord put them under the soles of his feet.

18. But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side, so that there is neither adversary nor evil hindrance.

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19. And, behold, I intend to build a house to the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord spoke to David my father, saying, Your son, whom I will set upon your throne in your place, he shall build a house to my name.

20. And therefore command that they cut me cedar trees from Lebanon; and my servants shall be with your servants; and to you will I pay wages to your servants according to what you shall set; for you know that there is not among us any who can skillfully cut timber like the Sidonians.

21. And it came to pass, when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, that he rejoiced greatly, and said, Blessed be the Lord this day, who has given to David a wise son over this great people.

22. And Hiram sent to Solomon, saying, I have considered the things which you sent to me for; and I will do all you wish concerning the timber of cedar, and concerning the timber of cypress.

23. My servants shall bring them down from Lebanon

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to the sea; and I will convey them by sea in floats to the place that you shall tell me, and will have them discharged there, and you shall receive them; and you shall meet my wishes by providing food for my household.

24. And Hiram gave Solomon cedar trees and cypress trees according to all his wishes.

25. And Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand measures of wheat for food for his household, and twenty measures of pure oil; thus gave Solomon to Hiram year by year.

26. And the Lord gave Solomon wisdom, as he promised him; and there was peace between Hiram and Solomon; and the two made a covenant together.

27. And king Solomon raised a levy from all Israel; and the levy was thirty thousand men.

28. And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month by turns; a month they were in Lebanon, and two months at home; and Adoniram was over the levy.

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29. And Solomon had seventy thousand men who carried burdens, and eighty thousand stone cutters in the mountains;

30. Beside the chiefs of Solomon's officers who supervised the work, three thousand and three hundred, who ruled over the people who did the work.

31. And the king commanded, and they brought great stones, costly stones, to lay the foundation of the house with dressed stones.

32. And Solomon's builders and Hiram's builders cut them, and the Giblym; and they prepared timber and stones to build the house.

Chapter 6

1. And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the people of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of

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the Lord.

2. And the house which king Solomon built for the Lord, its length was sixty cubits, and its breadth twenty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.

3. And the vestibule before the temple of the house, twenty cubits was its length, according to the breadth of the house; and ten cubits was its breadth before the house.

4. And for the house he made windows wide outside and narrow inside.

5. And against the wall of the house he built a side structure around the walls of the house, both of the temple and of the sanctuary; and he made chambers around;

6. The lowest chamber was five cubits broad, and the middle was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad; for outside around the wall of the house he made narrowed rests around, that the beams should not be fastened into the walls of the house.

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7. And the house, when it was being built, was built of stone prepared before it was brought there; so that there was neither hammer nor ax nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was being built.

8. The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house; and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third.

9. And he built the house, and finished it; and covered the house with beams and boards of cedar.

10. And then he built the side structure against all the house, five cubits high; and they rested on the house with timber of cedar.

11. And the word of the Lord came to Solomon, saying,

12. Concerning this house which you are building, if you will walk in my statutes, and execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments to walk in them; then will I perform my word with you, which I spoke to David your father;

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13. And I will dwell among the people of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel.

14. And Solomon built the house, and finished it.

15. And he built the walls of the house inside with boards of cedar, both the floor of the house, and the walls of the ceiling; and he covered them on the inside with wood, and covered the floor of the house with planks of cypress.

16. And he built twenty cubits on the back of the house, from the floor to the top of the walls with boards of cedar; he built them for it inside, for the sanctuary, that is for the most holy place.

17. And the house, that is, the temple in front, was forty cubits long.

18. And the cedar of the house inside was carved in the form of gourds, and open flowers; all was cedar; was no stone seen.

19. And the sanctuary he prepared in the house inside, to set there the ark of the covenant of the Lord.

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20. And the space for the sanctuary was twenty cubits in length, and twenty cubits in breadth, and twenty cubits in its height; and he overlaid it with pure gold; and he covered the altar which was of cedar.

21. And Solomon overlaid the house inside with pure gold; and he drew chains of gold across before the sanctuary; and he overlaid it with gold.

22. And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the house; also the whole altar that was by the sanctuary he overlaid with gold.

23. And inside the sanctuary he made two kerubim of olive wood, each ten cubits high.

24. And five cubits was one wing of the kerub, and five cubits the other wing of the kerub; from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other were ten cubits.

25. And the other kerub was ten cubits; both the kerubim were of one measure and one size.

26. The height of one kerub was ten cubits, and so was the height of the other kerub.

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27. And he set the kerubim inside the inner house; and they stretched out the wings of the kerubim, so that the wing of one touched one wall, and the wing of the other kerub touched the other wall; and their wings touched one another in the midst of the house.

28. And he overlaid the kerubim with gold.

29. And he carved all around the walls of the house with carved figures of kerubim and palm trees and open flowers, inside and outside.

30. And the floor of the house he overlaid with gold, inside and outside.

31. And for the entrance of the sanctuary he made doors of olive wood; the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall.

32. The two doors also were of olive wood; and he carved upon them carvings of kerubim and palm trees and open flowers, and overlaid them with gold, and spread gold upon the kerubim, and upon the palm trees.

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33. And he also made for the door of the temple posts of olive wood, a fourth part of the wall.

34. And the two doors were of cypress wood; one door had two folding leaves, and the other door had two folding leaves.

35. And he carved on them kerubim and palm trees and open flowers; and covered them with gold fitted upon the carved work.

36. And he built the inner court with three rows of cut stone, and a row of cedar beams.

37. In the fourth year was the foundation of the house of the Lord laid, in the month Ziv;

38. And in the eleventh year, in the month Bul, which is the eighth month, was the house finished in all its parts, and according to all its specifications. And he was seven years in building it.

Chapter 7

1. And Solomon was building his own house thirteen

I Kings

years, and he finished his entire house.

2. He built also the House of the Forest of Lebanon; its length was a hundred cubits, and its breadth fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits, upon four rows of cedar pillars, with cedar beams upon the pillars.

3. And it was covered with cedar above upon the beams, that lay on forty five pillars, fifteen in a row.

4. And there were window spaces in three rows, and light was against light in three ranks.

5. And all the doors and posts were square, with the windows; and light was against light in three ranks.

6. And he made the Hall of Pillars; its length was fifty cubits, and its breadth thirty cubits; and the vestibule was before them; and the other pillars and the thick beam were before them.

7. Then he made the Hall of the Throne where he would judge, the Hall of Judgment; and it was covered with cedar from one side of the floor to the other.

8. And his house where he lived had another court

I Kings

inside the hall, which was of similar workmanship. Solomon made also a house for Pharaoh's daughter, whom he had taken as a wife, similar to this hall.

9. All these were of costly stones, according to the measures of cut stones, sawed with saws, inside and outside, from the foundation to the coping, and so on the outside toward the great court.

10. And the foundation was of costly stones, large stones, stones of ten cubits, and stones of eight cubits.

11. And above were costly stones, after the measures of cut stones, and cedars.

12. And the great court around had three rows of cut stones, and a row of cedar beams, both for the inner court of the house of the Lord, and for the vestibule of the house.

13. And king Solomon sent and brought Hiram from Tyre.

14. He was the son of a widow of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in

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bronze; and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and skilled in doing any work in bronze. And he came to king Solomon, and did all his work.

15. For he cast two pillars of bronze, of eighteen cubits high apiece; and a line of twelve cubits measured the circle around each of them.

16. And he made two capitals of molten bronze, to set upon the tops of the pillars; the height of one capital was five cubits, and the height of the other capital was five cubits;

17. And nets of checker work, and wreaths of chain work, for the capitals which were upon the top of the pillars; seven for the one capital, and seven for the other capital.

18. And he made the pillars, and two rows around upon the one network, to cover the capitals that were upon the top, with pomegranates; and so did he for the other capital.

19. And the capitals that were upon the top of the

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pillars were of lily work in the vestibule, four cubits.

20. And there were capitals upon the two pillars also above, over against the protuberance which was by the network; and the pomegranates were two hundred in rows around upon the other capital.

21. And he set up the pillars in the vestibule of the temple; and he set up the right pillar, and called its name Jachin; and he set up the left pillar, and called its name Boaz.

22. And upon the top of the pillars was lily work; so was the work of the pillars finished.

23. And he made a molten sea, ten cubits from one brim to the other; it was round all around, and its height was five cubits; and a line of thirty cubits measured the circle around it.

24. And under its brim around there were gourds surrounding it, ten in a cubit, surrounding the sea around; the gourds were cast in two rows, cast with it when it was cast.

25. It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward

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the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east; and the sea was set above upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward.

26. And it was a hand breadth thick, and its brim was done like the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies; it contained two thousand bat.

27. And he made ten bases of bronze; four cubits was the length of one base, and four cubits its breadth, and three cubits its height.

28. And the work of the bases was on this manner; they had borders, and the borders were between the ledges;

29. And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen, and kerubim; and upon the ledges there was a base above; and beneath the lions and oxen were wreaths of hanging work.

30. And every base had four bronze wheels, and plates of bronze; and its four corners had shoulders; under the basin were shoulders molten, at the side

I Kings

of each were wreaths.

31. And its mouth inside the capital and above was a cubit; but its mouth was round according to the work of the base, a cubit and a half; and also upon the mouth of it were engravings with their borders, foursquare, not round.

32. And under the borders were four wheels; and the axles of the wheels were joined to the base; and the height of a wheel was a cubit and half a cubit.

33. And the wheels were like chariot wheels; their axles, and their rims, and their spokes, and their hubs, were all cast.

34. And there were four shoulders to the four corners of one base; and the shoulders were of one piece with the base.

35. And in the top of the base was there a round band half a cubit high; and on the top of the base its ledges and its borders were of one piece with it.

36. For on the plates, on its stays, and on its borders, he engraved kerubim, lions, and palm trees,

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according to the space between each one, and wreaths were around.

37. After this manner he made the ten bases; all of them had the same casting, the same measure, the same size.

38. Then made he ten basins of bronze; one basin contained forty bats; and every basin was four cubits; and upon every one of the ten bases one basin.

39. And he put five bases on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of the house; and he set the sea on the right side of the house eastward towards the south.

40. And Hiram made the pans, and the shovels, and the basins. And Hiram finished doing all the work that he made king Solomon for the house of the Lord;

41. The two pillars, and the two bowls of the capitals that were on the top of the two pillars; and the two networks, to cover the two bowls of the capitals

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which were upon the top of the pillars;

42. And four hundred pomegranates for the two networks, two rows of pomegranates for one network, to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were upon the pillars;

43. And the ten bases, and ten basins on the bases;

44. And one sea, and twelve oxen under the sea;

45. And the pans, and the shovels, and the basins; and all these utensils, which Hiram made to king Solomon for the house of the Lord, were of burnished bronze.

46. In the plain of the Jordan did the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth and Zaretan.

47. And Solomon left all the utensils unweighed, because they were very many; neither was the weight of the bronze determined.

48. And Solomon made all the utensils that belonged to the house of the Lord; the altar of gold, and the table of gold, upon which was the bread of display,

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49. And the lampstands of pure gold, five on the right side, and five on the left, before the sanctuary, with the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs of gold,

50. And the bowls, and the snuffers, and the basins, and the spoons, and the dishes for incense of pure gold; and the hinges of gold, both for the doors of the inner house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the house, namely, of the temple.

51. And so was ended all the work that king Solomon made for the house of the Lord. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had consecrated; the silver, and the gold, and the utensils, did he put among the treasures of the house of the Lord.

Chapter 8

1. Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the people of Israel, before king Solomon in Jerusalem, that they might bring up the ark of the

I Kings

covenant of the Lord from the city of David, which is Zion.

2. And all the men of Israel assembled themselves to king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.

3. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark.

4. And they brought up the ark of the Lord, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy utensils that were in the tabernacle, those did the priests and the Levites bring up.

5. And king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel, who were assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen, that could not be told nor numbered for multitude.

6. And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the Lord to his place, to the sanctuary of the house, to the most holy place, under the wings of the kerubim.

7. For the kerubim spread out their two wings over the

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place of the ark, and the kerubim covered the ark and its poles above.

8. And they drew out the poles, so that the ends of the poles were seen out in the holy place before the sanctuary, and they were not seen outside; and there they are to this day.

9. There was nothing in the ark save the two tablets of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb, when the Lord made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt.

10. And it came to pass, when the priests came out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the Lord,

11. And that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of the Lord.

12. Then spoke Solomon, The Lord said that he would dwell in the thick darkness.

13. I have surely built you a house to dwell in, a settled place for you to abide in forever.

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14. And the king turned his face around, and blessed all the congregation of Israel; and all the congregation of Israel stood;

15. And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who spoke with his mouth to David my father, and has with his hand fulfilled it, saying,

16. Since the day when I brought forth my people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city from all the tribes of Israel to build a house, that my name might be in there; but I chose David to be over my people Israel.

17. And it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the Lord God of Israel.

18. And the Lord said to David my father, Because it was in your heart to build a house to my name, you did well that it was in your heart.

19. Nevertheless you shall not build the house; but your son who shall come forth from your loins, he shall build the house to my name.

20. And the Lord has performed his word that he spoke, and I have risen in place of David my father,

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and I sit on the throne of Israel, as the Lord promised, and I have built a house for the name of the Lord God of Israel.

21. And I have set there a place for the ark, where the covenant of the Lord is, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt.

22. And Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread out his hands toward heaven;

23. And he said, Lord God of Israel, there is no God like you, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keeps covenant and mercy with your servants who walk before you with all their heart;

24. Who have kept with your servant David my father what you promised him; you spoke also with your mouth, and have fulfilled it with your hand, as it is this day.

25. Therefore now, Lord God of Israel, keep with your servant David my father what you promised him,

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saying, There shall not fail you a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that your children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as you have walked before me.

26. And now, O God of Israel, let your word, I pray you, be confirmed, which you spoke to your servant David my father.

27. But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain you; how much less this house that I have built?

28. Yet have regard for the prayer of your servant, and for his supplication, O Lord my God, to listen to the cry and to the prayer, which your servant prays before you today;

29. That your eyes may be open toward this house night and day, toward the place of which you have said, My name shall be there; that you may listen to the prayer which your servant shall make toward this place.

30. And listen to the supplication of your servant, and

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of your people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place; and hear you in heaven your dwelling place; and when you hear, forgive.

31. If any man trespasses against his neighbor, and an oath is laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath comes before your altar in this house;

32. Then hear you in heaven, and do, and judge your servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.

33. When your people Israel are stuck down before the enemy, because they have sinned against you, and shall turn again to you, and confess your name, and pray, and make supplication to you in this house;

34. Then hear you in heaven, and forgive the sin of your people Israel, and bring them again to the land which you gave to their fathers.

35. When heaven is closed, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against you; if they pray

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toward this place, and acknowledge your name, and turn from their sin, when you afflict them;

36. Then hear you in heaven, and forgive the sin of your servants, and of your people Israel, and teach them the good way where they should walk, and give rain upon your land, which you have given to your people for an inheritance.

37. If there is in the land famine, if there is pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there is caterpillar; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatever plague, whatever sickness there might be;

38. Whatever prayer and supplication is made by any man, or by all your people Israel, who shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread out his hands toward this house;

39. Then hear you in heaven your dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart you know; for you, you only, know the hearts of all the children of men;

40. That they may fear you all the days that they live in

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the land which you gave to our fathers.

41. And also concerning a stranger, who is not of your people Israel, but comes from a far country for your name's sake;

42. For they shall hear of your great name, and of your strong hand, and of your stretched out arm; when he shall come and pray toward this house;

43. Hear you in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calls to you for; that all people of the earth may know your name, to fear you, as do your people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have built, is called by your name.

44. If your people go out to battle against their enemy, wherever you shall send them, and shall pray to the Lord toward the city which you have chosen, and toward the house that I have built for your name;

45. Then hear you in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

46. If they sin against you, for there is no man who

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does not sin, and you are angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captive to the land of the enemy, far or near;

47. Yet if they take thought in the land where they were carried captive, and repent, and make supplication to you in the land of them that carried them captive, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness;

48. And so return to you with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies, who led them away captive, and pray to you toward their land, which you gave to their fathers, the city which you have chosen, and the house which I have built for your name;

49. Then hear you their prayer and their supplication in heaven your dwelling place, and maintain their cause,

50. And forgive your people who have sinned against you, and all their transgressions where they have transgressed against you, and give them compassion before those who carried them captive,

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that they may have compassion on them;

51. For they are your people, and your inheritance, whom you brought forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron;

52. That your eyes may be open to the supplication of your servant, and to the supplication of your people Israel, to listen to them in all that they call for to you.

53. For you did set them apart from among all the people of the earth, to be your inheritance, as you spoke by the hand of Moses your servant, when you brought our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord God.

54. And it was so, that when Solomon had finished praying all this prayer and supplication to the Lord, he arose from before the altar of the Lord, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.

55. And he stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice, saying,

56. Blessed be the Lord, who has given rest to his people Israel, according to all that he promised;

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there has not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.

57. The Lord our God be with us, as he was with our fathers; let him not leave us, nor forsake us;

58. That he may incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes, and his judgments, which he commanded our fathers.

59. And let these my words, with which I have made supplication before the Lord, be near to the Lord our God day and night, that he maintain the cause of his servant, and the cause of his people Israel at all times, as each day may require;

60. That all the people of the earth may know that the Lord is God, and that there is no one else.

61. Let your heart therefore be perfect with the Lord our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day.

62. And the king, and all Israel with him, offered

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sacrifice before the Lord.

63. And Solomon offered a sacrifice of peace offerings, which he offered to the Lord, twenty two thousand oxen, and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep. And the king and all the people of Israel dedicated the house of the Lord.

64. The same day did the king hallow the middle of the court that was before the house of the Lord for there he offered burnt offerings, and meal offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings; because the bronze altar that was before the Lord was too small to receive the burnt offerings, and meal offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings.

65. And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entrance to Hamath to the brook of Egypt, before the Lord our God, seven days and seven days, fourteen days.

66. On the eighth day he sent the people away; and they blessed the king, and went to their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the goodness that the Lord

I Kings

had done for David his servant, and for Israel his people.

Chapter 9

1. And it came to pass, when Solomon had finished the building of the house of the Lord, and the king's house, and all Solomon's desire which he was pleased to do,

2. That the Lord appeared to Solomon the second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon.

3. And the Lord said to him, I have heard your prayer and your supplication, that you have made before me; I have hallowed this house, which you have built, to put my name there forever; and my eyes and my heart shall be there perpetually.

4. And if you will walk before me, as David your father walked, in integrity of heart, and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, and will keep my statutes and my judgments;

5. Then I will establish the throne of your kingdom

I Kings

upon Israel forever, as I promised to David your father, saying, There shall not fail you a man upon the throne of Israel.

6. But if you shall turn from following me, you or your children, and will not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods, and worship them;

7. Then will I cut off Israel from the land which I have given them; and this house, which I have hallowed for my name, will I cast from my sight; and Israel shall be a proverb and a byword among all people;

8. And at this house, which is high, every one who passes by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss; and they shall say, Why has the Lord done thus to this land, and to this house?

9. And they shall answer, Because they forsook the Lord their God, who brought forth their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and have taken hold upon other gods, and have worshipped them, and served them; therefore has the Lord brought upon them all this evil.

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10. And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the Lord, and the king's house,

11. And Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar trees and cypress trees, and with gold, according to all his desire, that then king Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.

12. And Hiram came from Tyre to see the cities which Solomon had given him; and they did not please him.

13. And he said, What kind of cities are these which you have given me, my brother? And he called them the land of Cabul to this day.

14. And Hiram sent to the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold.

15. And this is the manner of the levy which king Solomon raised; to build the house of the Lord, and his own house, and Millo, and the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, and Megiddo, and Gezer.

16. For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up, and taken

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Gezer, and burned it with fire, and killed the Canaanites who lived in the city, and given it for a present to his daughter, Solomon's wife.

17. And Solomon rebuilt Gezer, and lower Beth-Horon,

18. And Baalath, and Tadmor in the wilderness, in the land,

19. And all the storage cities that Solomon had, and cities for his chariots, and cities for his horsemen, and that which Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.

20. And all the people who were left of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, who were not of the people of Israel,

21. Their children who were left after them in the land, whom the people of Israel also were not able completely to destroy, upon those did Solomon levy a tribute of forced labor to this day.

22. But of the people of Israel did Solomon make no

I Kings

slaves; but they were men of war, and his servants, and his princes, and his captains, and rulers of his chariots, and his horsemen.

23. These were the chiefs of the officers who supervised Solomon's work, five hundred and fifty, who ruled over the people who did the work.

24. But Pharaoh's daughter came up from the city of David to her house which Solomon had built for her; then did he build Millo.

25. And three times in a year did Solomon offer burnt offerings and peace offerings upon the altar which he built to the Lord, and he burned incense upon the altar that was before the Lord. And he finished the house.

26. And king Solomon built a fleet of ships in Ezion-Geber, which is besides Eloth, on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom.

27. And Hiram sent in the fleet his servants, shipmen who had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon.

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28. And they came to Ophir, and brought from there gold, four hundred and twenty talents, and brought it to king Solomon.

Chapter 10

1. And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon and what he had done in the name of the Lord, she came to test him with difficult questions.

2. And she came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels that carried spices, and much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she told him all that was in her heart.

3. And Solomon answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from the king, which he did not tell her.

4. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built,

5. And the food of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and

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their clothing, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up to the house of the Lord; there was no more spirit in her.

6. And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in my own land of your acts and of your wisdom.

7. But I did not believe the words, until I came, and my eyes saw it; and, behold, the half was not told me; your wisdom and prosperity exceeds the fame which I heard.

8. Happy are your men, happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you, and who hear your wisdom.

9. Blessed be the Lord your God, who delighted in you, to set you on the throne of Israel; because the Lord loved Israel forever, therefore he made you king, to do judgment and justice.

10. And she gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and of spices very great store, and precious stones; there came no more such

I Kings

abundance of spices as these which the queen of Sheba gave to king Solomon.

11. And also the fleet of Hiram, that brought gold from Ophir, brought in from Ophir a great amount of almug wood, and precious stones.

12. And the king made of the almug wood pillars for the house of the Lord, and for the king's house, lyres also and lutes for singers; there came no such almug wood, nor were seen to this day.

13. And king Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatever she asked, besides that which Solomon gave her of his royal bounty. And she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

14. And the weight of the gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred sixty six talents of gold,

15. Besides what he had from the traders, and from the commerce of the spice merchants, and from all the kings of Arabia, and from the governors of the land.

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16. And king Solomon made two hundred targets of beaten gold; six hundred shekels of gold went to one target.

17. And he made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three minas of gold went to one shield; and the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.

18. Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with the finest gold.

19. The throne had six steps, and the top of the throne was round behind; and there were arm rests on either side on the place of the seat, and two lions stood beside the arm rests.

20. And twelve lions stood there on one side and on the other upon the six steps; the like of it was never made in any kingdom.

21. And all king Solomon's drinking utensils were of gold, and all the utensils of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were of pure gold; none were of silver; it was accounted for nothing in the days of Solomon.

22. For the king had at sea a fleet of Tarshish with the

I Kings

fleet of Hiram; once in three years came the fleet of Tarshish, bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks.

23. And king Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth for riches and for wisdom.

24. And all the earth sought Solomon, to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart.

25. And they brought every man his gift, utensils of silver, and utensils of gold, and garments, and armor, and spices, horses, and mules, a rate year by year.

26. And Solomon gathered together chariots and horsemen; and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he placed in the cities for chariots, and with the king at Jerusalem.

27. And the king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar as common as the sycamore trees that are in the lowland, because of their abundance.

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28. And Solomon had horses brought from Egypt, and from Keve; the king's traders received them from Keve at a price.

29. And a chariot could be imported from Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty; and so they were exported to the kings of the Hittites, and to the kings of Aram, through the traders.

Chapter 11

1. And king Solomon loved many foreign women, the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites.

2. Of the nations concerning which the Lord said to the people of Israel, You shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in to you; for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods; Solomon attached himself to these in love.

3. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned

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away his heart.

4. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods; and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father.

5. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

6. And Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and went not fully after the Lord, as did David his father.

7. Then did Solomon build a high place for Kemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the Ammonites.

8. And likewise did he for all his foreign wives, which burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

9. And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared to him twice,

10. And had commanded him concerning this thing,

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that he should not go after other gods; but he kept not that which the Lord commanded.

11. Therefore the Lord said to Solomon, Since this is your mind, and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you, and will give it to your servant.

12. However in your days I will not do it for David your father's sake; but I will tear it from the hand of your son.

13. But I will not tear away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to your son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen.

14. And the Lord raised up an adversary to Solomon, Hadad the Edomite; he was of the king's seed in Edom.

15. For it came to pass, when David was in Edom, and Joab the captain of the army was gone to bury the killed, after he had struck every male in Edom;

16. For six months Joab remained there with all Israel,

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until he had cut off every male in Edom;

17. That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, to go to Egypt; Hadad being still a little child.

18. And they arose from Midian, and came to Paran; and they took men with them from Paran, and they came to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt; which gave him a house, and bread, and gave him land.

19. And Hadad found great favor in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him for a wife the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen.

20. And the sister of Tahpenes bore him Genubath his son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's house; and Genubath was in Pharaoh's household among the sons of Pharaoh.

21. And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the army was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to my own country.

22. Then Pharaoh said to him, But what have you

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lacked with me, that, behold, you seek to go to your own country? And he answered, Nothing; but let me go anyway.

23. And God also raised up another adversary, Rezon the son of Eliadah, who fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah;

24. And he gathered men to him, and became captain over a band, when David slew them; and they went to Damascus, and lived there, and made him king in Damascus.

25. And he was an adversary to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did; and he loathed Israel, and reigned over Aram.

26. And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite of Zereda, Solomon's servant, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, lifted up his hand against the king.

27. And this was the reason why he lifted up his hand against the king; Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father.

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28. And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valor; and Solomon seeing that the young man was industrious, made him ruler over all the labor of the house of Joseph.

29. And it came to pass at that time when Jeroboam went from Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him in the way; and he had clad himself with a new garment; and the two were alone in the field;

30. And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and tore it in twelve pieces;

31. And he said to Jeroboam, Take you ten pieces; for thus said the Lord, the God of Israel, Behold, I will tear the kingdom from the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to you;

32. But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel;

33. Because they have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians,

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Kemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the Ammonites, and have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in my eyes, and to keep my statutes and my judgments, as did David his father.

34. But I will not take the whole kingdom from his hand; but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes;

35. But I will take the kingdom from his son's hand, and will give it to you, ten tribes.

36. And to his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a lamp always before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen to put my name there.

37. And I will take you, and you shall reign according to all that your soul desires, and you shall be king over Israel.

38. And it shall be, if you will listen to all that I

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command you, and will walk in my ways, and do what is right in my sight, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with you, and build you a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel to you.

39. And I will for this afflict the seed of David, but not forever.

40. Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled to Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

41. And the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the Book of the Acts of Solomon?

42. And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years.

43. And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David his father; and Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

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Chapter 12

1. And Rehoboam went to Shechem; for all Israel came to Shechem to make him king.

2. And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who was still in Egypt, heard of it, for he had fled from the presence of king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt;

3. That they sent and called him. And Jeroboam came, and all the congregation of Israel, and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,

4. Your father made our yoke grievous; now therefore make you the grievous service of your father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve you.

5. And he said to them, Depart for three days, then come again to me. And the people departed.

6. And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he still lived, and said, How do you advise that I should answer this people?

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7. And they spoke to him, saying, If you will be a servant to this people this day, and will serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever.

8. But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men who had grown up with him, and who stood before him;

9. And he said to them, What counsel do you give that we answer this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make lighter the yoke which your father put upon us?

10. And the young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, Thus shall you speak to this people who spoke to you, saying, Your father made our yoke heavy, but you make it lighter to us; thus shall you say to them, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins.

11. And now because my father burdened you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke; my father

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chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

12. And Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had appointed, saying, Come to me again the third day.

13. And the king answered the people roughly, forsaking the old men's counsel that they gave him;

14. And spoke to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, My father made your yoke heavy, and I will add to your yoke; my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

15. Therefore the king listened not to the people; for this was caused by the Lord, that he might perform his saying, which the Lord spoke by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

16. And when all Israel saw that the king listened not to them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse; to your tents, O Israel; Look now to your own house, David.

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And Israel departed to their tents.

17. But as for the people of Israel who lived in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.

18. Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the forced labor; and all Israel stoned him with stones, and he died. Therefore king Rehoboam hurried to mount his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

19. And Israel rebelled against the house of David to this day.

20. And it came to pass, when all Israel heard that Jeroboam had returned, that they sent and called him to the congregation, and made him king over all Israel; there was none who followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.

21. And when Rehoboam came to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, with the tribe of Benjamin, a hundred and eighty thousand chosen men, who were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom back to Rehoboam the son of Solomon.

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22. But the word of God came to Shemaiah the man of God, saying,

23. Speak to Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the remnant of the people, saying,

24. Thus said the Lord, You shall not go up, nor fight against your brothers the people of Israel; return every man to his house; for this thing is from me. They listened therefore to the word of the Lord, and turned and went their way, according to the word of the Lord.

25. Then Jeroboam built Shechem in Mount Ephraim, and lived there; and went out from there, and built Penuel.

26. And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David;

27. If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn back to their lord, to Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go back to

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Rehoboam king of Judah.

28. And the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said to them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem; behold your gods, O Israel, which brought you out of the land of Egypt.

29. And he set one in Beth-El, and the other he placed in Dan.

30. And this thing became a sin; for the people went to worship before the one, as far as Dan.

31. And he made a house of high places, and made priests from among all the people, who were not of the sons of Levi.

32. And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like the feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the altar. So he did in Beth-El, sacrificing to the calves that he had made; and he placed in Beth-El the priests of the high places that he had made.

33. And he offered upon the altar which he had made in Beth-El the fifteenth day of the eighth month, in

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the month which he had devised of his own heart; and ordained a feast to the children of Israel; and he offered upon the altar, and burned incense.

Chapter 13

1. And, behold, there came a man of God from Judah by the word of the Lord to Beth-El; and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense.

2. And he cried against the altar in the word of the Lord, and said, O altar, altar, thus said the Lord; Behold, a child shall be born to the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon you shall he slay the priests of the high places that burn incense upon you, and men's bones shall be burned upon you.

3. And he gave a sign the same day, saying, This is the sign which the Lord has spoken; Behold, the altar shall be torn, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out.

4. And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, who had cried against

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the altar in Beth-El, that he stretched his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand, which he had stretched against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it back to him.

5. The altar also was torn, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the Lord.

6. And the king answered and said to the man of God, Entreat now the face of the Lord your God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored to me again. And the man of God prayed to the Lord, and the king's hand was restored to him again, and became as it was before.

7. And the king said to the man of God, Come home with me, and refresh yourself, and I will give you a reward.

8. And the man of God said to the king, If you will give me half your house, I will not go in with you, neither will I eat bread nor drink water in this place;

9. For so was it charged me by the word of the Lord,

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saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn back by the same way that you came.

10. And he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Beth-El.

11. And there lived an old prophet in Beth-El; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Beth-El; the words which he had spoken to the king, them they told also to their father.

12. And their father said to them, Which way did he go? For his sons had seen which way the man of God went, who came from Judah.

13. And he said to his sons, Saddle me the ass. And they saddled him the ass; and he rode on it,

14. And went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak; and he said to him, Are you the man of God who came from Judah? And he said, I am.

15. Then he said to him, Come home with me, and eat bread.

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16. And he said, I may not return with you, nor go in with you; neither will I eat bread nor drink water with you in this place;

17. For it was said to me by the word of the Lord, You shall eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn back to go by the way that you came.

18. He said to him, I am a prophet also as you are; and an angel spoke to me by the word of the Lord, saying, Bring him back with you to your house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied to him.

19. And he went back with him, and ate bread in his house, and drank water.

20. And it came to pass, as they sat at the table, that the word of the Lord came to the prophet who brought him back;

21. And he cried to the man of God that came from Judah, saying, Thus said the Lord, For as much as you have disobeyed the mouth of the Lord, and have not kept the commandment which the Lord your God

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commanded you,

22. But came back, and have eaten bread and drank water in the place, about which the Lord said to you, Eat no bread, and drink no water; your carcass shall not come to the sepulcher of your fathers.

23. And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drank, that he saddled for him the ass, that is, for the prophet whom he had brought back.

24. And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and killed him; and his carcass was thrown in the way, and the ass stood by it, the lion also stood by the carcass.

25. And, behold, men passed by, and saw the carcass thrown in the way, and the lion standing by the carcass; and they came and told it in the city where the old prophet lived.

26. And when the prophet who brought him back from the way heard of it, he said, It is the man of God, who was disobedient to the word of the Lord; therefore the Lord has delivered him to the lion, who

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has torn him, and killed him, according to the word of the Lord, which he spoke to him.

27. And he spoke to his sons, saying, Saddle me the ass. And they saddled him.

28. And he went and found his carcass thrown in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcass; the lion had not eaten the carcass, nor torn the ass.

29. And the prophet took up the carcass of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it back; and the old prophet came to the city, to mourn and to bury him.

30. And he laid his carcass in his own grave; and they mourned over him, saying, Alas, my brother!

31. And it came to pass, after he had buried him, that he spoke to his sons, saying, When I am dead, then bury me in the sepulcher where the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones;

32. For the saying which he cried by the word of the Lord against the altar in Beth-El, and against all the

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houses of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, shall surely come to pass.

33. After this thing Jeroboam returned not from his evil way, but made again from among all the people priests of the high places; whoever would, he consecrated him, and he became one of the priests of the high places.

34. And this thing became a sin to the house of Jeroboam, to cut it off, and to destroy it from off the face of the earth.

Chapter 14

1. At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam fell sick.

2. And Jeroboam said to his wife, Arise, I beg you, and disguise yourself, that you be not known to be the wife of Jeroboam; and get you to Shiloh; behold, there is Ahijah the prophet, who told me that I should be king over this people.

3. And take with you ten loaves, and cakes, and a jar of honey, and go to him; he shall tell you what shall

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become of the child.

4. And Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose, and went to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah. But Ahijah could not see; for his eyes were dim because of his age.

5. And the Lord said to Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam comes to inquire of you for her son; for he is sick; thus and thus shall you say to her; for it shall be, when she comes in, that she shall feign herself to be another woman.

6. And it was so, when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet, as she came in at the door, that he said, Come in, you wife of Jeroboam; why feign yourself to be another? for I am sent to you with heavy news.

7. Go, tell Jeroboam, Thus said the Lord God of Israel, Since I exalted you from among the people, and made you prince over my people Israel,

8. And tore the kingdom away from the house of David, and gave it you; and yet you have not been as my servant David, who kept my commandments,

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and who followed me with all his heart, to do only what was right in my eyes;

9. But you have done evil above all who were before you; for you have gone and made you other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger, and have cast me behind your back;

10. Therefore, behold, I will bring evil upon the house of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam any who pisses against the wall, and he who is shut up and left in Israel, and will take away the remnant of the house of Jeroboam, as a man takes away dung, till it be all gone.

11. He who dies of Jeroboam in the city shall the dogs eat; and he who dies in the field shall the birds of the air eat; for the Lord has spoken it.

12. Arise therefore, get to your own house; and when your feet enter the city, the child shall die.

13. And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him; for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the grave, because in him there is found some good thing

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toward the Lord God of Israel in the house of Jeroboam.

14. And the Lord shall raise a king over Israel, who shall cut off the house of Jeroboam, those who are here today, and those who are still to come.

15. For the Lord shall strike Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water, and he shall root up Israel from this good land, which he gave to their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the river, because they have made their Asherim, provoking the Lord to anger.

16. And he shall give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam, who did sin, and who made Israel sin.

17. And Jeroboam's wife arose, and departed, and came to Tirzah; and when she came to the threshold of the door, the child died;

18. And they buried him; and all Israel mourned for him, according to the word of the Lord, which he spoke by the hand of his servant Ahijah the prophet.

19. And the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, how he fought, and how he reigned, behold, they are written

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in the Book of the Chronicles of the kings of Israel.

20. And the days which Jeroboam reigned were twenty two years; and he slept with his fathers, and Nadab his son reigned in his place.

21. And Rehoboam the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the Lord chose from all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. And his mother's name was Naamah an Ammonitess.

22. And Judah did evil in the sight of the Lord, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins which they committed, above all that their fathers had done.

23. For they also built them high places, and images, and Asherim on every high hill, and under every green tree.

24. And there were also cult prostitutes in the land; and they did according to all the abominations of the nations which the Lord cast out before the

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people of Israel.

25. And it came to pass in the fifth year of king Rehoboam, that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem;

26. And he took away the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house; he took away all; and he took away all the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

27. And king Rehoboam made in their place bronze shields, and committed them to the hands of the chief of the guard, which kept the door of the king's house.

28. And it was so, when the king went to the house of the Lord, that the guard carried them, and brought them back to the guard chamber.

29. And the rest of the acts of Rehoboam, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

30. And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all their days.

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31. And Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And his mother's name was Naamah an Ammonitess. And Abijam his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 15

1. And in the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam the son of Nebat reigned Abijam over Judah.

2. Three years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom.

3. And he walked in all the sins of his father, which he had done before him; and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father.

4. Nevertheless for David's sake did the Lord his God give him a lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his son after him, and to establish Jerusalem;

5. Because David did that which was right in the eyes

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of the Lord, and turned not aside from any thing that he commanded him all the days of his life, save only in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.

6. And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.

7. And the rest of the acts of Abijam, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam.

8. And Abijam slept with his fathers; and they buried him in the city of David; and Asa his son reigned in his place.

9. And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel reigned Asa over Judah.

10. And forty one years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom.

11. And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the Lord, as did David his father.

12. And he expelled the male cult prostitutes from the

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land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

13. And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol for an Ashera; and Asa destroyed her idol and burned it by the brook Kidron.

14. But the high places were not removed; nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the Lord all his days.

15. And he brought in the things which his father had consecrated, and the things which he himself had consecrated, to the house of the Lord, silver, and gold, and utensils.

16. And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.

17. And Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not suffer any to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.

18. Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the

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treasures of the king's house, and delivered them to the hand of his servants; and king Asa sent them to Ben-Hadad, the son of Tabrimon, the son of Hezion, king of Aram, who lived at Damascus, saying,

19. There is a covenant between me and you, and between my father and your father; behold, I have sent to you a present of silver and gold; come and break your covenant with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me.

20. And Ben-Hadad listened to king Asa, and sent the captains of the armies which he had against the cities of Israel, and struck Iyon, and Dan, and Abel-Beth-Maachah, and all Kinnerot, with all the land of Naphtali.

21. And it came to pass, when Baasha heard of it, that he stopped building of Ramah, and lived in Tirzah.

22. Then king Asa made a proclamation throughout all Judah; none was exempted; and they took away the stones of Ramah, and its timber, with which Baasha had built; and king Asa built with them Geba of

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Benjamin, and Mizpah.

23. The rest of all the acts of Asa, and all his might, and all that he did, and the cities which he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? But in his old age he was diseased in his feet.

24. And Asa slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place.

25. And Nadab the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah, and reigned over Israel two years.

26. And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin with which he made Israel sin.

27. And Baasha the son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him; and Baasha struck him at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines; for Nadab and all Israel laid siege to Gibbethon.

28. In the third year of Asa king of Judah did Baasha

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slay him, and reigned in his place.

29. And it came to pass, when he reigned, that he struck all the house of Jeroboam; he did not leave to Jeroboam any who breathed, until he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the Lord, which he spoke by his servant Ahijah the Shilonite;

30. Because of the sins of Jeroboam which he sinned, and which he made Israel sin, by his provocation with which he provoked the Lord God of Israel to anger.

31. And the rest of the acts of Nadab, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

32. And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.

33. In the third year of Asa king of Judah began Baasha the son of Ahijah to reign over all Israel in Tirzah, twenty four years.

34. And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin with which he

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made Israel sin.

Chapter 16

1. Then the word of the Lord came to Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha, saying,
2. Since I have exalted you from the dust, and made you prince over my people Israel; and you have walked in the way of Jeroboam, and have made my people Israel sin, to provoke me to anger with their sins;
3. Behold, I will take away the posterity of Baasha, and the posterity of his house; and will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
4. He who dies of Baasha in the city shall the dogs eat; and he who dies of his in the fields shall the birds of the air eat.
5. And the rest of the acts of Baasha, and what he did, and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

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6. And Baasha slept with his fathers, and was buried in Tirzah; and Elah his son reigned in his place.

7. And also by the hand of the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani came the word of the Lord against Baasha, and against his house, for all the evil that he did in the sight of the Lord, in provoking him to anger with the work of his hands, in being like the house of Jeroboam; and because he killed him.

8. In the twenty sixth year of Asa king of Judah began Elah the son of Baasha to reign over Israel in Tirzah, two years.

9. And his servant Zimri, captain of half his chariots, conspired against him, as he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza steward of his house in Tirzah.

10. And Zimri went in and struck him, and killed him, in the twenty seventh year of Asa king of Judah, and reigned in his place.

11. And it came to pass, when he began to reign, as soon as he sat on his throne, that he slew all the

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house of Baasha; he left him not one who pisses against a wall, neither of his kinfolks, nor of his friends.

12. Thus did Zimri destroy all the house of Baasha, according to the word of the Lord, which he spoke against Baasha by Jehu the prophet,

13. For all the sins of Baasha, and the sins of Elah his son, by which they sinned, and by which they made Israel sin, in provoking the Lord God of Israel to anger with their vanities.

14. And the rest of the acts of Elah, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

15. In the twenty seventh year of Asa king of Judah did Zimri reign seven days in Tirzah. And the people were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines.

16. And the people who were encamped heard say, Zimri has conspired, and has also killed the king; therefore all Israel made Omri, the captain of the

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army, king over Israel that day in the camp.

17. And Omri went up from Gibbethon, and all Israel with him, and they besieged Tirzah.

18. And it came to pass, when Zimri saw that the city was taken, that he went to the palace of the king's house, and burned the king's house over him with fire, and died,

19. For his sins which he sinned in doing evil in the sight of the Lord, in walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he did, to make Israel sin.

20. And the rest of the acts of Zimri, and his conspiracy that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

21. Then were the people of Israel divided into two parts; half of the people followed Tibni the son of Ginath, to make him king; and half followed Omri.

22. But the people who followed Omri prevailed against the people who followed Tibni the son of Ginath; so Tibni died, and Omri reigned.

23. In the thirty first year of Asa king of Judah began

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Omri to reign over Israel, twelve years; six years reigned he in Tirzah.

24. And he bought the hill Samaria from Shemer for two talents of silver, and built on the hill, and called the name of the city which he built, after the name of Shemer, owner of the hill, Samaria.

25. But Omri did evil in the eyes of the Lord, and did worse than all who were before him.

26. For he walked in all the ways of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sin with which he made Israel sin, to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger with their vanities.

27. And the rest of the acts of Omri which he did, and his might that he showed, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

28. And Omri slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria; and Ahab his son reigned in his place.

29. And in the thirty eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel; and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria

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twenty two years.

30. And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord above all who were before him.

31. And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took for a wife Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.

32. And he erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria.

33. And Ahab made an Ashera; and Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

34. In his days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho; he laid its foundation with Abiram his firstborn, and set up its gates with his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the Lord, which he spoke by Joshua the son of Nun.

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Chapter 17

1. And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

2. And the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

3. Get you here, and turn you eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Kerith, that is before the Jordan.

4. And it shall be, that you shall drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.

5. And he went and did according to the word of the Lord; for he went and dwelt by the brook Kerith, that is before the Jordan.

6. And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

7. And it came to pass after a while, that the brook

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dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

8. And the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

9. Arise, get you to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to sustain you.

10. And he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her, and said, Bring me, I beg you, a little water in a utensil, that I may drink.

11. And as she was going to bring it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I beg you, a morsel of bread in your hand.

12. And she said, As the Lord your God lives, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a jar; and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and prepare it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

13. And Elijah said to her, Fear not; go and do as you

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have said; but make me of it a little cake first, and bring it to me, and after make for you and for your son.

14. For thus said the Lord God of Israel, The jar of meal shall not be spent, neither shall the jar of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth.

15. And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah; and she, and he, and her house, ate many days.

16. And the barrel of meal was not consumed, nor did the jar of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord, which he spoke by Elijah.

17. And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so severe, that there was no breath left in him.

18. And she said to Elijah, What have I to do with you, O you man of God? Have you come to me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?

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19. And he said to her, Give me your son. And he took him from her bosom, and carried him up to a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.

20. And he cried to the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, have you also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?

21. And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried to the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, I pray you, let this child's soul come into him again.

22. And the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

23. And Elijah took the child, and brought him down from the chamber into the house, and delivered him to his mother; and Elijah said, See, your son lives.

24. And the woman said to Elijah, And by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth.

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Chapter 18

1. And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year, saying, Go, show yourself to Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth.

2. And Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. And there was a severe famine in Samaria.

3. And Ahab called Obadiah, who was the governor of his house. And Obadiah feared the Lord greatly;

4. For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the Lord, that Obadiah took a hundred prophets, and hid them by fifties in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.

5. And Ahab said to Obadiah, Go to the land, to all the water springs, and to all the brooks; perhaps we may find grass to keep the horses and mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts.

6. And they divided the land between them to pass throughout it; Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

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7. And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him; and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Are you my lord Elijah?

8. And he answered him, I am; go, tell your lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

9. And he said, What have I sinned, that you would deliver your servant to the hand of Ahab, to slay me?

10. As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom, where my lord has not sent to seek you; and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found you not.

11. And now you say, Go, tell your lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

12. And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from you, that the spirit of the Lord shall carry you where I know not; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he shall slay me; but I your servant fear the Lord from my youth.

13. Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the Lord, how I hid a hundred

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men of the Lord's prophets by fifties in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?

14. And now you say, Go, tell your lord, Behold, Elijah is here; and he shall slay me.

15. And Elijah said, As the Lord of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today.

16. And Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

17. And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, Are you he who troubles Israel?

18. And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but you, and your father's house, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord, and you have followed Baalim.

19. And therefore send, and gather to me all Israel to Mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the Ashera four hundred, who eat at Jezebel's table.

20. And Ahab sent to all the people of Israel, and

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gathered the prophets together in Mount Carmel.

21. And Elijah came to all the people, and said, How long will you hobble between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

22. Then said Elijah to the people, I am the only remaining prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

23. Let them therefore give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under;

24. And call you on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God that answers by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

25. And Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, Choose one bull for yourselves, and prepare it first; for you are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put

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no fire under.

26. And they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any who answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

27. And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud; for he is a god; either he is musing, or he has gone aside, or he is in a journey, or perhaps he sleeps, and must be awakened.

28. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their custom with knives and lances, till the blood gushed out upon them.

29. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was no voice, no one answered, nor any who regarded.

30. And Elijah said to all the people, Come near to me. And all the people came near to him. And he

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repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down.

31. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord came, saying, Israel shall be your name;

32. And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord; and he made a ditch about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed.

33. And he put the wood pile in order, and cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood, and said, Fill four jars with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.

34. And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

35. And the water ran around the altar; and he filled the ditch also with water.

36. And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of

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Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word.

37. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that you are the Lord God, and that you have turned their heart back again.

38. Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood pile, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the ditch.

39. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God.

40. And Elijah said to them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them; and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

41. And Elijah said to Ahab, Get up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of the rumbling of the rain.

42. And Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah

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went up to the top of Carmel; and he threw himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees,

43. And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times.

44. And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there arises a little cloud from the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say to Ahab, Prepare your chariot, and get down, that the rain should not stop you.

45. And it came to pass in the meanwhile, that the sky was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.

46. And the hand of the Lord was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

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Chapter 19

1. And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.

2. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.

3. And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

4. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree; and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

5. And as he lay and slept under a broom tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said to him, Arise and eat.

6. And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baked on the coals, and a jar of water at his head.

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And he ate and drank, and laid himself down again.

7. And the angel of the Lord came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for you.

8. And he arose, and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that meal forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

9. And he came there to a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said to him, What are you doing here, Elijah?

10. And he said, I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword; and I am the only one left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

11. And he said, Go out, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an

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earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake;

12. And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

13. And it was so, when Elijah heard it that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entrance of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice to him, and said, What are you doing here, Elijah?

14. And he said, I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword; and I am the only one left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

15. And the Lord said to him, Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; and when you come, anoint Hazael to be king over Aram;

16. And Jehu the son of Nimshi shall you anoint to be king over Israel; and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shall you anoint to be prophet in your place.

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17. And it shall come to pass, that he who escapes the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay; and he who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.

18. Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth who has not kissed him.

19. And he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth; and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him.

20. And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray you, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you. And he said to him, Go and come back again; for what have I done to you?

21. And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave to the people, and they ate. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and attended to him.

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Chapter 20

1. And Ben-Hadad the king of Aram gathered all his army together; and there were thirty two kings with him, and horses, and chariots; and he went up and besieged Samaria, and fought against it.
2. And he sent messengers to Ahab king of Israel to the city, and said to him, Thus said Ben-Hadad,
3. Your silver and your gold is mine; your wives also and your children, even the best, are mine.
4. And the king of Israel answered and said, My lord, O king, according to your saying, I am yours, and all that I have.
5. And the messengers came again, and said, Thus speaks Ben-Hadad, saying, Although I have sent to you, saying, You shall deliver me your silver, and your gold, and your wives, and your children;
6. Yet I will send my servants to you tomorrow about this time, and they shall search your house, and the houses of your servants; and it shall be, that they shall put in their hand on whatever pleases you and

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take it away.

7. Then the king of Israel called all the elders of the land, and said, Mark, I pray you, and see how this man seeks mischief; for he sent to me for my wives, and for my children, and for my silver, and for my gold; and I denied him not.

8. And all the elders and all the people said to him, Listen not to him, nor consent.

9. Therefore he said to the messengers of Ben-Hadad, Tell my lord the king, All that you did send for to your servant at the first I will do; but this thing I will not do. And the messengers departed, and brought back word to him.

10. And Ben-Hadad sent to him, and said, The gods do so to me, and more also, if the dust of Samaria shall suffice for handfuls for all the people who follow me.

11. And the king of Israel answered and said, Tell him, Let not he who girds on his harness boast himself as he that takes it off.

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12. And it came to pass, when Ben-Hadad heard this message, while he was drinking, he and the kings in the pavilions, that he said to his servants, Set yourselves in array. And they set themselves in array against the city.

13. And, behold, there came a prophet to Ahab king of Israel, saying, Thus said the Lord, Have you seen all this great multitude? Behold, I will deliver it to your hand this day; and you shall know that I am the Lord.

14. And Ahab said, By whom? And he said, Thus said the Lord, By the young men of the princes of the provinces. Then he said, Who shall open the battle? And he answered, You.

15. Then he counted the young men of the princes of the provinces, and they were two hundred and thirty two; and after them he counted all the people, all the people of Israel, being seven thousand.

16. And they went out at noon. But Ben-Hadad was drinking himself drunk in the pavilions, he and the kings, the thirty two kings who helped him.

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17. And the young men of the princes of the provinces went out first; and Ben-Hadad sent out, and they told him, saying, There are men coming out from Samaria.

18. And he said, If they come out for peace, take them alive; and if they come out for war, take them alive.

19. And these young men of the princes of the provinces came from the city, and the army which followed them.

20. And they slew every one his man; and the Arameans fled; and Israel pursued them; and Ben-Hadad the king of Aram escaped on a horse with the horsemen.

21. And the king of Israel went out, and struck the horses and chariots, and slew the Arameans with a great slaughter.

22. And the prophet came to the king of Israel, and said to him, Go, strengthen yourself, and mark, and see what you do; for at the return of the year the king of Aram will come up against you.

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23. And the servants of the king of Aram said to him, Their gods are gods of the hills; therefore they were stronger than we; but let us fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they.

24. And do this thing, Take the kings away, every man from his place, and put captains in their places;

25. And muster an army, like the army that you have lost, horse for horse, and chariot for chariot; and we will fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they. And he listened to their voice, and did so.

26. And it came to pass at the return of the year, that Ben-Hadad mustered the Arameans, and went up to Aphek, to fight against Israel.

27. And the people of Israel were mustered, and were provisioned, and went against them; and the people of Israel camped before them like two little flocks of goats; but the Arameans filled the country.

28. And there came a man of God, and spoke to the king of Israel, and said, Thus said the Lord, Because

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the Arameans have said, The Lord is God of the hills, but he is not God of the valleys, therefore will I deliver all this great multitude to your hand, and you shall know that I am the Lord.

29. And they camped one opposite the other seven days. And so it was, that in the seventh day the battle was joined; and the people of Israel slew of the Arameans a hundred thousand foot soldiers in one day.

30. But the rest fled to Aphek, to the city; and there a wall fell upon twenty seven thousand of the men who were left. And Ben-Hadad fled, and came to the city, to an inner chamber.

31. And his servants said to him, Behold now, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful kings; let us, I beg you, put sackcloth on our loins, and ropes upon our heads, and go out to the king of Israel; perhaps he will save your life.

32. And they girded sackcloth on their loins, and put ropes on their heads, and came to the king of Israel, and said, Your servant Ben-Hadad said, I beg you,

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let me live. And he said, Is he still alive? He is my brother.

33. And the men took it for a good sign, and they quickly took it up from him; and they said, Your brother Ben-Hadad. Then he said, Go, bring him. Then Ben-Hadad came forth to him; and he caused him to come up into the chariot.

34. And Ben-Hadad said to him, The cities, which my father took from your father, I will restore; and you shall make streets for you in Damascus, as my father made in Samaria. Then said Ahab, I will send you away with this covenant. And he made a covenant with him, and sent him away.

35. And a certain man of the sons of the prophets said to his neighbor in the word of the Lord, Strike me, I beg you. And the man refused to strike him.

36. Then said he to him, Because you have not obeyed the voice of the Lord, behold, as soon as you are departed from me, a lion shall kill you. And as soon as he was departed from him, a lion found

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him, and killed him.

37. Then he found another man, and said, Strike me, I pray you. And the man struck him, so that in striking he wounded him.

38. And the prophet departed, and waited for the king by the way, and disguised himself with a veil upon his face.

39. And as the king passed by, he cried to the king; and he said, Your servant went out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man turned aside, and brought a man to me, and said, Guard this man; if by any means he is missing, then shall your life be for his life, or else you shall pay a talent of silver.

40. And as your servant was busy here and there, he was gone. And the king of Israel said to him, So shall your judgment be; you yourself have decided it.

41. And he hastened, and took the veil away from his face; and the king of Israel discerned he who he was of the prophets.

42. And he said to him, Thus said the Lord, Because

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you have let go from your hand a man whom I have appointed to destruction, therefore your life shall go for his life, and your people for his people.

43. And the king of Israel went to his house sullen and displeased, and came to Samaria.

Chapter 21

1. And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, near the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

2. And Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, Give me your vineyard, that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near to my house; and I will give you for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its worth in money.

3. And Naboth said to Ahab, The Lord forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you.

4. And Ahab came to his house sullen and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite

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had spoken to him; for he had said, I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread.

5. But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said to him, Why is your spirit so sad, that you eat no bread?

6. And he said to her, Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite, and said to him, Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if it pleases you, I will give you another vineyard for it; and he answered, I will not give you my vineyard.

7. And Jezebel his wife said to him, Do you now govern the kingdom of Israel? Arise, and eat bread, and let your heart be merry; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

8. And she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters to the elders and to the nobles who were in his city, living with Naboth.

9. And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a

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fast, and set Naboth at the head of the people;

10. And set two worthless men before him, to bear witness against him, saying, You blasphememes against God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die.

11. And the men of his city, the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent to them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent to them.

12. They proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth at the head of the people.

13. And there came in two worthless men, and sat before him; and the worthless men testified against him, against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth blasphemed against God and the king. Then they carried him out from the city, and stoned him with stones, and he died.

14. Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth was stoned, and is dead.

15. And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that

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Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead.

16. And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

17. And the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

18. Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who is in Samaria; behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone down to possess it.

19. And you shall speak to him, saying, Thus said the Lord, Have you killed, and also taken possession? And you shall speak to him, saying, Thus said the Lord, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick your own blood.

20. And Ahab said to Elijah, Have you found me, O my enemy? And he answered, I have found you;

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because you have given yourself to work evil in the sight of the Lord.

21. Behold, I will bring evil upon you, and will take away your posterity, and will cut off from Ahab every one who pisses against the wall, and he who is shut up and he who is left free in Israel,

22. And will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation with which you have provoked me to anger, and made Israel sin.

23. And of Jezebel also spoke the Lord, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.

24. He who dies of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and he who dies in the field shall the birds of the air eat.

25. But there was none like to Ahab, who gave himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife incited.

26. And he did very abominably in following idols,

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according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the Lord cast out before the people of Israel.

27. And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he tore his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly.

28. And the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

29. Do you see how Ahab humbles himself before me? Because he humbles himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days; but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.

Chapter 22

1. And they continued three years without war between Aram and Israel.

2. And it came to pass in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel.

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3. And the king of Israel said to his servants, Know you that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, and we keep quiet, and take it not from the hand of the king of Aram?

4. And he said to Jehoshaphat, Will you go with me to battle at Ramoth-Gilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.

5. And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, Inquire, I beg you, at the word of the Lord today.

6. Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said to them, Shall I go against Ramoth-Gilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for the Lord shall deliver it to the hand of the king.

7. And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the Lord besides, that we might inquire of him?

8. And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, There is still one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may inquire of the Lord; but I hate him; for he does

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not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so.

9. Then the king of Israel called an officer, and said, Bring here quickly Micaiah the son of Imlah.

10. And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah sat each on his throne, having put on their robes, in a threshing floor in the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them.

11. And Zedekiah the son of Kenaanah made himself horns of iron; and he said, Thus said the Lord, With these shall you push the Arameans, until you have consumed them.

12. And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramoth-Gilead, and triumph; for the Lord shall deliver it to the king's hand.

13. And the messenger who went to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good to the king with one mouth; let your word, I beg you, be like the word of one of

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them, and speak that which is good.

14. And Micaiah said, As the Lord lives, what the Lord said to me, that will I speak.

15. And he came to the king. And the king said to him, Micaiah, shall we go against Ramoth-Gilead to battle, or shall we forbear? And he answered him, Go, and triumph; for the Lord shall deliver it to the hand of the king.

16. And the king said to him, How many times shall I adjure you that you tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the Lord?

17. And he said, I saw all Israel scattered upon the hills, as sheep that have not a shepherd; and the Lord said, These have no master; let them return every man to his house in peace.

18. And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell you that he would prophesy no good concerning me, but evil?

19. And he said, Hear you therefore the word of the Lord; I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and all the

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host of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left.

20. And the Lord said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-Gilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner.

21. And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the Lord, and said, I will persuade him. And the Lord said to him, With what?

22. And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, You shall persuade him, and prevail also; go forth, and do so.

23. And therefore, behold, the Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets, and the Lord has spoken evil concerning you.

24. But Zedekiah the son of Kenaanah went near, and struck Micaiah on the cheek, and said, Which way went the spirit of the Lord from me to speak to you?

25. And Micaiah said, Behold, you shall see in that

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day, when you shall go into an inner chamber to hide yourself.

26. And the king of Israel said, Take Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son;

27. And say, Thus said the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with scant bread and with scant water, until I return in peace.

28. And Micaiah said, If you return at all in peace, the Lord has not spoken by me. And he said, Listen, O people, every one of you.

29. And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth-Gilead.

30. And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and enter into the battle; but put you on your robes. And the king of Israel disguised himself, and went to the battle.

31. But the king of Aram commanded his thirty two captains who had rule over his chariots, saying, Fight neither with small nor great, except only with

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the king of Israel.

32. And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, Surely he is the king of Israel. And they turned aside to fight against him; and Jehoshaphat cried out.

33. And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots perceived that he was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him.

34. And a certain man drew a bow at a venture, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of the armor; so he said to the driver of his chariot, Turn your hand, and carry me from the camp; for I am wounded.

35. And the battle increased that day; and the king was propped up in his chariot against the Arameans, and died at evening; and the blood ran from the wound into the midst of the chariot.

36. And there went a proclamation throughout the camp around sunset, saying, Every man to his city, and every man to his own country.

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37. And the king died, and was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria.

38. And one washed the chariot in the pool of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his blood; and the harlots washed themselves in it; according to the word of the Lord which he spoke.

39. And the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, and the ivory house which he made, and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

40. And Ahab slept with his fathers; and Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

41. And Jehoshaphat the son of Asa began to reign over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel.

42. Jehoshaphat was thirty five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.

43. And he walked in all the ways of Asa his father; he turned not aside from it, doing that which was right in

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the eyes of the Lord; nevertheless the high places were not taken away;

44. For the people still offered and burned incense in the high places.

45. And Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel.

46. And the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, and his might that he showed, and how he fought, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

47. And the remnant of the cult prostitutes, which remained from the days of his father Asa, he took from the land.

48. There was then no king in Edom; a deputy was king.

49. Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish to go to Ophir for gold; but they went not; for the ships were wrecked at Ezion-Geber.

50. Then said Ahaziah the son of Ahab to Jehoshaphat, Let my servants go with your servants

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in the ships. But Jehoshaphat would not.

51. And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Jehoram his son reigned in his place.

52. Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned two years over Israel.

53. And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother, and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin;

54. For he served Baal, and worshipped him, and provoked to anger the Lord God of Israel, according to all that his father had done.