

1 CHRONICLES

Title:

In the Hebrew Bible 1 Chronicles and 2 Chronicles were a single book. Jewish scholars divided them into two when they translated the Old Testament into Greek.

Author and date:

According to ancient Jewish tradition Ezra wrote both books of Chronicles, as well as Ezra and Nehemiah. These books were written probably between 450 and 430 BC.

Themes:

Genealogies tracing the origins of the people of Israel back to Abraham, Noah, and Adam. Most of this book gives events in the life of King David. In this way it can be compared with 2 Samuel. But this book emphasizes the greatness of David and has little to say about his sins and the punishment that came to him because of them. The story of his sin with Bathsheba is omitted; also the account of Absalom's rebellion. This book teaches that the true glory of the Jewish nation could be found only in its relationship with Jehovah God. Obeying the one true God is the key to success and blessing.

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1 Adam, Seth, Enosh, ²Kenan, Mahalaleel, Jered, ³Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, ⁴Noah, Shem, Ham and Japheth.

⁵The sons of Japheth: Gomer and Magog and Madai and Javan and Tubal and Meshech and Tiras. ⁶And the sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz and Riphath and Togarmah. ⁷And the sons of Javan: Elishah and Tarshish, Kittim and Dodanim.

⁸The sons of Ham: Cush and Mizraim, Put and Canaan. ⁹And the sons of Cush: Seba and Havilah and Sabta and Raamah and Sabtecha. And the sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan. ¹⁰And Cush begot Nimrod. He began to be mighty on the earth. ¹¹And Mizraim begot Ludim and Anamim and Lehabim and Naphtuhim ¹²and Pathrusim and Casluhim (of whom came the Philistines) and Caphthorim. ¹³And Canaan begot Sidon, his firstborn, and Heth, ¹⁴and the Jebusite and the Amorite and the Girgashite, ¹⁵and the Hivite and the Arkite and the Sinite ¹⁶and the Arvadite and the Zemarite and the Hamathite.

¹⁷The sons of Shem: Elam and Asshur and Arphaxad and Lud and Aram and Uz and Hul and Gether and Meshech. ¹⁸And Arphaxad begot Shelah, and Shelah begot Eber. ¹⁹And to Eber were born two sons; the name of one was Peleg, because in his days the earth was divided; and his brother's name was Joktan. ²⁰And Joktan begot Almodad and Sheleph and Hazarmaveth and Jerah ²¹and Hadoram and Uzal and Diklah ²²and Ebal and Abimael and Sheba ²³and Ophir and Havilah and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan.

²⁴Shem, Arphaxad, Shelah, ²⁵Eber, Peleg, Reu, ²⁶Serug, Nahor, Terah, ²⁷Abram (he is Abraham).

²⁸The sons of Abraham: Isaac and Ishmael. ²⁹These are their generations: The firstborn of Ishmael, Nebaioth; then Kedar and Adbeel and Mibsam, ³⁰Mishma and Dumah, Massa, Hadad and Tema, ³¹Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These are the sons of Ishmael.

³²Now the sons of Keturah, Abraham's concubine: she bore Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Midian and Ishbak and Shuah. And the sons of Jokshan: Sheba and Dedan. ³³And the sons of Midian: Ephah and Epher and Hanoch and Abida and Eldaah. All these are the sons of Keturah.

³⁴And Abraham begot Isaac. The sons of Isaac: Esau and Israel. ³⁵The sons of Esau: Eliphaz, Reuel and Jeush and Jaalam and Korah. ³⁶The sons of Eliphaz: Teman and Omar, Zephi and Gatam, Kenaz and Timna and Amalek. ³⁷The sons of Reuel: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

³⁸And the sons of Seir: Lotan and Shobal and Zibeon and Anah and Dishon and Ezar and Dishan. ³⁹And the sons of Lotan: Hori and Homam; and Timna was Lotan's sister.

⁴⁰The sons of Shobal: Alian and Manahath and Ebal, Shephi and Onam. And the sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah. ⁴¹The sons of Anah: Dishon. And the sons of Dishon: Amram and Eshban and Ithran and Cheran. ⁴²The sons of Ezer: Bilhan and Zaavan and Jakan. The sons of Dishan: Uz and Aran.

⁴³Now these are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned over the children of Israel: Bela, the son of Beor (and the name of his city was Dinhabah); ⁴⁴and when Bela died, Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his place. ⁴⁵And when Jobab died, Husham of the land of the Temanites reigned in his place. ⁴⁶And when Husham died, Hadad,

1:1-53 These genealogies are based on those in the book of Genesis – Gen 5:1-32; 10:1-32; 11:10-32; 25:1-26; 36:1-43. Cain and Abel are not mentioned. The author traces the descendants of Seth only, because the nation Israel came from that line.

1:1 Chapters 1-9 contain the most extensive genealogical records in the Bible. They show that the individuals of the Bible were rooted in history, were not characters of myths and legends, or born only in the brains of poets. They gave the people of God, returned from captivity in Babylon (9:1-2), a link with their past. They could see, almost at a glance, an outline of history from the first man on earth to the captivity, and God's continuing purpose with them, His chosen people.

1:5 "Sons" – in Hebrew usage sons may mean

literal sons, or grandsons, or descendants, or successors, or even peoples.

1:8 "Mizraim" – Egypt.

1:10 "Begot" – in Hebrew usage this may not always mean "became the father of", but can mean "became the grandfather of" or "became the ancestor of", etc.

1:19 "Peleg" – the name means "division".

1:27 Gen 11:26. From here on only the genealogies of the descendants of Abraham are given.

1:32 Gen 25:1.

1:34 "Israel" – Gen 25:24-26; 32:27-28.

1:43 "Edom" – Gen 25:30; Edom became the name of the land settled by Esau's descendants. Often in their history they showed their hostility to the nation of Israel.

the son of Bedad, who defeated Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his place; and the name of his city was Avith. ⁴⁷And when Hadad died, Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his place. ⁴⁸And when Samlah died, Shaul of Rehoboth by the River reigned in his place. ⁴⁹And when Shaul died, Baal-Hanan, the son of Achbor, reigned in his place. ⁵⁰And when Baal-Hanan died, Hadad reigned in his place; and the name of his city was Pai; and his wife's name was Mehetabel. *She* was the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab. ⁵¹Hadad also died. And the dukes of Edom were Duke Timnah, Duke Aliah, Duke Jetheth, ⁵²Duke Aholibamah, Duke Elah, Duke Pinon, ⁵³Duke Kenaz, Duke Teman, Duke Mibzar, ⁵⁴Duke Magdiel, Duke Iram. *These are the dukes of Edom.*

2 These are the sons of Israel: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun, ²Dan, Joseph, and Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

³The sons of Judah: Er and Onan and Shelah. *These* three were born to him of the daughter of Shua the Canaanitess. And Er, the firstborn of Judah, was evil in the sight of the LORD; and he put him to death. ⁴And Tamar, his daughter-in-law bore him Pharez and Zerah. All the sons of Judah were five.

⁵The sons of Pharez: Hezron and Hamul. ⁶And the sons of Zerah: Zimri and Ethan and Heman and Calcol and Dara; five of them in all. ⁷And the sons of Carmi: Achar, the troubler of Israel, who transgressed in the accursed thing. ⁸And the son of Ethan: Azariah.

⁹And the sons of Hezron, who were born to him: Jerahmeel and Ram and Chelubai. ¹⁰And Ram begot Amminadab; and Amminadab begot Nahshon, leader of the children of Judah; ¹¹and Nahshon begot Salma, and Salma begot Boaz, ¹²and Boaz begot Obed, and Obed begot Jesse.

¹³And Jesse begot his firstborn Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimma the third, ¹⁴Nethaneel the fourth, Raddai the fifth, ¹⁵Ozem the sixth, David the seventh; ¹⁶their sisters were Zeruiah and Abigail. And the sons of Zeruiah: Abishai and Joab and Asahel, three. ¹⁷And Abigail bore Amasa; and the father of Amasa was Jether the Ishmaelite.

¹⁸And Caleb the son of Hezron begot *children* of Azubah *his* wife, and of Jerioth; her sons *are* these: Jesher and Shobab and Ardon. ¹⁹And when Azubah died, Caleb took Ephrath for himself, who bore him Hur. ²⁰And Hur begot Uri, and Uri begot Bezaleel.

²¹And afterwards Hezron went in to the daughter of Machir, the father of Gilead, whom he married when he was sixty years old; and she bore him Segub. ²²And Segub begot Jair, who had twenty-three cities in the land of Gilead. ²³And he took Geshur and Aram, with the towns of Jair, from them, with Kenath, and its towns, sixty cities. All these *belonged* to the sons of Machir, the father of Gilead. ²⁴And after Hezron died in Caleb-Ephrath, Abiah, Hezron's wife, bore him Ashur, the father of Tekoa.

²⁵And the sons of Jerahmeel, the firstborn of Hezron, were Ram the firstborn, and Bunah and Oren and Ozem *and* Ahijah. ²⁶Jerahmeel also had another wife, whose name was Atarah; she was the mother of Onam. ²⁷And the sons of Ram, the firstborn of Jerahmeel, were Maaz and Jamin and Eker. ²⁸And the sons of Onam were Shammai and Jada. And the sons of Shammai: Nadab and Abishur. ²⁹And the name of the wife of Abishur was Abihail, and she bore him Ahban and Molid. ³⁰And the sons of Nadab: Seled and Appaim. But Seled died without children. ³¹And the son of Appaim: Ishi. And the sons of Ishi: Sheshan, and the child of Sheshan, Ahlai. ³²And the sons of Jada, the

1:48 "*The River*"— the Euphrates.

2:1-2 Gen 35:23-26. In the following genealogies Zebulun and Dan are omitted. Judah is put first though he was the fourth son of Israel.

2:3-4 Gen 38:3-7; 29:30; Num 26:19-20.

2:5 Gen 46:12; Num 26:21.

2:6-8 Josh 7:1; 1 Kings 4:31.

2:7 "*Achar*" (*v* 7) — the word means "disaster". Achar is called Achan in Joshua 7:1, etc.

2:9 "*Chelubai*"— the same person as Caleb.

2:10 "*Ram*"—of course this name has no connection with any in India. It is from a Hebrew word

meaning "high" or "exalted".

2:11-12 Ruth 4:19-22.

2:11 "*Salma*"— a variant of Salmon.

2:16 2 Sam 2:18.

2:17 2 Sam 17:25.

2:20 "*Bezalel*"— Ex 31:2-11.

2:23 Num 32:41; Deut 3:14.

"*The towns of Jair*"— in Hebrew "Havvoth-Jair".

2:24 "*Father*"— here may mean political, civic, or military leader (also in vs 42,45,49-52 and possibly elsewhere).

brother of Shammai: Jether and Jonathan; and Jether died without children. ³³And the sons of Jonathan: Peleth and Zaza. These were the sons of Jerahmeel. ³⁴Now Sheshan had no sons, but daughters. And Sheshan had a servant, an Egyptian, whose name was Jarha. ³⁵And Sheshan gave his daughter to Jarha his servant as *his* wife, and she bore him Attai. ³⁶And Attai begot Nathan, and Nathan begot Zabad, ³⁷and Zabad begot Ephlal, and Ephlal begot Obed, ³⁸and Obed begot Jehu, and Jehu begot Azariah, ³⁹and Azariah begot Helez, and Helez begot Eleasah, ⁴⁰and Eleasah begot Sisamai, and Sisamai begot Shallum, ⁴¹and Shallum begot Jekamiah, and Jekamiah begot Elishama.

⁴²Now the sons of Caleb, the brother of Jerahmeel, were Mesha his firstborn, who was the father of Ziph, and the sons of Mareshah, the father of Hebron. ⁴³And the sons of Hebron: Korah and Tappuah and Rekem and Shema. ⁴⁴And Shema begot Raham, the father of Jorkoam; and Rekem begot Shammai. ⁴⁵And the son of Shammai was Maon; and Maon was the father of Beth-zur. ⁴⁶And Ephah, Caleb's concubine, bore Haran and Moza and Gazez; and Haran begot Gazez. ⁴⁷And the sons of Jahdai: Regem and Jotham and Gesham and Pelet and Ephah and Shaaph. ⁴⁸Maachah, Caleb's concubine, bore Sheber and Tirhanah. ⁴⁹She also bore Shaaph, the father of Madmannah, Sheva, the father of Machbenah, and the father of Gibeai; and the daughter of Caleb was Achsah.

⁵⁰These were the sons of Caleb, the son of Hur, the firstborn of Ephratah: Shobal, the father of Kirjath-Jearim, ⁵¹Salma, the father of Bethlehem, Hareph, the father of Beth-Gader. ⁵²And Shobal, the father of Kirjath-Jearim, had sons: Haroeh, *and* half of the Manahethites. ⁵³And the families of

Kirjath-Jearim: the Ithrites and the Puhites and the Shumathites and the Mishraitites. From them came the Zorathites and the Eshtaulites. ⁵⁴The sons of Salma: Bethlehem, and the Netophathites, Ataroth, the house of Joab, and half of the Manahethites, the Zorites. ⁵⁵And the families of the scribes who lived at Jabez: the Tirathites, the Shimeathites, *and* Suchathites. These *are* the Kenites who came from Hemath, the father of the house of Rechab.

3 Now these were the sons of David, who were born to him in Hebron: the firstborn Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; the second Daniel, of Abigail the Carmelitess; ²the third, Absalom, the son of Maachah, the daughter of Talmi king of Geshur; the fourth, Adonijah, the son of Haggith; ³the fifth, Shephatiah by Abital; the sixth, Ithream by his wife Eglah. ⁴These six were born to him in Hebron; and there he reigned seven years and six months. And he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-three years. ⁵And these were born to him in Jerusalem: Shimea and Shobab and Nathan and Solomon, four, by Bathshua the daughter of Ammiel; ⁶and Ithar and Elishama and Eliphelet ⁷and Nogah and Nepheg and Japhia ⁸and Elishama and Eliada and Eliphelet, nine. ⁹These were all the sons of David, besides the sons of the concubines; and Tamar was their sister.

¹⁰And Solomon's son was Rehoboam, Abia 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, Josiah his son.

¹⁵And the sons of Josiah were the firstborn Johanan, the second Jehoiakim, the third

2:33 "*Jerahmeel*"— 1 Sam 27:10; 30:27-29.

2:55 "*Of the scribes*"— or "of the Sopherites" (the Hebrew word which means scribes here could be a proper name).

"*Kenites*"— Num 10:29-32; Jud 1:16; 4:11.

"*Father of the house of Rechab*"— or "father of Beth Rechab" ("Beth" means "house" in Hebrew).

3:1-9 2 Sam 3:2-5; 5:13-16; 1 Chron 14:3-7.

3:1 "*Daniel*"— called Kileab in 2 Sam 3:3. Evidently this second son of David had two names. Daniel means "God is my judge". It is likely that he died young. There is no mention of him apart from his birth, and later on Absalom, the third son, apparently thought he was next in line for the

throne of David.

"*Abigail*"— 1 Sam 25:42.

3:2 "*Absalom*"— 2 Samuel chapters 13–18.

"*Adonijah*"— 1 Kings 1:5-10; 2:13-25.

3:4 2 Sam 2:11; 4:4-5.

3:5 "*Shimea*"— a variant of Shammua.

"*Bathshua*" = "*Bathsheba*"— 2 Sam 11:1-5, 26, 27; 12:24-25.

3:9 "*Tamar*"— 2 Sam 13:1.

3:11 "*Jehoram*"— or "Joram".

3:15 Three sons of Josiah occupied the throne of Judah — Jehoiakim, Zedekiah, and Shallum. Shallum was also called Jehoahaz (2 Kings 23:30-35; Jer 22:11).

Zedekiah, the fourth Shallum.

¹⁶And the sons of Jehoiakim: Jeconiah his son, Zedekiah his son. ¹⁷And the sons of Jeconiah: Assir, Salathiel his son, ¹⁸and Malchiram and Pedaiah and Shenazar, Jecamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah. ¹⁹And the sons of Pedaiah were Zerubbabel and Shimei; and the sons of Zerubbabel: Meshullam, and Hananiah, and Shelomith their sister; ²⁰And Hashubah and Ohel and Berechiah and Hasadiah, Jushab-Hesed, five. ²¹And the sons of Hananiah: Pelatiah and Jesaiah; the sons of Rephaiah, the sons of Arnan, the sons of Obadiah, the sons of Shechaniah. ²²And the sons of Shechaniah: Shemaiah; and the sons of Shemaiah: Hattush and Igeal and Bariah and Neariah and Shaphat, six. ²³And the sons of Neariah: Elioenai and Hezekiah and Azrikam, three. ²⁴And the sons of Elioenai were Hodaiah and Eliashib and Pelaiah and Akkub and Johanan and Dalaiah and Anani, seven.

4 The sons of Judah: Pharez, Hezron, and Carmi, and Hur, and Shobal. ²And Reaiah, the son of Shobal, begot Jahath; and Jahath begot Ahumai and Lahad. These are the families of the Zorathites. ³And these were of the father of Etam: Jezreel and Ishma and Idbash; and the name of their sister was Hazeleponi; ⁴and Penuel, the father of Gedor, and Ezer, the father of Hushah. These are the sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephratah, the father of Bethlehem. ⁵And Ashur the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah. ⁶And Naarah bore him Ahuzzam and Hopher and Temeni and Haahashtari. These were the sons of Naarah. ⁷And the sons of Helah were Zereth and Jezoar and Ethnan. ⁸And Coz begot Anub

and Zobebah and the families of Aharhel the son of Harum.

⁹And Jabez was more honourable than his brothers; and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, "Because I bore him in pain". ¹⁰And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, "Oh, that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from evil so that it does not grieve me!" And God granted him what he requested.

¹¹And Chelub, the brother of Shuah, begot Mehir, who was the father of Eshton. ¹²And Eshton begot Beth-Rapha and Paseah and Tehinnah, the father of Irnahash. These are the men of Rechah.

¹³And the sons of Kenaz: Othniel and Seraiah; and the sons of Othniel: Hathath. ¹⁴and Meonothai who begot Ophrah; and Seraiah begot Joab, the father of those in the valley of Harashim; and they were craftsmen. ¹⁵And the sons of Caleb, the son of Jephunneh: Iru, Elah, and Naam. And the son of Elah: Kenaz. ¹⁶And the sons of Jehaleleel: Ziph and Ziphah, Tiria and Asareel. ¹⁷And the sons of Ezra were Jether and Mered and Ephraim and Jalon; and she bore Miriam and Shammai and Ishbah, the father of Eshtemoa. ¹⁸And his wife Jehudijah bore Jered, the father of Gedor, and Heber, the father of Socho, and Jekuthiel, the father of Zanoah. And these are the sons of Bithiah, the daughter of Pharaoh, whom Mered took. ¹⁹And the sons of his wife Hodiah the sister of Naham, were the father of Keilah the Garmite and Eshtemoa the Maachathite. ²⁰And the sons of Shimon were Amnon and Rinnah, Benhanan and Tilon. And the sons of Ishi were Zoheth and Benzoheth. ²¹The

3:16 "Jeconiah"—a variant of Jehoiachin (also v 17). "Zedekiah"—evidently a different Zedekiah from the one in v 15.

3:17 Of Jehoiachin's seven sons none became king of Judah. Compare Jer 22:30.

3:19 Ezra 3:2; Neh 12:1; Hag 1:12 say that Zerubbabel's father was Shealtiel. Possibly Shealtiel died young and Pedaiah married his widow. See Deut 25:5-6. Or possibly Shealtiel had two names.

4:4 "Father"—here may mean either civic, political, or military leader (also in vs 12,14,17,18, and possibly elsewhere).

4:9 "Jabez"—the name means "he makes sorrowful" or "he gives pain".

4:10 At birth he gave pain to his mother, but in life

he gave joy to God. He asked for four things and received them all. The things he asked evidently pleased God and they testify to the fact that he was more honorable than his brothers. We would do well to ask for the four things he asked:

1. That God would bless us indeed
2. That God would enlarge our territories of influence, our ministries and opportunities
3. That God's hand would be with us
4. That God would keep us from evil so that it causes no pain.

4:12 "Ir-Nahash"—or "the city of Nahash" (the Hebrew word "ir" can mean town or city, but here may be a proper name).

4:13 "Othniel"—Josh 15:17; Jud 1:13; 3:9-11.

4:15 "Caleb"—Num 13:30; 14:30; Josh 14:6-15.

sons of Shelah the son of Judah were Er, the father of Lecah, and Laadah, the father of Mareshah, and the families of the house of those who made fine linen, of the house of Ashbea, ²²and Jokim, and the men of Hozeba, and Joash, and Saraph, who had the dominion in Moab, and Jashubi-lehem. And *these are* ancient records. ²³These were the potter's, and those who lived among plants and hedges; they stayed there near the king for his work.

²⁴The sons of Simeon were Nemuel and Jamin, Jarib, Zerah and Shaul; ²⁵Shallum his son, Mibsam his son, Mishma his son. ²⁶And the sons of Mishma: Hamuel his son, Zaccur his son, Shimei his son. ²⁷And Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters; but his brothers did not have many children, nor did all their family increase in number like the children of Judah. ²⁸And they lived at Beersheba and Moladah and Hazarshual, ²⁹and at Bilhah and at Ezem and at Tolad, ³⁰and at Bethuel and at Hormah and at Ziklag, ³¹and at Beth-Marcaboth and Hazar-Susim and at Beth-Birei and at Shaaraim. These were their cities until the reign of David.

³²And their villages were Etam and Ain, Rimmon and Tochen and Ashan, five towns, ³³and all their villages that were around the same towns as far as Baal. These were their habitations, and their genealogy. ³⁴And Meshobab and Jamlech and Joshah, the son of Amaziah, ³⁵and Joel and Jehu, the son of Josibiah, the son of Seraiah, the son of Asiel, ³⁶and Elioenai and Jaakobah and Jeshohaiah and Asaiah and Adiel and Jesimiel and Benaiah, ³⁷and Ziza, the son of Shiphi, the son of Allon, the son of Jedaiah, the son of Shimri, the son of Shemaiah.

³⁸These mentioned by *their* names were leaders in their families; and the house of their fathers increased greatly. ³⁹And they went to the entrance of Gedor, to the east side of the valley, to look for pasture for their flocks. ⁴⁰And they found rich and good

pasture, and the land was spacious and quiet and peaceable; for *descendants* of Ham had lived there in olden times.

⁴¹And these written by name came in the days of Hezekiah, king of Judah, and attacked their tents and the habitations that were found there, and utterly destroyed them, *as it is* to this day, and lived in their places, because *there was* pasture there for their flocks. ⁴²And *some* of them, *some* of the sons of Simeon, five hundred men, went to Mount Seir, having for their captains Pelatiah and Neariah and Rephaiah and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi. ⁴³And they struck down the rest of the Amalekites who had escaped, and they live there to this day.

5 Now the sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel (for he was the firstborn, but, since he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph, the son of Israel; and the genealogy is not to be counted according to the birthright. ²For Judah prevailed over his brothers, and from him *came* the chief ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's), ³the sons, *I say*, of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel, were Hanoch and Pallu, Hezron and Carmi. ⁴The sons of Joel: Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son, ⁵Micah his son, Reaia his son, Baal his son, ⁶Beerah his son, whom Tilgath-Pilneser, king of Assyria, took away *captive*; he was the leader of the Reubenites. ⁷And his brethren by their families, when the genealogy of their generations was listed, were Jeiel the chief, and Zechariah, ⁸and Bela, the son of Azaz, the son of Shema, the son of Joel, who lived in Aroer, as far as Nebo and Baal-Meon: ⁹and on the east he lived up to the entrance of the wilderness from the river Euphrates; because their cattle had increased in the land of Gilead. ¹⁰And in the days of Saul they made war with the Hagarites, who fell by their hand; and they lived in their tents throughout all the eastern region of Gilead.

4:24 Gen 46:10; Ex 6:15; Num 26:12-13.

4:27-33 Josh 19:1-8.

4:43 "Amalekites"— Ex 17:8-16; 1 Sam 15:7-8; 30:1-18.

5:1 "Reuben"— Gen 35:22; 49:4.

"Joseph"— Gen 48:15-16; 49:22-26; 25:31. The rights of the first born included a double portion of the father's inheritance— Deut 21:16-17. Joseph received a double portion in the land through his

two sons Manasseh and Ephraim.

5:2 "Judah"— Gen 49:8-10. The descendants of Joseph occupied the most territory in the land, but God's appointed king, David, came from Judah. 5:3 Gen 46:9; Num 26:5-6.

5:6 "Tilgath-Pilneser"— (also in v 26) is a variant form of the name "Tiglath Pileser" (2 Kings 15:29).

5:10 11:38; Ps 83:6. The Hagarites were probably descended from Hagar (Genesis chapter 16).

¹¹And the children of Gad lived opposite them, in the land of Bashan up to Salcah. ¹²Joel was their chief, and Shapham the next, and Jaanai, and Shaphat in Bashan. ¹³And their brethren of the house of their fathers were Michael and Meshullam and Sheba and Jorai and Jachan and Zia and Heber, seven. ¹⁴These are the children of Abihail, the 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, the son of Abdiel, the son of Guni, was chief of the house of their fathers. ¹⁶And they lived in Gilead in Bashan and in her towns and in all the areas of Sharon, on their borders. ¹⁷All these were listed by genealogies in the days of Jotham king of Judah and in the days of Jeroboam king of Israel.

¹⁸The sons of Reuben and the Gadites and half the tribe of Manasseh, of valiant men, men able to carry shield and sword and to shoot with the bow and skillful in war, were forty-four thousand seven hundred and sixty who went out to the war. ¹⁹And they made war with the Hagarites, with Jetur and Nephish and Nodab. ²⁰And they were helped against them, and the Hagarites were delivered into their hands, and all who were with them; for they cried out to God in the battle, and he answered them, because they put their trust in him. ²¹And they took away their livestock, fifty thousand of their camels, and two hundred and fifty thousand of their sheep, and two thousand donkeys, and a hundred thousand men. ²²For many fell slain, because the war was from God. And they lived in their places until the captivity.

²³And the children of the half tribe of Manasseh lived in the region. They became numerous from Bashan to Baal-Hermon and Senir and to Mount Hermon. ²⁴And these were the heads of the house of their fathers: Ephraim and Ishi and Eliel and Azriel and Jeremiah and Hodaviah and Jahdiel, mighty men of valour, famous men and heads of the house of their fathers.

²⁵And they transgressed against the God of their fathers, and prostituted themselves to the gods of the people of the land, whom God destroyed before them. ²⁶And the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul, king of Assyria, and the spirit of Tilgath Pilneser, king of Assyria, and he took the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half tribe of Manasseh away, and brought them to Halah and Habor and Hara and to the river Gozan, as it is to this day.

6 The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath and Merari.

²And the sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar and Hebron and Uzziel. ³And the children of Amram: Aaron and Moses and Miriam. The sons also of Aaron: Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. ⁴Eleazar begot Phinehas; Phinehas begot Abishua, ⁵and Abishua begot Bukki, and Bukki begot Uzzi, ⁶and Uzzi begot Zerahiah, and Zerahiah begot Meraioth, ⁷Meraioth begot Amariah, and Amariah begot Ahitub, ⁸and Ahitub begot Zadok, and Zadok begot Ahimaaz, ⁹and Ahimaaz begot Azariah, and Azariah begot Johanan, ¹⁰and Johanan begot Azariah (he it is who served as priest in the temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem), ¹¹and Azariah begot Amariah, and Amariah begot Ahitub, ¹²and Ahitub begot Zadok, and Zadok begot Shallum, ¹³and Shallum begot Hilkiyah, and Hilkiyah begot Azariah, ¹⁴and Azariah begot Seraiah, and Seraiah begot Jehozadak; ¹⁵and Jehozadak went into captivity, when the LORD carried away Judah and Jerusalem by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

¹⁶The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath and Merari. ¹⁷And these are the names of the sons of Gershon: Libni and Shimei. ¹⁸And the sons of Kohath were Amram and Izhar and Hebron and Uzziel. ¹⁹The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. And these are the families of the Levites according to their fathers. ²⁰Of Gershon: Libni his son,

5:17 2 Kings 14:16,28; 15:5,32.

5:20 They succeeded in this battle not because of arms and skill, but because they cried to God in faith. Compare 2 Chron 6:34-39; 13:13-16; 14:9-15; 18:31; 20:1-30; 32:1-23; Ps 18:3; 20:7-8; 22:4-5; 107:6; Zech 4:6; Eph 6:10,16,18.

5:22 Deut 3:22; 20:4; Josh 23:10-11; 2 Chron 32:8.

5:23 "Manasseh"— Num 32:19; Josh 22:7.

5:25 "Prostituted themselves"— Ex 34:14-15;

Isa 1:21; Jer 2:20; Ezek 16:15,23; 23:3; Hos 1:2; 5:3.

5:26 2 Kings 15:19,29; 17:6-23; 18:11.

6:1 23:6; Gen 46:11; Ex 6:16; Num 26:57.

6:3 "Nadab, Abihu"— Lev 10:1-2.

"Eliezer"— the first high priest after Aaron. The list up to v 16 gives the names of the high priests until the Babylonian captivity.

6:16-50 Ex 6:16-24.

Jahath his son, Zimmah his son, ²¹Joah his son, Iddo his son, Zerah his son, Jeaterai his son. ²²The sons of Kohath: Amminadab his son, Korah his son, Assir his son, ²³Elkanah his son, and Ebiasaph his son, and Assir his son, ²⁴Tahath his son, Uriel his son, Uzziyah his son, and Shaul his son. ²⁵and the sons of Elkanah: Amasai and Ahimoth. ²⁶As for Elkanah, the sons of Elkanah were Zophai his son and Nahath his son, ²⁷Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, Elkanah his son. ²⁸And the sons of Samuel: the firstborn Vashni, and Abiah. ²⁹The sons of Merari: Mahli, Libni his son, Shimei his son, Uzza his son, ³⁰Shimea his son, Haggiah his son, Asaiah his son.

³¹And these are the ones whom David appointed over the service of song in the house of the LORD, after the ark had rest. ³²And they served before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of the congregation with singing, until Solomon built the house of the LORD in Jerusalem; and then they served in their office according to their order. ³³And these are the ones who served with their children: of the sons of the Kohathites, Heman a 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; ³⁹and his brother Asaph, who stood at his right hand, Asaph the son of Berachiah, the son of Shimea, ⁴⁰the son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah, the son of Malchiah, 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. ⁴⁴And their brethren, the sons of Merari, stood at the left hand: 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 Shamer, ⁴⁷the son of Mahli, the son of Mushi, the son of Merari, the son of Levi. ⁴⁸Their brethren also, the Levites, were appointed to all kinds of service of the tabernacle of the house of God.

⁴⁹But Aaron and his sons made offerings on the altar of burnt offering, and on the altar of incense, and were appointed for all the work of the Most Holy Place, and to make an atonement for Israel, in accordance with all that Moses the servant of God had commanded. ⁵⁰And these are the sons of Aaron: Eleazar his son, Phinehas his son, Abishua his son, ⁵¹Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, Zerariah his son, ⁵²Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son, ⁵³Zadok his son, Ahimaaz his son.

⁵⁴Now these are their dwelling places, throughout their camps, within their territories, of the sons of Aaron, of the families of the Kohathites, according to their allotment. ⁵⁵And they gave them Hebron in the land of Judah, and its pasture lands around it. ⁵⁶But the fields of the city and its villages, they gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh. ⁵⁷And to the sons of Aaron they gave these cities of Judah: Hebron, the city of refuge, and Libnah with its pasture lands, and Jattir and Eshtemoa, with their pasture lands, ⁵⁸and Hilen with its pasture lands, Debir with its pasture lands, ⁵⁹and Ashan with its pasture lands, and Beth Shemesh with its pasture lands; ⁶⁰and from the tribe of Benjamin they gave Geba with its pasture lands, and Alemeth with its pasture lands, and Anathoth with its pasture lands. All their cities throughout their families were thirteen cities.

⁶¹And to the sons of Kohath, who were left of the family of that tribe, cities were given from the half tribe, from the half tribe of Manasseh, by lot, ten cities. ⁶²And to the sons of Gershom throughout their families from the tribe of Issachar and from the tribe of Asher and from the tribe of Naphtali and from the tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities. ⁶³To the sons of Merari were

6:31 "Service of song"— 15:16,27; 25:1-31; 2 Chron 29:25-26.

"Ark"— 2 Sam 6:17.

6:32 "House of the LORD"— 1 Kings chapter 6.

6:33 "Heman"— 25:1.

"Samuel"— 1 Sam 1:20.

6:34 "Elkanah"— 1 Sam 1:1.

6:39 25:1; Ps 50; 73—83.

6:44 "Ethan"— 15:19.

6:48 "House of God"— 23:32; Num 3:5-8.

6:54-81 Josh 21:1-42.

6:56 Josh 14:13; 15:13.

6:57 "City of refuge"— Num 35:6-28.

given by lot, throughout their families, from the tribe of Reuben and from the tribe of Gad and from the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities. ⁶⁴And the children of Israel gave to the Levites *these* cities with their pasture lands. ⁶⁵And they gave by lot from the tribe of the children of Judah and from the tribe of the children of Simeon and from the tribe of the children of Benjamin, these cities, which are called by *their* names.

⁶⁶And *the rest* of the families of the sons of Kohath had cities for their of their territory from the tribe of Ephraim. ⁶⁷And they gave to them, as cities of refuge, Shechem, in the hill country of Ephraim, with its pasture lands; they also gave Gezer with its pasture lands, ⁶⁸and Jokmeam with its pasture lands and Beth-Horon with its pasture lands, ⁶⁹and Aijalon with its pasture lands, and Gath Rimmon with its pasture lands. ⁷⁰And from the half tribe of Manasseh *they gave* Aner with its pasture lands, and Bileam with its pasture lands, for the family of the rest of the sons of Kohath.

⁷¹To the sons of Gershom *these were given* from the family of the half tribe of Manasseh: Golan in Bashan with its pasture lands and Ashtaroth with its pasture lands; ⁷²and from the tribe of Issachar, Kedesh with its pasture lands, Daberath with its pasture lands, ⁷³and Ramoth with its pasture lands and Anem with its pasture lands; ⁷⁴and from the tribe of Asher, Mashal with its pasture lands and Abdon with its pasture lands, ⁷⁵and Hukok with its pasture lands and Rehob with its pasture lands; ⁷⁶and from the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee with its pasture lands and Hammon with its pasture lands and Kirjathaim with its pasture lands.

⁷⁷To the rest of the children of Merari *were given* from the tribe of Zebulun, Rimmon with its pasture lands, Tabor with its pasture lands; ⁷⁸and on the other side of the Jordan near Jericho, on the east side of the Jordan, *were given to them* from the tribe of Reuben, Bezer in the wilderness with its pasture lands and Jahzah with its pasture lands,

⁷⁹Kedemoth also with its pasture lands and Mephaath with its pasture lands; ⁸⁰and from the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with its pasture lands and Mahanaim with its pasture lands, ⁸¹and Heshbon with its pasture lands and Jazer with its pasture lands.

7 Now the sons of Issachar *were* Tola and Puah, Jashub and Shimrom, four. ²And the sons of Tola: Uzzi and Rephaiah and Jeriel and Jahmai and Jibsam and Shemuel, heads of their father's house, *that is*, of Tola. *They were* strong valiant men in their generations. Their number in the days of David was twenty-two thousand six hundred. ³And the sons of Uzzi: Izrahiah, and the sons of Izrahiah: Michael and Obadiah and Joel, Ishiah, five; all of them chief men. ⁴And with them, by their generations, according to the house of their fathers, *were* bands of soldiers for war, thirty-six thousand *men*; for they had many wives and sons. ⁵And their brethren among all the families of Issachar *were* strong valiant men, listed by their genealogies, in all eighty-seven thousand.

⁶*The sons* of Benjamin: Bela and Becher and Jediael, three. ⁷And the sons of Bela: Ezbon and Uzzi and Uzziel and Jerimoth and Iri, five. *They were* heads of the house of *their* fathers, mighty men of valour; and were listed by their genealogies twenty-two thousand and thirty-four. ⁸And the sons of Becher: Zemirah and Joash and Eliezer and Elioenai and Omri and Jerimoth and Abiah and Anathoth and Alemeth. All these *are* the sons of Becher. ⁹and their number according to their genealogy by their generations, heads of the house of their fathers, mighty men of valour, *was* twenty thousand two hundred.

¹⁰And the sons of Jediael: Bilhan and the sons of Bilhan: Jeush and Benjamin and Ehud and Chenaanah and Zetan and Tarshish and Alishahar. ¹¹All these, the sons of Jediael, by the heads of their fathers, mighty men of valour, *were* seventeen thousand two hundred *soldiers*, prepared to go out for war *and* battle. ¹²Shupim also and Hupim, the

7:1 "Issachar"— Gen 46:13; Num 1:28; 26:23-25. 7:6 1 Chron 8:1-40. Some think that Benjamin here is a copying mistake for Zebulun, because otherwise the genealogy of Zebulun is missing, and because it is difficult to reconcile the genealogy here with that of chapter 8. This could be the genealogy of Zebulun if he also had a son named Bela, which is not at all impossible,

even though Bela is listed elsewhere as the son of Benjamin, but never of Zebulun. See Num 26:26-27,38-41. If the genealogy of Zebulun is missing, it would be the same case as that of Dan which is missing. However that may be, the emphasis in the two books of the Chronicles is not on the northern tribes but on those which comprised the southern kingdom of Judah—8:1.

children of Ir, and Hushim, the sons of Aher.

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

¹⁴The sons of Manasseh: Ashriel, whom she bore (*but* his concubine, the Aramitess, bore Machir the father of Gilead. ¹⁵And Machir took as wife *the sister* of Huppim and Shuppim, whose sister's name was Maachah), and the name of the second was Zelophehad. And Zelophehad had daughters. ¹⁶And Maachah, the wife of Machir, bore a son and she called his name Peresh; and the name of his brother was Sheresh; and his sons were Ulam and Rakem. ¹⁷And the son of Ulam: Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh. ¹⁸And his sister Hammoleketh bore Ishod and Abiezer and Mahalah. ¹⁹And the sons of Shemidah were Ahian and Shechem and Likhi and Aniam.

²⁰And the sons of Ephraim: Shuthelah, and Bered his son, and Tahath his son, and Eladah his son, and Tahath his son, ²¹and Zabab his son, and Shuthelah his son, and Ezer, and Elead, whom the men of Gath *who were born in that land* killed, because they came down to take away their livestock. ²²And their father Ephraim mourned many days, and his brethren came to comfort him. ²³And when he went in to his wife, she conceived, and bore a son, and he called his name Beriah, because things were going bad with his household. ²⁴And his daughter was Sherah, who built Lower and Upper Beth Horon, and Uzzen Sherah. ²⁵And Rephah was his son, also Resheph, and Telah his son, and Tahan his son, ²⁶Laadan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son, ²⁷Non his son, Jehoshuah his son.

²⁸And their possessions and habitations were Bethel and its towns, and Naaran on the east, and Gezer on the west, with its towns; Shechem also and its towns, as far as Gaza and its towns; ²⁹and by the borders of the children of Manasseh, Bethshean and its towns, Taanach and its towns, Megiddo

and its towns, Dor and its towns. In these the children of Joseph, the son of Israel, lived.

³⁰The sons of Asher: Imnah and Isuah and Ishuai and Beriah and Serah, their sister. ³¹And the sons of Beriah: Heber and Malchiel, who *is* the father of Birzavith. ³²And Heber begot Japhlet and Shomer and Hotham and Shua, their sister. ³³And the sons of Japhlet: Pasach and Bimhal and Ashvath. These *are* the children of Japhlet. ³⁴And the sons of Shamer: Ahi and Rohgah, Jehubbah and Aram. ³⁵And the sons of his brother Helem: Zophah and Imna and Shelesh and Amal. ³⁶The sons of Zophah: Suah and Harnepher and Shual and Beri and Imrah, ³⁷Bezer and Hod and Shamma and Shilshah and Ithran and Beera. ³⁸And the sons of Jether: Jephunneh and Pispah and Ara. ³⁹And the sons of Ulla: Arah and Haniel and Rezia. ⁴⁰All these were the children of Asher, heads of *their* father's house, choice *and* mighty men of valour, chief of the leaders. And the number throughout the genealogy of those who were prepared for war *and* for battle was twenty-six thousand men.

8 Now Benjamin begot Bela his firstborn, Ashbel the second, and Aharah the third, ²Nohah the fourth and Rapha the fifth. ³And the sons of Bela were Addar and Gera and Abihud ⁴and Abishua and Naaman and Ahoah ⁵and Gera and Shephuphan and Hiram.

⁶And these *are* the sons of Ehud: these are the heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Geba, and they were exiled to Manahath: ⁷and Naaman and Ahijah and Gera; he exiled them, and begot Uzza, and Ahihud.

⁸And Shaharaim begot *children* in the country of Moab, after he had sent away Hushim and Baara, his wives. ⁹And he begot of Hodesh his wife, Jobab and Zibia and Mesha and Malcham ¹⁰and Jeuz and Shachia and Mirma. These *were* his sons, heads of the fathers' *households*. ¹¹And by Hushim he begot Abitub and Elpaal.

7:20 Num 26:35-36.

7:23 "*Beriah*"—this name sounds like the Hebrew word for "misfortune".

7:24 Josh 16:3,5.

7:30 Gen 46:17; Num 26:44-46.

8:1 7:6-12; Gen 46:21. More space is given to the genealogy of Benjamin, Judah and Levi than all the other tribes put together. The author's purpose, guided by the Holy Spirit,

was to focus attention on the southern kingdom of Judah. Levi was important because the priesthood and temple service in Jerusalem were in the hands of this tribe. Benjamin was important because Saul, the first king of Israel, was a Benjamite, and part of the territory of Benjamin was later taken into the southern kingdom of Judah.

8:6 "*Ehud*"—Jud 3:12-30.

¹²The sons of Elpaal: Eber and Misham and Shamed, who built Ono and Lod, with its towns; ¹³Beriah also and Shema, who were heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Aijalon, who drove away the inhabitants of Gath; ¹⁴and Ahio, Shashak and Jeremoth ¹⁵and Zebadiah and Arad and Ader ¹⁶and Michael and Ispah and Joha, the sons of Beriah; ¹⁷and Zebadiah and Meshullam and Hezeki and Heber, ¹⁸Ishmerai also, and Jezliah and Jobab, the sons of Elpaal, ¹⁹and Jakim and Zichri and Zabdi, ²⁰and Elienai and Zilthai and Eliel, ²¹and Adaiah and Beraiah and Shimrath, the sons of Shimhi, ²²and Ishpan and Heber and Eliel ²³and Abdon and Zichri and Hanan ²⁴and Hananiah and Elam and Antothijah ²⁵and Iphedeiah and Penuel, the sons of Shashak ²⁶and Shamsherai and Shehariah and Athaliah ²⁷and Jaresiah and Eliah and Zichri, the sons of Jeroham.

²⁸These were heads of the fathers' households, by their generations, chief men. These lived in Jerusalem.

²⁹And the father of Gibeon lived at Gibeon. His wife's name was Maachah; ³⁰and his firstborn son Abdon, and Zur and Kish and Baal and Nadab ³¹and Gedor and Ahio and Zacher. ³²And Mikloth begot Shimeah. And these also lived with their brethren in Jerusalem, opposite them. ³³And Ner begot Kish, and Kish begot Saul, and Saul begot Jonathan and Malchishua and Abinadab and Eshbaal. ³⁴And the son of Jonathan was Meribbaal; and Meribbaal begot Micah. ³⁵And the sons of Micah were Pithon and Melech and Tarea and Ahaz. ³⁶And Ahaz begot Jehoadah; and Jehoadah begot Alemeth and Azmaveth and Zimri; and Zimri begot Moza, ³⁷and Moza begot Binea. Rapha was his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son. ³⁸And Azel had six sons, whose names are these: Azrikam, Bocheru and Ishmael and Sheariah and Obadiah and Hanan. All these were the sons of Azel. ³⁹And the sons of Eshek his brother were Ulam his firstborn, Jehush the second, and Eliphelet the third.

⁴⁰And the sons of Ulam were mighty men of valour, archers, and had many sons and grandsons, a hundred and fifty. All these are descendants of Benjamin.

9 So all Israel was listed by genealogies, and these were written down in the book of The Kings of Israel and Judah (who was taken away to Babylon because of their transgression).

²Now the first who lived in their possessions in their cities were some Israelites, the priests, Levites, and the Nethinim. ³And in Jerusalem lived some of the children of Judah and the children of Benjamin and the children of Ephraim and Manasseh: ⁴Uthai the son of Ammihud, the son of Omri, the son of Imri, the son of Bani, of the children of Pharez the son of Judah; ⁵and of the Shilonites, Asaiah the firstborn, and his sons; ⁶and of the sons of Zerach, Jeuel, and their brethren, six hundred and ninety; ⁷and of the sons of Benjamin, Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Hodaviah, the son of Hasenuah, ⁸and Ibneiah the son of Jeroham, and Elah the son of Uzzi, the son of Michri, and Meshullam the son of Shephathiah, the son of Reuel, the son of Ibnijah, ⁹and their brethren, according to their generations, nine hundred and fifty-six. All these men were chief of the fathers in the house of their ancestors.

¹⁰And of the priests, Jedaiah and Jehoiarib and Jachin ¹¹and Azariah, the son of Hilkiyah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the ruler of the house of God, ¹²and Adaiah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchijah, and Maasiai, the son of Adiel, the son of Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer, ¹³and their brethren, heads of the house of their fathers, a thousand seven hundred and sixty, very able men for the work of the service of the house of God.

¹⁴And of the Levites, Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the

8:29 9:35-38.

"Father"— here the word may mean political or civic or military leader.

8:33 "Saul"— 9:39-44; 1 Sam 9:1-2; 10:1; 14:49; 31:2.

"Eshbaal"— also known as Ish-Bosheth.

8:34 "Jonathan"— 1 Sam 14:1-15; 18:1.

"Meribbaal"— another name for Mephibosheth (2 Sam 4:4).

9:1 "Babylon"— 2 Chron 36:15-20; Jer 52:1-27.

9:2 "First who lived in"— after the return from exile in Babylon — Ezra 2:70; Neh 7:73; 11:3-4.

9:3 "Manasseh"— among those who returned from exile were members of the northern tribes as well as some from Judah, Benjamin and Levi. God preserved all Israel.

son of Hashabiah, of the sons of Merari,¹⁵ and Bakbakkar, Heresh and Galal and Mattaniah the son of Micah, the son of Zichri, the son of Asaph,¹⁶ and Obadiah, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun, and Berechiah, the son of Asa, the son of Elkanah, who lived in the villages of the Netophathites.

¹⁷And the gatekeepers were Shallum and Akkub and Talmon and Ahiman and their brethren, Shallum *being* the chief. ¹⁸Before this they *served* at the eastern gate of the king. They were gatekeepers in the companies of the children of Levi. ¹⁹And Shallum the son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his brethren, of the house of his father, the Korahites, were over the work of the service, gatekeepers of the tabernacle, as their fathers *had been* over the camp of the LORD, guarding the entrance. ²⁰And Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, had the supervision over them in time past, and the LORD was with him. ²¹And Zechariah, the son of Meshelemiah, was the doorkeeper of the tabernacle of the congregation. ²²All these *who were* chosen to be gatekeepers were two hundred and twelve. These were listed by their genealogy in their villages. David and Samuel the seer ordained them in their set office. ²³So they and their children *had* the oversight of the gates of the house of the LORD, the house of the tabernacle, as guards. ²⁴The gatekeepers were in four quarters, toward the east, west, north, and south. ²⁵And their brethren, *who were* in their villages, were to come in after seven days from time to time *to be* with them. ²⁶For these Levites, the four chief gatekeepers, were in *their* set office and were over the rooms and treasuries of the house of God. ²⁷And they stayed at night around the house of God, because the watch was committed to them, and opening *up the house of God* every morning was in their care.

²⁸And *some* of them had charge of the

9:19 “*Tabernacle*”– here simply means God’s dwelling place (the temple) with His people, and not the literal tabernacle, which was no longer standing. Also in vs 21,23.

9:20 “*Phinehas*”– Num 25:6-13.

9:22 “*Gatekeepers*”– 26:1.

“*Seer*”– 1 Sam 9:9.

9:27 “*Watch*”– there were valuable articles of gold and silver in the temple (Ezra 1:11), and enemies of Israel in the neighborhood (Neh 4:7-9). More importantly, all persons who had no right to

articles for the service to bring them in and out by count. ²⁹*Some* of them also were appointed to oversee the articles and all the furniture of the sanctuary, and the fine flour and the wine and the oil and the frankincense and the spices. ³⁰And *some* of the sons of the priests made the ointment from the spices. ³¹And Mattithiah, *one* of the Levites, who was the firstborn of Shallum the Korahite, had the oversight of the things that were made in pans. ³²And *others* of their brethren, of the sons of the Kohathites, were over the Showbread, to prepare *it* every Sabbath.

³³And these were the singers, chief of the fathers of the Levites, *who stayed* in the rooms and were free from other service; for they were employed in *that* work day and night. ³⁴These chief fathers of the Levites were chief throughout their generations. They lived at Jerusalem.

³⁵And in Gibeon the father of Gibeon, Jehiel, lived. His wife’s name was Maachah, ³⁶and his firstborn son was Abdon, then Zur and Kish and Baal and Ner and Nadab, ³⁷and Gedor and Ahio and Zechariah and Mikloth. ³⁸And Mikloth begot Shimeam. And they also lived with their brethren at Jerusalem, opposite their brethren. ³⁹And Ner begot Kish; and Kish begot Saul; and Saul begot Jonathan and Malchishua and Abinadab and Eshbaal. ⁴⁰And the son of Jonathan was Merib-baal. And Merib-baal begot Micah. ⁴¹And the sons of Micah were Pithon and Melech and Tahrea and Ahaz. ⁴²And Ahaz begot Jarah; and Jarah begot Alemeth and Azmaveth and Zimri; and Zimri begot Moza; ⁴³and Moza begot Binea; and Rephaiah his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son. ⁴⁴And Azel had six sons, whose names are these: Azrikam, Bocheru, and Ishmael and Sheariah and Obadiah and Hanan. These were the sons of Azel.

10 Now the Philistines fought against Israel, and the men of Israel fled from

enter the temple had to be kept out so that the temple be not defiled.

9:29 23:29.

9:30 “*Spices*”– Ex 30:23-25.

9:32 “*Showbread*”– Ex 30:30; Lev 24:5-8.

9:33 “*Singers*”– 6:31-45; 25:1; Ps 134:1.

9:35-44 8:29-38.

9:39 “*Eshbaal*” (v 39) – also known as Ish-Bosheth. “*Marib-baal*” (v 40) – also known as Mephibosheth.

10:1-12 1 Sam 31:1-13.

before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa. ²And the Philistines followed closely after Saul and after his sons, and the Philistines killed Jonathan and Abinadab and Malchishua, the sons of Saul. ³And the battle grew heavy against Saul, and the archers hit him, and he was wounded by the archers. ⁴Then Saul said to his armour bearer, "Draw your sword and pierce me with it; or else these uncircumcised will come and abuse me". But his armour bearer would not, for he was very afraid. So Saul took a sword and fell on it. ⁵And when his armour bearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on a sword and died. ⁶So Saul died and his three sons; and all his household died together.

⁷And when all the men of Israel who were in the valley saw that *the army* was fleeing, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook their cities and fled; and the Philistines came and lived in them. ⁸And it came to pass on the next day, when the Philistines came to strip those who had been killed, that they found Saul and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. ⁹And when they had stripped him, they took his head and his armour and sent *them* into the surrounding countryside of the Philistines, to take the news to their idols and to the people. ¹⁰And they put his armour in the house of their gods, and fastened his head in the temple of Dagon. ¹¹And when all Jabesh Gilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul, ¹²all the valiant men arose, and took away the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons and brought them to Jabesh, and buried their bones under the oak in Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

¹³So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, against the word of the LORD, which he did not keep, and also for consulting *someone who was* a medium, to inquire *of her*, ¹⁴and did not inquire of the LORD; therefore he killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.

11 Then all Israel gathered together to David at Hebron, saying, "See, we are your bone and your flesh. ²Also in time past, even when Saul was king, you were the one who led Israel out and brought *them* in; and the LORD your God said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will be ruler over my people Israel.' " ³So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD; and they anointed David king over Israel, in accordance with the word of the LORD by Samuel.

⁴And David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, which *is* Jebus, where the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, were. ⁵And the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "You will not get in here!" Nevertheless David took the fortress of Zion, which *is* the city of David. ⁶And David said, "Whoever strikes the Jebusites first will be chief and commander". So Joab, the son of Zeruah, went up first up, and became chief. ⁷And David lived in the fortress; therefore they called it the city of David. ⁸And he built up the city around *it*, from Millo all around; and Joab repaired the rest of the city. ⁹So David became greater and greater, for the LORD of hosts was with him.

¹⁰And these *are* the chief of the mighty men whom David had, who used their strength with him for his kingdom *and* with all Israel, to make him king, in accordance with the word of the LORD concerning Israel. ¹¹And this *is* the list of David's mighty men: Jashobeam, a Hachmonite, the chief of the thirty; he raised his spear against three hundred *who* were killed *by him* at one time. ¹²And after him was Eleazar, the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was *one* of the three mighty ones. ¹³He was with David at Pasdammim; and there the Philistines were gathered together to battle, where there was a plot of ground full of barley; and the people fled from before the Philistines. ¹⁴And they took their stand in the middle of *that* plot and defended it and struck down the

10:13-14 1 Sam 13:13-14; 15:23; 28:7-19. Here the sin of consulting a medium is emphasized. Consulting such persons is condemned in the law of God (Deut 18:9-14), and Saul himself knew it was wrong when he did it (1 Sam 28:3).

11:1-3 2 Sam 5:1-3. See notes there.

11:4-9 2 Sam 5:6-10. See notes there.

11:10-41 2 Sam 23:8-39. See notes there.

11:11 "*Jashobeam*"—a shortened form of the name Josheb-Basshebeth in 2 Sam 23:8. "Tahkemonite" is the word there, "Hachmonite" here. There it speaks of eight hundred men being killed, here of only three hundred. It is in the realm of possibility that these two references record two different occasions, and two different persons among David's mighty men.

Philistines; and the Lord saved *them* with a great deliverance.

¹⁵Now three of the thirty chiefs went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam; and the army of the Philistines was camping in the valley of Rephaim. ¹⁶And David was then in the stronghold, and a garrison of the Philistines was then at Bethlehem. ¹⁷And David felt a longing and said, "Oh, that someone would give me a drink of water from the well of Bethlehem, that is by the gate!" ¹⁸And the three broke through the army of the Philistines, and drew water from the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took *it* and brought *it* to David. But David would not drink it, but poured it out to the LORD, ¹⁹and said, "My God forbid this to me, that I should do this thing! Should I drink the blood of these men who have put their lives in jeopardy? For in *peril* of their lives they brought this". Therefore he would not drink it. The three mighty men did these things.

²⁰And Abishai, the brother of Joab, was chief of the three; for raising his spear against three hundred, he killed *them*, and had a name among the three. ²¹He was more honoured than two of the three in the second rank; for he was their captain. However, he did not attain to the *first* three.

²²Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man from Kabzeel, who had done many deeds, killed two lion-like men of Moab. Also he went down and killed a lion in a pit on a snowy day. ²³And he killed an Egyptian, a man of *great* stature, five cubits tall; and *there* was a spear like a weaver's beam in the Egyptian's hand; and he went down to him with a staff, and tore the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and killed him with his own spear. ²⁴Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, did these *things*, and had a name among the three mighty men. ²⁵See, he was honoured among the thirty, but did not attain to the *first* three. And David set him over his guard.

²⁶Also the mighty men in the armies were Asahel, the brother of Joab, Elhanan, the son of Dodo of Bethlehem, ²⁷Shammoth the Hararite, Helez the Pelonite, ²⁸Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Anathothite,

²⁹Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite, ³⁰Maharai the Netophathite, Heled, the son of Baanah the Netophathite, ³¹Ithai, the son of Ribai of Gibeah, *who belonged* to the children of Benjamin, Benaiah the Pirathonite, ³²Hurai from the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite, ³³Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite, ³⁴the sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan, the son of Shage the Hararite, ³⁵Ahiam, the son of Sacar the Hararite, Eliphai, the son of Ur, ³⁶Hepher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite, ³⁷Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai, the son of Ezbai, ³⁸Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Haggeri, ³⁹Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the armour bearer of Joab, the son of Zeruah, ⁴⁰Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite, ⁴¹Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai, ⁴²Adina, the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a captain of the Reubenites, and thirty with him, ⁴³Hanan, the son of Maachah, Joshaphat the Mithnite, ⁴⁴Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jehiel, the sons of Hothan the Aroerite, ⁴⁵Jediael, the son of Shimri, and his brother Joha, the Tizite, ⁴⁶Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite, ⁴⁷Eliel and Obed, and Jasiel the Mesobaite.

12 Now these *are the* ones who came to David at Ziklag, while he was still kept away from Saul the son of Kish; and they *were* among the mighty men, helpers in the war. ²*They were* armed with bows, and could use both the right hand and the left in *slinging* stones and *shooting* arrows from a bow. *They were* Saul's relatives from Benjamin. ³The chief was Ahiezer, then Joash, the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite; and Jeziel and Pelet, the sons of Azmaveth, and Berachah and Jehu the Anathothite ⁴and Ismaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty man among the thirty, and over the thirty; and Jeremiah and Jahaziel and Johanan and Josabad the Gederathite ⁵Eluzai and Jerimoth and Bealiah and Shemariah and Shephatiah the Haruphite ⁶Elkanah and Jesiah and Azareel and Joezer and Jashobeam, the Korhites ⁷and Joelah and Zebadiah, the sons of Jeroham of Gedor.

11:41-47 Uriah is last on the list in 2 Samuel chapter 23. Here several additional names are given. As days passed, the number grew. **12:1** 1 Sam 27.

12:2 This chapter shows the general support for David not merely in Judah, his own tribe, but in the other tribes of Israel. Even some of Saul's kinsmen deserted to David before Saul's death.

⁸And from the Gadites *some* came away to David at the stronghold in the wilderness, mighty men and warriors *prepared* for the battle, who could handle shield and spear, whose faces *were like* the faces of lions, and who *were* as swift as the gazelles on the mountains; ⁹Ezer the first, Obadiah the second, Eliab the third, ¹⁰Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah the fifth, ¹¹Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh, ¹²Johanan the eighth, Elzabad the ninth, ¹³Jeremiah the tenth, Machbanai the eleventh. ¹⁴These descendants of Gad *were* captains in the army; one of the least *was* over a hundred, and the greatest over a thousand. ¹⁵These *are* the ones who crossed the Jordan in the first month, when it had flooded all of its banks, and put to flight all *those living* in valleys, *both* toward the east and toward the west.

¹⁶And *some* of the children of Benjamin and Judah came to the stronghold to David. ¹⁷And David went out to meet them, and responded and said to them, "If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be knit to you. But if *you have come* to betray me to my enemies, since my hands *have done* no wrong, the God of our fathers look on this, and rebuke *it*". ¹⁸Then the Spirit came on Amasai, *who was* chief of the captains, *and he said*, "We are yours, David, and on your side, son of Jesse. Peace, peace *be* to you, and peace *be* to those who help you; for your God is helping you". Then David received them, and made them captains in *his raiding* band.

¹⁹And *some* from *the tribe* of Manasseh defected to David, when he was coming with *the Philistines* to fight against Saul; but they did not help the Philistines, because the lords of the Philistines, after conferring, sent him away, saying, "He will defect to his master Saul to *the jeopardy* of our heads". ²⁰When he went to Ziklag, from Manasseh *these* defected to him: Adnah and Jozabad and Jedaiel and Michael and Jozabad and Elihu and Zilthai, captains of the thousands

who *were* from Manasseh. ²¹And they helped David against the band of *raiders*; for they *were* all mighty men of valour, and were captains in the army. ²²For at *that* time, day by day, *others* came to David to help him, until *it became* a great army, like the army of God.

²³And these *are* the numbers of the bands *that were* equipped for war, *who* came to David at Hebron, to turn the kingdom of Saul over to him, in accordance with the word of the LORD: ²⁴the children of Judah who bore shield and spear *were* six thousand eight hundred, equipped for war; ²⁵of the children of Simeon, mighty men of valour for the war, seven thousand one hundred; ²⁶of the children of Levi four thousand six hundred; ²⁷and Jehoiada *was* the leader of the Aaronites, and with him *were* three thousand seven hundred; ²⁸and Zadok, a valiant young warrior, and twenty-two captains from his father's house; ²⁹and three thousand of the children of Benjamin, the kinsmen of Saul; for until then the greatest part of them had kept *their* allegiance to the house of Saul; ³⁰and twenty thousand eight hundred of the children of Ephraim, valiant fighters, famous throughout the house of their fathers; ³¹and eighteen thousand of the half tribe of Manasseh, who were designated by name to come and make David king; ³²and *some* of the children of Issachar, *men* who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; their chiefs *were* two hundred; and all their brethren *were* at their command; ³³fifty thousand of Zebulun, who went forth to battle, expert in war, with all the weapons of war, who could keep rank; *they were* not of double heart; ³⁴and a thousand captains of Naphtali, and thirty-seven thousand with them with shield and spear; ³⁵and twenty-eight thousand six hundred of the Danites, expert in war; ³⁶and forty thousand of Asher, who went forth to battle, expert in war; ³⁷and on the other side of the Jordan, a hundred and twenty

12:8 "*Gadites*"— from the tribe of Gad which had settled east of the Jordan River (Num 32:1-5,33).

12:15 "*First month*"— Nisan, which included parts of which we call March and April. Rain and melting snow from northern mountains then caused the Jordan to flood. See Josh 3:15.

12:16 "*Stronghold*"— 1 Sam 22:4; 23:29; 24:22.

12:18 "*Spirit*"— the allegiance of these men to David was the work of God.

12:19 1 Sam 29:2-9.

12:20 1 Sam 27.

12:23 "*Hebron*"— 2 Sam 5:1-3.

"*Word of the LORD*"— 1 Sam 16:1,11-13.

12:32 "*Understanding of the times*"— the ability to understand the times and to know what a people should do is a great gift from God, and one much needed in every generation.

thousand of the Reubenites and the Gadites and of the half tribe of Manasseh, with all kinds of weapons for the battle.

³⁸All these warriors who could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron to make David king over all Israel; and also all the rest of Israel were of one heart to make David king. ³⁹And there they were with David three days, eating and drinking; for their brethren had prepared for them. ⁴⁰Moreover, their neighbors, even as far as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, brought bread on donkeys and on camels and on mules and on oxen, *and* meat, flour, cakes of figs and bunches of raisins and wine and oil and oxen and sheep in abundance; for *there was joy* in Israel.

13 And David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, *and* with each leader. ²And David said to all the congregation of Israel, “If *it seems* good to you, and *if it is* from the LORD our God, let us send *word* out to our brethren everywhere, *those* remaining in the whole land of Israel, and *along* with them to the priests and Levites *who are* in their cities *and* pasture lands, so that they may gather here with us. ³And let us bring back the ark of our God to us; for we did not consult *God* by it in the days of Saul”.

⁴And all the congregation said that they would do so, for in the eyes of all the people it was the right thing *to do*. ⁵So David gathered all Israel together, from Shihor of Egypt to the entrance of Hemath, to bring the ark of God from Kirjath-Jearim. ⁶And David went up, and all Israel, to Baalah, *that is*, to Kirjath-Jearim, which *belonged* to Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God the LORD, who dwells *between* the cherubim, which is called by *his* name. ⁷And they carried the ark of God in a new cart from the house of Abinadab; and Uzza and Ahio were driving the cart. ⁸And David and

all Israel were celebrating before God with all *their* might, and with singing and with harps and with lyres and with tambourines and with cymbals and with trumpets.

⁹And when they came to the threshing floor of Kidon, Uzza put out his hand to take hold of the ark, for the oxen stumbled. ¹⁰And the anger of the LORD burned against Uzza and he struck him down, because he put his hand on the ark; and there he died before God. ¹¹And David was displeased, because the LORD’s *anger* had broken out against Uzza. Therefore that place is called Perez-Uzza to this day. ¹²And David was afraid of God that day, saying, “How shall I bring the ark of God to me?” ¹³So David did not bring the ark to himself to the city of David, but carried it aside into the house of Obed Edom the Gittite. ¹⁴And the ark of God remained with the family of Obed Edom in his house three months. And the LORD blessed the house of Obed Edom, and all that he had.

14 Now Hiram, king of Tyre, sent messengers to David, and cedar timber, with masons and carpenters, to build him a house. ²And David perceived that the LORD had confirmed him as king over Israel, for his kingdom was greatly exalted, because of his people Israel.

³And David took more wives at Jerusalem, and David begot more sons and daughters. ⁴Now these *are* the names of *the* children whom he had in Jerusalem: Shammua, and Shobab, Nathan and Solomon, ⁵and Ithar and Elishua and Elpalet ⁶and Nogah and Nepheg and Japhia ⁷and Elishama and Beeliada and Eliphalet.

⁸And when the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to look for David. And David heard *of it*, and went out against them. ⁹And the Philistines came and spread out in the valley of Rephaim. ¹⁰And David

12:38 Verse 2.

12:40 These tribes were in Galilee in the north of the land.

“*Joy*”—the troubles Saul brought on the country were over, the people were united behind a strong and godly leader, God was with them, the future was bright.

13:3 The ark had been captured by the Philistines (1 Sam 4:10-11). The story of what they did with it is found in 1 Samuel chapter 6. The ark was

the place where God met with Moses and gave him commands for Israel (Ex 25:22). Perhaps previous to this, at some periods in their history Israel’s leaders sought God’s will in the presence of the ark, but there is no record of this.

13:5-14 2 Sam 6:1-11. See notes there.

13:5 “*Shihor of Egypt to the entrance of Hemath*”—an expression meaning from one end of the country to the other. Hamath was in the far north of the land.

14:1-16 2 Sam 5:11-25. See notes there.

inquired of God, saying, “Shall I go up against the Philistines? And will you deliver them into my hand?” And the LORD said to him, “Go up; for I will deliver them into your hands”. ¹¹So they came up to Baal-Perazim, and David struck them there. Then David said, “God has broken through my enemies by my hand like the breaking out of waters”. So they called the name of that place Baal Perazim. ¹²And the *Philistines* left their gods behind there, and David gave an order, and they were burned with fire.

¹³And once more the Philistines spread out in the valley. ¹⁴Therefore David again inquired of God; and God said to him, “Do not go up after them. Turn away from them and attack them opposite the mulberry trees. ¹⁵And it is to be *like this*: when you hear a sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you must go out to battle; for God has gone out before you to strike down the army of the Philistines”.

¹⁶Therefore David did as God commanded him; and they struck down the army of the Philistines from Gibeon as far as Gazer. ¹⁷And the fame of David went out to all lands, and the LORD brought the fear of him on all nations.

15 And *David* made houses for himself in the city of David, and prepared a place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it. ²Then David said, “No one but the Levites should carry the ark of God, for the LORD has chosen them to carry the ark of God, and to minister to him forever”.

³And David gathered all Israel together at Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the LORD to its place, which he had prepared for it. ⁴And David assembled the children of Aaron and the Levites; ⁵of the sons of Kohath: Uriel the chief, and a hundred and twenty of his brethren; ⁶of the sons of Merari: Asaiah the chief, and two hundred and twenty

of his brethren; ⁷of the sons of Gershon: Joel the chief, and a hundred and thirty of his brethren; ⁸of the sons of Elizaphan: Shemaiah the chief, and two hundred of his brethren; ⁹of the sons of Hebron: Eliel the chief, and eighty of his brethren; ¹⁰of the sons of Uzziel: Amminadab the chief, and a hundred and twelve of his brethren.

¹¹And David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah and Joel, Shemaiah and Eliel and Amminadab. ¹²And he said to them, “You are the chief of the fathers’ *households* of the Levites. Sanctify yourselves, *both* you and your brethren, so that you can bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel to *the place that* I have prepared for it. ¹³For because you *did not do it* in the beginning, the LORD our God broke out against us, for we did not seek him in the proper way”.

¹⁴So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel. ¹⁵And the children of the Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles on it, as Moses commanded in accordance with the word of the LORD.

¹⁶And David spoke to the chief of the Levites to appoint their brethren as singers with musical instruments, lyres and harps and sounding cymbals, to raise the sound of joy. ¹⁷So the Levites appointed Heman the son of Joel, and of his brethren, Asaph the son of Berechiah; and of the sons of Merari their brethren, Ethan the son of Kushaiah; ¹⁸and with them their brethren of the second *rank*, Zechariah, Ben and Jaaziel and Shemiramoth and Jehiel and Unni, Eliab and Benaiah and Maaseiah and Mattithiah and Eliphele and Mikneiah and Obed Edom and Jeiel, the doorkeepers. ¹⁹So the singers, Heman, Asaph, and Ethan, were *appointed* to sound with bronze cymbals; ²⁰and Zechariah and Aziel and

14:11 “*Baal Perazim*”— the name means “The Lord who breaks out”.

14:17 Ex 15:14-16; Deut 2:25; Josh 6:27; 2 Chron 14:14; 17:10; 20:29.

15:1-24 These preparations for bringing the ark to Jerusalem are not recorded anywhere else.

15:1 “*City of David*”— 2 Sam 5:6-7.

“*Tent*”— 16:1; 2 Sam 6:17. This tent was not the tabernacle but a special tent David had made. The tabernacle was in Gibeon (16:39).

15:2 “*Levites*”— Num 3:5-10; Deut 10:8.

15:5-7 Kohath, Merari, and Gershon were sons

of Levi—6:1.

15:11 1 Sam 22:20-23; 1 Kings 2:26,35; 1 Chron 12:28.

15:12 “*Sanctify*”— Ex 19:14-15; Lev 11:44; 2 Chron 35:6.

15:13 13:7,10-11.

15:15 Ex 25:14.

15:16 13:8; 25:1.

15:17 6:33,39,44.

15:20-21 Alamothe and Sheminith were probably musical terms. See the titles of Psalms 6 and 46.

Shemiramoth and Jehiel and Unni and Eliab and Maaseiah and Benaiah, with lyres according to Alamoth; ²¹and Mattithiah and Eliphele and Mikneiah and Obed Edom and Jeiel and Azaziah, with harps *tuned to* the higher notes of Sheminith. ²²And Kenaniah, chief of the Levites, *was in charge* of singing; because of his skill he gave instruction in singing. ²³And Berechiah and Elkanah *were* doorkeepers for the ark. ²⁴And Shebaniah and Jehoshaphat and Nethaneel and Amasai and Zechariah and Benaiah and Eliezer, the priests, blew with the trumpets before the ark of God; and Obed Edom and Jehiah *were* doorkeepers for the ark.

²⁵So David and the elders of Israel, and the captains over thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the house of Obed Edom with joy. ²⁶And it came about, when God helped the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD, that they offered seven bulls and seven rams. ²⁷And David *was* clothed with a robe of fine linen, and *so were* all the Levites who were carrying the ark, and the singers and Kenaniah the leader of the singing with the singers. David *was* also wearing a linen ephod. ²⁸So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the cornet and with trumpets and with cymbals, sounding out with lyres and harps.

²⁹And it so happened that *as* the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, Michal, the daughter of Saul, looked out of a window and saw King David dancing and celebrating; and she despised him in her heart.

16 So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the middle of the tent that David had pitched for it; and they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God. ²And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the

LORD. ³And he distributed to each one of Israel, both man and woman, to each one a loaf of bread, and a good piece of meat, and a raisin cake.

⁴And he appointed *some* of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, and to call to remembrance, and to thank and praise the LORD God of Israel: ⁵Asaph the chief, and next to him Zechariah, Jeiel and Shemiramoth and Jehiel and Mattithiah and Eliab and Benaiah and Obed Edom; and Jeiel *played* on lyres and on harps, and Asaph sounded the cymbals, ⁶and the priests Benaiah and Jahaziel *blew* the trumpet regularly before the ark of the covenant of God.

⁷Then on that day David first committed *this psalm* into the hands of Asaph and his brethren, for thanking the LORD:

⁸ “Give thanks to the LORD.

Call on his name.

Make known his deeds
among the people.

⁹ Sing to him; sing psalms to him.
Talk of all his wondrous works.

¹⁰ Glory in his holy name.
Let the heart of those
who seek the LORD rejoice.

¹¹ Seek the LORD and his strength.
Seek his face continually.

¹² Remember his marvellous works
that he has done, his wonders,
and the judgments of his mouth,

¹³ O you seed of Israel his servant,
you children of Jacob,
his chosen ones.

¹⁴ He *is* the LORD our God.
His judgments *are* in all the earth.

¹⁵ Always remember his covenant,
the word *which* he commanded
to a thousand generations,

¹⁶ *the covenant* which he made
with Abraham, his oath to Isaac.

¹⁷ For he confirmed it to Jacob as a law,
to Israel *as* an everlasting
covenant,

15:24 “*Trumpets*”— 16:6; Num 10:1-10.

15:25-29 2 Sam 6:12-16. See notes there.

16:1-3 2 Sam 6:17-19.

“*Offerings*”— notes on first three chapters of Leviticus.

16:4 These duties and privileges of the Levites are now the duties and privileges of all believers (1 Tim 2:1; Heb 13:15).

“*To thank*”— notes at Lev 7:12-13; Ps 7:17;

50:14-15.

16:5 “*Asaph*”— Ps 50; 73—83.

16:7 Many of the Psalms were intended for worship services and were sung accompanied by music. This whole psalm appears in the book of psalms, with slight variations, but divided into three parts – Ps 105:1-15; 96:1-13; 106:1,47,48. See notes on those psalms.

16:8-22 Ps 105:1-15.

- 18 Saying, 'To you I will give the land of Canaan, the allotment of your inheritance',
 19 When you were but few, very few, and strangers in it;
 20 *when* they went from nation to nation, and from *one* kingdom to another people.
 21 He allowed no man to do them wrong; yes, he reprov'd kings for their sakes,
 22 *Saying*, 'Do not touch my anointed, and do my prophets no harm.'
 23 Sing to the LORD, all the earth. Show forth his salvation from day to day.
 24 Declare his glory among the peoples, his marvellous works among all nations.
 25 For great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised. Also *he is* to be feared above all gods.
 26 For all the gods of the peoples *are* idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
 27 Glory and honour *are* in his presence; strength and gladness *are* in his place.
 28 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
 29 Ascribe to the LORD the glory *due* to his name. Bring an offering and come before him. Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
 30 Tremble before him, all the earth; for the world will be stable, so that it is not moved.
 31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, and let *people* say among

- the nations, 'The LORD reigns.'
 32 Let the sea roar, and its fulness. Let the fields rejoice, and all that is in them.
 33 Then shall the trees of the forest sing out at the presence of the LORD, because he comes to judge the earth.
 34 O give thanks to the LORD; for *he is* good; for his mercy *continues on* forever.
 35 And say, 'Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us from the nations, so that we may give thanks to your holy name, *and* glory in your praise.'
 36 Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel forever and ever". And all the people said, "Amen", and praised the LORD.
 37 So he left Asaph and his brethren there before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to minister before the ark regularly, as every day's work required. 38 And Obed Edom with their brethren, sixty-eight; also Obed Edom, the son of Jeduthun, and Hosah *to be* gatekeepers; 39 and Zadok the priest, and his brethren the priests, before the tabernacle of the LORD in the high place that was at Gibeon, 40 to offer burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of burnt offering continually morning and evening, and *to do* all that is written in the law of the LORD, which he commanded Israel; 41 and with them Heman and Jeduthun, and the rest who were chosen, who were designated by name, to give thanks to the LORD, because his mercy *continues on* forever; 42 and with them Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those who should sound *them*, and with musical instruments of God. And the sons of Jeduthun *were* gatekeepers. 43 And each one of all the people departed to his house; and David returned to bless his house.

17 Now it came about, as David was sitting in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, "Look, I live in a cedar house, but the ark of the covenant of

16:23-33 Ps 96:1-13.

16:34-36 Ps 106:1,47,48.

16:37 Verse 4; 2 Chron 8:14. Worship was not confined to a special day. It was part of every day life.

16:39 It seems that there were two sanctuaries at this time, one in Jerusalem with the ark (v 1), and the other at Gibeon with the tabernacle (21:29). The tabernacle remained

at Gibeon until Solomon built the temple in Jerusalem.

16:40 Ex 29:38-42; Num 28:3-4.

16:41 "His mercy...forever"—a favorite theme of the poets and musicians in Israel—v 34; 2 Chron 5:13; 7:3,6; 20:21; Ezra 3:11; Ps 106:1; 107:1; 118:29; 136:1-26; 138:8.

16:42 Verse 7; 25:7; 2 Chron 7:6; 29:27.

17:1-27 2 Sam 7:1-29.

the LORD *remains* under curtains”.

²Then Nathan said to David, “Do all that is in your heart, for God is with you”.

³And the same night it came about that the word of God came to Nathan, saying, ⁴“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: You shall not build a house for me in which to dwell, ⁵because I have not dwelt in a house since the day that I brought Israel up *from Egypt* to this day but have gone from tent to tent, from *one* dwelling place *to another*. ⁶Wherever I travelled with all Israel, did I speak a word to any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people, saying, Why have you not built a cedar house for me?’

⁷“Now therefore this *is what* you shall say to my servant David: ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people Israel; ⁸and I was with you wherever you travelled, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made a name for you like the name of the great men who *are* in the earth. ⁹Also I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, and they will live in their place and will not be moved any more; nor will the children of wickedness destroy them any more, as at the beginning, ¹⁰and since the time that I commanded judges *to be* over my people Israel. And I will subdue all your enemies. Moreover I tell you that the LORD will build a house for you.

¹¹“And it shall come about, when your days are ended and you must go *to be* with your ancestors, that I will raise up your offspring after you, who will be of your 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 not take my mercy away from him, as I took *it* away from *the one* who was before you, ¹⁴but I will set him in my house and in my kingdom forever, and his throne will be established for ever.’ ”

¹⁵So Nathan spoke to David in accordance with all these words, and in accordance with this whole vision.

¹⁶And David the king came and sat before the LORD, and said, “Who *am* I, O LORD God, and what *is* my house, that you have

brought me to this point? ¹⁷And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O God, for you have *also* spoken of your servant’s house for a great while to come, and have regarded me according to the standard of a man of high degree, O LORD God. ¹⁸What more can David say to you for honouring your servant? For you know your servant. ¹⁹O LORD, you have done all this great thing for your servant’s sake, and in accordance with your own heart, in making known all *these* great things. ²⁰O LORD, *there is* no one like you, nor *is there any* God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears. ²¹And what one nation in the earth *is* like your people Israel, whom God went to redeem *to be* his own people, to make for yourself a great and awesome name, by driving out nations from before your people, whom you have redeemed out of Egypt? ²²For you have made your people Israel your own people forever, and you, LORD, have become their God.

²³“Therefore now, LORD, let what you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house be established forever, and do as you have said. ²⁴Let it be established, so that your name may be magnified forever, saying, ‘The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, *is* the God for Israel.’ And let the house of your servant David *be* established in your presence. ²⁵For you, O my God, have told your servant that you will build a house for him. Therefore your servant has found *in his heart* to pray in your presence. ²⁶And now, LORD, you are God, and have promised this goodness to your servant. ²⁷Now therefore let it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may be before you forever. For you have blessed, O LORD, and *it will be* blessed forever”.

18 Now after this it came about that David defeated the Philistines, and subdued them, and took Gath and its towns out of the hands of the Philistines. ²And he defeated Moab; and the Moabites became David’s subjects, *and* brought tribute. ³And David defeated Hadarezer, king of Zobah at Hamath, as he went to establish his dominion by the river Euphrates ⁴And David took a thousand chariots from him, and seven

17:4 28:2-3.

17:6 “Judges”– or “leaders” (the Hebrew word means both).

17:12-14 Mark 1:11; Luke 1:32-33; Heb 1:5.

18:1-17 2 Sam 8:1-18.

thousand horsemen, and twenty thousand foot soldiers. David also hamstringed all the chariot horses, but reserved of them *enough* for a hundred chariots.

⁵And when the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadarezer, king of Zobah, David killed twenty-two thousand of the Syrians. ⁶Then David put *garrisons* in Syria of Damascus; and the Syrians became David's subjects, and brought tribute. Thus the LORD preserved David wherever he went. ⁷And David took the shields of gold that were carried by the servants of Hadarezer, and brought them to Jerusalem. ⁸Likewise David brought a great amount of bronze from Tibhath and from Chun, cities of Hadarezer, with which Solomon made the bronze sea and the pillars and the bronze articles.

⁹Now when Tou, king of Hamath, heard how David had defeated all the army of Hadarezer king of Zobah, ¹⁰he sent his son Hadoram to King David, to ask about his welfare, and to congratulate him, because he had fought against Hadarezer and defeated him (for Hadarezer had made war against Tou), and *sent with him* all kinds of articles of gold and silver and bronze.

¹¹And King David dedicated them to the LORD, with the silver and the gold that he brought from all *these* nations: from Edom and from Moab and from the children of Ammon and from the Philistines and from Amalek.

¹²Moreover Abishai, the son of Zeruiah, killed eighteen thousand of the Edomites in the Valley of Salt. ¹³And he put garrisons in Edom; and all the Edomites became David's subjects. Thus the LORD preserved David wherever he went.

¹⁴So David reigned over all Israel, and executed judgment and justice among all his people. ¹⁵And Joab, the son of Zeruiah, was over the army; and Jehoshaphat, the son of Ahilud, was the recorder; ¹⁶and Zadok, the son of Ahitub, and Abimelech, the son of Abiathar, were the priests; and Shavsha was the scribe; ¹⁷and Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada, was over the Kerethites and the Pelethites; and the sons of David were chiefs

at the king's side.

19 Now it happened after this that Nahash, the king of the children of Ammon, died, and his son reigned in his place. ²And David said, "I will show kindness to Hanun, the son of Nahash, because his father showed kindness to me". And David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father. So the servants of David came to the land of the children of Ammon to Hanun, to comfort him.

³But the leaders of the children of Ammon said to Hanun, "Do you think that David is honouring your father, by sending comforters to you? Have not his servants come to you to explore and to overthrow and to spy out the land?" ⁴Therefore Hanun took David's servants and shaved them, and cut off their garments in the middle at the hips, and sent them away.

⁵Then *someone* went and told David how the men had been treated. And he sent *men* to meet them, for the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said, "Stay at Jericho until your beards are grown, and *then* return". ⁶And when the children of Ammon saw that they had made themselves odious to David, Hanun and the children of Ammon sent a thousand talents of silver to hire chariots and horsemen for themselves from Mesopotamia and from Syria Maachah and from Zobah. ⁷So they hired thirty-two thousand chariots, and the king of Maachah and his people. They came and camped before Medeba. And the children of Ammon gathered together from their cities and came to battle.

⁸And when David heard *of it*, he sent Joab and the whole army of the mighty men. ⁹And the children of Ammon came out and drew up battle lines before the gate of the city, and the kings who had come *were* by themselves in the field.

¹⁰Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him in front and in the rear, he selected *men* from all the choice *soldiers* of Israel, and set *them* in array against the Syrians. ¹¹And the rest of the people he entrusted into the hands of his brother

18:8 "Bronze"—2 Chron 4:2-5,18.

18:12 Abishai served under David in this battle—2 Sam 8:13.

19:1-19 2 Sam 10:1-19. See notes there. One foolish act can (and in this case did) result in much bloodshed.

19:6 Chariots and charioteers came from those places. Foot soldiers came from Beth Rehob and Tob (2 Sam 10:6). All the places mentioned were in the same region north of Israel.

"*Thousand talents*"—about 34,000 kilograms.

Abishai, and they set *themselves* in array against the children of Ammon. ¹²And he said, “If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you help me; but if the children of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will help you. ¹³Be courageous, and let us conduct ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God. And let the LORD do *what is good* in his sight”.

¹⁴So Joab and the people who *were* with him drew near in front of the Syrians to the battle; and they fled before him. ¹⁵And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians had fled, they likewise fled before his brother Abishai, and entered the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem.

¹⁶And when the Syrians saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they sent messengers and brought out the Syrians who *were* beyond the river; and Shophach, the commander of the army of Hadarezer, *marched* before them.

¹⁷And it was told David; and he gathered all Israel and crossed the Jordan, and came on them and drew up *the battle* lines against them. So when David drew up the battle lines against the Syrians, they fought with him. ¹⁸But the Syrians fled before Israel, and David killed seven thousand of the Syrians *who fought in* chariots, and forty thousand foot soldiers, and killed Shophach, the commander of the army.

¹⁹And when the servants of Hadarezer saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they made peace with David and became his subjects; nor would the Syrians help the children of Ammon any more.

20 And it came about at the end of the year, at the time when kings go out

to battle, that Joab led out the strength of the army, and laid waste the country of the children of Ammon and came and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed at Jerusalem. And Joab attacked Rabbah and destroyed it. ²And David took the crown of their king from his head, and found it weighed a talent of gold, and *there were* precious stones in it; and it was set on David’s head. And *Joab* also brought out a very large amount of plunder from the city. ³And he brought out the people who *were* in it, and made *them* cut with saws and *labour* with iron implements and with axes. David did this with all the cities of the children of Ammon. And David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

⁴And after this it came about that war began at Gezer with the Philistines. At that time Sibbechai the Hushathite killed Sippai, *who was* of the children of a giant; and they were subdued. ⁵And again there was war with the Philistines; and Elhanan, the son of Jair, killed Lahmi, the brother of Goliath the Gittite, whose spear shaft was like a weaver’s beam.

⁶And once more there was war at Gath, where there was a man of *great* stature, who *had* twenty-four fingers and toes, six *on each hand*, and six *on each foot*; and he also was the son of a giant. ⁷But when he defied Israel, Jonathan, the son of David’s brother Shimea, killed him.

⁸These were born to a giant in Gath, and they fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants.

21 And Satan stood up against Israel, and stirred David up to number Israel. ²And David said to Joab and to the leaders of the people, “Go, number Israel from

it is clear that he was at first a holy and powerful angel who later sinned and became devilish. God never made anything evil, or any being wicked. Some commentators teach that Satan’s fall is described in Isa 14:12-15 and Ezek 28:12-17, and it is very likely so. See notes there.

The Bible calls Satan by other names as well – the devil (Matt 4:1), Beelzebub, the prince or ruler of demons (Matt 12:24), the evil one (John 17:15), the ruler of this world (John 12:31), the god of this age or world (2 Cor 4:4), the ruler of the power of the air (Eph 2:2), the dragon and the old serpent (Rev 12:9).

He is out to destroy anyone he can and afflicts and torments men (Job 1:12-19; 2:6-7; Luke 13:16; 1 Pet 5:8). He wants others to

19:16 “*The River*”– Euphrates.

20:1 2 Sam 11:1. The writer of Chronicles was not led by the Spirit of God to record what happened while David remained in Jerusalem (2 Sam 11:2—12:25). It would seem that in God’s eyes one account of that sad event was enough.

20:2-3 2 Sam 12:30-31.

20:2 “*A talent*”– about 34 kilograms.

20:4-8 2 Sam 21:15-22.

21:1-27 2 Sam 24:1-25. See notes there.

21:1 “*Satan*”– compare this verse with 2 Sam 24:1. God was angry with Israel and permitted Satan to tempt David. The name Satan comes from the Hebrew and means “opponent”, “adversary”, or, as some think, “accuser”. He is the great enemy of both God and man. His origin is obscure, but

Beersheba to Dan, and bring their number to me, so that I may know it”.

³And Joab answered, “May the LORD make his people a hundred times more numerous than they *are*! But, my lord the king, *are* they not all my lord’s servants? Why then does my lord require this thing? Why will he be a cause of guilt to Israel?”

⁴However, the king’s word prevailed against Joab. Therefore Joab departed, and went throughout all Israel, and came to Jerusalem. ⁵And Joab gave the sum of the number of the people to David. And all of Israel who could draw sword were one million one hundred thousand men; and of Judah *all who* could draw sword *were* four hundred and seventy thousand.

⁶But he did not count Levi and Benjamin among them; for the king’s command had been abhorrent to Joab. ⁷And God was displeased with this matter; therefore he struck Israel.

⁸And David said to God, “I have sinned greatly by doing this thing. But now, I beg you, put away the iniquity of your servant, for I have acted very foolishly”.

⁹And the LORD spoke to Gad, David’s seer, saying, ¹⁰“Go and tell David, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, I offer you three *things*. Choose one of them for me to do to you.’ ”

¹¹So Gad came to David, and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Take your choice:

¹²Either three years of famine, or three months to be destroyed before your foes while the sword of your enemies reaches *you*, or else three days of the sword of the LORD, *that is*, the plague, in the land, with the angel of the LORD destroying throughout the whole territory of Israel.’ Now therefore consider what answer I should take back to him who sent me”.

¹³And David said to Gad, “I am in great distress; let me now fall into the hands of the LORD; for his mercies *are* very great. But do not let me fall into the hands of men”.

¹⁴So the LORD sent a plague on Israel; and seventy thousand men of Israel fell *dead*. ¹⁵And God sent an angel to Jerusalem to destroy it, but as he was destroying, the LORD looked and was grieved about the disaster, and said to the destroying angel, “It is enough. Hold back your hand”. And the angel of the LORD was standing by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

¹⁶And David raised his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, with a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders *of Israel*, clothed in sackcloth, prostrated themselves.

¹⁷And David said to God, “*Is it* not I *who* commanded the people to be numbered? Indeed I am the one who sinned and did evil; but *as for* these sheep, what have they done? Let your hand, I beg you, O LORD

worship him (Matt 4:9). He tempts men to sin (1 Thess 3:5). He is full of plots to hinder the work of God (2 Cor 2:11). He is exceedingly deceptive (2 Cor 11:14; Rev 12:9). He can do nothing among men unless they obey him, or unless God, for some wise purpose, permits him to act – he (this is true also of all evil spirits or demons) is under the sovereign control of God.

God has given believers in Christ the means to defeat Satan at every step (Eph 6:10-18; Jam 4:7). His end is clear (Rev 20:10).

Since he is God’s and man’s enemy why doesn’t God immediately destroy him? God has not told us the full answer to this question but His Word the Bible is not without clues to the answer. God uses him for the testing and proving of His people, and in judgment on those who chose the path of sin and unbelief. But it is enough for us now to know that we can defeat the devil through our Lord Jesus Christ, and that God’s permitting Satan now to work in the world is in accordance with His perfect wisdom, justice and righteousness. And we should not fret because God does not tell us

everything – He tells us all we need to know (Deut 29:29).

21:2 27:23-24.

21:4 Joab’s work on the census took nearly 10 months (2 Sam 24:8).

21:5 These figures differ from 2 Sam 24:9. The census was incomplete (27:23-24), and Joab may have given two different estimates on two separate occasions to David. Of course, we can’t be sure of this.

21:6 Verse 3; 2 Sam 24:3.

21:7 “*Struck*” – God had already been angry with Israel because of other sin (2 Sam 24:1). This taking of a census gave God further cause for anger against them. The sequence of events was this: anger, permitting a temptation, David’s fall and sin, more anger, punishment. Notes on God’s anger at Num 25:3; Ps 90:7-11; Rom 1:18. **21:9** “*Seer*” – 1 Sam 9:9.

21:15 “*Ornan*” – a variant of Araunah.

21:16 “*The angel of the LORD*” – this verse gives a very vivid picture not found in 2 Samuel chapter 24. Note on the angel of LORD at Gen 16:7.

my God, be on me and on my father's house, but not on your people, that they should be plagued".

¹⁸Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to tell David that David should go up and erect an altar to the LORD in the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ¹⁹And David went up in accordance with the word of Gad, which he spoke in the name of the LORD.

²⁰And Ornan turned back and saw the angel; and his four sons with him hid themselves. Now Ornan was threshing wheat. ²¹And as David was coming to Ornan, Ornan looked up and saw David, and went out of the threshing floor, and bowed down to David with *his* face to the ground.

²²Then David said to Ornan, "Let me have the place of *this* threshing floor, so I may build an altar in it for the LORD. You are to let me have it at the full price, so that the plague may be held back from the people".

²³And Ornan said to David, "Take *it* for yourself, and may my lord the king do *what is* good in his eyes. See, I will *also* give *you* the oxen for burnt offerings, and the threshing instruments for wood, and the wheat for the grain offering. I give it all".

²⁴And King David said to Ornan, "No, but I will certainly buy it at the full price; for I will not take *what is* yours for the LORD, or offer burnt offerings without cost".

²⁵So David gave six hundred shekels of gold by weight to Ornan for the place. ²⁶And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called on the LORD; and he answered him from heaven by fire on the altar of burnt offering.

²⁷And the LORD commanded the angel; and he put his sword back into its scabbard.

²⁸At that time, when David saw that the LORD had answered him in the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there. ²⁹For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses made in the wilderness, and the altar of the burnt offering, at that time were in the high place at Gibeon. ³⁰But David could not go before it to inquire of God, for he was afraid because of the sword of the angel of the LORD.

22 Then David said, "This *is* the house of the LORD God, and this *is* the altar of burnt offering for Israel".

²And David gave a command to assemble the foreigners who were in the land of Israel, and he appointed stone cutters to cut stones to build the house of God. ³And David prepared iron in abundance for the nails for the doors of the gates, and for the fittings, and more bronze than could be weighed, ⁴also cedar trees in abundance. For the Sidonians and Tyrians brought much cedar wood to David.

⁵And David said, "My son Solomon *is* young and inexperienced, and the house *that is* to be built for the LORD *must be* exceedingly magnificent, of fame and glory throughout all countries. *Therefore* I will now make preparations for it". So David prepared abundantly before his death.

⁶Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build a house for the LORD God of Israel. ⁷And David said to Solomon, "My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build a house to the name of the LORD my God, ⁸but the word of the LORD came to

21:18 "Commanded"—observe that the angel did not speak directly to the guilty David but used Gad the prophet as his spokesman.

21:20 "Saw the angel"—angels can make, and sometimes have made, themselves visible to men.

21:25 "Six hundred shekels"—about seven kilograms.

21:26 "Offerings"—Leviticus chapters 1 and 3.

"Fire"—Lev 9:24; Jud 6:21; 1 Kings 18:38-39. The fire revealed to David that God had accepted his repentance, altar, and offerings.

21:27 David's repentance and offerings turned away God's wrath from the people. Compare Num 16:42-48.

21:29 16:39.

22:1-19 David had already conceived the idea of building a temple to God in Jerusalem. He was told that he was not the man for that work but that one of his sons would do it (2 Sam 7:1-17).

But David did all he could to make preparations for the building of the temple (v 5). This chapter records these preparations. A site was chosen (v 1), workmen were appointed (vs 2,15,16), materials were provided (vs 3,4,14), encouragement was given (vs 11-13), and helpers were appointed and encouraged (vs 17-19). David was not the sort of man to refuse to have anything to do with the building project because he had been rejected as the builder. He did not let any temptation to pride or resentment keep him from helping in any way he could. In this he is a much needed example to us all.

22:5 "Young"—1 Kings 3:7.

"Glory"—2 Chron 2:5. Compare Eph 2:20-22; 1 Pet 2:4-9.

22:7 2 Sam 7:2-3.

22:8 28:2-3; 1 Kings 5:3.

me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have waged great wars. You shall not build a house for my name, because you have shed much blood on the earth in my sight. ⁹Look, a son will be born to you, who will be a quiet man; and I will give him rest from all his enemies on all sides; for his name will be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days. ¹⁰He will build a house for my name; and he will be my son, and *I will be his father*, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.'

¹¹"Now, my son, the LORD be with you, and may you have success and build the house of the LORD your God, as he has said about you. ¹²Only may the LORD give you wisdom and understanding, and give you charge concerning Israel, so that you may keep the law of the LORD your God. ¹³Then you will prosper, if you are careful to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD commanded Moses concerning Israel. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or dismayed.

¹⁴"Now, look, taking *much* trouble for the house of the LORD, I have prepared a hundred thousand talents of gold, and a million talents of silver, and bronze and iron beyond weighing, because of its abundance. I have also made ready timber and stone; and you may add to it.

¹⁵"Moreover, *there are* many workmen with you, cutters and workers in stone and timber, and all kinds of skillful men for every kind of work, ¹⁶in gold, silver and brass and iron, without number. Arise *therefore*, and

work, and may the LORD be with you".

¹⁷David also commanded all the leaders of Israel to help his son Solomon, *saying*, ¹⁸"Is not the LORD your God with you? And has he *not* given you rest on every side? For he has given the inhabitants of the land into my hands, and the land is subdued before the LORD, and before his people. ¹⁹Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God. Arise therefore, and build the sanctuary of the LORD God, *so that you can* bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and God's holy articles, into the house that is to be built for the name of the LORD".

23 So when David was old and full of days, he made his son Solomon king over Israel.

²And he assembled all the leaders of Israel, with the priests and the Levites. ³Now the Levites were counted from the age of thirty years and over; and their number in the census, man by man, was thirty-eight thousand. ⁴Of these twenty-four thousand *were* to supervise the work of the house of the LORD, and six thousand *were* officials and judges, ⁵and four thousand *were* doorkeepers, and four thousand praised the LORD with "the instruments which I made", *said David*, "to praise *with*".

⁶And David divided them into sections according to the sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

⁷Of the Gershonites *were* Laadan and Shimei. ⁸The sons of Laadan: the chief was

22:9 2 Sam 12:24-25; 1 Kings 4:20-25.

22:10 2 Sam 7:13-14.

22:12 1 Kings 3:9-12; 2 Chron 1:10. Perhaps a desire for wisdom was produced in Solomon's heart by these words of his father.

22:13 "Dismayed"— compare Josh 1:6-9. Attempting a great work of God is no easy matter and there may well be fear and discouragement in even the greatest of men.

22:14 "Taking much trouble"— David considered that this was a great work for God (v 5), and he gave it his best efforts, even when he was busy ruling the kingdom, etc. He did not let other matters distract him from this work. May all God's workmen learn from his example. Compare 1 Cor 3:10-15.

"A hundred thousand talents"— one talent equals 34 kilograms. The amounts of gold and silver here mentioned seem so large that some scholars assume there must be a copying mistake, but

there is no evidence of any kind for this. And 2 Chron 1:12-15 speaks of Solomon's immense wealth.

22:17 28:1-16.

22:18 23:25; 2 Sam 7:1; 23:25.

22:19 "Seek"— David well knew that the work would not proceed as it should and could unless God was at the center of their desires and efforts. On seeking God see 2 Chron 15:2; Ps 27:8; 34:10; 69:32; Jer 29:13.

23:1 28:5; 1 Kings 1:33-40.

23:2 28:1.

23:3 Compare Num 4:1-4. David was concerned for more than mere materials and builders for the temple. He wanted prepared men for the work of the temple after it was built. He was a man of much foresight and careful planning.

23:4 26:29; Deut 17:8-13.

23:6-23 6:1-48.

Jehiel, and Zetam and Joel, three. ⁹The sons of Shimei: Shelomith and Haziël and Haran, three. These were the chiefs of the fathers' households of Laadan. ¹⁰And the sons of Shimei were Jahath, Zina and Jeush and Beriah. These four were the sons of Shimei. ¹¹And Jahath was the chief, and Zizah the second: but Jeush and Beriah did not have many sons; therefore they were reckoned as one household of their fathers.

¹²The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, four. ¹³The sons of Amram: Aaron and Moses. And Aaron was permanently set apart, he and his sons, to consecrate the most holy things, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister to him, and to bless in his name forever. ¹⁴Now as for Moses, the man of God, his sons were named among the tribe of Levi.

¹⁵The sons of Moses were Gershom and Eliezer.

¹⁶Of the sons of Gershom, Shebuel was the chief. ¹⁷And the sons of Eliezer were Rehabiah the chief. And Eliezer had no other sons, but there were very many sons of Rehabiah. ¹⁸Of the sons of Izhar, Shelomith was the chief. ¹⁹Of the sons of Hebron, Jeriah was the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth. ²⁰Of the sons of Uzziel was Micah the first, and Jesiah the second.

²¹The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Mahli: Eleazar and Kish. ²²And Eleazar died, and had no sons, only daughters; and their kinsmen, the sons of Kish, took them. ²³The sons of Mushi: Mahli and Eder and Jeremoth, three.

²⁴These were the sons of Levi in accordance with the house of their fathers, the chief of the fathers' households, as they were counted by the number of names in their census, who did the work of the service for the house of the LORD, from the age of twenty years and above. ²⁵For David said, "The LORD God of Israel has given rest to his people,

so that they may dwell in Jerusalem forever, ²⁶and also to the Levites. They will no longer carry the tabernacle, or any of its articles for its service".

²⁷For according to the last words of David the Levites were numbered from twenty years old and over; ²⁸because their responsibility was to wait on the sons of Aaron for the service of the house of the LORD, in the courtyards and in the rooms, and in purifying all the holy things, and the work of the service of the house of God; ²⁹for the Showbread, and for the fine flour for the grain offering, and for the cakes made without yeast, and for what is baked in a pan, and for what is fried, and for all measurements of quantity and size; ³⁰and to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and also at evening; ³¹and to offer all the burnt sacrifices to the LORD on the Sabbaths, in the new moons and on the appointed festivals, in the proper number, in accordance with the ordinance commanded them, regularly, before the LORD; ³²and to keep charge of the tabernacle of the congregation, and to have charge of the Holy Place, and to have charge of the sons of Aaron their brethren, in the service of the house of the LORD.

24 Now these are the divisions of the sons of Aaron. The sons of Aaron: Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. ²But Nadab and Abihu died before their father, and had no children; therefore Eleazar and Ithamar served as the priests. ³And David, with Zadok, of the sons of Eleazar, and Ahimelech, of the sons of Ithamar, divided them according to their duties in their service. ⁴And there were more chief men found among the sons of Eleazar than among the sons of Ithamar; and thus they were divided. Among the sons of Eleazar were sixteen chief men of the households of their fathers, and eight among the sons of Ithamar according to the households of

23:24 At first only those 30 years and over were counted (v 30). This was changed to 20 years and over (v 27), possibly because there were not enough men 30 and above for all the various works of the temple, or because David thought it a good thing to introduce young men to the work. **23:28-32** 9:28-34. The Levites were assistants to the priests and under their authority.

23:30 "To thank"—note at Lev 7:12-13.

"Morning", "evening"—Ex 29:38-41; Num 28:3-8.

Praises were to be offered at the times of the daily sacrifices.

23:31 "Appointed festivals"—see Leviticus chapter 23.

23:32 Num 1:53; 3:6-9,38.

24:1 Ex 16:33.

24:2 "Died"—Lev 10:1-2; Num 3:4.

24:3 "Zadok"—Zadok was high priest, along with Ahimelech (2 Sam 8:17). Ahimelech was Abiathar's son (v 6).

their fathers. ⁵Thus they were divided by lot, both of these *families*; for the officials of the sanctuary, and officials *of the house* of God, were from the sons of Eleazar and from the sons of Ithamar.

⁶And Shemaiah, the son of Nethaneel, the scribe, *one* of the Levites, wrote their *names* before the king and the leaders and Zadok the priest and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and *before* the heads *of the families* of the fathers of the priests and Levites, one principal household being taken for Eleazar, and *one* taken for Ithamar.

⁷Now the first lot came out for Jehoiarib, the second for Jedaiah, ⁸the third for Harim, the fourth for Seorim, ⁹the fifth for Malchijah, the sixth for Mijamin, ¹⁰the seventh for Hakkoz, the eighth for Abijah, ¹¹the ninth for Jeshuah, the tenth for Shecaniah, ¹²the eleventh for Eliashib, the twelfth for Jakim, ¹³the thirteenth for Huppah, the fourteenth for Jeshebeab, ¹⁴the fifteenth for Bilgah, the sixteenth for Immer, ¹⁵the seventeenth for Hezir, the eighteenth for Aphses, ¹⁶the nineteenth for Pethahiah, the twentieth for Jehezkel, ¹⁷the twenty-first for Jachim, the twenty-second for Gamul, ¹⁸the twenty-third for Delaiah, the twenty-fourth for Maaziah.

¹⁹This was the appointed order for them in their service to come into the house of the LORD, in accordance with their rule *handed on* by Aaron their father, as the LORD God of Israel had commanded him.

²⁰And *these were* the rest of the sons of Levi: of the sons of Amram, Shubael; of the sons of Shubael, Jehdeiah. ²¹Concerning Rehabiah: of the sons of Rehabiah, the first was Isshiah. ²²Of the Izharites, Shelomoth; of the sons of Shelomoth, Jahath. ²³And the sons *of Hebron*: Jeriah *the first*, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, Jekameam the fourth. ²⁴Of the sons of Uzziel, Michah; of the sons of Michah, Shamir. ²⁵The brother of Michah was Isshiah; of the sons of Isshiah, Zechariah. ²⁶The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi; the son of Jaaziah, Beno.

²⁷The sons of Merari by Jaaziah, Beno and Shoham and Zaccur and Ibri. ²⁸Of Mahli came Eleazar, who had no sons.

²⁹Concerning Kish: the son of Kish was Jerahmeel. ³⁰And the sons of Mushi, Mahli and Eder and Jerimoth. These *were* the sons of the Levites in accordance with the households of their fathers. ³¹These also cast lots just as their brethren, the sons of Aaron, did, in the presence of David the king and Zadok and Ahimelech and the heads *of the families* of the fathers of the priests and Levites, the heads of the fathers' *households* just as their younger brothers.

25 Moreover, David and the commanders of the army set apart *some* of the sons of Asaph and of Heman and of Jeduthun for the service, to prophesy with harps, with lyres, and with cymbals. And the number of those who performed this service was *this*:

²Of the sons of Asaph, Zaccur and Joseph and Nethaniah and Asarelah; the sons of Asaph *were* under the direction of Asaph, who prophesied under the direction of the king; ³of Jeduthun, the sons of Jeduthun, Gedaliah and Zeri and Jeshaihashabiah and Mattithiah, six; *they were* under the direction of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied with a harp, to give thanks and to praise the LORD; ⁴of Heman, the sons of Heman, Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel, and Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, and Romamtiezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth.

⁵All these *were* the sons of Heman, the king's seer in the words of God, to lift up the horn. And God gave to Heman fourteen sons and three daughters. ⁶All these *were* under the direction of their father for singing *in* the house of the LORD with cymbals, lyres and harps, for the service of the house of God, according to the king's order to Asaph, Jeduthun and Heman. ⁷So their number, with their brethren who were instructed in the

24:5 "By lot"— v 31; 25:8; 26:13; Josh 13:6; 14:2. Evidently they trusted God to reveal His will by this method. See Prov 16:33.

24:19 These 24 divisions served one after the other, probably for two weeks at a time. Zechariah the father of John the Baptist was in the eighth division (Luke 1:5,8,9), being descended from Abijah.

24:23 "Jeriah the first"— or "the sons of Jeriah".

24:31 "Younger"— note that responsibilities were

not allotted on the basis of seniority, but in accord with God's choice, regardless of age.

"Lot"— v 5.

25:1 All three of these men had the gift of prophecy. They are called seers which meant prophets (v 5; 2 Chron 29:30; 35:15; 1 Sam 9:9).

"To prophesy with"— compare 2 Kings 3:15.

25:3 "To praise"— 16:41-42.

25:6 15:16,19.

songs of the LORD, all who were skillful, was two hundred and eighty-eight. ⁸And they cast lots for their duties, all alike, the small as well as the great, the teacher as well as the scholar.

⁹Now the first lot came out for Asaph to Joseph; the second to Gedaliah, who with his brothers and sons were twelve; ¹⁰the third to Zaccur; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹¹the fourth to Izri; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹²the fifth to Nethaniah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹³the sixth to Bukkiah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹⁴the seventh to Jesharelah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹⁵the eighth to Jeshaiiah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹⁶the ninth to Mattaniah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹⁷the tenth to Shimei; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹⁸the eleventh to Azareel; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ¹⁹the twelfth to Hashabiah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²⁰the thirteenth to Shubael; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²¹the fourteenth to Mattithiah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²²the fifteenth to Jeremoth; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²³the sixteenth to Hananiah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²⁴the seventeenth to Joshbekashah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²⁵the eighteenth to Hanani; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²⁶the nineteenth to Mallothi; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²⁷the twentieth to Eliathah; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²⁸the twenty-first to Hothir; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ²⁹the twenty-second to Giddalti; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ³⁰the twenty-third to Mahazioth; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve; ³¹the twenty-fourth to Romamtiezer; *he*, his sons and his brothers, were twelve.

26 Concerning the divisions of the gatekeepers: of the Korhites was Meshelemiah the son of Korah, of the sons of Asaph.

25:7 “Songs of the LORD”—music and singing were regarded as important elements in God’s worship. They can be at any time if they are for the Lord, and not for self-promotion and self-glorification. **25:8** “Learners”—26:13. Those who had the greatest talent and the most learning and

²And the sons of Meshelemiah were Zechariah the firstborn, Jediahel the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth, ³Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, Elioenai the seventh. ⁴And the sons of Obed Edom were Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, and Sacar the fourth, and Nethaneel the fifth, ⁵Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peulthai the eighth; for God had blessed him.

⁶Also sons were born to his son Shemaiah, who ruled throughout the house of their father, for they were mighty men of valour. ⁷The sons of Shemaiah: Othni and Rephael and Obed, Elzabad, whose brothers were strong men, Elihu and Semachiah. ⁸All these of the sons of Obed Edom. They and their sons and their brothers, able men with strength for the service, were sixty-two of Obed Edom.

⁹And Meshelemiah had eighteen sons and brothers, strong men.

¹⁰Also Hosah, of the children of Merari, had sons: Simri the chief (for *though* he was not the firstborn, his father made him chief), ¹¹Hilkiah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth. All the sons and brothers of Hosah were thirteen.

¹²Among these were the divisions of the gatekeepers, among the chief men, *having* duties like their relatives to minister in the house of the LORD. ¹³And they cast lots, the small as well as the great, according to the house of their fathers, for each gate.

¹⁴And the lot for the east gate fell to Shelemiah. Then they cast lots for his son Zechariah, a wise counsellor; and his lot came out for the north gate; ¹⁵to Obed Edom for the south gate; and to his sons *the lot fell* for the storehouse. ¹⁶To Shuppim and Hosah *the lot came out* for the west gate, with the Shallecheth gate, on the highway which ascends *there*, watch corresponded to watch.

¹⁷Six Levites were on the east, four a day on the north, four a day on the south, and two by two at the storehouse. ¹⁸At Parbar on the west, four were at the highway, and two at Parbar.

¹⁹These are the divisions of the gatekeepers

experience were not allowed to monopolize this service.

26:1 “Gatekeepers”—9:17-27; 16:37-38; Ps 84:10.

26:4 “Obed-Edom”—13:13; 2 Sam 6:10.

26:13 24:5,31; 25:8.

26:14 “Shelemiah”—a variant of Meshelemiah.

among the sons of Korah, and among the sons of Merari.

²⁰And of the Levites, Ahijah was over the treasures of the house of God, and over the treasures of the dedicated things.

²¹As concerning the sons of Laadan, the sons of Laadan the Gershonite, chief fathers of Laadan the Gershonite, were Jehieli, ²²and the sons of Jehieli: Zetam and his brother Joel, who were over the treasures of the house of the LORD.

²³As for the Amramites and the Izharites the Hebronites and the Uzzielites:

²⁴Shebuel the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, was in charge of the treasures. ²⁵And his brethren by Eliezer were Rehabiah his son, and Jeshaiiah his son, and Joram his son, and Zichri his son, and Shelomith his son. ²⁶This Shelomith and his brethren were over all the treasures of the dedicated things, which David the king, and the chief fathers, the captains over thousands and hundreds, and the captains of the army, had dedicated. ²⁷They dedicated these things from the plunder won in battles, to maintain the house of the LORD. ²⁸And all that Samuel the seer, and Saul the son of Kish, and Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruah, had dedicated (and whoever had dedicated anything), it was under the hand of Shelomith and of his brethren.

²⁹Of the Izharites, Kenaniah and his sons were for outside responsibilities over Israel, as officials and judges.

³⁰And of the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his brethren, a thousand seven hundred strong men, were officials among the Israelites on this, the west, side of the Jordan in all the LORD's appointed duties, and in the service of the king. ³¹Among the Hebronites Jerijah was the chief, according to the genealogies of his fathers households among the Hebronites. In the fortieth year of the reign of David these records were sought out, and there were found among them mighty men of valour at Jazer in Gilead. ³²And his brethren were two thousand seven hundred strong men, chief fathers, whom King David made rulers over the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, for every duty relating to God and the affairs of the king.

27 Now the number of the children of Israel who were the chief fathers and captains of thousands and hundreds, and their officials, and those who served the king in any duty of the military divisions which came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year: Each division had twenty-four thousand.

²Over the first division for the first month was Jashobeam, the son of Zabdiel; and in his division were twenty-four thousand. ³He was of the children of Perez and was the chief of all the captains of the army for the first month.

⁴And over the division for the second month was Dodai an Ahohite, and Mikloth was the chief of his division; in his division also there were twenty-four thousand.

⁵The third captain of the army for the third month was Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, a chief priest; and in his division were twenty-four thousand. ⁶This is the Benaiah who was mighty among the thirty, and over the thirty; and in his division was his son Ammizabad.

⁷The fourth captain for the fourth month was Asahel, the brother of Joab, and after him his son Zebadiah; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

⁸The fifth captain for the fifth month was Shamhuth the Izrahite; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

⁹The sixth captain for the sixth month was Ira, the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

¹⁰The seventh captain for the seventh month was Helez the Pelonite, of the children of Ephraim; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

¹¹The eighth captain for the eighth month was Sibbecai the Hushathite, of the Zarhites; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

¹²The ninth captain for the ninth month was Abiezer the Anathothite, of the Benjamites; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

¹³The tenth captain for the tenth month was Maharai the Netophathite, of the Zarhites; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

¹⁴The eleventh captain for the eleventh month was Benaiah the Pirathonite, of the

26:20 "Dedicated things"—v 26,28; 28:12. Compare Josh 6:17-19. Great wealth was kept in the temple. **26:26** 2 Sam 8:11.

26:29 23:4.

27:1-15 All these commanders were chosen from David's greatest warriors – 11:10-31.

children of Ephraim; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

¹⁵The twelfth *captain* for the twelfth month was Heldai the Netophathite, of Othniel; and in his division were twenty-four thousand.

¹⁶Furthermore, *these were* over the tribes of Israel: the chief *officer* of the Reubenites was Eliezer the son of Zichri; of the Simeonites, Shephatiah the son of Maachah; ¹⁷of the Levites, Hashabiah the son of Kemuel; of the Aaronites, Zadok; ¹⁸of Judah, Elihu, *one* of David's brothers; of Issachar, Omri the son of Michael; ¹⁹of Zebulun, Ishmaiah the son of Obadiah; of Naphtali, Jerimoth the son of Azriel; ²⁰of the children of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Azaziah; of the half tribe of Manasseh, Joel the son of Pedaiiah; ²¹of the half *tribe* of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo the son of Zechariah; of Benjamin, Jaasiel the son of Abner; ²²of Dan, Azareel the son of Jeroham. These were the officers over the tribes of Israel.

²³But David did not take the number of those twenty years old and under, because the LORD had said he would make Israel as numerous as the stars of the heavens. ²⁴Joab, the son of Zeruiah, began to count *them*, but he did not finish, because *God's* wrath fell on Israel for it; nor was the number put in the account of the chronicles of King David.

²⁵And over the king's treasures was Azmaveth, the son of Adiel; and Jehonathan, the son of Uziah was over the storehouses in the fields, in the cities, and in the villages, and in the castles; ²⁶and Ezri, the son of Kelub, was over those who were the farm workers tilling the ground; ²⁷and over the vineyards was Shimei the Ramathite; over the increase of the vineyards for the wine cellars was Zabdi the Shiphmite; ²⁸and over the olive trees and the sycamore trees that were in the low-lying plains was Baal Hanan the Gederite; and Joash was over the stores of

oil; ²⁹and Shitrai the Sharonite was over the herds that pastured in Sharon; and Shaphat, the son of Adlai, was over the herds *that were* in the valleys; ³⁰And over the camels was Obil the Ishmaelite; and over the donkeys was Jehdeiah the Meronothite; ³¹and over the flocks was Jaziz the Hagerite. All these were the officers over King David's property.

³²Also Jonathan, David's uncle, was a counsellor, a wise man, and a scribe; and Jehiel, the son of Hachmoni, was with the king's sons; ³³And Ahithophel was the king's counsellor; and Hushai the Archite was the king's companion; ³⁴and after Ahithophel was Jehoiada the son of Benaiah, and Abiathar; and Joab was the general of the king's army.

28 And David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the officials of the tribes, and the captains of the companies that ministered to the king by division, and the captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, and the stewards over all the property and possession of the king, and of his sons, with the officers and with the mighty men and with all the valiant men.

²Then David the king rose to his feet, and said, "Hear me, my brethren, and my people. *As for me*, I *had* in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God, and had made *things* ready for the building. ³But God said to me, 'You shall not build a house for my name, because you *have been* a man of war, and have shed blood.'

⁴"However the LORD God of Israel chose me above all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever; for he chose Judah *to be* the leader, and of the house of Judah, the house of my father; and among the sons of my father he was pleased to make me king over all Israel. ⁵And of all

27:16-22 For some reason or other the tribes of Gad and Asher are omitted, the family of Aaron is listed with the tribes, and both halves of the one tribe of Manasseh had officers appointed to them.

27:21 "Abner"—1 Sam 14:50-51; 17:55-58; 26:5-16.

27:23 "Under"—21:5 gives the number of those over 20 years of age.

"Stars"—Gen 15:5.

27:24 "Finish"—21:6.

27:25-31 These men had charge of the properties and income of the royal court.

27:32 "Jonathan"—a different Jonathan, of course,

from Saul's son and David's friend.

27:33 2 Sam 15:12,32,37.

27:34 "Joab"—11:6.

28:1 22:17. This chapter makes it clear that before the attempt of Adonijah to seize power (1 Kings 1:5-11), all the leaders of Israel knew that David had chosen Solomon to be king in his place.

28:2 "In my heart"—17:1-2; 2 Sam 7:2.

"Footstool"—Ps 99:5; 132:7; Isa 60:13.

28:3 22:8; 2 Sam 7:5,13.

28:4 17:23,27; 2 Sam 7:11-13.

"Judah"—5:2; Gen 49:10.

my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons) he has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel. ⁶And he said to me, 'Your son Solomon is the one who will build my house and my courts, for I have chosen him *to be* my son, and I will be his father. ⁷Moreover, I will establish his kingdom forever, if he is steadfast in doing my commandments and my judgments, as at this day.'

⁸"Now therefore in the sight of all Israel, the congregation 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 for your children after you forever.

⁹"And you, Solomon, my son, know the God of your father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you. But if you forsake him, he will cast you off forever. ¹⁰Be careful now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary. Be strong, and do *it*".

¹¹Then David gave his son Solomon the plan of the portico *of the temple*, and of its buildings and of its treasuries and of its upper rooms and of its inner rooms and of the place of the mercy seat, ¹²and the plan of all that he had through the Spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, and of all the rooms around *it*, of the treasuries of the house of God and of the treasuries for the dedicated things; ¹³also for the divisions of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the articles of service in the house of the LORD. ¹⁴*He designated*

the gold by weight for *the things to be made* of gold, for all the articles for all kinds of service; *and the silver* by weight for all the articles of silver; for all articles for every kind of service; ¹⁵the weight for the gold candlesticks and for their gold lamps, by weight for each candlestick and for their lamps; and for the silver candlesticks, by weight, *both* for the candlesticks and *also* for its lamps, according to the use of every candlestick. ¹⁶And *he designated* the gold by weight for the tables of Showbread, for each table; and *likewise* the silver for the silver tables; ¹⁷also pure gold for the forks and the bowls and the cups; and for the golden basins *he designated gold* by weight for each basin; and likewise silver by weight for each silver basin; ¹⁸and for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the plan of the chariot of the cherubim, that spread out *their wings*, and overshadowed the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

¹⁹"All *this*", David said, "the LORD caused me to understand in writing by *his* hand on me, all the details of this plan".

²⁰And David said to his son Solomon, "Be strong and courageous, and do *it*. Do not be afraid or dismayed; for the LORD God, my God, *will be* with you. He will not fail you or forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD. ²¹And, see, the divisions of the priests and the Levites; *they are there* for all the service of the house of God. With you also, for all kinds of workmanship, *will be* every skillful man who is willing, for any kind of service. Also the officials and all the people *will be* wholly at your command".

29 Furthermore, David the king said to all the congregation, "My son

28:5 "Solomon"— 22:9-10.

28:6-7 2 Sam 7:12-14.

28:8 Compare Josh 1:6-9. The land could be kept in possession only in the same way it was originally taken—by following God's commands and obeying His word.

28:9 "Heart"— 29:17; 1 Sam 16:7; Heb 4:13.

"Seek him"— note at 22:19.

"Forsake...forever"— this goes beyond what God Himself had said in 2 Sam 7:14-15.

28:10 "Sanctuary"— note at Ex 25:8.

28:12 "Spirit"— v 19. God gave the plans for the temple just as He had for the tabernacle (Ex 25:9,40). It is not surprising then, that the same elements seen in the tabernacle appear again in the temple—most holy place, holy place,

ark, altar of incense, table for bread, lampstands, brazen altar, etc.

28:13 23:6; 24:1-3.

28:19 David, inspired by God's Spirit (v 12) wrote down exactly what God wanted the plans and specifications of the temple to be. Solomon followed them completely (1 Kings 6:38). If Solomon had always followed all the instructions David gave him (v 9), it would have been well. But 1 Kings 11:4 reveals that he did not.

28:20 22:13. Compare Josh 1:5-7.

28:21 "Skillful"— compare Ex 35:25-35; 36:1-2. Whenever there is a special work of God to be done, God will raise up men and give them the various skills needed to do it. Compare Rom 12:5-8; 1 Cor 12:4-6; Eph 4:7-13.

Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, *is still* young and inexperienced, and the work is great, for the palace is not for man, but for the LORD God. ²Now for the house of my God, with all my strength, I have made ready the gold for *things to be made* of gold, and the silver for *things* of silver, and the bronze for *things* of bronze, the iron for *things* of iron, and wood for *things* of wood; onyx stones, and *stones* to be set, inlaid *stones*, and stones of various colours, and all kinds of precious stones, and marble in abundance. ³Moreover, because of my delight in the house of my God, I give the treasure I have of gold and silver for the house of my God, over and above all that I have made ready for the holy house, ⁴*namely*, three thousand talents of gold, the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of *its* buildings; ⁵the gold for *things* of gold, and the silver for *things* of silver, and for all kinds of work *to be done* by the hands of artisans. And who *now* is willing to consecrate his service today to the LORD?"

⁶Then the chief of the fathers and leaders of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the officials over the king's work, offered willingly, ⁷and gave for the service of the house of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, and ten thousand talents of silver, and eighteen thousand talents of bronze, and one hundred thousand talents of iron. ⁸And those with whom *precious* stones were found gave *them* into the treasure of the house of the LORD, by the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite. ⁹Then the people rejoiced, because of their willing offering, for they offered willingly to

the LORD with a whole heart. And David the king also rejoiced with great joy.

¹⁰Therefore David praised the LORD before all the congregation, and David said, "Blessed are you, LORD God of Israel, our Father, for ever and ever.

¹¹Yours, O LORD, *is* the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all *that is* in heaven and on earth *is yours*; yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head over all.

¹²Both riches and honour *come* from you, and you reign over all, and power and might *are* in your hands, and *it is* in your hands to make great and to give strength to all.

¹³Now therefore, our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name.

¹⁴"But who *am* I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly in this way? For all things *come* from you, and we have given to you *some* of your own.

¹⁵For we *are* foreigners and settlers before you, as *were* all our fathers. Our days on earth *are* like a shadow, and no one abides.

¹⁶O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have made ready to build you a house for your holy name *comes* from your hand, and is all your own. ¹⁷I also know, my God, that you test the heart, and take pleasure in integrity. As for me, in the integrity of

29:1 "God"—22:5; 2 Chron 2:5.

"Young"—22:5; 1 Kings 3:7. Solomon was probably about 21 years of age.

29:2 22:3-5,14.

29:3 "The treasure I have"—David was not content to provide plunder captured in battles and other possessions belonging to the nation's treasuries; he wanted to give from his personal possessions. See also 21:24-25; 2 Sam 24:24. Alas, that so many now in Christian circles not only are reluctant to give to God's work, they enrich themselves by filling their pockets from what others have given. Note and references on giving at 2 Cor 9:15.

29:4 "Talents"—one talent was about 34 kilograms.

29:5 "Consecrate his service"—David knew that if they first gave themselves to God they would also give to the work of God. Compare 2 Cor 8:1-5.

29:7 "Ten thousand darics"—about 84 kilograms.

29:9 "Willingly"—they followed David's example. The result was joy to them and an abundance for God's work. Compare Ex 35:4-9,20-29; 36:4-7. See 2 Cor 9:7-11.

29:11 Ps 62:11; 89:11; 1 Tim 1:17; Rev 5:12-13.

29:12 2 Chron 1:12; 20:6; Isa 40:26-31.

29:14 All we have comes from God. We can give to Him only what He has given to us, and we are but stewards even of that which remains with us (Luke 12:42-43; Rom 12:6-8; 1 Cor 4:1-2; 1 Pet 4:10). David did not grumble that he had to give something to God — he counted it a great privilege.

29:15 "Foreigners"—Lev 25:23; Ps 39:12; Heb 11:13; 1 Pet 2:11.

"Shadow"—Ps 102:11; 144:4; Eccl 6:12.

29:17 "Integrity"—Ps 15:1-2; 51:6; Prov 11:20.

my heart I have willingly offered all these things. And now I have seen with joy your people who are present here making willing offerings to you. ¹⁸O LORD God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this forever in the intentions *and* thoughts of the hearts of your people, and prepare their hearts for yourself. ¹⁹And give my son Solomon a perfect heart to keep your commandments, your testimonies and your statutes, and to do all *these things*, and to build *your* palace *for* which I have made provision”.

²⁰And David said to all the congregation, “Now praise the LORD your God”. And all the congregation praised the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed their heads, and prostrated themselves in the presence of the LORD and the king.

²¹And on the following day they offered sacrifices to the LORD, and made burnt offerings to the LORD, a thousand bulls, a thousand rams, *and* a thousand lambs, with their drink offerings, and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel. ²²And on that day they ate and drank in the LORD’s presence with great gladness. And for the second time they made David’s son Solomon king

and anointed *him* for the LORD *to be* the chief ruler, and Zadok *to be* priest. ²³Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king in the place of his father David, and prospered, and all Israel obeyed him. ²⁴And all the leaders and the mighty men, and also all the sons of King David, submitted themselves to Solomon the king.

²⁵And the LORD exalted Solomon exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and bestowed on him *more* royal majesty than had been on any king in Israel before him.

²⁶Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel. ²⁷And the time that he reigned over Israel *was* forty years. He reigned seven years in Hebron, and he reigned thirty-three *years* in Jerusalem. ²⁸And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches and honour, and his son Solomon reigned in his place.

²⁹Now the acts of David the king, first and last, see, they *are* written in the book of Samuel the seer, and in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer, ³⁰his whole reign and his might, and the circumstances that came on him and on Israel, and on all the kingdoms of the *other* countries.

“*Willingly*”– vs 6,9.

29:18 Faithfulness to God is a very great virtue, and all of us may well pray as David did. See Matt 24:45; 25:23,28-30; Luke 19:17; 1 Cor 4:2.

29:19 22:14; 28:9; 29:1-2; Ps 72:1.

29:22 Compare 12:38-40; 1 Kings 1:33-40.

“*Second time*”– both Saul and David also had been anointed on two separate occasions – privately, then publicly.

29:25 1 Kings 3:13; 2 Chron 1:1,12.

29:27 2 Sam 5:4-5; 1 Kings 2:11.

29:29 “*Nathan*”, “*Gad*”– no man knows what happened to these two books which, it seems, the writer of Chronicles consulted. About half of the two books of Chronicles is based on the books of Samuel and Kings.

29:30 “*Other countries*”– such as Syria, Moab and Edom.

