

1 Chronicles

BEREAN STANDARD BIBLE

Chapter 1

FROM ADAM TO ABRAHAM

¹Adam, Seth, Enosh, ²Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, ³Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, Noah. ⁴The sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. ⁵The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras. ⁶The sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. ⁷And the sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, the Kittites, and the Rodanites. ⁸The sons of Ham: Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. ⁹The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raamah, and Sabteca. The sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan. ¹⁰Cush was the father of Nimrod, who began to be a mighty one on the earth. ¹¹Mizraim was the father of the Ludites, the Anamites, the Lehabites, the Naphtuhites, ¹²the Pathrusites, the Casluhites (from whom the Philistines came), and the Caphtorites. ¹³And Canaan was the father of Sidon his firstborn, and of the Hittites, ¹⁴the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites, ¹⁵the Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites, ¹⁶the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites. ¹⁷The sons of Shem: Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram. The sons of Aram: Uz, Hul, Gether, and Meshech. ¹⁸Arphaxad was the father of Shelah, and Shelah was the father of Eber. ¹⁹Two sons were born to Eber: One was named Peleg, because in his days the earth was divided, and his brother was named Joktan. ²⁰And Joktan was the father of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, ²¹Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, ²²Obal, Abimael, Sheba, ²³Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab. All these were sons of Joktan. ²⁴So from Shem came Arphaxad, Shelah, ²⁵Eber, Peleg, Reu, ²⁶Serug, Nahor, Terah, ²⁷and Abram (that is, Abraham).

THE DESCENDANTS OF ABRAHAM

²⁸The sons of Abraham were Isaac and Ishmael. ²⁹These are their genealogies: Nebaioth the firstborn of Ishmael, then Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, ³⁰Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, Tema, ³¹Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These were the sons of Ishmael. ³²The sons born to Keturah, Abraham's concubine: Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. The sons of Jokshan: Sheba and Dedan. ³³The sons of Midian: Ephah, Ephraim, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah. All of these were Keturah's sons. ³⁴Abraham was the father of Isaac. The sons of Isaac: Esau and Israel.

THE DESCENDANTS OF ESAU

³⁵The sons of Esau: Eliphaz, Reuel, Jeush, Jalam, and Korah. ³⁶The sons of Eliphaz: Teman, Omar, Zepho, Gatam, and Kenaz; and by Timna, Amalek. ³⁷The sons of Reuel: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

THE DESCENDANTS OF SEIR

³⁸The sons of Seir: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan. ³⁹The sons of Lotan: Hori and Homam. Timna was Lotan's sister. ⁴⁰The sons of Shobal: Alvan, Manahath, Ebal, Shepho, and Onam. The sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah. ⁴¹The son of Anah: Dishon. The sons of Dishon: Hemdan, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran. ⁴²The sons of Ezer: Bilhan, Zaavan, and Akan. The sons of Dishan: Uz and Aran.

THE KINGS OF EDMON

⁴³These are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned over the Israelites: Bela son of Beor. His city was named Dinhabah. ⁴⁴When Bela died, Jobab son of Zerah from Bozrah reigned in his place. ⁴⁵When Jobab died, Husham from the land of the Temanites reigned in his place. ⁴⁶When Husham died, Hadad son of Bedad, who defeated Midian in the country of Moab, reigned in his place. And the name of his city was Avith. ⁴⁷When Hadad died, Samlah from Masrekah reigned in his place. ⁴⁸When Samlah died, Shaul from Rehoboth on the Euphrates reigned in his place. ⁴⁹When Shaul died, Baalhanan son of Achbor reigned in his place. ⁵⁰When Baalhanan died, Hadad reigned in his place. His city was named Pau, and his wife's name was Mehetabel daughter of Matred, the daughter of Me-zahab. ⁵¹Then Hadad died. Now the chiefs of Edom were Timna, Alvah, Jetheth, ⁵²Oholibamah, Elah, Pinon, ⁵³Kenaz, Teman, Mibzar, ⁵⁴Magdiel, and Iram. These were the chiefs of Edom.

Chapter 2

THE SONS OF ISRAEL

¹These were the sons of Israel: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, ²Dan, Joseph, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. ³The sons of Judah: Er, Onan, and Shelah. These three were born to him by Bath-shua the Canaanite. Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD. So the LORD put him to death. ⁴Tamar, Judah's

daughter-in-law, bore to him Perez and Zerah. Judah had five sons in all. ⁵The sons of Perez: Hezron and Hamul. ⁶The sons of Zerah: Zimri, Ethan, Heman, Calcol, and Dara—five in all. ⁷The son of Carmi: Achar, who brought trouble upon Israel by violating the ban on devoted things. ⁸The son of Ethan: Azariah. ⁹The sons who were born to Hezron: Jerahmeel, Ram, and Caleb. ¹⁰Ram was the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab was the father of Nahshon, a leader of the descendants of Judah. ¹¹Nahshon was the father of Salmon, and Salmon was the father of Boaz. ¹²Boaz was the father of Obed, and Obed was the father of Jesse. ¹³Jesse was the father of Eliab his firstborn; Abinadab was born second, Shimea third, ¹⁴Nethanel fourth, Raddai fifth, ¹⁵Ozem sixth, and David seventh. ¹⁶Their sisters were Zeruiah and Abigail. And the three sons of Zeruiah were Abishai, Joab, and Asahel. ¹⁷Abigail was the mother of Amasa, whose father was Jether the Ishmaelite. ¹⁸Caleb son of Hezron had children by his wife Azubah and by Jerioth. These were the sons of Azubah: Jeshur, Shobab, and Ardon. ¹⁹When Azubah died, Caleb married Ephrath, who bore to him Hur. ²⁰Hur was the father of Uri, and Uri was the father of Bezalel. ²¹Later, Hezron slept with the daughter of Machir the father of Gilead. He had married her when he was sixty years old, and she bore to him Segub. ²²Segub was the father of Jair, who had twenty-three cities in the land of Gilead. ²³But Geshur and Aram captured Havvoth-jair, along with Kenath and its sixty surrounding villages. All these were descendants of Machir the father of Gilead. ²⁴After Hezron died in Caleb-ephrathah, his wife Abijah bore to him Ashhur the father of Tekoa. ²⁵The sons of Jerahmeel the firstborn of Hezron: Ram his firstborn, Bunah, Oren, Ozem, and Ahijah. ²⁶Jerahmeel had another wife named Atarah, who was the mother of Onam. ²⁷The sons of Ram the firstborn of Jerahmeel: Maaz, Jamin, and Eker. ²⁸The sons of Onam: Shammai and Jada. The sons of Shammai: Nadab and Abishur. ²⁹Abishur's wife was named Abihail, and she bore to him Ahban and Molid. ³⁰The sons of Nadab: Seled and Appaim. Seled died without children. ³¹The son of Appaim: Ishi. The son of Ishi: Sheshan. The son of Sheshan: Ahlai. ³²The sons of Jada the brother of Shammai: Jether and Jonathan. Jether died without children. ³³The sons of Jonathan: Peleth and Zaza. These were the descendants of Jerahmeel. ³⁴Sheshan had no sons, but only daughters. He also had an Egyptian servant named Jarha. ³⁵Sheshan gave his daughter in marriage to his servant Jarha, and she bore to him Attai. ³⁶Attai was the father of Nathan, Nathan was the father of Zabad, ³⁷Zabad was the father of Ephlal, Ephlal was the father of Obed, ³⁸Obed was the father of Jehu, Jehu was the father of Azariah, ³⁹Azariah was the father of

Helez, Helez was the father of Elasa, ⁴⁰Elasa was the father of Sismai, Sismai was the father of Shallum, ⁴¹Shallum was the father of Jekamiah, and Jekamiah was the father of Elishama. ⁴²The sons of Caleb the brother of Jerahmeel: Mesha his firstborn, who was the father of Ziph, and Mareshah his second son, who was the father of Hebron. ⁴³The sons of Hebron: Korah, Tappuah, Rekem, and Shema. ⁴⁴Shema was the father of Raham the father of Jorkeam, and Rekem was the father of Shammai. ⁴⁵The son of Shammai was Maon, and Maon was the father of Bethzur. ⁴⁶Caleb's concubine Ephah was the mother of Haran, Moza, and Gazez. Haran was the father of Gazez. ⁴⁷The sons of Jahdai: Regem, Jotham, Geshan, Pelet, Ephah, and Shaaph. ⁴⁸Caleb's concubine Maacah was the mother of Sheber and Tirhanah. ⁴⁹She was also the mother of Shaaph father of Madmannah, and of Sheva father of Machbenah and Gibe. Caleb's daughter was Acsah. ⁵⁰These were the descendants of Caleb. The sons of Hur the firstborn of Ephrathah: Shobal the father of Kiriath-jearim, ⁵¹Salma the father of Bethlehem, and Hareph the father of Beth-gader. ⁵²These were the descendants of Shobal the father of Kiriath-jearim: Haroeh, half the Manahathites, ⁵³and the clans of Kiriath-jearim—the Ithrites, Puthites, Shumathites, and Mishraites. From these descended the Zorathites and Eshtaolites. ⁵⁴The descendants of Salma: Bethlehem, the Netophathites, Atroth-beth-joab, half the Manahathites, the Zorites, ⁵⁵and the clans of the scribes who lived at Jabez—the Tirathites, Shimeathites, and Sucathites. These are the Kenites who came from Hammath, the father of the house of Rechab.

Chapter 3

THE DESCENDANTS OF DAVID

¹These were the sons of David who were born to him in Hebron: The firstborn was Amnon by Ahinoam of Jezreel; the second was Daniel by Abigail of Carmel; ²the third was Absalom the son of Maacah daughter of King Talmai of Geshur; the fourth was Adonijah the son of Haggith; ³the fifth was Shephatiah by Abital; and the sixth was Ithream by his wife Eglah. ⁴These six sons were born to David in Hebron, where he reigned seven years and six months. And David reigned in Jerusalem thirty-three years, ⁵and these sons were born to him in Jerusalem: Shimea, Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon. These four were born to him by Bathsheba daughter of Ammiel. ⁶David's other sons were Ibhar, Elishua, Eliphelet, ⁷Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, ⁸Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet—nine in all. ⁹These were all the sons of David, besides the sons by his concubines. And Tamar was their sister.

THE DESCENDANTS OF SOLOMON

¹⁰Solomon's son was Rehoboam: Abijah was his son, Asa his son, Jehoshaphat his son, ¹¹Joram his son, Ahaziah his son, Joash his son, ¹²Amaziah his son, Azariah his son, Jotham his son, ¹³Ahaz his son, Hezekiah his son, Manasseh his son, ¹⁴Amon his son, and Josiah his son. ¹⁵The sons of Josiah: Johanan was the firstborn, Jehoiakim the second, Zedekiah the third, and Shallum the fourth. ¹⁶The successors of Jehoiakim: Jeconiah his son, and Zedekiah.

THE ROYAL LINE AFTER THE EXILE

¹⁷The descendants of Jeconiah the captive: Shealtiel his son, ¹⁸Malchiram, Pedaiiah, Shenazzar, Jekamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah. ¹⁹The sons of Pedaiiah: Zerubbabel and Shimei. The children of Zerubbabel: Meshullam and Hananiah, their sister Shelomith, ²⁰and five others: Hashubah, Ohel, Berechiah, Hasadiah, and Jushab-hesed. ²¹The descendants of Hananiah: Pelatiah, Jeshaiiah, and the sons of Rephaiah, of Arnan, of Obadiah, and of Shecaniah. ²²The six descendants of Shecaniah were Shemaiah and his sons: Hattush, Igal, Bariah, Neariah, and Shaphat. ²³The sons of Neariah: Elioenai, Hizkiah, and Azrikam—three in all. ²⁴The sons of Elioenai: Hodaviah, Eliashib, Pelaiah, Akkub, Johanan, Delaiah, and Anani—seven in all.

Chapter 4

THE DESCENDANTS OF JUDAH

¹The descendants of Judah: Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hur, and Shobal. ²Reaiah son of Shobal was the father of Jahath, and Jahath was the father of Ahumai and Lahad. These were the clans of the Zorathites. ³These were the sons of Etam: Jezreel, Ishma, and Idbash. And their sister was named Hazzelelponi. ⁴Penuel was the father of Gedor, and Ezer was the father of Hushah. These were the descendants of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah and the father of Bethlehem. ⁵Ashhur the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah. ⁶Naarah bore to him Ahuzzam, Hepher, Temeni, and Haahashtari. These were the descendants of Naarah. ⁷The sons of Helah were Zereth, Zohar, Ethnan, ⁸and Koz, who was the father of Anub and Zobeab and of the clans of Aharhel son of Harum.

THE PRAYER OF JABEZ

⁹Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "Because I bore him in pain." ¹⁰And Jabez called out to the God of Israel, "If only You would bless me and enlarge my territory! May Your hand be with me and keep me from harm, so that I

will be free from pain." And God granted the request of Jabez.

MORE DESCENDANTS OF JUDAH

¹¹Chelub the brother of Shuhah was the father of Mehir, who was the father of Eshton. ¹²Eshton was the father of Beth-rapha, of Paseah, and of Tehinnah the father of Ir-nahash. These were the men of Recah. ¹³The sons of Kenaz: Othniel and Seraiah. The sons of Othniel: Hathath and Meonothai. ¹⁴Meonothai was the father of Ophrah, and Seraiah was the father of Joab, the father of those living in Ge-harashim, which was given this name because its people were craftsmen. ¹⁵The sons of Caleb son of Jephunneh: Iru, Elah, and Naam. The son of Elah: Kenaz. ¹⁶The sons of Jehallelel: Ziph, Ziphah, Tiria, and Asarel. ¹⁷The sons of Ezra: Jether, Mered, Ephraim, and Jalon. And Mered's wife Bithiah gave birth to Miriam, Shammai, and Ishbah the father of Eshtemoa. ¹⁸These were the children of Pharaoh's daughter Bithiah. Mered also took a Judean wife, who gave birth to Jered the father of Gedor, Heber the father of Soco, and Jekuthiel the father of Zanoah. ¹⁹The sons of Hodia's wife, the sister of Naham, were the fathers of Keilah the Garmite and of Eshtemoa the Maacathite. ²⁰The sons of Shimon: Amnon, Rinnah, Ben-hanan, and Tilon. The descendants of Ishi: Zoheth and Ben-zoheth. ²¹The sons of Shelah son of Judah: Er the father of Lecah, Laadah the father of Mareshah and the clans of the linen workers at Beth-ashbea, ²²Jokim, the men of Cozeba, and Joash and Saraph, who ruled in Moab and Jashubi-lehem. (These names are from ancient records.) ²³These were the potters who lived at Netaim and Gederah. They lived there in the service of the king.

THE DESCENDANTS OF SIMEON

²⁴The descendants of Simeon: Nemuel, Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, and Shaul. ²⁵The sons of Shaul: Shallum, Mibsam, and Mishma. ²⁶The sons of Mishma: Hammuel, Zaccur, and Shimei. ²⁷Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters, but his brothers did not have many children, so their whole clan did not become as numerous as the sons of Judah. ²⁸They lived in Beersheba, Moladah, Hazar-shual, ²⁹Bilhah, Ezem, Tolad, ³⁰Bethuel, Hormah, Ziklag, ³¹Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susim, Beth-biri, and Shaaraim. These were their cities until the reign of David. ³²And their villages were Etam, Ain, Rimmon, Tochen, and Ashan—five towns — ³³and all their surrounding villages as far as Baal. These were their settlements, and they kept a genealogical record: ³⁴Meshobab, Jamlech, Joshah son of Amaziah, ³⁵Joel, Jehu son of Joshibiah (son of Seraiah, son of Asiel), ³⁶Elioenai, Jaakobah, Jeshohaiah, Asaiah, Adiel, Jesimiel, Benaiah, ³⁷and Ziza son of Shiphi (son of Allon, son of Jedaiah, son

of Shimri, son of Shemaiah). ³⁸These men listed by name were the leaders of their clans. Their families increased greatly, ³⁹and they journeyed to the entrance of Gedor, to the east side of the valley, in search of pasture for their flocks. ⁴⁰There they found rich, good pasture, and the land was spacious, peaceful, and quiet; for some Hamites had lived there formerly. ⁴¹These who were noted by name came in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah. They attacked the Hamites in their dwellings as well as the Meunites who were there, devoting them to destruction even to this day. Then they settled in their place, because there was pasture for their flocks. ⁴²And five hundred of these Simeonites led by Pelatiah, Neariah, Rephaiah, and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi, went to Mount Seir ⁴³and struck down the remnant of the Amalekites who had escaped. And they have lived there to this day.

Chapter 5

THE DESCENDANTS OF REUBEN

¹These were the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel. Though he was the firstborn, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph son of Israel, because Reuben defiled his father's bed. So he is not reckoned according to birthright. ²And though Judah prevailed over his brothers and a ruler came from him, the birthright belonged to Joseph. ³The sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel: Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi. ⁴The descendants of Joel: Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son, ⁵Micah his son, Reaiah his son, Baal his son, ⁶and Beerah his son, whom Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria carried into exile. Beerah was a leader of the Reubenites. ⁷His relatives by their clans are recorded in their genealogy: Jeiel the chief, Zechariah, ⁸and Bela son of Azaz, the son of Shema, the son of Joel. They settled in Aroer and as far as Nebo and Baal-meon. ⁹They also settled in the east as far as the edge of the desert that extends to the Euphrates River, because their livestock had increased in the land of Gilead. ¹⁰During the days of Saul they waged war against the Hagrites, who were defeated at their hands, and they occupied the dwellings of the Hagrites throughout the region east of Gilead.

THE DESCENDANTS OF GAD

¹¹The descendants of Gad lived next to the Reubenites in the land of Bashan, as far as Salecah: ¹²Joel was the chief, Shapham the second, then Jaanai and Shaphat, who lived in Bashan. ¹³Their kinsmen by families were Michael, Meshullam, Sheba, Jorai, Jacan, Zia, and Eber—seven in all. ¹⁴These were the sons of Abihail son of Huri, the son of Jaroah, the son of Gilead, the son of Michael, the son of

Jeshishai, the son of Jahdo, the son of Buz. ¹⁵Ahi son of Abdiel, the son of Guni, was head of their family. ¹⁶They lived in Gilead, in Bashan and its towns, and throughout the pasturelands of Sharon. ¹⁷All of them were recorded in the genealogies during the reigns of Jotham king of Judah and Jeroboam king of Israel. ¹⁸The Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh had 44,760 warriors—valiant men who carried the shield and sword, drew the bow, and were trained for battle. ¹⁹They waged war against the Hagrites, as well as Jetur, Naphish, and Nodab. ²⁰And because they cried out to God in battle, they were helped against their enemies, and the Hagrites and all their allies were delivered into their hands. Because they put their trust in God, He answered their prayers. ²¹They seized the livestock of the Hagrites—50,000 camels, 250,000 sheep, and 2,000 donkeys. They also took 100,000 captives, ²²and many others fell slain, because the battle belonged to God. And they occupied the land until the exile.

THE HALF-TRIBE OF MANASSEH

²³Now the people of the half-tribe of Manasseh were numerous. They settled in the land from Bashan to Baal-hermon (that is, Senir, also known as Mount Hermon). ²⁴These were the heads of their families: Ephraim, Ishi, Eliel, Azriel, Jeremiah, Hodaviah, and Jahdiel. They were mighty men of valor, famous men, and heads of their families. ²⁵But they were unfaithful to the God of their fathers, and they prostituted themselves with the gods of the peoples of the land, whom God had destroyed before them. ²⁶So the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Assyria (that is, Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria) to take the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh into exile. And he brought them to Halah, Habor, Hara, and the river of Gozan, where they remain to this day.

Chapter 6

THE DESCENDANTS OF LEVI

¹The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. ²The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. ³The children of Amram: Aaron, Moses, and Miriam. The sons of Aaron: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. ⁴Eleazar was the father of Phinehas, Phinehas was the father of Abishua, ⁵Abishua was the father of Bukki, Bukki was the father of Uzzi, ⁶Uzzi was the father of Zerahiah, Zerahiah was the father of Meraioth, ⁷Meraioth was the father of Amariah, Amariah was the father of Ahitub, ⁸Ahitub was the father of Zadok, Zadok was the father of Ahimaaz, ⁹Ahimaaz was the father of Azariah, Azariah was the father of Johanan, ¹⁰Johanan was the father of Azariah, who served as priest

in the temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem, ¹¹Azariah was the father of Amariah, Amariah was the father of Ahitub, ¹²Ahitub was the father of Zadok, Zadok was the father of Shallum, ¹³Shallum was the father of Hilkiah, Hilkiah was the father of Azariah, ¹⁴Azariah was the father of Seraiah, and Seraiah was the father of Jehozadak. ¹⁵Jehozadak went into captivity when the LORD sent Judah and Jerusalem into exile by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁶The sons of Levi: Gershom, Kohath, and Merari. ¹⁷These are the names of the sons of Gershom: Libni and Shimei. ¹⁸The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. ¹⁹The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. These are the clans of the Levites listed according to their fathers: ²⁰Of Gershom: Libni his son, Jahath his son, Zimmah his son, ²¹Joah his son, Iddo his son, Zerah his son, and Jeatherai his son. ²²The descendants of Kohath: Amminadab his son, Korah his son, Assir his son, ²³Elkanah his son, Ebiasaph his son, Assir his son, ²⁴Tahath his son, Uriel his son, Uzziel his son, and Shaul his son. ²⁵The descendants of Elkanah: Amasai, Ahimoth, ²⁶Elkanah his son, Zophai his son, Nahath his son, ²⁷Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, and Elkanah his son. ²⁸The sons of Samuel: Joel his firstborn and Abijah his second son. ²⁹The descendants of Merari: Mahli, Libni his son, Shimei his son, Uzzah his son, ³⁰Shimea his son, Haggiah his son, and Asaiah his son.

THE TEMPLE MUSICIANS

³¹These are the men David put in charge of the music in the house of the LORD after the ark rested there. ³²They ministered with song before the tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting, until Solomon built the house of the LORD in Jerusalem. And they performed their duties according to the regulations given them. ³³These are the men who served, together with their sons. From the Kohathites: Heman the singer, the son of Joel, the son of Samuel, ³⁴the son of Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Eliel, the son of Toah, ³⁵the son of Zuph, the son of Elkanah, the son of Mahath, the son of Amasai, ³⁶the son of Elkanah, the son of Joel, the son of Azariah, the son of Zephaniah, ³⁷the son of Tahath, the son of Assir, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, ³⁸the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, the son of Israel. ³⁹Heman's kinsman was Asaph, who served at his right hand: Asaph the son of Berechiah, the son of Shimea, ⁴⁰the son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah, the son of Malchijah, ⁴¹the son of Ethni, the son of Zerah, the son of Adaiah, ⁴²the son of Ethan, the son of Zimmah, the son of Shimei, ⁴³the son of Jahath, the son of Gershom, the son of Levi. ⁴⁴On the left were their kinsmen, the sons of Merari: Ethan the son of Kishi, the son of Abdi, the son of

Malluch, ⁴⁵the son of Hashabiah, the son of Amaziah, the son of Hilkiah, ⁴⁶the son of Amzi, the son of Bani, the son of Shemer, ⁴⁷the son of Mahli, the son of Mushi, the son of Merari, the son of Levi.

THE DESCENDANTS OF AARON

⁴⁸Their fellow Levites were assigned to every kind of service of the tabernacle, the house of God. ⁴⁹But Aaron and his sons did all the work of the Most Holy Place. They presented the offerings on the altar of burnt offering and on the altar of incense to make atonement for Israel, according to all that Moses the servant of God had commanded. ⁵⁰These were the descendants of Aaron: Eleazar his son, Phinehas his son, Abishua his son, ⁵¹Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, Zerahiah his son, ⁵²Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son, ⁵³Zadok his son, and Ahimaaz his son.

TERRITORIES FOR THE LEVITES

⁵⁴Now these were the territories assigned to the descendants of Aaron from the Kohathite clan for their settlements, because the first lot fell to them: ⁵⁵They were given Hebron in the land of Judah and its surrounding pasturelands. ⁵⁶But the fields and villages around the city were given to Caleb son of Jephunneh. ⁵⁷So the descendants of Aaron were given Hebron (a city of refuge), Libnah, Jattir, Eshtemoa, ⁵⁸Hilen, Debir, ⁵⁹Ashan, Juttah, and Bethshemesh, together with their pasturelands. ⁶⁰And from the tribe of Benjamin they were given Gibeon, Geba, Alemeth, and Anathoth, together with their pasturelands. So they had thirteen cities in all among their families. ⁶¹To the rest of the Kohathites, ten cities were allotted from the half-tribe of Manasseh. ⁶²The Gershomites, according to their clans, were allotted thirteen cities from the tribes of Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Manasseh in Bashan. ⁶³The Merarites, according to their clans, were allotted twelve cities from the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Zebulun. ⁶⁴So the Israelites gave to the Levites these cities and their pasturelands. ⁶⁵They assigned by lot the cities named above from the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin. ⁶⁶And some of the clans of the Kohathites were given cities from the tribe of Ephraim for their territory: ⁶⁷They were given Shechem (a city of refuge) with its pasturelands in the hill country of Ephraim, and Gezer, ⁶⁸Jokmeam, Beth-horon, ⁶⁹Aijalon, and Gath-rimmon, together with their pasturelands. ⁷⁰And from the half-tribe of Manasseh the rest of the clans of the Kohathites were given Aner and Bileam, together with their pasturelands. ⁷¹The Gershomites received the following: From the clan of the half-tribe of Manasseh they were given Golan in Bashan and also Ashtaroth, together with their pasturelands. ⁷²From the tribe of Issachar they were given Kedesh, Daberath, ⁷³Ramoth, and Anem,

together with their pasturelands. ⁷⁴From the tribe of Asher they were given Mashal, Abdon, ⁷⁵Hukok, and Rehob, together with their pasturelands. ⁷⁶And from the tribe of Naphtali they were given Kedesh in Galilee, Hammon, and Kiriathaim, together with their pasturelands. ⁷⁷The Merarites (the rest of the Levites) received the following: From the tribe of Zebulun they were given Rimmono and Tabor, together with their pasturelands. ⁷⁸From the tribe of Reuben east of the Jordan opposite Jericho they were given Bezer in the wilderness, Jahzah, ⁷⁹Kedemoth, and Mephaath, together with their pasturelands. ⁸⁰And from the tribe of Gad they were given Ramoth in Gilead, Mahanaim, ⁸¹Heshbon, and Jazer, together with their pasturelands.

Chapter 7

THE DESCENDANTS OF ISSACHAR

¹The sons of Issachar: Tola, Puah, Jashub, and Shimron—four in all. ²The sons of Tola: Uzzi, Rephaiah, Jeriel, Jahmai, Ibsam, and Shemuel, the heads of their families. In the days of David, 22,600 descendants of Tola were numbered in their genealogies as mighty men of valor. ³The son of Uzzi: Izrahiah. The sons of Izrahiah: Michael, Obadiah, Joel, and Isshiah. All five of them were chiefs. ⁴In addition to them, according to their genealogy, they had 36,000 troops for battle, for they had many wives and children. ⁵Their kinsmen belonging to all the families of Issachar who were mighty men of valor totaled 87,000, as listed in their genealogies.

THE DESCENDANTS OF BENJAMIN

⁶The three sons of Benjamin: Bela, Becher, and Jediahel. ⁷The sons of Bela: Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth, and Iri, heads of their families—five in all. There were 22,034 mighty men of valor listed in their genealogies. ⁸The sons of Becher: Zemirah, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abijah, Anathoth, and Alemeth; all these were Becher's sons. ⁹Their genealogies were recorded according to the heads of their families—20,200 mighty men of valor. ¹⁰The son of Jediahel: Bilhan. The sons of Bilhan: Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Chenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish, and Ahishahar. ¹¹All these sons of Jediahel were heads of their families, mighty men of valor; there were 17,200 fit for battle. ¹²The Shuppites and Huppites were descendants of Ir, and the Hushites were descendants of Aher.

THE DESCENDANTS OF NAPHTALI

¹³The sons of Naphtali: Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, and Shallum—the descendants of Bilhah.

THE DESCENDANTS OF MANASSEH

¹⁴The descendants of Manasseh: Asriel through his Aramean concubine. She also gave birth to Machir the father of Gilead. ¹⁵Machir took a wife from among the Huppites and Shuppites. The name of his sister was Maacah. Another descendant was named Zelophehad, who had only daughters. ¹⁶Machir's wife Maacah gave birth to a son, and she named him Peresh. His brother was named Sheresh, and his sons were Ulam and Rekem. ¹⁷The son of Ulam: Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead son of Machir, the son of Manasseh. ¹⁸His sister Hammolecheth gave birth to Ishhod, Abiezer, and Mahlah. ¹⁹And these were the sons of Shemida: Ahian, Shechem, Likhi, and Aniam.

THE DESCENDANTS OF EPHRAIM

²⁰The descendants of Ephraim: Shuthelah, Bered his son, Tahath his son, Eleadah his son, Tahath his son, ²¹Zabad his son, and Shuthelah his son. Ezer and Elead were killed by the natives of Gath, because they went down to steal their livestock. ²²Their father Ephraim mourned for many days, and his relatives came to comfort him. ²³And again he slept with his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to a son. So he named him Beriah, because tragedy had come upon his house. ²⁴His daughter was Sheerah, who built Lower and Upper Beth-horon, as well as Uzzen-sheerah. ²⁵Additionally, Rephah was his son, Resheph his son, Telah his son, Tahan his son, ²⁶Ladan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son, ²⁷Nun his son, and Joshua his son. ²⁸Their holdings and settlements included Bethel and its villages, Naaran to the east, Gezer and its villages to the west, and Shechem and its villages as far as Ayyah and its villages. ²⁹And along the borders of Manasseh were Bethshean, Taanach, Megiddo, and Dor, together with their villages. The descendants of Joseph son of Israel lived in these towns.

THE DESCENDANTS OF ASHER

³⁰The children of Asher: Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, Beriah, and their sister Serah. ³¹The sons of Beriah: Heber, as well as Malchiel, who was the father of Birzaith. ³²Heber was the father of Japhlet, Shomer, and Hotham, and of their sister Shua. ³³The sons of Japhlet: Pasach, Bimhal, and Ashvath. These were Japhlet's sons. ³⁴The sons of Shemer: Ahi, Rohgah, Hubbah, and Aram. ³⁵The sons of his brother Helem: Zophah, Imna, Shelesh, and Amal. ³⁶The sons of Zophah: Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri, Imrah, ³⁷Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah, Ithran, and Beera. ³⁸The sons of Jether: Jephunneh, Pispa, and Ara. ³⁹The sons of Ulla: Arah, Hanniel, and Rizia. ⁴⁰All these were the descendants of Asher—heads of their families, choice and mighty men

of valor, and chiefs among the leaders. The number of men fit for battle, recorded in their genealogies, was 26,000.

Chapter 8

GENEALOGY FROM BENJAMIN TO SAUL

¹Benjamin was the father of Bela his firstborn, Ashbel the second, Aharah the third, ²Nohah the fourth, and Rapha the fifth. ³The sons of Bela: Addar, Gera, Abihud, ⁴Abishua, Naaman, Ahoah, ⁵Gera, Shephuphan, and Huram. ⁶These were the descendants of Ehud who were the heads of the families living in Geba and were exiled to Manahath: ⁷Naaman, Ahijah, and Gera, who carried them into exile and who was the father of Uzza and Ahihud. ⁸Shaharaim had sons in the country of Moab after he had divorced his wives Hushim and Baara. ⁹His sons by his wife Hodesh: Jobab, Zibia, Mesha, Malcam, ¹⁰Jeuz, Sachia, and Mirmah. These were his sons, heads of families. ¹¹He also had sons by Hushim: Abitub and Elpaal. ¹²The sons of Elpaal: Eber, Misham, Shemed (who built Ono and Lod with its villages), ¹³and Beriah and Shema (who were the heads of families living in Aijalon and who drove out the inhabitants of Gath). ¹⁴Ahio, Shashak, Jeremoth, ¹⁵Zebadiah, Arad, Eder, ¹⁶Michael, Ishpah, and Joha were the sons of Beriah. ¹⁷Zebadiah, Meshullam, Hizki, Heber, ¹⁸Ishmerai, Izliah, and Jobab were the sons of Elpaal. ¹⁹Jakim, Zichri, Zabdi, ²⁰Elienai, Zillethai, Eliel, ²¹Adaiah, Beraiah, and Shimrath were the sons of Shimei. ²²Ishpan, Eber, Eliel, ²³Abdon, Zichri, Hanan, ²⁴Hananiah, Elam, Anthothijah, ²⁵Iphdeiah, and Penuel were the sons of Shashak. ²⁶Shamsheraï, Shehariah, Athaliah, ²⁷Jareshiah, Elijah, and Zichri were the sons of Jeroham. ²⁸All these were heads of families, the chiefs according to their genealogies, and they lived in Jerusalem. ²⁹Jeiel the father of Gibeon lived in Gibeon. His wife's name was Maacah, ³⁰and Abdon was his firstborn son, then Zur, Kish, Baal, Nadab, ³¹Gedor, Ahio, Zecher, ³²and Mikloth, who was the father of Shimeah. They too lived alongside their relatives in Jerusalem.

THE FAMILY OF SAUL

³³Ner was the father of Kish, Kish was the father of Saul, and Saul was the father of Jonathan, Malchishua, Abinadab, and Esh-baal. ³⁴The son of Jonathan: Merib-baal, and Merib-baal was the father of Micah. ³⁵The sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech, Tarea, and Ahaz. ³⁶Ahaz was the father of Jehoaddah, Jehoaddah was the father of Alemeth, Azmaveth, and Zimri, and Zimri was the father of Moza. ³⁷Moza was the father of Binea. Raphah was his son, Eleasah his son, and Azel his son. ³⁸Azel had six sons, and these were their names: Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael,

Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan. All these were the sons of Azel. ³⁹The sons of his brother Eshek: Ulam was his first-born, Jeush second, and Eliphelet third. ⁴⁰The sons of Ulam were mighty men of valor, archers, and they had many sons and grandsons—150 in all. All these were the descendants of Benjamin.

Chapter 9

THE PEOPLE OF JERUSALEM

¹So all Israel was recorded in the genealogies written in the Book of the Kings of Israel. But Judah was exiled to Babylon because of their unfaithfulness. ²Now the first to resettle their own property in their cities were Israelites, priests, Levites, and temple servants. ³Some of the descendants of Judah, Benjamin, Ephraim, and Manasseh lived in Jerusalem: ⁴Uthai son of Ammihud, the son of Omri, the son of Imri, the son of Bani, a descendant of Perez son of Judah. ⁵From the Shilonites: Asaiah the firstborn and his sons. ⁶From the Zerahites: Jeuel and 690 relatives. ⁷From the Benjamites: Sallu son of Meshullam, the son of Hodaviah, the son of Hassenuah; ⁸Ibneiah son of Jeroham; Elah son of Uzzi, the son of Michri; Meshullam son of Shephatiah, the son of Reuel, the son of Ibnijah; ⁹and 956 of their relatives according to their genealogy. All these men were heads of their families. ¹⁰From the priests: Jedaiah, Jehoiarib, and Jachin; ¹¹Azariah son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the chief official of God's temple; ¹²Adaiah son of Jeroham, the son of Pashhur, the son of Malchijah; Maasai son of Adiel, the son of Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer; ¹³and 1,760 of their relatives, the heads of their families, able men for the work of the service of the house of God. ¹⁴From the Levites: Shemaiah son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, a descendant of Merari; ¹⁵Bakbakkar, Heresh, Galal, and Mattaniah son of Mica, the son of Zichri, the son of Asaph; ¹⁶Obadiah son of Shemaiah, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun; and Berechiah son of Asa, the son of Elkanah, who lived in the villages of the Netophathites. ¹⁷These were the gatekeepers: Shallum, Akkub, Talmon, Ahiman, and their relatives. Shallum was their chief; ¹⁸he was previously stationed at the King's Gate on the east side. These were the gatekeepers from the camp of the Levites. ¹⁹Shallum son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his relatives from the Korahites were assigned to guard the thresholds of the Tent, just as their fathers had been assigned to guard the entrance to the dwelling of the LORD. ²⁰In earlier times Phinehas son of Eleazar had been in charge of the

gatekeepers, and the LORD was with him. ²¹Zechariah son of Meshelemiah was the gatekeeper at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. ²²The number of those chosen to be gatekeepers at the thresholds was 212. They were registered by genealogy in their villages. David and Samuel the seer had appointed them to their positions of trust. ²³So they and their descendants were assigned to guard the gates of the house of the LORD—the house called the Tent. ²⁴The gatekeepers were stationed on the four sides: east, west, north, and south. ²⁵Their relatives came from their villages at fixed times to serve with them for seven-day periods. ²⁶But the four chief gatekeepers, who were Levites, were entrusted with the rooms and the treasuries of the house of God. ²⁷They would spend the night stationed around the house of God, because they were responsible for guarding it and opening it every morning. ²⁸Some of them were in charge of the articles used in worship, to count them whenever they were brought in or taken out. ²⁹Others were put in charge of the furnishings and other articles of the sanctuary, as well as the fine flour, wine, oil, frankincense, and spices. ³⁰And some of the sons of the priests mixed the spices. ³¹A Levite named Mattithiah, the firstborn son of Shallum the Korahite, was entrusted with baking the bread. ³²Some of their Kohathite relatives were responsible for preparing the rows of the showbread every Sabbath. ³³Those who were musicians, the heads of Levite families, stayed in the temple chambers and were exempt from other duties because they were on duty day and night. ³⁴All these were heads of Levite families, chiefs according to their genealogies, and they lived in Jerusalem.

THE DESCENDANTS OF SAUL

³⁵Jeiel the father of Gibeon lived in Gibeon. His wife's name was Maacah. ³⁶Abdon was his firstborn son, then Zur, Kish, Baal, Ner, Nadab, ³⁷Gedor, Ahio, Zechariah, and Mikloth. ³⁸Mikloth was the father of Shimeam. They too lived alongside their relatives in Jerusalem. ³⁹Ner was the father of Kish, Kish was the father of Saul, and Saul was the father of Jonathan, Malchishua, Abinadab, and Esh-baal. ⁴⁰The son of Jonathan: Merib-baal, who was the father of Micah. ⁴¹The sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech, Tahrea, and Ahaz. ⁴²Ahaz was the father of Jarah; Jarah was the father of Alemeth, Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri was the father of Moza. ⁴³Moza was the father of Binea. Rephaiah was his son, Elasa his son, and Azel his son. ⁴⁴And Azel had six sons, and these were their names: Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan. These were the sons of Azel.

Chapter 10

SAUL'S OVERTHROW AND DEATH

¹Now the Philistines fought against Israel, and the men of Israel fled before them, and many fell slain on Mount Gilboa. ²The Philistines followed hard after Saul and his sons, and they killed Saul's sons Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua. ³When the battle intensified against Saul, the archers overtook him and wounded him. ⁴Then Saul said to his armor-bearer, "Draw your sword and run me through with it, or these uncircumcised men will come and torture me!" But his armor-bearer was terrified and refused to do it. So Saul took his own sword and fell on it. ⁵When his armor-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he too fell on his own sword and died. ⁶So Saul died together with his three sons and all his house.

THE PHILISTINES POSSESS THE TOWNS

⁷When all the Israelites in the valley saw that the army had fled and that Saul and his sons had died, they abandoned their cities and ran away. So the Philistines came and occupied their cities. ⁸The next day, when the Philistines came to strip the dead, they found Saul and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. ⁹They stripped Saul, cut off his head, took his armor, and sent messengers throughout the land of the Philistines to proclaim the news in the temple of their idols and among their people. ¹⁰They put his armor in the temple of their gods and hung his head in the temple of Dagon.

JABESH-GILEAD'S TRIBUTE TO SAUL

¹¹When all the people of Jabesh-gilead heard about everything the Philistines had done to Saul, ¹²all their men of valor set out and retrieved the bodies of Saul and his sons and brought them to Jabesh. And they buried their bones under the oak in Jabesh and fasted seven days. ¹³So Saul died for his unfaithfulness to the LORD, because he did not keep the word of the LORD and even consulted a medium for guidance, ¹⁴and he failed to inquire of the LORD. So the LORD put him to death and turned the kingdom over to David son of Jesse.

Chapter 11

DAVID ANOINTED KING OF ALL ISRAEL

¹Then all Israel came together to David at Hebron and said, "Here we are, your own flesh and blood. ²Even in times past, while Saul was king, you were the one who led Israel out and brought them back. And the LORD your God said, 'You will shepherd My people Israel, and you will be ruler over them.'" ³So all the elders of Israel came to the king at

Hebron, where David made a covenant with them before the LORD. And they anointed him king over Israel, according to the word of the LORD through Samuel.

DAVID CONQUERS JERUSALEM

⁴Then David and all the Israelites marched to Jerusalem (that is, Jebus), where the Jebusites inhabited the land. ⁵The people of Jebus said to David, “You will never get in here.” Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion (that is, the City of David). ⁶Now David had said, “Whoever is the first to strike down a Jebusite will become chief commander.” And Joab son of Zeruiah went up first, and he became the chief. ⁷So David took up residence in the fortress; that is why it was called the City of David. ⁸He built up the city around it, from the supporting terraces to the surrounding wall, while Joab restored the rest of the city. ⁹And David became greater and greater, for the LORD of Hosts was with him.

DAVID’S MIGHTY MEN

¹⁰Now these were the chiefs of David’s mighty men, who, together with all Israel, bolstered and strengthened his kingdom, according to the word of the LORD concerning Israel. ¹¹This is the list of David’s mighty men: Jashobeam son of Hachmoni was chief of the officers; he wielded his spear against three hundred men, whom he killed at one time. ¹²Next in command was Eleazar son of Dodo the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men. ¹³He was with David at Pas-dammim when the Philistines gathered there for battle. At a place with a field full of barley, the troops fled from the Philistines. ¹⁴But Eleazar and David stationed themselves in the middle of the field and defended it. They struck down the Philistines, and the LORD brought about a great victory. ¹⁵Three of the thirty chief men went down to David, to the rock at the cave of Adullam, while a company of Philistines was encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁶At that time David was in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was at Bethlehem. ¹⁷David longed for water and said, “Oh, that someone would get me a drink of water from the well near the gate of Bethlehem!” ¹⁸So the Three broke through the Philistine camp, drew water from the well at the gate of Bethlehem, and brought it back to David. But he refused to drink it; instead, he poured it out to the LORD, ¹⁹saying, “Far be it from me, my God, to do this! How can I drink the blood of these men who risked their lives?” Because they had brought it at the risk of their lives, David refused to drink it. Such were the exploits of the three mighty men. ²⁰Now Abishai, the brother of Joab, was chief of the Three, and he wielded his spear against three hundred men, killed them, and won a name along with the Three. ²¹He was doubly honored above the Three, and he

became their commander, even though he was not included among the Three. ²²And Benaiah son of Jehoiada was a man of valor from Kabzeel, a man of many exploits. He struck down two champions of Moab, and on a snowy day he went down into a pit and killed a lion. ²³He also struck down an Egyptian, a huge man five cubits tall. Although the Egyptian had a spear like a weaver’s beam in his hand, Benaiah went against him with a club, snatched the spear from his hand, and killed the Egyptian with his own spear. ²⁴These were the exploits of Benaiah son of Jehoiada, who won a name along with the three mighty men. ²⁵He was most honored among the Thirty, but he did not become one of the Three. And David appointed him over his guard. ²⁶Now these were the mighty men: Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan son of Dodo of Bethlehem, ²⁷Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the Pelonite, ²⁸Ira son of Ikesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Anathothite, ²⁹Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite, ³⁰Maharai the Netophathite, Heled son of Baanah the Netophathite, ³¹Ithai son of Ribai from Gibeath of the Benjamites, Benaiah the Pirathonite, ³²Hurai from the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite, ³³Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbomite, ³⁴the sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan son of Shagee the Hararite, ³⁵Ahiam son of Sachar the Hararite, Eliphal son of Ur, ³⁶Hepher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite, ³⁷Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai son of Ezbai, ³⁸Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar son of Hagri, ³⁹Zekek the Ammonite, Naharai the Beerothite, the armor-bearer of Joab son of Zeruiah, ⁴⁰Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite, ⁴¹Uriah the Hittite, Zabad son of Ahlai, ⁴²Adina son of Shiza the Reubenite, chief of the Reubenites, and the thirty with him, ⁴³Hanan son of Maacah, Joshaphat the Mithnite, ⁴⁴Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite, ⁴⁵Jediael son of Shimri and his brother Joha the Tizite, ⁴⁶Eliel the Mahavite, Jeribai and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, Ithmah the Moabite, ⁴⁷Eliel, Obed, and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.

Chapter 12

THE MIGHTY MEN JOIN DAVID AT ZIKLAG

¹Now these were the men who came to David at Ziklag, while he was still banished from the presence of Saul son of Kish (they were among the mighty men who helped him in battle; ²they were archers using both the right and left hands to sling stones and shoot arrows; and they were Saul’s kinsmen from Benjamin): ³Ahiezer their chief and Joash, who were the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite; Jeziel and Pelet, the sons of Azmaveth; Beracah; Jehu the Anathothite; ⁴Ishmaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty man

among the Thirty and a leader over the Thirty; Jeremiah, Jahaziel, Johanan, and Jozabad the Gederathite; ⁵Eluzai, Jerimoth, Bealiah, Shemariah, and Shephatiah the Haruphite; ⁶Elkanah, Isshiah, Azarel, Joezer, and Jashobeam, who were Korahites; ⁷and Joelah and Zebadiah, the sons of Jeroham from Gedor. ⁸Some Gadites defected to David at his stronghold in the wilderness. They were mighty men of valor, trained for battle, experts with the shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions and who were as swift as gazelles on the mountains: ⁹Ezer the chief, Obadiah the second in command, Eliab the third, ¹⁰Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah the fifth, ¹¹Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh, ¹²Johanan the eighth, Elzabad the ninth, ¹³Jeremiah the tenth, and Machbanai the eleventh. ¹⁴These Gadites were army commanders, the least of whom was a match for a hundred, and the greatest for a thousand. ¹⁵These are the ones who crossed the Jordan in the first month when it was overflowing all its banks, and they put to flight all those in the valleys, both to the east and to the west. ¹⁶Other Benjamites and some men from Judah also came to David in his stronghold. ¹⁷And David went out to meet them, saying, “If you have come to me in peace to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if you have come to betray me to my enemies when my hands are free of violence, may the God of our fathers see it and judge you.” ¹⁸Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, the chief of the Thirty, and he said: “We are yours, O David! We are with you, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, and peace to your helpers, for your God helps you.” So David received them and made them leaders of his troops. ¹⁹Some from Manasseh defected to David when he went with the Philistines to fight against Saul. (They did not help the Philistines because the Philistine rulers consulted and sent David away, saying, “It will cost us our heads if he defects to his master Saul.”) ²⁰When David went to Ziklag, these men of Manasseh defected to him: Adnah, Jozabad, Jediael, Michael, Jozabad, Elihu, and Zillethai, chiefs of thousands in Manasseh. ²¹They helped David against the raiders, for they were all mighty men of valor and commanders in the army. ²²For at that time men came to David day after day to help him, until he had a great army, like the army of God.

DAVID’S ARMY GROWS AT HEBRON

²³Now these are the numbers of men armed for battle who came to David at Hebron to turn Saul’s kingdom over to him, in accordance with the word of the LORD: ²⁴From Judah: 6,800 armed troops bearing shields and spears. ²⁵From Simeon: 7,100 mighty men of valor, ready for battle. ²⁶From Levi: 4,600, ²⁷including Jehoiada, leader of the

house of Aaron, with 3,700 men, ²⁸and Zadok, a mighty young man of valor, with 22 commanders from his own family. ²⁹From Benjamin, the kinsmen of Saul: 3,000, most of whom had remained loyal to the house of Saul up to that time. ³⁰From Ephraim: 20,800 mighty men of valor, famous among their own clans. ³¹From the half-tribe of Manasseh: 18,000 designated by name to come and make David king. ³²From Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do: 200 chiefs with all their kinsmen at their command. ³³From Zebulun: 50,000 fit for service, trained for battle with all kinds of weapons of war, who with one purpose were devoted to David. ³⁴From Naphtali: 1,000 commanders, accompanied by 37,000 men with shield and spear. ³⁵From Dan: 28,600 prepared for battle. ³⁶From Asher: 40,000 fit for service, prepared for battle. ³⁷And from east of the Jordan, from Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh there: 120,000 armed with every kind of weapon of war. ³⁸All these men of war, arrayed for battle, came to Hebron fully determined to make David king over all Israel. And all the rest of the Israelites were of one mind to make David king. ³⁹They spent three days there eating and drinking with David, for their relatives had provided for them. ⁴⁰And their neighbors from as far away as Issachar, Zebulun, and Naphtali came bringing food on donkeys, camels, mules, and oxen—abundant supplies of flour, fig cakes and raisin cakes, wine and oil, oxen and sheep. Indeed, there was joy in Israel.

Chapter 13

DAVID FETCHES THE ARK

¹Then David conferred with all his leaders, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds. ²And he said to the whole assembly of Israel, “If it seems good to you, and if this is of the LORD our God, let us send word far and wide to the rest of our brothers in all the land of Israel, and also to the priests and Levites in their cities and pasturelands, so that they may join us. ³Then let us bring back the ark of our God, for we did not inquire of Him in the days of Saul.” ⁴And because this proposal seemed right to all the people, the whole assembly agreed to it. ⁵So David assembled all Israel, from the River Shihor in Egypt to Lebo-hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kiriath-jearim. ⁶David and all Israel went up to Baalah of Judah (that is, Kiriath-jearim) to bring up from there the ark of God the LORD, who is enthroned between the cherubim—the ark that is called by the Name. ⁷So they carried the ark of God from the house of Abinadab on a new cart, with Uzzah and Ahio guiding the cart.

UZZAH TOUCHES THE ARK

⁸David and all the Israelites were celebrating before God with all their might, with songs and on harps and lyres, with tambourines, cymbals, and trumpets. ⁹When they came to the threshing floor of Chidon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark, because the oxen had stumbled. ¹⁰And the anger of the LORD burned against Uzzah, and He struck him down because he had put his hand on the ark. So he died there before God. ¹¹Then David became angry because the LORD had burst forth against Uzzah. So he named that place Perez-uzzah, as it is called to this day. ¹²That day David feared God and asked, “How can I ever bring the ark of God to me?” ¹³So he did not move the ark with him to the City of David; instead, he took it aside to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. ¹⁴Thus the ark of God remained with the family of Obed-edom in his house for three months, and the LORD blessed his household and everything he owned.

Chapter 14**DAVID’S FAMILY GROWS**

¹Now Hiram king of Tyre sent envoys to David, along with cedar logs, stonemasons, and carpenters, to build a palace for him. ²And David realized that the LORD had established him as king over Israel and had highly exalted his kingdom for the sake of His people Israel. ³And David took more wives in Jerusalem and became the father of more sons and daughters. ⁴These are the names of the children born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, ⁵Ibhar, Elishua, Elpelet, ⁶Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, ⁷Elishama, Beeliada, and Eliphelet.

TWO VICTORIES OVER THE PHILISTINES

⁸When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, they all went in search of him; but David learned of this and went out to face them. ⁹Now the Philistines had come and raided the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁰So David inquired of God, “Should I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?” “Go,” replied the LORD, “for I will deliver them into your hand.” ¹¹So David and his men went up to Baal-perazim, where he defeated the Philistines and said, “Like a bursting flood, God has burst out against my enemies by my hand.” So they called that place Baal-perazim. ¹²There the Philistines abandoned their gods, and David ordered that they be burned in the fire. ¹³Once again the Philistines raided the valley. ¹⁴So David again inquired of God, who answered him, “Do not march up after them, but circle around them and attack them in front of the balsam trees. ¹⁵As soon as

you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, move out to battle, because this will mean that God has gone out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines.” ¹⁶So David did as God had commanded him, and they struck down the army of the Philistines all the way from Gibeon to Gezer. ¹⁷And David’s fame went out into every land, and the LORD caused all nations to fear him.

Chapter 15**PREPARING TO MOVE THE ARK**

¹David constructed buildings for himself in the City of David, and he prepared a place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it. ²Then David said, “No one but the Levites may carry the ark of God, because the LORD has chosen them to carry the ark of the LORD and to minister before Him forever.” ³And David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the LORD to the place he had prepared for it. ⁴Then he gathered together the descendants of Aaron and the Levites: ⁵From the Kohathites, Uriel the chief and 120 of his relatives; ⁶from the Merarites, Asaiah the chief and 220 of his relatives; ⁷from the Gershonites, Joel the chief and 130 of his relatives; ⁸from the Elizaphanites, Shemaiah the chief and 200 of his relatives; ⁹from the Hebronites, Eliel the chief and 80 of his relatives; ¹⁰and from the Uzzielites, Amminadab the chief and 112 of his relatives. ¹¹David summoned the priests Zadok and Abiathar and the Levites Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and Amminadab. ¹²And he said to them, “You are the heads of the Levitical families. You and your relatives must consecrate yourselves so that you may bring the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel, to the place I have prepared for it. ¹³It was because you Levites were not with us the first time that the LORD our God burst forth in anger against us. For we did not consult Him about the proper order.”

THE PRIESTS AND LEVITES CARRY THE ARK

¹⁴So the priests and Levites consecrated themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel. ¹⁵And the Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles, as Moses had commanded in accordance with the word of the LORD. ¹⁶David also told the leaders of the Levites to appoint their relatives as singers to lift up their voices with joy, accompanied by musical instruments—harps, lyres, and cymbals. ¹⁷So the Levites appointed Heman son of Joel; from his brothers, Asaph son of Berechiah; from their brothers the Merarites, Ethan son of Kushaiah; ¹⁸and with them their brothers next in rank:

Zechariah, Jaaziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, and the gatekeepers Obed-edom and Jeiel. ¹⁹The musicians Heman, Asaph, and Ethan were to sound the bronze cymbals. ²⁰Zechariah, Aziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah, and Benaiah were to play the harps according to Alamoth. ²¹And Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-edom, Jeiel, and Azariah were to lead the music with lyres according to Sheminith. ²²Chenaniah the head Levite was the director of the music because he was highly skilled. ²³Berechiah and Elkanah were to be guardians of the ark. ²⁴Shebaniah, Joshaphat, Nethanel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah, and Eliezer—the priests—were to blow the trumpets before the ark of God. Obed-edom and Jehiah were also to be guardians of the ark.

MOVING THE ARK TO JERUSALEM

²⁵So David, the elders of Israel, and the commanders of thousands went with rejoicing to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the house of Obed-edom. ²⁶And because God helped the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD, they sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams. ²⁷Now David was dressed in a robe of fine linen, as were all the Levites who were carrying the ark, as well as the singers and Chenaniah, the director of music for the singers. David also wore a linen ephod. ²⁸So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, with the sounding of rams' horns and trumpets, and with cymbals and the music of harps and lyres.

MICHAL'S CONTEMPT FOR DAVID

²⁹As the ark of the covenant of the LORD was entering the City of David, Saul's daughter Michal looked down from a window and saw King David dancing and celebrating, and she despised him in her heart.

Chapter 16

A TENT FOR THE ARK

¹So they brought the ark of God and placed it inside the tent that David had pitched for it. And they presented burnt offerings and peace offerings before God. ²When David had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD. ³Then he distributed to every man and woman of Israel a loaf of bread, a date cake, and a raisin cake. ⁴David appointed some of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, to celebrate, to give thanks, and to praise the LORD, the God of Israel. ⁵Asaph was the chief, Zechariah was second, then Jeiel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Mattithiah, Eliab, Benaiah, Obed-edom, and Jeiel. They were to play

the harps and lyres, while Asaph sounded the cymbals ⁶and the priests Benaiah and Jahaziel blew the trumpets regularly before the ark of the covenant of God.

DAVID'S PSALMS OF THANKSGIVING

⁷On that day David first committed to Asaph and his associates this song of thanksgiving to the LORD: ⁸"Give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the nations. ⁹Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wonders. ¹⁰Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. ¹¹Seek out the LORD and His strength; seek His face always. ¹²Remember the wonders He has done, His marvels, and the judgments He has pronounced, ¹³O offspring of His servant Israel, O sons of Jacob, His chosen ones. ¹⁴He is the LORD our God; His judgments carry throughout the earth. ¹⁵Remember His covenant forever, the word He ordained for a thousand generations— ¹⁶the covenant He made with Abraham, and the oath He swore to Isaac. ¹⁷He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, to Israel as an everlasting covenant: ¹⁸'I will give you the land of Canaan as the portion of your inheritance.' ¹⁹When they were few in number, few indeed, and strangers in the land, ²⁰they wandered from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another. ²¹He let no man oppress them; He rebuked kings on their behalf: ²²'Do not touch My anointed ones! Do no harm to My prophets!'

SING TO THE LORD, ALL THE EARTH

²³Sing to the LORD, all the earth. Proclaim His salvation day after day. ²⁴Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples. ²⁵For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. ²⁶For all the gods of the nations are idols, but it is the LORD who made the heavens. ²⁷Splendor and majesty are before Him; strength and joy fill His dwelling. ²⁸Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. ²⁹Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering and come before Him. Worship the LORD in the splendor of His holiness; ³⁰tremble before Him, all the earth. The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved. ³¹Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice. Let them say among the nations, 'The LORD reigns!' ³²Let the sea resound, and all that fills it; let the fields exult, and all that is in them. ³³Then the trees of the forest will sing for joy before the LORD, for He is coming to judge the earth. ³⁴Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His loving devotion endures forever. ³⁵Then cry out: 'Save us, O God of our salvation; gather and deliver us from the nations, that we may give thanks to Your holy name, that we may glory in Your praise.' ³⁶Blessed be the LORD,

the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.” Then all the people said, “Amen!” and “Praise the LORD!”

WORSHIP BEFORE THE ARK

³⁷So David left Asaph and his associates there before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to minister there regularly according to the daily requirements, ³⁸along with Obed-edom and his sixty-eight relatives. Obed-edom son of Jeduthun, and also Hosah, were to be gatekeepers. ³⁹And David left Zadok the priest and his fellow priests before the tabernacle of the LORD at the high place in Gibeon ⁴⁰to regularly present burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of burnt offerings, morning and evening, according to all that was written in the Law of the LORD, which He had commanded Israel to keep. ⁴¹With them were Heman, Jeduthun, and the rest of those chosen and designated by name to give thanks to the LORD, for “His loving devotion endures forever.” ⁴²Heman and Jeduthun had with them trumpets and cymbals for the music and instruments for the songs of God. And the sons of Jeduthun were stationed at the gate. ⁴³Then all the people departed for their homes, and David returned home to bless his household.

Chapter 17

GOD’S COVENANT WITH DAVID

¹After David had settled into his palace, he said to Nathan the prophet, “Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of the covenant of the LORD is under a tent.” ²And Nathan replied to David, “Do all that is in your heart, for God is with you.” ³But that night the word of God came to Nathan, saying, ⁴“Go and tell My servant David that this is what the LORD says: You are not the one to build Me a house in which to dwell. ⁵For I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought Israel up out of Egypt until this day, but I have moved from tent to tent and dwelling to dwelling. ⁶In all My journeys with all the Israelites, have I ever asked any of the leaders I appointed to shepherd My people, ‘Why haven’t you built Me a house of cedar?’ ⁷Now then, you are to tell My servant David that this is what the LORD of Hosts says: I took you from the pasture, from following the flock, to be the ruler over My people Israel. ⁸I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make for you a name like that of the greatest in the land. ⁹And I will provide a place for My people Israel and will plant them so that they may dwell in a place of their own and be disturbed no more. No longer will the sons of wickedness oppress them as they did at the beginning ¹⁰and have done since the day I appointed judges over My people Israel.

And I will subdue all your enemies. Moreover, I declare to you that the LORD will build a house for you. ¹¹And when your days are fulfilled and you go to be with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹²He will build a house for Me, and I will establish his throne forever. ¹³I will be his Father, and he will be My son. And I will never remove My loving devotion from him as I removed it from your predecessor. ¹⁴But I will set him over My house and My kingdom forever, and his throne will be established forever.” ¹⁵So Nathan relayed to David all the words of this entire revelation.

DAVID’S PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

¹⁶Then King David went in, sat before the LORD, and said, “Who am I, O LORD God, and what is my house, that You have brought me this far? ¹⁷And as if this was a small thing in Your eyes, O God, You have spoken about the future of the house of Your servant and have regarded me as a man of great distinction, O LORD God. ¹⁸What more can David say to You for honoring Your servant? For You know Your servant, ¹⁹O LORD. For the sake of Your servant and according to Your own heart, You have accomplished this great thing and made known all these great promises. ²⁰O LORD, there is none like You, and there is no God but You, according to everything we have heard with our own ears. ²¹And who is like Your people Israel—the one nation on earth whom God went out to redeem as a people for Himself? You made a name for Yourself through great and awesome wonders by driving out nations from before Your people, whom You redeemed from Egypt. ²²For You have made Your people Israel Your very own forever, and You, O LORD, have become their God. ²³And now, O LORD, let the word You have spoken concerning Your servant and his house be established forever. Do as You have promised, ²⁴so that Your name will be established and magnified forever when it is said, ‘The LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, is God over Israel.’ And may the house of Your servant David be established before You. ²⁵For You, my God, have revealed to Your servant that You will build a house for him. Therefore Your servant has found the courage to pray before You. ²⁶And now, O LORD, You are God! And You have promised this goodness to Your servant. ²⁷So now You have been pleased to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue forever before You. For You, O LORD, have blessed it, and it will be blessed forever.”

Chapter 18

DAVID'S TRIUMPHS

¹Some time later, David defeated the Philistines, subdued them, and took Gath and its villages from the hand of the Philistines. ²David also defeated the Moabites, and they became subject to David and brought him tribute. ³As far as Hamath, David also defeated King Hadadezer of Zobah, who had marched out to establish his dominion along the Euphrates River. ⁴David captured from him a thousand chariots, seven thousand charioteers, and twenty thousand foot soldiers, and he hamstrung all the horses except a hundred he kept for the chariots. ⁵When the Arameans of Damascus came to help King Hadadezer of Zobah, David struck down twenty-two thousand of their men. ⁶Then he placed garrisons in Aram of Damascus, and the Arameans became subject to David and brought him tribute. So the LORD made David victorious wherever he went. ⁷And David took the gold shields that belonged to the officers of Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem. ⁸And from Tibhath and Cun, cities of Hadadezer, David took a large amount of bronze, with which Solomon made the bronze Sea, the pillars, and various bronze articles. ⁹When King Tou of Hamath heard that David had defeated the entire army of Hadadezer king of Zobah, ¹⁰he sent his son Hadoram to greet King David and bless him for fighting and defeating Hadadezer, who had been at war with Tou. Hadoram brought all kinds of articles of gold and silver and bronze, ¹¹and King David dedicated these to the LORD, along with the silver and gold he had carried off from all these nations—from Edom and Moab, and from the Ammonites, Philistines, and Amalekites. ¹²Moreover, Abishai son of Zeruiah struck down eighteen thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt. ¹³He placed garrisons in Edom, and all the Edomites were subject to David. So the LORD made David victorious wherever he went.

DAVID'S OFFICERS

¹⁴Thus David reigned over all Israel and administered justice and righteousness for all his people: ¹⁵Joab son of Zeruiah was over the army; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was the recorder; ¹⁶Zadok son of Ahitub and Ahimelech son of Abiathar were priests; Shavsha was the scribe; ¹⁷Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and Pelethites; and David's sons were chief officials at the king's side.

Chapter 19

DAVID'S MESSENGERS DISGRACED

¹Some time later, Nahash king of the Ammonites died and was succeeded by his son. ²And David said, "I will show kindness to Hanun son of Nahash, because his father showed kindness to me." So David sent messengers to console Hanun concerning his father. But when David's servants arrived in the land of the Ammonites to console him, ³the princes of the Ammonites said to Hanun, "Just because David has sent you comforters, do you really believe he is showing respect for your father? Have not his servants come to you to explore the land, spy it out, and overthrow it?" ⁴So Hanun took David's servants, shaved their beards, cut off their garments at the hips, and sent them away. ⁵When someone came and told David about his men, he sent messengers to meet them, since the men had been thoroughly humiliated. The king told them, "Stay in Jericho until your beards have grown back, and then return." ⁶When the Ammonites realized that they had become a stench to David, Hanun and the Ammonites sent a thousand talents of silver to hire for themselves chariots and horsemen from Aram-naharaim, Aram-maacah, and Zobah. ⁷So they hired for themselves thirty-two thousand chariots, as well as the king of Maacah with his troops, who came and camped near Medeba while the Ammonites were mustered from their cities and marched out for battle. ⁸On hearing this, David sent Joab and the entire army of mighty men. ⁹The Ammonites marched out and arrayed themselves for battle at the entrance to the city, while the kings who had come stayed by themselves in the open country.

DAVID DEFEATS AMMON AND ARAM

¹⁰When Joab saw the battle lines before him and behind him, he selected some of the best men of Israel and arrayed them against the Arameans. ¹¹And he placed the rest of the troops under the command of his brother Abishai, who arrayed them against the Ammonites. ¹²"If the Arameans are too strong for me," said Joab, "then you will come to my rescue. And if the Ammonites are too strong for you, then I will come to your rescue." ¹³Be strong and let us fight bravely for our people and for the cities of our God. May the LORD do what is good in His sight." ¹⁴So Joab and his troops advanced to fight the Arameans, who fled before him. ¹⁵When the Ammonites saw that the Arameans had fled, they too fled before Joab's brother Abishai, and they entered the city. So Joab went back to Jerusalem. ¹⁶When the Arameans saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they sent messengers to bring more Arameans from be-

yond the Euphrates, with Shophach the commander of Hadadezer's army leading them. ¹⁷When this was reported to David, he gathered all Israel, crossed the Jordan, advanced toward the Arameans, and arrayed for battle against them. When David lined up to engage them in battle, they fought against him. ¹⁸But the Arameans fled before Israel, and David killed seven thousand of their charioteers and forty thousand foot soldiers. He also killed Shophach the commander of their army. ¹⁹When Hadadezer's subjects saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they made peace with David and became subject to him. So the Arameans were unwilling to help the Ammonites anymore.

Chapter 20

THE CAPTURE OF RABBAH

¹In the spring, at the time when kings march out to war, Joab led out the army and ravaged the land of the Ammonites. He came to Rabbah and besieged it, but David remained in Jerusalem. And Joab attacked Rabbah and demolished it. ²Then David took the crown from the head of their king. It was found to weigh a talent of gold and was set with precious stones, and it was placed on David's head. And David took a great amount of plunder from the city. ³David brought out the people who were there and put them to work with saws, iron picks, and axes. And he did the same to all the Ammonite cities. Then David and all his troops returned to Jerusalem.

BATTLES AGAINST THE PHILISTINES

⁴Some time later, war broke out with the Philistines at Gezer. At that time Sibbecai the Hushathite killed Sippai, a descendant of the Rephaim, and the Philistines were subdued. ⁵Once again there was a battle with the Philistines, and Elhanan son of Jair killed Lahmi the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. ⁶And there was also a battle at Gath, where there was a man of great stature with six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot—twenty-four in all. He too was descended from Rapha, ⁷and when he taunted Israel, Jonathan the son of David's brother Shimei killed him. ⁸So these descendants of Rapha in Gath fell at the hands of David and his servants.

Chapter 21

DAVID'S MILITARY CENSUS

¹Then Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel. ²So David said to Joab and the com-

manders of the troops, "Go and count the Israelites from Beersheba to Dan and bring me a report, so that I may know their number." ³But Joab replied, "May the LORD multiply His troops a hundred times over. My lord the king, are they not all servants of my lord? Why does my lord want to do this? Why should he bring guilt on Israel?" ⁴Nevertheless, the king's word prevailed against Joab. So Joab departed and traveled throughout Israel, and then he returned to Jerusalem. ⁵And Joab reported to David the total number of the troops. In all Israel there were 1,100,000 men who drew the sword, including 470,000 in Judah. ⁶But Joab did not include Levi and Benjamin in the count, because the king's command was detestable to him.

JUDGMENT FOR DAVID'S SIN

⁷This command was also evil in the sight of God; so He struck Israel. ⁸Then David said to God, "I have sinned greatly because I have done this thing. Now I beg You to take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have acted very foolishly." ⁹And the LORD instructed Gad, David's seer, ¹⁰"Go and tell David that this is what the LORD says: 'I am offering you three options. Choose one of them, and I will carry it out against you.'" ¹¹So Gad went and said to David, "This is what the LORD says: 'You must choose ¹²between three years of famine, three months of being swept away before your enemies and overtaken by their swords, or three days of the sword of the LORD—days of plague upon the land, with the angel of the LORD ravaging every part of Israel.' Now then, decide how I should reply to Him who sent me." ¹³David answered Gad, "I am deeply distressed. Please, let me fall into the hand of the LORD, for His mercies are very great; but do not let me fall into the hands of men."

A PLAGUE ON ISRAEL

¹⁴So the LORD sent a plague upon Israel, and seventy thousand men of Israel fell dead. ¹⁵Then God sent an angel to destroy Jerusalem, but as the angel was doing so, the LORD saw it and relented from the calamity, and He said to the angel who was destroying the people, "Enough! Withdraw your hand now!" At that time the angel of the LORD was standing by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ¹⁶When David lifted up his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between heaven and earth, with a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem, David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell facedown. ¹⁷And David said to God, "Was it not I who gave the order to count the people? I am the one who has sinned and acted wickedly. But these sheep, what have they done? O LORD my God, please let Your hand fall upon me and my

father's house, but do not let this plague remain upon Your people."

DAVID BUILDS AN ALTAR

¹⁸Then the angel of the LORD ordered Gad to tell David to go up and build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ¹⁹So David went up at the word that Gad had spoken in the name of the LORD. ²⁰Now Ornan was threshing wheat when he turned and saw the angel; and his four sons who were with him hid themselves. ²¹David came to Ornan, and when Ornan looked out and saw David, he left the threshing floor and bowed facedown before David. ²²Then David said to Ornan, "Grant me the site of this threshing floor, that I may build an altar to the LORD. Sell it to me for the full price, so that the plague upon the people may be halted." ²³Ornan said to David, "Take it! May my lord the king do whatever seems good to him. Look, I will give the oxen for the burnt offerings, the threshing sledges for the wood, and the wheat for the grain offering—I will give it all." ²⁴"No," replied King David, "I insist on paying the full price, for I will not take for the LORD what belongs to you, nor will I offer burnt offerings that cost me nothing." ²⁵So David paid Ornan six hundred shekels of gold for the site. ²⁶And there he built an altar to the LORD and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. He called upon the LORD, who answered him with fire from heaven on the altar of burnt offering. ²⁷Then the LORD spoke to the angel, who put his sword back into its sheath. ²⁸At that time, when David saw that the LORD had answered him at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, he offered sacrifices there. ²⁹For the tabernacle of the LORD that Moses had made in the wilderness and the altar of burnt offering were presently at the high place in Gibeon, ³⁰but David could not go before it to inquire of God, because he was afraid of the sword of the angel of the LORD.

Chapter 22

PREPARATIONS FOR THE TEMPLE

¹Then David said, "Here shall be the house of the LORD God, as well as the altar of burnt offering for Israel." ²So David gave orders to gather the foreigners in the land of Israel, from whom he appointed stonecutters to prepare finished stones for building the house of God. ³David provided a large quantity of iron to make the nails for the doors of the gateways and for the fittings, together with more bronze than could be weighed ⁴and more cedar logs than could be counted; for the Sidonians and Tyrians had brought a large quantity of cedar logs to David. ⁵And David

said, "My son Solomon is young and inexperienced, and the house to be built for the LORD must be exceedingly magnificent—famous and glorious throughout all lands. Therefore I must make preparations for it." So David made lavish preparations before his death.

SOLOMON ANOINTED TO BUILD THE TEMPLE

⁶Then David called for his son Solomon and instructed him to build a house for the LORD, the God of Israel. ⁷"My son," said David to Solomon, "it was in my heart to build a house for the Name of the LORD my God, ⁸but this word of the LORD came to me: 'You have shed much blood and waged great wars. You are not to build a house for My Name because you have shed so much blood on the ground before Me. ⁹But a son will be born to you who will be a man of rest. I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side; for his name will be Solomon, and I will grant to Israel peace and quiet during his reign. ¹⁰He is the one who will build a house for My Name. He will be My son, and I will be his Father. And I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.' ¹¹Now, my son, may the LORD be with you, and may you succeed in building the house of the LORD your God, as He said you would. ¹²Above all, may the LORD give you insight and understanding when He puts you in command over Israel, so that you may keep the Law of the LORD your God. ¹³Then you will succeed, if you carefully follow the statutes and ordinances that the LORD commanded Moses for Israel. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged. ¹⁴Now behold, I have taken great pains to provide for the house of the LORD—100,000 talents of gold, 1,000,000 talents of silver, and bronze and iron too great to be weighed. I have also provided timber and stone, and you may add to them. ¹⁵You also have many workers: stonecutters, masons, carpenters, and men skilled in every kind of work— ¹⁶in gold and silver, bronze and iron—craftsmen beyond number. Now begin the work, and may the LORD be with you." ¹⁷Then David ordered all the leaders of Israel to help his son Solomon: ¹⁸"Is not the LORD your God with you, and has He not granted you rest on every side? For He has given the inhabitants of the land into my hand, and the land has been subdued before the LORD and His people. ¹⁹Now set your heart and soul to seek the LORD your God. Begin building the sanctuary of the LORD God, so that you may bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD and the holy articles of God into the temple that will be built for the Name of the LORD."

Chapter 23

THE DIVISIONS OF THE LEVITES

¹When David was old and full of years, he installed his son Solomon as king over Israel. ²Then he gathered all the leaders of Israel, as well as the priests and Levites. ³The Levites thirty years of age or older were counted, and the total number of men was 38,000. ⁴“Of these,” said David, “24,000 are to oversee the work of the house of the LORD, 6,000 are to be officers and judges, ⁵4,000 are to be gatekeepers, and 4,000 are to praise the LORD with the instruments I have made for giving praise.” ⁶Then David divided the Levites into divisions according to the sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

THE GERSHONITES

⁷The Gershonites: Ladan and Shimei. ⁸The sons of Ladan: Jehiel the first, Zetham, and Joel—three in all. ⁹The sons of Shimei: Shelomoth, Haziël, and Haran—three in all. These were the heads of the families of Ladan. ¹⁰And the sons of Shimei: Jahath, Zina, Jeush, and Beriah. These were the sons of Shimei—four in all. ¹¹Jahath was the first and Zizah was the second; but Jeush and Beriah did not have many sons, so they were counted as one family and received a single assignment.

THE KOHATHITES

¹²The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel—four in all. ¹³The sons of Amram: Aaron and Moses. Aaron and his descendants were set apart forever to consecrate the most holy things, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister before Him, and to pronounce blessings in His name forever. ¹⁴As for Moses the man of God, his sons were named among the tribe of Levi. ¹⁵The sons of Moses: Gershom and Eliezer. ¹⁶The descendants of Gershom: Shebuel was the first. ¹⁷The descendants of Eliezer: Rehabiah was the first. Eliezer did not have any other sons, but the sons of Rehabiah were very numerous. ¹⁸The sons of Izhar: Shelomith was the first. ¹⁹The sons of Hebron: Jeriah was the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth. ²⁰The sons of Uzziel: Micah was the first and Isshiah the second.

THE MERARITES

²¹The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Mahli: Eleazar and Kish. ²²Eleazar died without having any sons; he had only daughters. Their cousins, the sons of Kish, married them. ²³The sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder, and Jeremoth—three in all.

LEVITE DUTIES REVISED

²⁴These were the descendants of Levi by their families—the heads of families, registered individually by name—those twenty years of age or older who worked in the service of the house of the LORD. ²⁵For David had said, “The LORD, the God of Israel, has given rest to His people and has come to dwell in Jerusalem forever. ²⁶So now the Levites no longer need to carry the tabernacle or any of the articles for its service.” ²⁷For according to the final instructions of David, the Levites twenty years of age or older were counted, ²⁸but their duty was to assist the descendants of Aaron with the service of the house of the LORD, being responsible for the courts and chambers, the purification of all the holy things, and the work of the service of the house of God, ²⁹as well as for the rows of the showbread, the fine flour for the grain offering, the wafers of unleavened bread, the baking, the mixing, and all measurements of quantity and size. ³⁰They were also to stand every morning to give thanks and praise to the LORD, and likewise in the evening. ³¹Whenever burnt offerings were presented to the LORD on the Sabbaths, New Moons, and appointed feasts, they were to serve regularly before the LORD in the numbers prescribed for them. ³²So the Levites were to carry out the responsibilities for the Tent of Meeting and the Holy Place, and, under their brothers the descendants of Aaron, the service of the house of the LORD.

Chapter 24

TWENTY-FOUR DIVISIONS OF PRIESTS

¹These were the divisions of the descendants of Aaron. The sons of Aaron were Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. ²But Nadab and Abihu died before their father did, and they had no sons; so Eleazar and Ithamar served as priests. ³With the help of Eleazar’s descendant Zadok and Ithamar’s descendant Ahimelech, David divided them according to the offices of their service. ⁴Since more leaders were found among Eleazar’s descendants than those of Ithamar, they were divided accordingly. There were sixteen heads of families from the descendants of Eleazar and eight from the descendants of Ithamar. ⁵Thus they were divided by lot, for there were officers of the sanctuary and officers of God among both Eleazar’s and Ithamar’s descendants. ⁶The scribe, Shemaiah son of Nethanel, a Levite, recorded their names in the presence of the king and of the officers: Zadok the priest, Ahimelech son of Abiathar, and the heads of families of the priests and the Levites—one family being taken from Eleazar, and then one from Ithamar. ⁷The first lot fell to Jehoiarib, the second to Jedaiah, ⁸the third to Harim, the fourth to Seorim, ⁹the fifth to Malchijah, the

sixth to Mijamin, ¹⁰the seventh to Hakkoz, the eighth to Abijah, ¹¹the ninth to Jeshua, the tenth to Shecaniah, ¹²the eleventh to Eliashib, the twelfth to Jakim, ¹³the thirteenth to Huppah, the fourteenth to Jeshebeab, ¹⁴the fifteenth to Bilgah, the sixteenth to Immer, ¹⁵the seventeenth to Hezir, the eighteenth to Happizzez, ¹⁶the nineteenth to Pethahiah, the twentieth to Jehezkel, ¹⁷the twenty-first to Jachin, the twenty-second to Gamul, ¹⁸the twenty-third to Delaiah, and the twenty-fourth to Maaziah. ¹⁹This was their appointed order for service when they entered the house of the LORD, according to the regulations prescribed for them by their forefather Aaron, as the LORD, the God of Israel, had commanded him.

THE REST OF THE LEVITES

²⁰Now these were the rest of the descendants of Levi: From the sons of Amram: Shubael; from the sons of Shubael: Jehdeiah. ²¹As for Rehabiah, from his sons: The first was Isshiah. ²²From the Izharites: Shelomoth; from the sons of Shelomoth: Jahath. ²³From the sons of Hebron: Jeriah was the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth. ²⁴From the sons of Uzziel: Micah; from the sons of Micah: Shamir. ²⁵The brother of Micah: Isshiah; from the sons of Isshiah: Zechariah. ²⁶The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The son of Jaaziah: Beno. ²⁷The descendants of Merari from Jaaziah: Beno, Shoham, Zaccur, and Ibri. ²⁸From Mahli: Eleazar, who had no sons. ²⁹From Kish: Jerahmeel the son of Kish. ³⁰And the sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder, and Jerimoth. These were the sons of the Levites, according to their families. ³¹As their brothers the descendants of Aaron did, they also cast lots in the presence of King David and of Zadok, Ahimelech, and the heads of the families of the priests and Levites—the family heads and their younger brothers alike.

Chapter 25

TWENTY-FOUR DIVISIONS OF MUSICIANS

¹Additionally, David and the commanders of the army set apart some of the sons of Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun to prophesy with the accompaniment of lyres, harps, and cymbals. The following is the list of the men who performed this service: ²From the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah, and Asarelah. These sons of Asaph were under the direction of Asaph, who prophesied under the direction of the king. ³From the sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiiah, Shimei, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah—six in all—under the direction of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied with the harp, giving thanks and praise to the LORD. ⁴From the sons of Heman:

Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel, Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, Romamti-ezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth. ⁵All these sons of Heman the king's seer were given him through the promises of God to exalt him, for God had given Heman fourteen sons and three daughters. ⁶All these were under the direction of their fathers for the music of the house of the LORD with cymbals, harps, and lyres, for the service of the house of God. Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman were under the direction of the king. ⁷Together with their relatives, who were all trained and skillful in the songs of the LORD, they numbered 288. ⁸They cast lots for their duties, young and old alike, teacher as well as pupil. ⁹The first lot, which was for Asaph, fell to Joseph, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; the second to Gedaliah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹⁰the third to Zaccur, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹¹the fourth to Izri, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹²the fifth to Nethaniah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹³the sixth to Bukkiah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹⁴the seventh to Jesarelah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹⁵the eighth to Jeshaiiah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹⁶the ninth to Mattaniah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹⁷the tenth to Shimei, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹⁸the eleventh to Azarel, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ¹⁹the twelfth to Hashabiah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²⁰the thirteenth to Shubael, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²¹the fourteenth to Mattithiah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²²the fifteenth to Jeremoth, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²³the sixteenth to Hananiah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²⁴the seventeenth to Joshbekashah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²⁵the eighteenth to Hanani, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²⁶the nineteenth to Mallothi, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²⁷the twentieth to Eliathah, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²⁸the twenty-first to Hothir, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ²⁹the twenty-second to Giddalti, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ³⁰the twenty-third to Mahazioth, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all; ³¹and the twenty-fourth to Romamti-ezer, his sons, and his brothers—12 in all.

Chapter 26

THE DIVISIONS OF THE GATEKEEPERS

¹These were the divisions of the gatekeepers: From the Korahites: Meshelemiah son of Kore, one of the sons of Asaph. ²Meshelemiah had sons: Zechariah the firstborn, Jediel the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth, ³Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, and Eliehoenai the seventh. ⁴And Obed-edom also had sons: Shemaiah the

firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, Sachar the fourth, Nethanel the fifth, ⁵Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, and Peullethai the eighth. For God had blessed Obed-edom. ⁶Also to his son Shemaiah were born sons who ruled over their families because they were strong, capable men. ⁷Shemaiah's sons were Othni, Rephael, Obed, and Elzabad; his brothers were Elihu and Semachiah, also capable men. ⁸All these were descendants of Obed-edom; they and their sons and brothers were capable men with strength to do the work—62 in all from Obed-edom. ⁹Meshelemiah also had sons and brothers who were capable men—18 in all. ¹⁰Hosah the Merarite also had sons: Shimri the first (although he was not the firstborn, his father had appointed him as the first), ¹¹Hilkiah the second, Tebaliah the third, and Zechariah the fourth. The sons and brothers of Hosah numbered 13 in all. ¹²These divisions of the gatekeepers, through their chief men, had duties for ministering in the house of the LORD, just as their relatives did. ¹³They cast lots for each gate, according to their families, young and old alike. ¹⁴The lot for the East Gate fell to Shelemiah. Then lots were cast for his son Zechariah, a wise counselor, and the lot for the North Gate fell to him. ¹⁵The lot for the South Gate fell to Obed-edom, and the lot for the storehouses to his sons. ¹⁶The lots for the West Gate and the Shallecheth Gate on the ascending highway fell to Shuppim and Hosah. There were guards stationed at every watch. ¹⁷Each day there were six Levites on the east, four on the north, four on the south, and two pairs at the storehouse. ¹⁸As for the court on the west, there were four at the highway and two at the court. ¹⁹These were the divisions of the gatekeepers who were descendants of Korah and Merari.

THE TREASURERS, OFFICERS, AND JUDGES

²⁰Now their fellow Levites were in charge of the treasuries of the house of God and the treasuries of the dedicated things. ²¹From the descendants of Ladan, who were Gershonites through Ladan and heads of the families of Ladan the Gershonite, were Jehieli, ²²the sons of Jehieli, Zetham, and his brother Joel. They were in charge of the treasuries of the house of the LORD. ²³From the Amramites, the Izharites, the Hebronites, and the Uzzielites: ²⁴Shebuel, a descendant of Gershom son of Moses, was the officer in charge of the treasuries. ²⁵His relatives through Eliezer included Rehabiah his son, Jeshaiah his son, Joram his son, Zichri his son, and Shelomith his son. ²⁶This Shelomith and his brothers were in charge of all the treasuries for the things dedicated by King David, by the heads of families who were the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and by the army commanders.

²⁷They had dedicated some of the plunder from their battles to the repair of the house of the LORD. ²⁸Everything that had been dedicated by Samuel the seer, Saul son of Kish, Abner son of Ner, and Joab son of Zeruiah, along with everything else that was dedicated, was under the care of Shelomith and his brothers. ²⁹From the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons had the outside duties as officers and judges over Israel. ³⁰From the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his relatives, 1,700 capable men, had charge of the affairs of Israel west of the Jordan for all the work of the LORD and for the service of the king. ³¹As for the Hebronites, Jerijah was the chief of the Hebronites, according to the genealogies of his ancestors. In the fortieth year of David's reign the records were searched, and strong, capable men were found among the Hebronites at Jazer in Gilead. ³²Among Jerijah's relatives there were 2,700 capable men who were heads of families. King David appointed them over the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh for every matter pertaining to God and for the affairs of the king.

Chapter 27

TWELVE CAPTAINS FOR TWELVE MONTHS

¹This is the list of the Israelites—the heads of families, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and their officers who served the king in every matter concerning the divisions on rotating military duty each month throughout the year. There were 24,000 men in each division: ²Jashobeam son of Zabdiel was in charge of the first division, which was assigned the first month. There were 24,000 men in his division. ³He was a descendant of Perez and chief of all the army commanders for the first month. ⁴Dodai the Ahohite was in charge of the division for the second month, and Mikloth was the leader. There were 24,000 men in his division. ⁵The third army commander, as chief for the third month, was Benaiah son of Jehoiada the priest. There were 24,000 men in his division. ⁶This Benaiah was mighty among the Thirty and was over the Thirty, and his son Ammizabad was in charge of his division. ⁷The fourth, for the fourth month, was Joab's brother Asahel, and his son Zebadiah was commander after him. There were 24,000 men in his division. ⁸The fifth, for the fifth month, was the commander Shamhuth the Izrahite. There were 24,000 men in his division. ⁹The sixth, for the sixth month, was Ira son of Ikkeish the Tekoite. There were 24,000 men in his division. ¹⁰The seventh, for the seventh month, was Helez the Pelonite, an Ephraimite. There were 24,000 men in his division. ¹¹The eighth, for the eighth month, was Sibbecai the Hushathite, a Zerahite. There

were 24,000 men in his division. ¹²The ninth, for the ninth month, was Abiezer the Anathothite, a Benjamite. There were 24,000 men in his division. ¹³The tenth, for the tenth month, was Maharai the Netophathite, a Zerahite. There were 24,000 men in his division. ¹⁴The eleventh, for the eleventh month, was Benaiah the Pirathonite, an Ephraimite. There were 24,000 men in his division. ¹⁵The twelfth, for the twelfth month, was Heldai the Netophathite, from the family of Othniel. There were 24,000 men in his division.

THE LEADERS OF THE TWELVE TRIBES

¹⁶These officers were in charge of the tribes of Israel: Over the Reubenites was Eliezer son of Zichri; over the Simeonites was Shephatiah son of Maacah; ¹⁷over Levi was Hashabiah son of Kemuel; over Aaron was Zadok; ¹⁸over Judah was Elihu, one of David's brothers; over Issachar was Omri son of Michael; ¹⁹over Zebulun was Ishmaiah son of Obadiah; over Naphtali was Jerimoth son of Azriel; ²⁰over the Ephraimites was Hoshea son of Azaziah; over one of the half-tribes of Manasseh was Joel son of Pedaiiah; ²¹over the half-tribe of Manasseh in Gilead was Iddo son of Zechariah; over Benjamin was Jaasiel son of Abner; ²²and over Dan was Azarel son of Jeroham. These were the leaders of the tribes of Israel. ²³David did not count the men aged twenty or under, because the LORD had said that He would make Israel as numerous as the stars of the sky. ²⁴Joab son of Zeruiah began to count the men but did not finish. For because of this census wrath came upon Israel, and the number was not entered in the Book of the Chronicles of King David.

DAVID'S VARIOUS OVERSEERS

²⁵Azmaveth son of Adiel was in charge of the royal storehouses. Jonathan son of Uzziah was in charge of the storehouses in the country, in the cities, in the villages, and in the fortresses. ²⁶Ezri son of Chelub was in charge of the workers in the fields who tilled the soil. ²⁷Shimei the Ramathite was in charge of the vineyards. Zabdi the Shiphmite was in charge of the produce of the vineyards for the wine vats. ²⁸Baal-hanan the Gederite was in charge of the olive and sycamore trees in the foothills. Joash was in charge of the stores of olive oil. ²⁹Shitrai the Sharonite was in charge of the herds grazing in Sharon. Shaphat son of Adlai was in charge of the herds in the valleys. ³⁰Obil the Ishmaelite was in charge of the camels. Jehdeiah the Meronothite was in charge of the donkeys. ³¹Jaziz the Hagrite was in charge of the flocks. All these officials were in charge of King David's property.

THE COUNSELORS

³²David's uncle Jonathan was a counselor; he was a man of insight and a scribe. Jehiel son of Hachmoni attended to the sons of the king. ³³Ahithophel was the king's counselor. Hushai the Archite was the king's friend. ³⁴Ahithophel was succeeded by Jehoiada son of Benaiah, then by Abiathar. Joab was the commander of the king's army.

Chapter 28

DAVID COMMISSIONS SOLOMON

¹Now David summoned all the leaders of Israel to Jerusalem: the leaders of the tribes, the leaders of the divisions in the king's service, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and the officials in charge of all the property and cattle of the king and his sons, along with the court officials and mighty men—every mighty man of valor. ²Then King David rose to his feet and said, "Listen to me, my brothers and my people. It was in my heart to build a house as a resting place for the ark of the covenant of the LORD and as a footstool for our God. I had made preparations to build it, ³but God said to me, 'You are not to build a house for My Name, because you are a man of war who has shed blood.' ⁴Yet the LORD, the God of Israel, chose me out of all my father's house to be king over Israel forever. For He chose Judah as leader, and from the house of Judah He chose my father's household, and from my father's sons He was pleased to make me king over all Israel. ⁵And of all my sons—for the LORD has given me many sons—He has chosen Solomon my son to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel. ⁶And He said to me, 'Solomon your son is the one who will build My house and My courts, for I have chosen him as My son, and I will be his Father. ⁷I will establish his kingdom forever, if he resolutely carries out My commandments and ordinances, as is being done this day.' ⁸So now in the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the LORD, and in the hearing of our God, keep and seek out all the commandments of the LORD your God, so that you may possess this good land and leave it as an inheritance to your descendants forever. ⁹As for you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father and serve Him wholeheartedly and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches every heart and understands the intent of every thought. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever. ¹⁰Consider now that the LORD has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary. Be strong and do it."

THE PLANS FOR THE TEMPLE

¹¹Then David gave his son Solomon the plans for the portico of the temple, its buildings, storehouses, upper rooms, inner rooms, and the room for the mercy seat. ¹²The plans contained everything David had in mind for the courts of the house of the LORD, for all the surrounding rooms, for the treasuries of the house of God and of the dedicated things, ¹³for the divisions of the priests and Levites, for all the work of service in the house of the LORD, and for all the articles of service in the house of the LORD: ¹⁴the weight of all the gold articles for every kind of service; the weight of all the silver articles for every kind of service; ¹⁵the weight of the gold lampstands and their lamps, including the weight of each lampstand and its lamps; the weight of each silver lampstand and its lamps, according to the use of each lampstand; ¹⁶the weight of gold for each table of showbread, and of silver for the silver tables; ¹⁷the weight of the pure gold for the forks, sprinkling bowls, and pitchers; the weight of each gold dish; the weight of each silver bowl; ¹⁸the weight of the refined gold for the altar of incense; and the plans for the chariot of the gold cherubim that spread their wings and overshadowed the ark of the covenant of the LORD. ¹⁹“All this,” said David, “all the details of this plan, the LORD has made clear to me in writing by His hand upon me.” ²⁰David also said to Solomon his son, “Be strong and courageous, and do it. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will neither fail you nor forsake you before all the work for the service of the house of the LORD is finished. ²¹The divisions of the priests and Levites are ready for all the service of the house of God, and every willing man of every skill will be at your disposal for the work. The officials and all the people are fully at your command.”

Chapter 29

OFFERINGS FOR THE TEMPLE

¹Then King David said to the whole assembly, “My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great because this palace is not for man, but for the LORD God. ²Now with all my ability I have made provision for the house of my God—gold for the gold articles, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron, and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, all kinds of precious stones, and slabs of marble—all in abundance. ³Moreover, because of my delight in the house of my God, I now give for it my personal treasures of gold and silver, over and above all that I have provided for this holy temple: ⁴three thousand talents of gold (the gold of Ophir)

and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the buildings, ⁵for the gold work and the silver work, and for all the work to be done by the craftsmen. Now who is willing to consecrate himself to the LORD today?” ⁶Then the leaders of the families, the officers of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and the officials in charge of the king’s work gave willingly. ⁷Toward the service of God’s house they gave 5,000 talents and 10,000 darics of gold, 10,000 talents of silver, 18,000 talents of bronze, and 100,000 talents of iron. ⁸Whoever had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the LORD, under the care of Jehiel the Gershonite. ⁹And the people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given to the LORD freely and wholeheartedly. And King David also rejoiced greatly.

DAVID’S PRAYER OF BLESSING

¹⁰Then David blessed the LORD in the sight of all the assembly and said: “May You be blessed, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. ¹¹Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the splendor and the majesty, for everything in heaven and on earth belongs to You. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom, and You are exalted as head over all. ¹²Both riches and honor come from You, and You are the ruler over all. In Your hands are power and might to exalt and give strength to all. ¹³Now therefore, our God, we give You thanks, and we praise Your glorious name. ¹⁴But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? For everything comes from You, and from Your own hand we have given to You. ¹⁵For we are foreigners and strangers in Your presence, as were all our forefathers. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. ¹⁶O LORD our God, from Your hand comes all this abundance that we have provided to build You a house for Your holy Name, and all of it belongs to You. ¹⁷I know, my God, that You test the heart and delight in uprightness. All these things I have given willingly and with an upright heart, and now I have seen Your people who are present here giving joyfully and willingly to You. ¹⁸O LORD, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, keep this desire forever in the intentions of the hearts of Your people, and direct their hearts toward You. ¹⁹And give my son Solomon a whole heart to keep and carry out all Your commandments, decrees, and statutes, and to build Your palace for which I have made provision.” ²⁰Then David said to the whole assembly, “Bless the LORD your God.” So the whole assembly blessed the LORD, the God of their fathers. They bowed down and paid homage to the LORD and to the king.

SOLOMON ANOINTED KING

²¹The next day they offered sacrifices and presented burnt offerings to the LORD: a thousand bulls, a thousand rams, and a thousand lambs, along with their drink offerings, and other sacrifices in abundance for all Israel. ²²That day they ate and drank with great joy in the presence of the LORD. Then, for a second time, they designated David's son Solomon as king, anointing him before the LORD as ruler, and Zadok as the priest. ²³So Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king in place of his father David. He prospered, and all Israel obeyed him. ²⁴All the officials and mighty men, as well as all of King David's sons, pledged their allegiance to King Solomon. ²⁵The LORD highly exalted Solomon in the sight of all Israel and bestowed on him

royal majesty such as had not been bestowed on any king in Israel before him.

DAVID'S REIGN AND DEATH

²⁶David son of Jesse was king over all Israel. ²⁷The length of David's reign over Israel was forty years—seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. ²⁸He died at a ripe old age, full of years, riches, and honor, and his son Solomon reigned in his place. ²⁹Now the acts of King David, from first to last, are indeed written in the Chronicles of Samuel the Seer, the Chronicles of Nathan the Prophet, and the Chronicles of Gad the Seer, ³⁰together with all the details of his reign, his might, and the circumstances that came upon him and Israel and all the kingdoms of the lands.