

## THE BOOK OF NĒ-HĒM-Ī-ĀH

### CHAPTER 1

THE words of Nē-hēm-ī-āh the son of Häch-ā-lī-āh. And it came to pass in the month Chīs-lēu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shū-shān the palace,

2 That Hā-nā-nī, one of my brethren, came, he and *certain* men of Jūd-āh; and I asked them concerning the Jēw's that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jē-rū-sā-lēm.

3 And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province *are* in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jē-rū-sā-lēm also *is* broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.

4 ¶ And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned *certain* days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven,

5 And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments:

6 Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Īs-rā-ēl thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Īs-rā-ēl, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.

7 We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Mō-šēs.

8 Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Mō-šēs, saying, *If* ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations:

9 But *if* ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.

10 Now these *are* thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand.

11 O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.

### CHAPTER 2

AND it came to pass in the month Nī-sān, in the twentieth year of Ār-tā-xērx-ēs the king, *that* wine was before him: and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had not been *beforetime* sad in his presence.

2 Wherefore the king said unto me, Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou *art* not sick? this is nothing *else* but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid,

3 And said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place

of my fathers' sepulchres, *lieth* waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?

4 Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.

5 And I said unto the king, If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Jūd-āh, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, that I may build it.

6 And the king said unto me, (the queen also sitting by him,) For how long shall thy journey be? and when wilt thou return? So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.

7 Moreover I said unto the king, If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Jūd-āh;

8 And a letter unto Ā-sāph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which *appertained* to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

9 ¶ Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me.

10 When Sān-bāl-lāt the Hôr-ōn-ite, and Tō-bī-āh the servant, the Ām-mōn-ite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Īs-rā-ēl.

11 So I came to Jē-rū-sā-lēm, and was there three days.

12 ¶ And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I *any* man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jē-rū-sā-lēm: neither *was there any* beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.

13 And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jē-rū-sā-lēm, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

14 Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: but *there was* no place for the beast *that was* under me to pass.

15 Then went I up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall, and turned back, and entered by the gate of the valley, and so returned.

16 And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told *it* to the Jēw's, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.

17 ¶ Then said I unto them, Ye see the distress that we *are* in, how Jē-rū-sā-lēm *lieth* waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jē-rū-sā-lēm, that we be no more a reproach.

18 Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto

me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for *this good work*.

19 But when Sān-bāl-lāt the Hôr-ōn-ite, and Tō-bī-āh the servant, the Ām-mōn-ite, and Gē-shēm the Ā-rā-bī-ān, heard *it*, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?

20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jē-rû-sā-lēm.

## CHAPTER 3

**T**HEN Ē-lī-āsh-īb the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests, and they builded the sheep gate; they sanctified it, and set up the doors of it; even unto the tower of Mē-āh they sanctified it, unto the tower of Hān-ā-neel.

2 And next unto him builded the men of Jēr-ī-chō. And next to them builded Zāc-cūr the son of Īm-rī.

3 But the fish gate did the sons of Hās-sē-nā-āh build, who also laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

4 And next unto them repaired Mēr-ē-mōth the son of Ū-rī-jāh, the son of Kōz. And next unto them repaired Mē-shūl-lām the son of Bēr-ē-chī-āh, the son of Mē-shēz-ā-beel. And next unto them repaired Zā-dōk the son of Bā-ā-nā.

5 And next unto them the Tē-kō-ites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their Lord.

6 Moreover the old gate repaired Jē-hōi-ā-dā the son of Pā-sē-āh, and Mē-shūl-lām the son of Bēs-ō-dēi-āh; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

7 And next unto them repaired Mēl-ā-tī-āh the Gīb-ē-ōn-ite, and Jā-dōn the Mē-rō-nō-thīte, the men of Gīb-ē-ōn, and of Mīz-pāh, unto the throne of the governor on this side the river.

8 Next unto him repaired Ūz-zī-ēl the son of Hār-hāi-āh, of the goldsmiths. Next unto him also repaired Hān-ā-nī-āh the son of *one* of the apothecaries, and they fortified Jē-rû-sā-lēm unto the broad wall.

9 And next unto them repaired Rē-phāi-āh the son of Hūr, the ruler of the half part of Jē-rû-sā-lēm.

10 And next unto them repaired Jē-dāi-āh the son of Hā-rû-māph, even over against his house. And next unto him repaired Hāt-tūsh the son of Hāsh-āb-nī-āh.

11 Māl-chī-jāh the son of Hār-īm, and Hāsh-ūb the son of Pā-hāth-mō-āb, repaired the other piece, and the tower of the furnaces.

12 And next unto him repaired Shāl-lūm the son of Hā-lō-hēsh, the ruler of the half part of Jē-rû-sā-lēm, he and his daughters.

13 The valley gate repaired Hā-nūn, and the inhabitants of Zā-nō-āh; they built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand cubits

on the wall unto the dung gate.

14 But the dung gate repaired Māl-chī-āh the son of Rē-chāb, the ruler of part of Bēth-hāc-cē-rēm; he built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

15 But the gate of the fountain repaired Shāl-lūn the son of Cōl-hō-zēh, the ruler of part of Mīz-pāh; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Sī-lō-āh by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of Dā-vīd.

16 After him repaired Nē-hēm-ī-āh the son of Āz-būk, the ruler of the half part of Bēth-zūr, unto *the place* over against the sepulchres of Dā-vīd, and to the pool that was made, and unto the house of the mighty.

17 After him repaired the Lē-vītes, Rē-hūm the son of Bā-nī. Next unto him repaired Hāsh-ā-bī-āh, the ruler of the half part of Kē-ī-lāh, in his part.

18 After him repaired their brethren, Bā-vā-ī the son of Hēn-ā-dād, the ruler of the half part of Kē-ī-lāh.

19 And next to him repaired Ē-zēr the son of Jēsh-ū-ā, the ruler of Mīz-pāh, another piece over against the going up to the armoury at the turning *of the wall*.

20 After him Bār-ūch the son of Zāb-bā-ī earnestly repaired the other piece, from the turning *of the wall* unto the door of the house of Ē-lī-āsh-īb the high priest.

21 After him repaired Mēr-ē-mōth the son of Ū-rī-jāh the son of Kōz another piece, from the door of the house of Ē-lī-āsh-īb even to the end of the house of Ē-lī-āsh-īb.

22 And after him repaired the priests, the men of the plain.

23 After him repaired Bēn-jā-mīn and Hāsh-ūb over against their house. After him repaired Āz-ā-rī-āh the son of Mā-ā-sei-āh the son of Ān-ā-nī-āh by his house.

24 After him repaired Bīn-nū-ī the son of Hēn-ā-dād another piece, from the house of Āz-ā-rī-āh unto the turning *of the wall*, even unto the corner.

25 Pā-lāl the son of Ū-zāi, over against the turning *of the wall*, and the tower which lieth out from the king's high house, that was by the court of the prison. After him Pē-dāi-āh the son of Pār-ōsh.

26 Moreover the Nēth-ī-nīms dwelt in Ō-phēl, unto *the place* over against the water gate toward the east, and the tower that lieth out.

27 After them the Tē-kō-ites repaired another piece, over against the great tower that lieth out, even unto the wall of Ō-phēl.

28 From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.

29 After them repaired Zā-dōk the son of Īm-mēr over against his house. After him repaired also Shēm-āi-āh the son of Shēch-ā-nī-āh, the keeper of the east gate.

30 After him repaired Hān-ā-nī-āh the son of Shēl-ē-mī-āh, and Hā-nūn the sixth son of Zā-lāph, another piece. After him repaired Mē-shūl-lām the son of Bēr-ē-chī-āh over against his chamber.

31 After him repaired Māl-chī-āh the goldsmith's son unto the place of the Nēth-ī-nīmś, and of the merchants, over against the gate Mīph-kād, and to the going up of the corner.

32 And between the going up of the corner unto the sheep gate repaired the goldsmiths and the merchants.

## CHAPTER 4

**B**UT it came to pass, that when Sān-bāl-lāt heard that we builded the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jēwś.

2 And he spake before his brethren and the army of Sā-mār-ī-ā, and said, What do these feeble Jēwś? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an end in a day? will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned?

3 Now Tō-bī-āh the Ām-mōn-īte was by him, and he said, Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall.

4 Hear, O our God; for we are despised: and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them for a prey in the land of captivity:

5 And cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before thee: for they have provoked thee to anger before the builders.

6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

7 ¶ But it came to pass, that when Sān-bāl-lāt, and Tō-bī-āh, and the Ā-rā-bī-āns, and the Ām-mōn-ītes, and the Āsh-dō-dites, heard that the walls of Jě-rū-sā-lēm were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth,

8 And conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jě-rū-sā-lēm, and to hinder it.

9 Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

10 And Jūd-āh said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall.

11 And our adversaries said, They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease.

12 And it came to pass, that when the Jēwś which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times, From all places whence ye shall return unto us they will be upon you.

13 ¶ Therefore set I in the lower places behind the wall, and on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

14 And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.

15 And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one

unto his work.

16 And it came to pass from that time forth, that the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the habergeons; and the rulers were behind all the house of Jūd-āh.

17 They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon.

18 For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.

19 ¶ And I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, The work is great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one far from another.

20 In what place therefore ye hear the sound of the trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us.

21 So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared.

22 Likewise at the same time said I unto the people, Let every one with his servant lodge within Jě-rū-sā-lēm, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day.

23 So neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard which followed me, none of us put off our clothes, saving that every one put them off for washing.

## CHAPTER 5

**A**ND there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jēwś.

2 For there were that said, We, our sons, and our daughters, are many: therefore we take up corn for them, that we may eat, and live.

3 Some also there were that said, We have mortgaged our lands, vineyards, and houses, that we might buy corn, because of the dearth.

4 There were also that said, We have borrowed money for the king's tribute, and that upon our lands and vineyards.

5 Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and, lo, we bring into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and some of our daughters are brought unto bondage already: neither is it in our power to redeem them; for other men have our lands and vineyards.

6 ¶ And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words.

7 Then I consulted with myself, and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them.

8 And I said unto them, We after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jēwś, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace, and found nothing to answer.

9 Also I said, It is not good that ye do: ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the heathen our enemies?

10 I likewise, *and* my brethren, and my servants, might exact of them money and corn: I pray you, let us leave off this usury.

11 Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards, their oliveyards, and their houses, also the hundredth *part* of the money, and of the corn, the wine, and the oil, that ye exact of them.

12 Then said they, We will restore *them*, and will require nothing of them; so will we do as thou sayest. Then I called the priests, and took an oath of them, that they should do according to this promise.

13 Also I shook my lap, and said, So God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that performeth not this promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied. And all the congregation said, Ā-mĕn, and praised the LORD. And the people did according to this promise.

14 ¶ Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Jûd-âh, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Ār-tă-xĕrx-ĕs the king, *that is*, twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor.

15 But the former governors that *had been* before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shĕ-kĕls of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God.

16 Yea, also I continued in the work of this wall, neither bought we any land: and all my servants *were* gathered thither unto the work.

17 Moreover *there were* at my table an hundred and fifty of the Jĕwĕs and rulers, beside those that came unto us from among the heathen that *are* about us.

18 Now *that* which was prepared *for me* daily was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine: yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people.

19 Think upon me, my God, for good, *according* to all that I have done for this people.

## CHAPTER 6

**N**OW it came to pass, when Săn-băl-lăt, and Tō-bĭ-âh, and Gĕ-shĕm the Ā-ră-bĭ-ăn, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and *that* there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;)

2 That Săn-băl-lăt and Gĕ-shĕm sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in *some one* of the villages in the plain of Ō-nō. But they thought to do me mischief.

3 And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I *am* doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?

4 Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort; and I

answered them after the same manner.

5 Then sent Săn-băl-lăt his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand;

6 Wherein was written, It is reported among the heathen, and Găsh-mû saith *it, that* thou and the Jĕwĕs think to rebel: for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words.

7 And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jĕ-rû-să-lĕm, saying, *There is* a king in Jûd-âh: and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together.

8 Then I sent unto him, saying, There are no such things done as thou sayest, but thou feignest them out of thine own heart.

9 For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, *O God*, strengthen my hands.

10 Afterward I came unto the house of Shĕm-âi-âh the son of Dĕl-âi-âh the son of Mĕ-hĕt-ă-beĕl, who was shut up; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple: for they will come to slay thee; yea, in the night will they come to slay thee.

11 And I said, Should such a man as I flee? and who *is there*, that, *being* as I am, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in.

12 And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me: for Tō-bĭ-âh and Săn-băl-lăt had hired him.

13 Therefore *was* he hired, that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin, and *that* they might have *matter* for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

14 My God, think thou upon Tō-bĭ-âh and Săn-băl-lăt according to these their works, and on the prophetess Nō-ă-dĭ-âh, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.

15 ¶ So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth *day* of *the month* Ē-lûl, in fifty and two days.

16 And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard *thereof*, and all the heathen that *were* about us saw *these things*, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.

17 ¶ Moreover in those days the nobles of Jûd-âh sent many letters unto Tō-bĭ-âh, and *the letters* of Tō-bĭ-âh came unto them.

18 For *there were* many in Jûd-âh sworn unto him, because he was the son in law of Shĕch-ă-nĭ-âh the son of Ār-âh; and his son Jō-hă-năn had taken the daughter of Mĕ-shûl-lăm the son of Bĕr-ĕ-chĭ-âh.

19 Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. *And* Tō-bĭ-âh sent letters to put me in fear.

## CHAPTER 7

**N**OW it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the porters and the singers and

the Lē-vītes were appointed,

2 That I gave my brother Hā-nā-nī, and Hān-ā-nī-āh the ruler of the palace, charge over Jē-rū-sā-lēm: for he was a faithful man, and feared God above many.

3 And I said unto them, Let not the gates of Jē-rū-sā-lēm be opened until the sun be hot; and while they stand by, let them shut the doors, and bar *them*: and appoint watches of the inhabitants of Jē-rū-sā-lēm, every one in his watch, and every one *to be* over against his house.

4 Now the city was large and great: but the people were few therein, and the houses were not builded.

5 ¶ And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein,

6 These *are* the children of the province, that went up out of the captivity, of those that had been carried away, whom Nēb-ū-chād-nēz-zār the king of Bāb-ŷ-lōn had carried away, and came again to Jē-rū-sā-lēm and to Jūd-āh, every one unto his city;

7 Who came with Zē-rūb-bā-bēl, Jēsh-ū-ā, Nē-hēm-ī-āh, Āz-ā-rī-āh, Rā-ā-mī-āh, Nā-hā-mā-nī, Mōr-dē-cā-ī, Bīl-shān, Mīs-pē-rēth, Bīg-vā-ī, Nē-hūm, Bā-ā-nāh. The number, *I say*, of the men of the people of Īs-rā-ēl was *this*;

8 The children of Pār-ōsh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

9 The children of Shēph-ā-tī-āh, three hundred seventy and two.

10 The children of Ār-āh, six hundred fifty and two.

11 The children of Pā-hāth-mō-āb, of the children of Jēsh-ū-ā and Jō-āb, two thousand and eight hundred *and* eighteen.

12 The children of Ē-lām, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

13 The children of Zāt-tū, eight hundred forty and five.

14 The children of Zāc-cā-ī, seven hundred and threescore.

15 The children of Bīn-nū-ī, six hundred forty and eight.

16 The children of Bē-bā-ī, six hundred twenty and eight.

17 The children of Āz-gād, two thousand three hundred twenty and two.

18 The children of Ād-ō-nī-kām, six hundred threescore and seven.

19 The children of Bīg-vā-ī, two thousand threescore and seven.

20 The children of Ā-dīn, six hundred fifty and five.

21 The children of Ā-tēr of Hēz-ē-kī-āh, ninety and eight.

22 The children of Hāsh-ūm, three hundred twenty and eight.

23 The children of Bē-zā-ī, three hundred twenty and four.

24 The children of Hār-īph, an hundred and twelve.

25 The children of Gīb-ē-ōn, ninety and five.

26 The men of Bēth-lē-hēm and Nē-tō-phāh, an hundred fourscore and eight.

27 The men of Ān-ā-thōth, an hundred twenty and eight.

28 The men of Bēth-āz-mā-vēth, forty and two.

29 The men of Kīr-jāth-jē-ā-rīm, Chē-phī-rāh, and Beer-ōth, seven hundred forty and three.

30 The men of Rā-māh and Gē-bā, six hundred twenty and one.

31 The men of Mīch-mās, an hundred and twenty and two.

32 The men of Bēth-ēl and Ā-ī, an hundred twenty and three.

33 The men of the other Nē-bō, fifty and two.

34 The children of the other Ē-lām, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.

35 The children of Hār-īm, three hundred and twenty.

36 The children of Jēr-ī-chō, three hundred forty and five.

37 The children of Lōd, Hā-dīd, and Ō-nō, seven hundred twenty and one.

38 The children of Sēn-ā-āh, three thousand nine hundred and thirty.

39 ¶ The priests: the children of Jē-dāi-āh, of the house of Jēsh-ū-ā, nine hundred seventy and three.

40 The children of Īm-mēr, a thousand fifty and two.

41 The children of Pāsh-ūr, a thousand two hundred forty and seven.

42 The children of Hār-īm, a thousand and seventeen.

43 ¶ The Lē-vītes: the children of Jēsh-ū-ā, of Kād-mī-ēl, and of the children of Hō-dē-vāh, seventy and four.

44 ¶ The singers: the children of Ā-sāph, an hundred forty and eight.

45 ¶ The porters: the children of Shāl-lūm, the children of Ā-tēr, the children of Tāl-mōn, the children of Āk-küb, the children of Hā-tī-tā, the children of Shō-bā-ī, an hundred thirty and eight.

46 ¶ The Nēth-ī-nīms: the children of Zī-hā, the children of Hā-shū-phā, the children of Tāb-bā-ōth,

47 The children of Kē-rōs, the children of Sī-ā, the children of Pā-dōn,

48 The children of Lē-bā-nā, the children of Hāg-ā-bā, the children of Shāl-māi,

49 The children of Hā-nān, the children of Gīd-dēl, the children of Gā-hār,

50 The children of Rē-ai-āh, the children of Rē-zīn, the children of Nē-kō-dā,

51 The children of Gāz-zām, the children of Ūz-zā, the children of Phā-sē-āh,

52 The children of Bē-sai, the children of Mē-ū-nīm, the children of Nē-phīsh-ē-sīm,

53 The children of Bāk-būk, the children of Hā-kū-phā, the children of Hār-hūr,

54 The children of Bāz-līth, the children of Mē-hī-dā, the children of Hār-shā,

55 The children of Bār-kōs, the children of Sīs-ē-rā, the children of Tā-māh,

56 The children of Nē-zī-āh, the children of Hā-tī-phā.

57 ¶ The children of Sōl-ō-mōn's servants: the children of Sō-tā-ī, the children of Sō-phē-rēth, the children of Pē-rī-dā,

58 The children of Jā-ā-lā, the children of Dār-kōn, the children of Gīd-dēl,

59 The children of Shēph-ā-tī-āh, the children of Hāt-tīl, the children of Pōch-ē-rēth of Zē-bā-īm, the children of Ā-mōn.

60 All the Nēth-ī-nīms, and the children of Sōl-ō-mōn's servants, were three hundred ninety and two.

61 And these were they which went up also from Tēl-mē-lāh, Tēl-hā-rē-shā, Chēr-ūb, Ād-dōn, and Īm-mēr: but they could not shew their father's house, nor their seed, whether they were of Īs-rā-ēl.

62 The children of Dēl-āi-āh, the children of Tō-bī-āh, the children of Nē-kō-dā, six hundred forty and two.

63 ¶ And of the priests: the children of Hā-bāi-āh, the children of Kōz, the children of Bār-zīl-lā-ī, which took one of the daughters of Bār-zīl-lā-ī the Gīl-ē-ād-īte to wife, and was called after their name.

64 These sought their register among those that were reckoned by genealogy, but it was not found: therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood.

65 And the Tīr-shā-thā said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Ū-rīm and Thūm-mīm.

66 ¶ The whole congregation together was forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore,

67 Beside their manservants and their maidservants, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and they had two hundred forty and five singing men and singing women.

68 Their horses, seven hundred thirty and six: their mules, two hundred forty and five:

69 Their camels, four hundred thirty and five: six thousand seven hundred and twenty asses.

70 ¶ And some of the chief of the fathers gave unto the work. The Tīr-shā-thā gave to the treasure a thousand drams of gold, fifty basons, five hundred and thirty priests' garments.

71 And some of the chief of the fathers gave to the treasure of the work twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand and two hundred pound of silver.

72 And that which the rest of the people gave was twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand pound of silver, and threescore and seven priests' garments.

73 So the priests, and the Lē-vītes, and the porters, and the singers, and some of the people, and the Nēth-ī-nīms, and all Īs-rā-ēl, dwelt in their cities; and when the seventh month came, the children of Īs-rā-ēl were in their cities.

#### CHAPTER 8

AND all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ĕz-rā the scribe to bring the book of the law of Mō-sēs, which the LORD had commanded to Īs-rā-ēl.

2 And Ĕz-rā the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could

hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month.

3 And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.

4 And Ĕz-rā the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; and beside him stood Māt-tī-thī-āh, and Shē-mā, and Ā-nai-āh, and Ū-rī-jāh, and Hīl-kī-āh, and Mā-ā-sei-āh, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pē-dai-āh, and Mī-shā-ēl, and Māl-chī-āh, and Hāsh-ūm, and Hāsh-bā-dā-nā, Zēch-ā-rī-āh, and Mē-shūl-lām.

5 And Ĕz-rā opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up:

6 And Ĕz-rā blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Ā-mēn, Ā-mēn, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

7 Also Jēsh-ū-ā, and Bā-nī, and Shēr-ē-bī-āh, Jā-mīn, Āk-kūb, Shāb-bē-thai, Hō-dī-jāh, Mā-ā-sei-āh, Kē-lī-tā, Āz-ā-rī-āh, Jō-zā-bād, Hā-nān, Pē-lai-āh, and the Lē-vītes, caused the people to understand the law: and the people stood in their place.

8 So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

9 ¶ And Nē-hēm-ī-āh, which is the Tīr-shā-thā, and Ĕz-rā the priest the scribe, and the Lē-vītes that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

11 So the Lē-vītes stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy; neither be ye grieved.

12 And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.

13 ¶ And on the second day were gathered together the chief of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Lē-vītes, unto Ĕz-rā the scribe, even to understand the words of the law.

14 And they found written in the law which the LORD had commanded by Mō-sēs, that the children of Īs-rā-ēl should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month:

15 And that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jē-rū-sā-lēm, saying, Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as it is written.

16 ¶ So the people went forth, and brought them, and made

themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, and in the street of the water gate, and in the street of the gate of Ē-phrā-īm.

17 And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jēsh-ū-ā the son of Nūn unto that day had not the children of Īś-rā-ēl done so. And there was very great gladness.

18 Also day by day, from the first day unto the last day, he read in the book of the law of God. And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day was a solemn assembly, according unto the manner.

#### CHAPTER 9

**N**OW in the twenty and fourth day of this month the children of Īś-rā-ēl were assembled with fasting, and with sackclothes, and earth upon them.

2 And the seed of Īś-rā-ēl separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.

3 And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the LORD their God *one* fourth part of the day; and *another* fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the LORD their God.

4 ¶ Then stood up upon the stairs, of the Lē-vītes, Jēsh-ū-ā, and Bā-nī, Kād-mī-ēl, Shēb-ā-nī-āh, Būn-nī, Shēr-ē-bī-āh, Bā-nī, and Chē-nā-nī, and cried with a loud voice unto the LORD their God.

5 Then the Lē-vītes, Jēsh-ū-ā, and Kād-mī-ēl, Bā-nī, Hāsh-āb-nī-āh, Shēr-ē-bī-āh, Hō-dī-jāh, Shēb-ā-nī-āh, and Pēth-ā-hī-āh, said, Stand up *and* bless the LORD your God for ever and ever: and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

6 Thou, *even* thou, *art* LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all *things* that *are* therein, the seas, and all that *is* therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

7 Thou *art* the LORD the God, who didst choose Ā-brām, and broughtest him forth out of Ūr of the Chāl-dēēs, and gavest him the name of Ā-brā-hām;

8 And foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Cā-nā-ān-ītes, the Hīt-tītes, the Ām-ō-rītes, and the Pē-rīz-zītes, and the Jēb-ū-sītes, and the Gīr-gā-shītes, to give *it*, *I say*, to his seed, and hast performed thy words; for thou *art* righteous:

9 And didst see the affliction of our fathers in Ē-gypt, and heardest their cry by the Red sea;

10 And shewedst signs and wonders upon Phār-āh, and on all his servants, and on all the people of his land: for thou knewest that they dealt proudly against them. So didst thou get thee a name, as *it is* this day.

11 And thou didst divide the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on the dry land; and their persecutors thou threwest into the deeps, as a stone

into the mighty waters.

12 Moreover thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar; and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go.

13 Thou camest down also upon mount Sī-nāi, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments:

14 And madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Mō-šēš thy servant:

15 And gavest them bread from heaven for their hunger, and broughtest forth water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and promisedst them that they should go in to possess the land which thou hadst sworn to give them.

16 But they and our fathers dealt proudly, and hardened their necks, and hearkened not to thy commandments,

17 And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou *art* a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not.

18 Yea, when they had made them a molten calf, and said, This is thy God that brought thee up out of Ē-gypt, and had wrought great provocations;

19 Yet thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by night, to shew them light, and the way wherein they should go.

20 Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not thy mān-nā from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.

21 Yea, forty years didst thou sustain them in the wilderness, *so that* they lacked nothing; their clothes waxed not old, and their feet swelled not.

22 Moreover thou gavest them kingdoms and nations, and didst divide them into corners: so they possessed the land of Sī-hōn, and the land of the king of Hēsh-bōn, and the land of Ōg king of Bā-shān.

23 Their children also multipliedst thou as the stars of heaven, and broughtest them into the land, concerning which thou hadst promised to their fathers, that they should go in to possess *it*.

24 So the children went in and possessed the land, and thou subduedst before them the inhabitants of the land, the Cā-nā-ān-ītes, and gavest them into their hands, with their kings, and the people of the land, that they might do with them as they would.

25 And they took strong cities, and a fat land, and possessed houses full of all goods, wells digged, vineyards, and oliveyards, and fruit trees in abundance: so they did eat, and were filled, and became fat, and delighted themselves in thy great goodness.

26 Nevertheless they were disobedient, and rebelled

against thee, and cast thy law behind their backs, and slew thy prophets which testified against them to turn them to thee, and they wrought great provocations.

27 Therefore thou deliveredst them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them: and in the time of their trouble, when they cried unto thee, thou heardest *them* from heaven; and according to thy manifold mercies thou gavest them saviours, who saved them out of the hand of their enemies.

28 But after they had rest, they did evil again before thee: therefore leftest thou them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them: yet when they returned, and cried unto thee, thou heardest *them* from heaven; and many times didst thou deliver them according to thy mercies;

29 And testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them again unto thy law: yet they dealt proudly, and hearkened not unto thy commandments, but sinned against thy judgments, (which if a man do, he shall live in them;) and withdrew the shoulder, and hardened their neck, and would not hear.

30 Yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands.

31 Nevertheless for thy great mercies' sake thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them; for thou *art* a gracious and merciful God.

32 Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepest covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the time of the kings of Ās-sŷr-ī-ā unto this day.

33 Howbeit thou *art* just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly:

34 Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them.

35 For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works.

36 Behold, we *are* servants this day, and *for* the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the good thereof, behold, we *are* servants in it:

37 And it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we *are* in great distress.

38 And because of all this we make a sure *covenant*, and write *it*; and our princes, Lē-vītes, and priests, seal *unto it*.

## CHAPTER 10

**N**OW those that sealed *were*, Nē-hēm-ī-āh, the Tīr-shā-thā, the son of Hāch-ā-lī-āh, and Zīd-kī-jāh,

2 Sē-rai-āh, Āz-ā-rī-āh, Jēr-ē-mī-āh,

3 Pāsh-ūr, Ām-ā-rī-āh, Māl-chī-jāh,

4 Hāt-tūsh, Shēb-ā-nī-āh, Māl-lūch,

5 Hār-īm, Mēr-ē-mōth, Ō-bā-dī-āh,

6 Dān-īēl, Gīn-nē-thōn, Bār-ūch,

7 Mē-shūl-lām, Ā-bī-jāh, Mī-jā-mīn,

8 Mā-ā-zī-āh, Bīl-gā-ī, Shēm-ai-āh: these *were* the priests.

9 And the Lē-vītes: both Jēsh-ū-ā the son of Āz-ā-nī-āh, Bīn-nū-ī of the sons of Hēn-ā-dād, Kād-mī-ēl;

10 And their brethren, Shēb-ā-nī-āh, Hō-dī-jāh, Kē-lī-tā, Pē-lai-āh, Hā-nān,

11 Mī-chā, Rē-hōb, Hāsh-ā-bī-āh,

12 Zāc-cūr, Shēr-ē-bī-āh, Shēb-ā-nī-āh,

13 Hō-dī-jāh, Bā-nī, Bē-nī-nū.

14 The chief of the people; Pār-ōsh, Pā-hāth-mō-āb, Ē-lām, Zāt-thū, Bā-nī,

15 Būn-nī, Āz-gād, Bē-bā-ī,

16 Ād-ō-nī-jāh, Bīg-vā-ī, Ā-dīn,

17 Ā-tēr, Hīz-kī-jāh, Āz-zūr,

18 Hō-dī-jāh, Hāsh-ūm, Bē-zā-ī,

19 Hār-īph, Ān-ā-thōth, Nē-bā-ī,

20 Māg-pī-āsh, Mē-shūl-lām, Hē-zīr,

21 Mē-shēz-ā-beel, Zā-dōk, Jād-dū-ā,

22 Pēl-ā-tī-āh, Hā-nān, Ā-nai-āh,

23 Hō-shē-ā, Hān-ā-nī-āh, Hāsh-ūb,

24 Hāl-lō-hēsh, Pī-lē-hā, Shō-bēk,

25 Rē-hūm, Hā-shāb-nāh, Mā-ā-sei-āh,

26 And Ā-hī-jāh, Hā-nān, Ā-nān,

27 Māl-lūch, Hār-īm, Bā-ā-nāh.

28 ¶ And the rest of the people, the priests, the Lē-vītes, the porters, the singers, the Nēth-ī-nīmś, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding;

29 They clave to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Mō-šēs the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes;

30 And that we would not give our daughters unto the people of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons:

31 And *if* the people of the land bring ware or any victuals on the sabbath day to sell, *that* we would not buy it of them on the sabbath, or on the holy day: and *that* we would leave the seventh year, and the exaction of every debt.

32 Also we made ordinances for us, to charge ourselves yearly with the third part of a shē-kēl for the service of the house of our God;

33 For the shewbread, and for the continual meat offering, and for the continual burnt offering, of the sabbaths, of the new moons, for the set feasts, and for the holy *things*, and for the sin offerings to make an atonement for Īs-rā-ēl, and

for all the work of the house of our God.

34 And we cast the lots among the priests, the Lē-vītes, and the people, for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God, after the houses of our fathers, at times appointed year by year, to burn upon the altar of the LORD our God, as it is written in the law:

35 And to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, unto the house of the LORD:

36 Also the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, unto the priests that minister in the house of our God:

37 And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground unto the Lē-vītes, that the same Lē-vītes might have the tithes in all the cities of our tillage.

38 And the priest the son of Āa-rōn shall be with the Lē-vītes, when the Lē-vītes take tithes: and the Lē-vītes shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house.

39 For the children of Īs-rā-ēl and the children of Lē-vī shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.

#### CHAPTER 11

AND the rulers of the people dwelt at Jē-rū-sā-lēm: the rest of the people also cast lots, to bring one of ten to dwell in Jē-rū-sā-lēm the holy city, and nine parts to dwell in other cities.

2 And the people blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jē-rū-sā-lēm.

3 ¶ Now these are the chief of the province that dwelt in Jē-rū-sā-lēm: but in the cities of Jūd-āh dwelt every one in his possession in their cities, to wit, Īs-rā-ēl, the priests, and the Lē-vītes, and the Nēth-ī-nīmś, and the children of Sōl-ō-mōn's servants.

4 And at Jē-rū-sā-lēm dwelt certain of the children of Jūd-āh, and of the children of Bēn-jā-mīn. Of the children of Jūd-āh; Ā-thai-āh the son of Ūz-zī-āh, the son of Zēch-ā-rī-āh, the son of Ām-ā-rī-āh, the son of Shēph-ā-tī-āh, the son of Mā-hāl-ā-leel, of the children of Pē-rēz;

5 And Mā-ā-sei-āh the son of Bār-ūch, the son of Cōl-hō-zēh, the son of Hā-zai-āh, the son of Ā-dai-āh, the son of Jōi-ā-rīb, the son of Zēch-ā-rī-āh, the son of Shī-lō-nī.

6 All the sons of Pē-rēz that dwelt at Jē-rū-sā-lēm were four hundred threescore and eight valiant men.

7 And these are the sons of Bēn-jā-mīn; Sāl-lū the son of Mē-shūl-lām, the son of Jō-ēd, the son of Pē-dai-āh, the son of Kō-lai-āh, the son of Mā-ā-sei-āh, the son of Ī-thī-ēl, the son of Jē-sai-āh.

8 And after him Gāb-bā-ī, Sāl-lā-ī, nine hundred twenty and eight.

9 And Jō-ēl the son of Zīch-rī was their overseer: and Jūd-āh the son of Sēn-ū-āh was second over the city.

10 Of the priests: Jē-dai-āh the son of Jōi-ā-rīb, Jā-chīn.

11 Sē-rai-āh the son of Hīl-kī-āh, the son of Mē-shūl-lām, the son of Zā-dōk, the son of Mē-rai-ōth, the son of Ā-hī-tüb, was the ruler of the house of God.

12 And their brethren that did the work of the house were eight hundred twenty and two: and Ā-dai-āh the son of Jē-rō-hām, the son of Pēl-ā-li-āh, the son of Ām-zī, the son of Zēch-ā-rī-āh, the son of Pāsh-ūr, the son of Māl-chī-āh,

13 And his brethren, chief of the fathers, two hundred forty and two: and Ā-māsh-ai the son of Āz-ā-reel, the son of Ā-hā-sai, the son of Mē-shīl-lē-mōth, the son of Īm-mēr,

14 And their brethren, mighty men of valour, an hundred twenty and eight: and their overseer was Zāb-dī-ēl, the son of one of the great men.

15 Also of the Lē-vītes: Shēm-ai-āh the son of Hāsh-ūb, the son of Āz-rī-kām, the son of Hāsh-ā-bī-āh, the son of Būn-nī;

16 And Shāb-bē-thai and Jō-zā-bād, of the chief of the Lē-vītes, had the oversight of the outward business of the house of God.

17 And Māt-tā-nī-āh the son of Mī-chā, the son of Zāb-dī, the son of Ā-sāph, was the principal to begin the thanksgiving in prayer: and Bāk-bū-kī-āh the second among his brethren, and Āb-dā the son of Shām-mū-ā, the son of Gā-lāl, the son of Jē-dū-thūn.

18 All the Lē-vītes in the holy city were two hundred fourscore and four.

19 Moreover the porters, Āk-küb, Tāl-mōn, and their brethren that kept the gates, were an hundred seventy and two.

20 ¶ And the residue of Īs-rā-ēl, of the priests, and the Lē-vītes, were in all the cities of Jūd-āh, every one in his inheritance.

21 But the Nēth-ī-nīmś dwelt in Ō-phēl: and Zī-hā and Gīs-pā were over the Nēth-ī-nīmś.

22 The overseer also of the Lē-vītes at Jē-rū-sā-lēm was Ūz-zī the son of Bā-nī, the son of Hāsh-ā-bī-āh, the son of Māt-tā-nī-āh, the son of Mī-chā. Of the sons of Ā-sāph, the singers were over the business of the house of God.

23 For it was the king's commandment concerning them, that a certain portion should be for the singers, due for every day.

24 And Pēth-ā-hī-āh the son of Mē-shēz-ā-beel, of the children of Zē-rāh the son of Jūd-āh, was at the king's hand in all matters concerning the people.

25 And for the villages, with their fields, some of the children of Jūd-āh dwelt at Kīr-jāth-ār-bā, and in the villages thereof, and at Dī-bōn, and in the villages thereof, and at Jē-kāb-zeel, and in the villages thereof,

26 And at Jēsh-ū-ā, and at Mō-lā-dāh, and at Bēth-phē-lēt, 27 And at Hā-zār-shū-āl, and at Bēer-shē-bā, and in the

villages thereof,

28 And at Zīk-lāg, and at Mē-kō-nāh, and in the villages thereof,

29 And at Ēn-rīm-mōn, and at Zā-rē-āh, and at Jār-mûth,

30 Zā-nō-āh, Ā-dūl-lām, and in their villages, at Lā-chīsh, and the fields thereof, at Ā-zē-kāh, and in the villages thereof. And they dwelt from Bēer-shē-bā unto the valley of Hīn-nōm.

31 The children also of Bēn-jā-mīn from Gē-bā dwelt at Mīch-māsh, and Āi-jā, and Bēth-ēl, and in their villages,

32 And at Ān-ā-thōth, Nōb, Ān-ā-nī-āh,

33 Hā-zōr, Rā-māh, Gīt-tā-īm,

34 Hā-dīd, Zē-bō-īm, Nē-bāl-lāt,

35 Lōd, and Ō-nō, the valley of craftsmen.

36 And of the Lē-vītes were divisions in Jūd-āh, and in Bēn-jā-mīn.

#### CHAPTER 12

**N**OW these are the priests and the Lē-vītes that went up with Zē-rūb-bā-bēl the son of Shē-āl-tī-ēl, and Jēsh-ū-ā: Sē-rai-āh, Jēr-ē-mī-āh, Ēz-rā,

2 Ām-ā-rī-āh, Māl-lūch, Hāt-tūsh,

3 Shēch-ā-nī-āh, Rē-hūm, Mēr-ē-mōth,

4 Īd-dō, Gīn-nē-thō, Ā-bī-jāh,

5 Mī-ā-mīn, Mā-ā-dī-āh, Bīl-gāh,

6 Shēm-ai-āh, and Joi-ā-rīb, Jē-dai-āh,

7 Sāl-lū, Ā-mōk, Hīl-kī-āh, Jē-dai-āh. These were the chief of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Jēsh-ū-ā.

8 Moreover the Lē-vītes: Jēsh-ū-ā, Bīn-nū-ī, Kād-mī-ēl, Shēr-ē-bī-āh, Jūd-āh, and Māt-tā-nī-āh, which was over the thanksgiving, he and his brethren.

9 Also Bāk-bū-kī-āh and Ūn-nī, their brethren, were over against them in the watches.

10 ¶ And Jēsh-ū-ā begat Joi-ā-kīm, Joi-ā-kīm also begat Ē-lī-āsh-īb, and Ē-lī-āsh-īb begat Joi-ā-dā,

11 And Joi-ā-dā begat Jōn-ā-thān, and Jōn-ā-thān begat Jād-dū-ā.

12 And in the days of Joi-ā-kīm were priests, the chief of the fathers: of Sē-rai-āh, Mē-rai-āh; of Jēr-ē-mī-āh, Hān-ā-nī-āh;

13 Of Ēz-rā, Mē-shūl-lām; of Ām-ā-rī-āh, Jē-hō-hā-nān;

14 Of Mēl-ī-cū, Jōn-ā-thān; of Shēb-ā-nī-āh, Jō-šēph;

15 Of Hār-īm, Ād-nā; of Mē-rai-ōth, Hēl-kā-ī;

16 Of Īd-dō, Zēch-ā-rī-āh; of Gīn-nē-thōn, Mē-shūl-lām;

17 Of Ā-bī-jāh, Zīch-rī; of Mīn-ī-ā-mīn, of Mō-ā-dī-āh, Pīl-tā-ī;

18 Of Bīl-gāh, Shām-mū-ā; of Shēm-ai-āh, Jē-hōn-ā-thān;

19 And of Joi-ā-rīb, Māt-tē-nai; of Jē-dai-āh, Ūz-zī;

20 Of Sāl-lā-ī, Kāl-lā-ī; of Ā-mōk, Ē-bēr;

21 Of Hīl-kī-āh, Hāsh-ā-bī-āh; of Jē-dai-āh, Nēth-ā-neel.

22 ¶ The Lē-vītes in the days of Ē-lī-āsh-īb, Joi-ā-dā, and Jō-hā-nān, and Jād-dū-ā, were recorded chief of the fathers: also the priests, to the reign of Dā-rī-ūs the Pēr-siān.

23 The sons of Lē-vī, the chief of the fathers, were written in the book of the chronicles, even until the days of Jō-hā-nān the son of Ē-lī-āsh-īb.

24 And the chief of the Lē-vītes: Hāsh-ā-bī-āh, Shēr-ē-bī-āh, and Jēsh-ū-ā the son of Kād-mī-ēl, with their brethren over against them, to praise and to give thanks, according to the commandment of Dā-vid the man of God, ward over against ward.

25 Māt-tā-nī-āh, and Bāk-bū-kī-āh, Ō-bā-dī-āh, Mē-shūl-lām, Tāl-mōn, Āk-kūb, were porters keeping the ward at the thresholds of the gates.

26 These were in the days of Joi-ā-kīm the son of Jēsh-ū-ā, the son of Jō-zā-dāk, and in the days of Nē-hēm-ī-āh the governor, and of Ēz-rā the priest, the scribe.

27 ¶ And at the dedication of the wall of Jē-rū-sā-lēm they sought the Lē-vītes out of all their places, to bring them to Jē-rū-sā-lēm, to keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries, and with harps.

28 And the sons of the singers gathered themselves together, both out of the plain country round about Jē-rū-sā-lēm, and from the villages of Nē-tōph-ā-thī;

29 Also from the house of Gīl-gāl, and out of the fields of Gē-bā and Āz-mā-vēth: for the singers had builded them villages round about Jē-rū-sā-lēm.

30 And the priests and the Lē-vītes purified themselves, and purified the people, and the gates, and the wall.

31 Then I brought up the princes of Jūd-āh upon the wall, and appointed two great companies of them that gave thanks, whereof one went on the right hand upon the wall toward the dung gate:

32 And after them went Hō-shai-āh, and half of the princes of Jūd-āh,

33 And Āz-ā-rī-āh, Ēz-rā, and Mē-shūl-lām,

34 Jūd-āh, and Bēn-jā-mīn, and Shēm-ai-āh, and Jēr-ē-mī-āh,

35 And certain of the priests' sons with trumpets; namely, Zēch-ā-rī-āh the son of Jōn-ā-thān, the son of Shēm-ai-āh, the son of Māt-tā-nī-āh, the son of Mī-chai-āh, the son of Zāc-cūr, the son of Ā-sāph:

36 And his brethren, Shēm-ai-āh, and Āz-ā-rā-ēl, Mīl-ā-lai, Gīl-ā-lai, Mā-ā-ī, Nēth-ā-neel, and Jūd-āh, Hā-nā-nī, with the musical instruments of Dā-vid the man of God, and Ēz-rā the scribe before them.

37 And at the fountain gate, which was over against them, they went up by the stairs of the city of Dā-vid, at the going up of the wall, above the house of Dā-vid, even unto the water gate eastward.

38 And the other company of them that gave thanks went over against them, and I after them, and the half of the people upon the wall, from beyond the tower of the furnaces even unto the broad wall;

39 And from above the gate of Ē-phrā-īm, and above the old gate, and above the fish gate, and the tower of Hān-ā-neel, and the tower of Mē-āh, even unto the sheep gate: and they stood still in the prison gate.

40 So stood the two companies of them that gave thanks in the house of God, and I, and the half of the rulers with me:

41 And the priests; Ē-lī-ā-kīm, Mā-ā-sei-āh, Mīn-ī-ā-mīn, Mī-chai-āh, Ēl-ī-ō-ē-nai, Zēch-ā-rī-āh, and Hān-ā-nī-āh, with trumpets;

42 And Mā-ā-sei-āh, and Shēm-ai-āh, and Ēl-ē-ā-zār, and Ūz-zī, and Jē-hō-hā-nān, and Māl-chī-jāh, and Ē-lām, and Ē-zēr. And the singers sang loud, with Jēz-rā-hī-āh *their* overseer.

43 Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jē-rū-sā-lēm was heard even afar off.

44 ¶ And at that time were some appointed over the chambers for the treasures, for the offerings, for the first-fruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them out of the fields of the cities the portions of the law for the priests and Lē-vītes: for Jūd-āh rejoiced for the priests and for the Lē-vītes that waited.

45 And both the singers and the porters kept the ward of their God, and the ward of the purification, according to the commandment of Dā-vīd, and of Sōl-ō-mōn his son.

46 For in the days of Dā-vīd and Ā-sāph of old *there were* chief of the singers, and songs of praise and thanksgiving unto God.

47 And all Īs-rā-ēl in the days of Zē-rūb-bā-bēl, and in the days of Nē-hēm-ī-āh, gave the portions of the singers and the porters, every day his portion: and they sanctified *holy things* unto the Lē-vītes; and the Lē-vītes sanctified *them* unto the children of Āa-rōn.

## CHAPTER 13

ON that day they read in the book of Mō-šēs in the audience of the people; and therein was found written, that the Ām-mōn-ite and the Mō-āb-ite should not come into the congregation of God for ever;

2 Because they met not the children of Īs-rā-ēl with bread and with water, but hired Bā-lāām against them, that he should curse them: howbeit our God turned the curse into a blessing.

3 Now it came to pass, when they had heard the law, that they separated from Īs-rā-ēl all the mixed multitude.

4 ¶ And before this, Ē-lī-āsh-īb the priest, having the oversight of the chamber of the house of our God, was allied unto Tō-bī-āh:

5 And he had prepared for him a great chamber, where aforetime they laid the meat offerings, the frankincense, and the vessels, and the tithes of the corn, the new wine, and the oil, which was commanded to be given to the Lē-vītes, and the singers, and the porters; and the offerings of the priests.

6 But in all this *time* was not I at Jē-rū-sā-lēm: for in the two and thirtieth year of Ār-tā-xēr-x-ēs king of Bāb-ŷ-lōn came I unto the king, and after certain days obtained I leave of the king:

7 And I came to Jē-rū-sā-lēm, and understood of the evil that Ē-lī-āsh-īb did for Tō-bī-āh, in preparing him a chamber in the courts of the house of God.

8 And it grieved me sore: therefore I cast forth all the household stuff of Tō-bī-āh out of the chamber.

9 Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers: and thither brought I again the vessels of the house of God, with the meat offering and the frankincense.

10 ¶ And I perceived that the portions of the Lē-vītes had not been given *them*: for the Lē-vītes and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field.

11 Then contended I with the rulers, and said, Why is the house of God forsaken? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place.

12 Then brought all Jūd-āh the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasuries.

13 And I made treasurers over the treasuries, Shēl-ē-mī-āh the priest, and Zā-dōk the scribe, and of the Lē-vītes, Pē-dai-āh: and next to them was Hā-nān the son of Zāc-cūr, the son of Māt-tā-nī-āh: for they were counted faithful, and their office was to distribute unto their brethren.

14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.

15 ¶ In those days saw I in Jūd-āh *some* treading wine presses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all *manner* of burdens, which they brought into Jē-rū-sā-lēm on the sabbath day: and I testified *against them* in the day wherein they sold victuals.

16 There dwelt men of Tŷre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbath unto the children of Jūd-āh, and in Jē-rū-sā-lēm.

17 Then I contended with the nobles of Jūd-āh, and said unto them, What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day?

18 Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Īs-rā-ēl by profaning the sabbath.

19 And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jē-rū-sā-lēm began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and *some* of my servants set I at the gates, *that* there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day.

20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jē-rū-sā-lēm once or twice.

21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do so again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no *more* on the sabbath.

22 And I commanded the Lē-vītes that they should cleanse themselves, and *that* they should come *and* keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

23 ¶ In those days also saw I Jēwś *that* had married wives of Āsh-dōd, of Ām-mōn, and of Mō-āb:

24 And their children spake half in the speech of Āsh-dōd, and could not speak in the Jēw's' language, but according to the language of each people.

25 And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, *saying*, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves.

26 Did not Sōl-ō-mōn king of Īs-rā-ēl sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Īs-rā-ēl: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin.

27 Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God in marrying strange wives?

28 And *one* of the sons of Jōi-ā-dā, the son of Ē-li-āsh-īb the high priest, was son in law to Sān-bāl-lāt the Hōr-ōn-īte: therefore I chased him from me.

29 Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Lē-vītes.

30 Thus cleansed I them from all strangers, and appointed the wards of the priests and the Lē-vītes, every one in his business;

31 And for the wood offering, at times appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, O my God, for good.