

士師記

Judges

第一章

猶大帶頭

- 1 約書亞死後、以色列人求問耶和華說、我們中間誰當首先上去攻擊迦南人、與他們爭戰。
- 2 耶和華說、猶大當先上去、我已將那地交在他手中。
- 3 猶大對他哥哥西緬說、請你同我到拈鬮所得之地去、好與迦南人爭戰、以後我也同你到你拈鬮所得之地去、於是西緬與他同去。
- 4 猶大就上去、耶和華將迦南人和比利洗人交在他們手中、他們在比色擊殺了一萬人。
- 5 又在那裡遇見亞多尼比色、與他爭戰、殺敗迦南人和比利洗人。
- 6 亞多尼比色逃跑、他們追趕、拿住他、砍斷他手腳的大姆指。
- 7 亞多尼比色說、從前有七十個王、手腳的大姆指都被我砍斷、在我桌子底下拾取零碎食物、現在 神按著我所行的報應我了。於是他們將亞多尼比色帶到耶路撒冷、他就死在那裡。
- 8 猶大人攻打耶路撒冷、將城攻取、用刀殺了城內的人、並且放火燒城。
- 9 後來猶大人下去、與住山地南地和高原的迦南人爭戰。
- 10 猶大人去攻擊住希伯崙的迦南人、殺了示篩、亞希幔、撻買、希伯崙從前名叫基列亞巴。
- 11 他們從那裡去攻擊底璧的居民、底璧從前名叫基列西弗。
- 12 迦勒說、誰能攻打基列西弗、將城奪取、我就把我女兒押撒給他為妻。
- 13 迦勒兄弟基納斯的兒子俄陀聶、奪取了那城、迦勒就把女兒押撒給他為妻。
- 14 押撒過門的時候、勸丈夫向他父親求一塊田、押撒一下驢、迦勒問他說、你要甚麼。
- 15 他說、求你賜福給我、你既將我安置在南地、求你也給我水泉、迦勒就把上泉下泉賜給他。

Judah Takes the Lead

1:1 After Joshua died, the Israelites asked the LORD, "Who should lead the invasion against the Canaanites and launch the attack?" 1:2 The LORD said, "The men of Judah should take the lead. Be sure of this! I am handing the land over to them." 1:3 The men of Judah said to their brothers, the men of Simeon, "Invade our allotted land with us and help us attack the Canaanites. Then we will go with you into your allotted land." So the men of Simeon went with them.

1:4 The men of Judah attacked, and the LORD handed the Canaanites and Perizzites over to them. They killed ten thousand men at Bezek. 1:5 They met Adoni-Bezek at Bezek and fought him. They defeated the Canaanites and Perizzites. 1:6 When Adoni-Bezek ran away, they chased him and captured him. Then they cut off his thumbs and big toes. 1:7 Adoni-Bezek said, "Seventy kings, with thumbs and big toes cut off, used to lick up food scraps under my table. God has repaid me for what I did to them." They brought him to Jerusalem, where he died. 1:8 The men of Judah attacked Jerusalem and captured it. They put the sword to it and set the city on fire.

1:9 Later the men of Judah went down to attack the Canaanites living in the hill country, the Negev, and the lowlands. 1:10 The men of Judah attacked the Canaanites living in Hebron. (Hebron used to be called Kiriath Arba.) They killed Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai. 1:11 From there they attacked the people of Debir. (Debir used to be called Kiriath Sepher.) 1:12 Caleb said, "To the man who attacks and captures Kiriath Sepher I will give my daughter Acsah as a wife." 1:13 When Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, captured it, Caleb gave him his daughter Acsah as a wife.

1:14 One time Acsah came and charmed her father so she could ask him for some land. When she got down from her donkey, Caleb said to her, "What would you like?" 1:15 She answered, "Please give me a special present. Since you have given me land in the Negev, now give me springs of water." So Caleb gave her both the upper and lower springs.

- 16 摩西的內兄〔或作岳父〕是基尼人、他的子孫與猶大人一同離了棕樹城、往亞拉得以南的猶大曠野去、就住在民中。
- 17 猶大和他哥哥西緬同去、擊殺了住洗法的迦南人、將城盡行毀滅。那城的名便叫何珥瑪。
- 18 猶大又取了迦薩和迦薩的四境、亞實基倫和亞實基倫的四境、以革倫和以革倫的四境。
- 19 耶和華與猶大同在、猶大就趕出山地的居民、只是不能趕出平原的居民、因為他們有鐵車。
- 20 以色列人照摩西所說的、將希伯崙給了迦勒、迦勒就從那裡趕出亞納族的三個族長。
- 21 便雅憫人沒有趕出住耶路撒冷的耶布斯人、耶布斯人仍在耶路撒冷與便雅憫人同住、直到今日。

局部成功

- 22 約瑟家也上去攻打伯特利、耶和華與他們同在。
- 23 約瑟家打發人去窺探伯特利。那城起先名叫路斯。
- 24 窺探的人看見一個人從城裡出來、就對他說、求你將進城的路指示我們、我們必恩待你。
- 25 那人將進城的路指示他們、他們就用刀擊殺了城中的居民、但將那人和他全家放去。
- 26 那人往赫人之地去、築了一座城、起名叫路斯、那城到如今還叫這名。
- 27 瑪拿西沒有趕出伯善和屬伯善鄉村的居民、他納和屬他納鄉村的居民、多珥和屬多珥鄉村的居民、以伯蓮和屬以伯蓮鄉村的居民、米吉多和屬米吉多鄉村的居民、迦南人卻執意住在那些地方。
- 28 及至以色列強盛了、就使迦南人作苦工、沒有把他們全然趕出。
- 29 以法蓮沒有趕出住基色的迦南人、於是迦南人仍住在基色、在以法蓮中間。
- 30 西布倫沒有趕出基倫的居民、和拿哈拉的居民、於是迦南人仍住在西布倫中間、成了服苦的人。
- 31 亞設沒有趕出亞柯和西頓的居民、亞黑拉和亞革悉的居民、黑巴、亞弗革與利合的居民。
- 32 於是亞設因為沒有趕出那地的迦南人、就住在他們中間。

1:16 Now the descendants of the Kenite, Moses' father-in-law, went up with the people of Judah from the City of Date Palm Trees to Arad in the desert of Judah, located in the Negev. They went and lived with the people of Judah.

1:17 The men of Judah went with their brothers the men of Simeon and defeated the Canaanites living in Zephath. They wiped out Zephath. So people now call the city Hormah. 1:18 The men of Judah captured Gaza, Ashkelon, Ekron, and the territory surrounding each of these cities.

1:19 The LORD was with the men of Judah. They conquered the hill country, but they could not conquer the people living in the coastal plain, because they had chariots with iron-rimmed wheels. 1:20 Caleb received Hebron, just as Moses had promised. He drove out the three Anakites. 1:21 The men of Benjamin, however, did not conquer the Jebusites living in Jerusalem. The Jebusites live with the people of Benjamin in Jerusalem to this very day.

Partial Success

1:22 When the men of Joseph attacked Bethel, the LORD was with them. 1:23 When the men of Joseph spied out Bethel (it used to be called Luz), 1:24 the spies spotted a man leaving the city. They said to him, "If you show us a secret entrance into the city, we will reward you." 1:25 He showed them a secret entrance into the city, and they put the city to the sword. But they let the man and his extended family leave safely. 1:26 He moved to Hittite country and built a city. He named it Luz, and it has kept that name to this very day.

1:27 The men of Manasseh did not conquer Beth Shan, Taanach, or their surrounding towns. Nor did they conquer the people living in Dor, Ibleam, Megiddo or their surrounding towns. The Canaanites managed to remain in those areas. 1:28 Whenever Israel was strong militarily, they forced the Canaanites to do hard labor, but they never totally conquered them.

1:29 The men of Ephraim did not conquer the Canaanites living in Gezer. The Canaanites lived among them in Gezer.

1:30 The men of Zebulun did not conquer the people living in Kitron and Nahalol. The Canaanites lived among them and were forced to do hard labor.

1:31 The men of Asher did not conquer the people living in Acco or Sidon. Nor did they conquer Ahlab, Aczib, Helbah, Aphek, or Rehob. 1:32 The people of Asher live among the Canaanites residing in the land because they did not conquer them.

- 33 拿弗他利沒有趕出伯示麥和伯亞納的居民·於是拿弗他利就住在那地的迦南人中間·然而伯示麥和伯亞納的居民·成了服苦的人。
- 34 亞摩利人強逼但人住在山地、不容他們下到平原·
- 35 亞摩利人卻執意住在希烈山和亞雅倫、並沙賓、然而約瑟家勝了他們、使他們成了服苦的人。
- 36 亞摩利人的境界、是從亞克拉濱坡、從西拉而上。

第二章

在波金痛哭的經歷

- 1 耶和華的使者從吉甲上到波金、對以色列人說、我使你們從埃及上來、領你們到我向你們列祖起誓應許之地·我又說、我永不廢棄與你們所立的約。
- 2 你們也不可與這地的居民立約·要拆毀他們的祭壇·你們竟沒有聽從我的話·為何這樣行呢。
- 3 因此我又說、我必不將他們從你們面前趕出·他們必作你們肋下的荆棘·他們的神、必作你們的網羅。
- 4 耶和華的使者、向以色列眾人說這話的時候、百姓就放聲而哭。
- 5 於是給那地方起名叫波金〔就是哭的意思〕·眾人在那裡向耶和華獻祭。

世代的結束

- 6 從前約書亞打發以色列百姓去的時候、他們各歸自己的地業、佔據地土。
- 7 約書亞在世和約書亞死後、那些見耶和華為以色列人所行大事的長老還在的時候、百姓都事奉耶和華。
- 8 耶和華的僕人、嫩的兒子約書亞、正一百一十歲就死了。
- 9 以色列人將他葬在他地業的境內、就是在以法蓮山地的亭拿希烈、在迦實山的北邊。
- 10 那世代的人、也都歸了自己的列祖·後來有別的世代興起、不知道耶和華、也不知道耶和華為以色列人所行的事。

1:33 The men of Naphtali did not conquer the people living in Beth Shemesh or Beth Anath. They live among the Canaanites residing in the land. The Canaanites living in Beth Shemesh and Beth Anath were forced to do hard labor for them.

1:34 The Amorites forced the people of Dan to live in the hill country. They did not allow them to live in the coastal plain. 1:35 The Amorites managed to remain in Har Heres, Aijalon, and Shaalbim. Whenever the tribe of Joseph was strong militarily, the Amorites were forced to do hard labor. 1:36 The border of Amorite territory ran from the Ascent of Aqrabbim to Sela and on up.

A Tearful Encounter at Bokim

2:1 The LORD's angelic messenger went up from Gilgal to Bokim. He said, "I brought you up from Egypt and led you into the land I had solemnly promised to give to your ancestors. I said, 'I will never break my agreement with you, 2:2 but you must not make an agreement with the people who live in this land. You should tear down the altars where they worship.' But you have disobeyed me. Why would you do such a thing? 2:3 At that time I also warned you, 'If you disobey, I will not drive out the Canaanites before you. They will ensnare you and their gods will lure you away.'"

2:4 When the LORD's messenger finished speaking these words to all the Israelites, the people wept loudly. 2:5 They named that place Bokim and offered sacrifices to the LORD there.

The End of an Era

2:6 When Joshua dismissed the people, the Israelites went to their allotted portions of property, intending to take possession of the land. 2:7 The people worshiped the LORD throughout Joshua's lifetime and as long as the elderly men who outlived him remained alive. These men had witnessed all the great things the LORD had done for Israel. 2:8 Joshua son of Nun, the LORD's servant, died at the age of one hundred and ten. 2:9 The people buried him in his allotted land in Timnath Heres in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. 2:10 That entire generation passed away; a new generation came along that had not personally experienced the LORD's presence or seen what he had done for Israel.

單調的循環

- 11 以色列人行耶和華眼中看為惡的事、去事奉諸巴力。
 12 離棄了領他們出埃及地的耶和華、他們列祖的神、去叩拜別神、就是四圍列國的神、惹耶和華發怒。
 13 並離棄耶和華、去事奉巴力和亞斯他錄。
 14 耶和華的怒氣向以色列人發作、就把他們交在搶奪他們的人手中、又將他們付與四圍仇敵的手中、甚至他們在仇敵面前再不能站立得住。
 15 他們無論往何處去、耶和華都以災禍攻擊他們、正如耶和華所說的話、又如耶和華向他們所起的誓、他們便極其困苦。
 16 耶和華興起士師、士師就拯救他們脫離搶奪他們人的手。
 17 他們卻不聽從士師、竟隨從叩拜別神、行了邪淫、速速的偏離他們列祖所行的道、不如他們列祖順從耶和華的命令。
 18 耶和華為他們興起士師、就與那士師同在、士師在世的一切日子、耶和華拯救他們脫離仇敵的手、他們因受欺壓擾害、就哀聲歎氣、所以耶和華後悔了。
 19 及至士師死後、他們就轉去行惡、比他們列祖更甚、去事奉叩拜別神、總不斷絕頑梗的惡行。

神的決定

- 20 於是耶和華的怒氣向以色列人發作、他說、因這民違背我吩咐他們列祖所守的約、不聽從我的話、
 21 所以約書亞死的時候所剩下的各族、我必不再從他們面前趕出。
 22 為要藉此試驗以色列人、看他們肯照他們列祖謹守遵行我的道不肯。
 23 這樣耶和華留下各族、不將他們速速趕出、也沒有交付約書亞的手。

第三章

- 1 耶和華留下這幾族、為要試驗那不曾知道與迦南爭戰之事的以色列人。
 2 好叫以色列的後代、又知道又學習未曾曉得的戰事。
 3 所留下的、就是非利士的五個首領、和一切迦南人、西頓人、並住利巴嫩山的希未人、從巴力黑們山、直到哈馬口。

A Monotonous Cycle

2:11 The Israelites did evil before the LORD by worshiping the Baals. 2:12 They abandoned the LORD God of their ancestors who brought them out of the land of Egypt. They followed other gods—the gods of the nations who lived around them. They worshiped them and made the LORD angry. 2:13 They abandoned the LORD and worshiped Baal and the Ashtars.

2:14 The LORD was furious with Israel and handed them over to robbers who plundered them. He turned them over to their enemies who lived around them. They could not withstand their enemies' attacks. 2:15 Whenever they went out to fight, the LORD did them harm, just as he had warned and solemnly vowed he would do. They suffered greatly.

2:16 The LORD raised up leaders who delivered them from these robbers. 2:17 But they did not obey their leaders. Instead they prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned aside from the path their ancestors had walked. Their ancestors had obeyed the LORD's commands, but they did not. 2:18 When the LORD raised up leaders for them, the LORD was with each leader and delivered the people from their enemies while the leader remained alive. The LORD felt sorry for them when they cried out in agony because of what their harsh oppressors did to them. 2:19 When a leader died, the next generation would again act more wickedly than the previous one. They would follow after other gods, worshiping them and bowing down to them. They did not give up their practices or their stubborn ways.

A Divine Decision

2:20 The LORD was furious with Israel. He said, "This nation has violated the terms of the agreement I made with their ancestors by disobeying me. 2:21 So I will no longer remove before them any of the nations that Joshua left unconquered when he died. 2:22 Joshua left those nations to test Israel. I wanted to see whether or not the people would carefully walk in the path marked out by the LORD, as their ancestors were careful to do." 2:23 This is why the LORD permitted these nations to remain and did not conquer them immediately; he did not hand them over to Joshua.

3:1 These were the nations the LORD permitted to remain so he could use them to test Israel—he wanted to test all those who had not experienced battle against the Canaanites. 3:2 He left those nations simply because he wanted to teach the subsequent generations of Israelites, who had not experienced the earlier battles, how to conduct holy war.

- 4 留下這幾族、爲要試驗以色列人、知道他們肯聽從耶和華藉摩西吩咐他們列祖的誠命不肯。
- 5 以色列人竟住在迦南人、赫人、亞摩利人、比利洗人、希未人、耶布斯人中間、
- 6 娶他們的女兒爲妻、將自己的女兒嫁給他們的兒子、並事奉他們的神。

典型領袖俄陀聶

- 7 以色列人行耶和華眼中看爲惡的事、忘記耶和華他們的神、去事奉諸巴力和亞舍拉。
- 8 所以耶和華的怒氣向以色列人發作、就把他們交在米所波大米王古珊利薩田的手中、以色列人服事古珊利薩田八年。
- 9 以色列人呼求耶和華的時候、耶和華就爲他們興起一位拯救者救他們、就是迦勒兄弟、基納斯的兒子俄陀聶。
- 10 耶和華的靈降在他身上、他就作了以色列的士師、出去爭戰、耶和華將米所波大米王古珊利薩田交在他手中、他便勝了古珊利薩田。
- 11 於是國中太平四十年。基納斯的兒子俄陀聶死了。

欺詐、刺殺和拯救

- 12 以色列人又行耶和華眼中看爲惡的事、耶和華就使摩押王伊磯倫強盛、攻擊以色列人。
- 13 伊磯倫招聚亞捫人和亞瑪力人、去攻打以色列人、佔據棕樹城。
- 14 於是以色列人服事摩押王伊磯倫十八年。
- 15 以色列人呼求耶和華的時候、耶和華就爲他們興起一位拯救者、就是便雅憫人基拉的兒子以笏、他是左手便利的、以色列人託他送禮物給摩押王伊磯倫。
- 16 以笏打了一把兩刃的劍、長一肘、帶在右腿上衣服裡面。
- 17 他將禮物獻給摩押王伊磯倫、原來伊磯倫極其肥胖。
- 18 以笏獻完禮物、便將抬禮物的人打發走了。
- 19 自己卻從靠近吉甲鑿石之地回來、說、王阿、我有一件機密事奉告你、王說、迴避罷、於是左右侍立的人都退去了。
- 20 以笏來到王面前、王獨自一人坐在涼樓上。以笏說、我奉神的命報告你一件事、王就從座位上升起來。

3:3 These were the nations: the five lords of the Philistines, all the Canaanites, the Sidonians, and the Hivites living in Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal Hermon to Lebo-Hamath. 3:4 They were left to test Israel, so the LORD would know if his people would obey the commands he gave their ancestors through Moses.

3:5 The Israelites lived among the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. 3:6 They took the Canaanites' daughters as wives and gave their daughters to the Canaanites; they worshiped their gods as well.

Othniel: A Model Leader

3:7 The Israelites did evil in the LORD's sight. They forgot the LORD their God and worshiped the Baals and the Asherahs. 3:8 The LORD was furious with Israel and turned them over to King Cushan-Rishathaim of Aram-Naharaim. They were Cushan-Rishathaim's subjects for eight years. 3:9 When the Israelites cried out for help to the LORD, he raised up a deliverer for the Israelites who rescued them. His name was Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother. 3:10 The LORD's spirit empowered him and he led Israel. When he went to do battle, the LORD handed over to him King Cushan-Rishathaim of Aram and he overpowered him. 3:11 The land had rest for forty years; then Othniel son of Kenaz died.

Deceit, Assassination, and Deliverance

3:12 The Israelites again did evil in the LORD's sight. The LORD gave King Eglon of Moab control over Israel because they had done evil in the LORD's sight. 3:13 Eglon allied with the Ammonites and Amalekites. He came and defeated Israel, and they seized the City of Date Palm Trees. 3:14 The Israelites were subject to King Eglon of Moab for eighteen years.

3:15 When the Israelites cried out for help to the LORD, he raised up a deliverer for them. His name was Ehud son of Gera the Benjaminite, a left-handed man. The Israelites sent him to King Eglon of Moab with their tribute payment. 3:16 Ehud made himself a sword—it had two edges and was eighteen inches long. He strapped it under his coat on his right thigh. 3:17 He brought the tribute payment to King Eglon of Moab. (Now Eglon was a very fat man.)

3:18 After Ehud brought the tribute payment, he dismissed the people who had carried it. 3:19 But he went back once he reached the carved images at Gilgal. He said to Eglon, "I have a secret message for you, O king." Eglon said, "Be quiet!" All his attendants left. 3:20 When Ehud approached him, he was sitting in his well-ventilated upper room all by himself. Ehud said, "I have a divine message for

- 21 以笏便伸左手、從右腿上拔出劍來、刺入王的肚腹。
- 22 連劍把都刺進去了、劍被肥肉夾住、他沒有從王的肚腹拔出來、且穿通了後身。
- 23 以笏就出到遊廊、將樓門盡都關鎖。
- 24 以笏出來之後、王的僕人到了、看見樓門關鎖、就說、他必是在樓上大解。
- 25 他們等煩了、見仍不開樓門、就拿鑰匙開了、不料、他們的主人已死、倒在地上。
- 26 他們耽延的時候以笏就逃跑了、經過磐石之地、逃到西伊拉。
- 27 到了、就在以法蓮山地吹角、以色列人隨著他下了山地。他在前頭引路、
- 28 對他們說、你們隨我來、因為耶和華已經把你們的仇敵摩押人交在你們手中。於是他們跟著他下去、把守約但河的渡口、不容摩押一人過去。
- 29 那時擊殺了摩押人約有一萬、都是強壯的勇士、沒有一人逃脫。
- 30 這樣、摩押就被以色列人制伏了。國中太平八十年。
- 31 以笏之後、有亞拿的兒子珊迦、他用趕牛的棍子打死六百非利士人、他也救了以色列人。

第四章

猶豫的將軍和英勇的婦人

- 1 以笏死後、以色列人又行耶和華眼中看為惡的事。
- 2 耶和華就把他們付與在夏瑣作王的迦南王耶賓手中、他的將軍是西西拉、住在外邦人的夏羅設。
- 3 耶賓王有鐵車九百輛、他大大欺壓以色列人二十年、以色列人就呼求耶和華。
- 4 有一位女先知名叫底波拉、是拉比多的妻、當時作以色列的士師。
- 5 他住在以法蓮山地拉瑪和伯特利中間、在底波拉的棕樹下、以色列人都上他那裡去聽判斷。
- 6 他打發人從拿弗他利的基低斯、將亞比挪菴的兒子巴拉召了來、對他說、耶和華以色列的神吩咐你說、你率領一萬拿弗他利和西布倫人、上他泊山去。

you.” When Eglon rose up from his seat, 3:21 Ehud reached with his left hand, pulled the sword from his right thigh, and drove it into Eglon’s belly. 3:22 The handle went in after the blade, and the fat closed around the blade, for Ehud did not pull the sword out of his belly. 3:23 As Ehud went out into the vestibule, he closed the doors of the upper room behind him and locked them.

3:24 When Ehud had left, Eglon’s servants came and saw the locked doors of the upper room. They said, “He must be relieving himself in the well-ventilated inner room.” 3:25 They waited so long they were embarrassed, but he still did not open the doors of the upper room. Finally they took the key and opened the doors. Right before their eyes was their master, sprawled out dead on the floor! 3:26 Now Ehud had escaped while they were delaying. When he passed the carved images, he escaped to Seirah.

3:27 When he reached Seirah, he blew a trumpet in the Ephraimite hill country. The Israelites went down with him from the hill country, with Ehud in the lead. 3:28 He said to them, “Follow me, for the LORD is about to defeat your enemies, the Moabites!” They followed him, captured the fords of the Jordan River opposite Moab, and did not let anyone cross. 3:29 That day they killed about ten thousand Moabites—all strong, capable warriors; not one escaped. 3:30 Israel humiliated Moab that day, and the land had rest for eighty years.

3:31 After Ehud came Shamgar son of Anath; he killed six hundred Philistines with an oxgoad and, like Ehud, delivered Israel.

A Hesitant General and an Heroic Woman

4:1 The Israelites again did evil in the LORD’s sight after Ehud’s death. 4:2 The LORD turned them over to King Jabin of Canaan, who ruled in Hazor. The general of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth Haggoyim. 4:3 The Israelites cried out for help to the LORD, for Sisera had nine hundred chariots with iron-rimmed wheels, and he cruelly oppressed the Israelites for twenty years.

4:4 Now Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was leading Israel at that time. 4:5 She would sit under the Date Palm Tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the Ephraimite hill country. The Israelites would come up to her to have their disputes settled.

4:6 She summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali. She said to him, “Is it not true that the LORD God of Israel is commanding you? Go, march to Mount Tabor! Take with you ten thousand

- 7 我必使耶賓的將軍西西拉率領他的車輛和全軍、往基順河、到你那裡去。我必將他交在你手中。
- 8 巴拉說、你若同我去、我就去。你若不同我去、我就不去。
- 9 底波拉說、我必與你同去、只是你在所行的路上、得不著榮耀。因為耶和華將西西拉交在一個婦人手裡。於是底波拉起來、與巴拉一同往基低斯去了。
- 10 巴拉就招聚西布倫人和拿弗他利人到基低斯。跟他上去的有一萬人。底波拉也同他上去。
- 11 摩西岳父〔或作內兄〕何巴的後裔基尼人希百、曾離開基尼族、到靠近基低斯撒拿音的橡樹旁、支搭帳棚。
- 12 有人告訴西西拉說、亞比挪菴的兒子巴拉已經上他泊山了。
- 13 西西拉就聚集所有的鐵車九百輛、和跟隨他的全軍、從外邦人的夏羅設出來、到了基順河。
- 14 底波拉對巴拉說、你起來、今日就是耶和華將西西拉交在你手的日子。耶和華豈不在你前頭行麼。於是巴拉下了他泊山。跟隨他有一萬人。
- 15 耶和華使西西拉和他一切車輛全軍潰亂、在巴拉面前被刀殺敗。西西拉下車步行逃跑。
- 16 巴拉追趕車輛、軍隊、直到外邦人的夏羅設。西西拉的全軍、都倒在刀下、沒有留下一人。
- 17 只有西西拉步行逃跑、到了基尼人希百之妻雅億的帳棚。因為夏瑣王耶賓與基尼人希百家和好。
- 18 雅億出來迎接西西拉、對他說、請我主進來、不要懼怕。西西拉就進了他的帳棚。雅億用被將他遮蓋。
- 19 西西拉對雅億說、我渴了。求你給我一點水喝。雅億就打開皮袋、給他奶子喝、仍舊把他遮蓋。
- 20 西西拉又對雅億說、請你站在帳棚門口。若有人來問你說、有人在這裡沒有。你就說沒有。
- 21 西西拉疲乏沉睡。希百的妻雅億、取了帳棚的橛子、手裡拿著錘子、輕悄悄地到他旁邊、將橛子從他鬢邊釘進去、釘入地裡。西西拉就死了。
- 22 巴拉追趕西西拉的時候、雅億出來迎接他說、來罷、我將你所尋找的人給你看。他就進入帳棚、看見西西拉已經死了、倒在地上、橛子還在他鬢中。
- 23 這樣、神使迦南王耶賓、被以色列人制伏了。
- 24 從此以色列人的手、越發有力、勝了迦南王耶賓、直到將他滅絕了。

men from Naphtali and Zebulun! 4:7 I will bring Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to you at the Kishon River, along with his chariots and huge army. I will hand him over to you." 4:8 Barak said to her, "If you go with me, I will go. But if you do not go with me, I will not go." 4:9 She said, "I will indeed go with you. But you will not gain fame on the expedition you are taking, for the LORD will turn Sisera over to a woman." Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. 4:10 Barak summoned men from Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh. Ten thousand men followed him; Deborah went up with him as well. 4:11 Now Heber the Kenite had moved away from the Kenites, the descendants of Hobab, Moses' father-in-law. He lived near the tree in Zaananim near Kedesh.

4:12 When Sisera heard that Barak son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor, 4:13 he ordered all his chariotry—nine hundred chariots with iron-rimmed wheels—and all the troops he had with him to go from Harosheth-Haggoyim to the River Kishon. 4:14 Deborah said to Barak, "Spring into action, for this is the day the LORD is handing Sisera over to you! Has the LORD not taken the lead?" Barak quickly went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men following him. 4:15 The LORD routed Sisera, all his chariotry, and all his army with the edge of the sword. Sisera jumped out of his chariot and ran away on foot. 4:16 Now Barak chased the chariots and the army all the way to Harosheth Haggoyim. Sisera's whole army died by the edge of the sword; not even one survived.

4:17 Now Sisera ran away on foot to the tent of Jael, wife of Heber the Kenite, for King Jabin of Hazor and the family of Heber the Kenite had made a peace treaty. 4:18 Jael came out to welcome Sisera. She said to him, "Stop and rest, my lord. Stop and rest with me. Don't be afraid." So Sisera stopped to rest in her tent, and she put a blanket over him. 4:19 He said to her, "Give me a little water to drink, because I'm thirsty." She opened a goatskin container of milk and gave him some milk to drink. Then she covered him up again. 4:20 He said to her, "Stand watch at the entrance to the tent. If anyone comes along and asks you, 'Is there a man here?' say 'No.'" 4:21 Then Jael wife of Heber took a tent peg in one hand and a hammer in the other. She crept up on him, drove the tent peg through his temple into the ground while he was asleep from exhaustion, and he died. 4:22 Now Barak was chasing Sisera. Jael went out to welcome him. She said to him, "Come here and I will show you the man you are searching for." He went with her into the tent, and there he saw Sisera sprawled out dead with the tent peg in his temple.

4:23 That day God humiliated King Jabin of Canaan, before the Israelites. 4:24 Israel's power continued to overwhelm King Jabin of Canaan until they did away with him.

第五章

凱旋樂歌

- 1 那時底波拉和亞比挪菴的兒子巴拉作歌、說、
- 2 因為以色列中有軍長率領、百姓也甘心犧牲自己、你們應當頌讚耶和華。
- 3 君王阿、要聽、王子阿、要側耳而聽、我要向耶和華歌唱、我要歌頌耶和華以色列的神。
- 4 耶和華阿、你從西珥出來、由以東地行走、那時地震天漏、雲也落雨。
- 5 山見耶和華的面、就震動、西乃山見耶和華以色列神的面、也是如此。
- 6 在亞拿之子珊迦的時候、又在雅億的日子、大道無人行走、都是繞道而行。
- 7 以色列中的官長停職、直到我底波拉興起、等我興起作以色列的母。
- 8 以色列人選擇新神、爭戰的事就臨到城門、那時以色列四萬人中豈能見籐牌槍矛呢。
- 9 我心傾向以色列的首領、他們在民中甘心犧牲自己、你們應當頌讚耶和華。
- 10 騎白驢的、坐繡花毯子的、行路的、你們都當傳揚。
- 11 在遠離弓箭響聲打水之處、人必述說耶和華公義的作為、就是他治理以色列公義的作為。那時耶和華的民下到城門。
- 12 底波拉阿、興起、興起、你當興起、興起、唱歌、亞比挪菴的兒子巴拉阿、你當奮興、擄掠你的敵人。
- 13 那時有餘剩的貴胄、和百姓一同下來、耶和華降臨、為我攻擊勇士。
- 14 有根本在亞瑪力人的地、從以法蓮下來的。便雅憫在民中跟隨你、有掌權的從瑪吉下來、有持杖檢點民數的從西布倫下來。

Celebrating the Victory in Song

5:1 On that day Deborah and Barak son of Abinoam sang this victory song:

5:2 “When the leaders took the lead in Israel,
When the people answered the call to war—
Praise the LORD!

5:3 Hear, O kings!
Pay attention, O rulers!
I will sing to the LORD!
I will sing to the LORD God of Israel!

5:4 O LORD, when you departed from Seir,
when you marched from Edom’s plains,
the earth shook, the heavens poured down,
the clouds poured down rain.

5:5 The mountains trembled before the LORD, the
God of Sinai;
before the LORD God of Israel.

5:6 In the days of Shamgar son of Anath,
in the days of Jael caravans disappeared;
travelers had to go on winding side roads.

5:7 Warriors were scarce,
they were scarce in Israel,
until you arose, Deborah,
until you arose as a motherly protector in Israel.

5:8 God chose new leaders,
then fighters appeared in the city gates;
but, I swear, not a shield or spear could be found,
among forty military units in Israel.

5:9 My heart went out to Israel’s leaders,
to the people who answered the call to war.
Praise the LORD!

5:10 You who ride on light-colored female donkeys,
who sit on saddle cloths,
you who walk on the road, pay attention!

5:11 Hear the sound of those who divide the sheep
among the watering places;
there they tell of the Lord’s victorious deeds,
the victorious deeds of his warriors in Israel.
Then the LORD’s people went down to the city
gates—

5:12 Wake up, wake up, Deborah!
Wake up, wake up, sing a song!
Get up, Barak!

Capture your prisoners of war, son of Abinoam!
5:13 Then the survivors came down to the mighty
ones;

the LORD’s people came down to me as warriors.
5:14 They came from Ephraim, who uprooted
Amalek,
they follow after you, Benjamin, with your soldiers.
From Makir leaders came down,
from Zebulun came the ones who march carrying an
officer’s staff.

- 15 以薩迦的首領與底波拉同來，以薩迦怎樣、巴拉也怎樣，眾人都跟隨巴拉、衝下平原。在流便的溪水旁有心中定大志的。
- 16 你為何坐在羊圈內、聽群中吹笛的聲音呢，在流便的溪水旁有心中設大謀的。
- 17 基列人安居在約但河外，但人為何在船上，亞設人在海口靜坐、在港口安居。
- 18 西布倫人是拚命敢死的、拿弗他利人在田野的高處、也是如此。
- 19 君王都來爭戰，那時迦南諸王在米吉多水旁的他納爭戰，卻未得擄掠銀錢。
- 20 星宿從天上爭戰、從其軌道攻擊西西拉。
- 21 基順古河、把敵人沖沒，我的靈阿、應當努力前行。
- 22 那時壯馬馳驅、踢跳、奔騰。
- 23 耶和華的使者說、應當咒詛米羅斯、大大咒詛其中的居民，因為他們不來幫助耶和華、不來幫助耶和華攻擊勇士。
- 24 願基尼人希百的妻雅億、比眾婦人多得福氣、比住帳棚的婦人更蒙福祉。
- 25 西西拉求水、雅億給他奶子、用寶貴的盤子、給他奶油。
- 26 雅億左手拿著帳棚的橛子、右手拿著匠人的錘子、擊打西西拉、打傷他的頭、把他的鬢角打破穿通。
- 27 西西拉在他腳前曲身仆倒、在他腳前曲身倒臥，在那裡曲身、就在那裡死亡。
- 5:15 Issachar's leaders were with Deborah, the men of Issachar supported Barak, into the valley they were sent under Barak's command.
Among the clans of Reuben there was intense heart searching.
- 5:16 Why do you remain among the sheepfolds, listening to the shepherds playing their pipes for their flocks?
As for the clans of Reuben—there was intense heart searching.
- 5:17 Gilead stayed put beyond the Jordan River. As for Dan—why did he seek temporary employment in the shipyards?
Asher remained on the seacoast, he stayed put by his harbors.
- 5:18 The men of Zebulun were not concerned about their lives;
Naphtali charged on to the battlefields.
- 5:19 Kings came, they fought, the kings of Canaan fought, at Taanach by the waters of Megiddo, but they took no silver as plunder.
- 5:20 From the sky the stars fought, from their paths in the heavens they fought against Sisera.
- 5:21 The Kishon River carried them off, the river confronted them—the Kishon River. Step on the necks of the strong!
- 5:22 The horses' hooves pounded the ground; the stallions galloped madly.
- 5:23 'Call judgment down on Meroz,' says the LORD's angelic messenger;
'Be sure to call judgment down on those who live there, because they did not come to help in the LORD's battle, to help in the LORD's battle against the warriors.'
- 5:24 The most rewarded of women should be Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite!
She should be the most rewarded of women who live in tents.
- 5:25 He asked for water, and she gave him milk; in a bowl fit for important men, she served him curds.
- 5:26 Her left hand reached for the tent peg, her right hand for the workmen's hammer. She "hammered" Sisera, she shattered his skull, she smashed his head, she drove the tent peg through his temple.
- 5:27 Between her feet he collapsed, he fell limp and was lifeless; between her feet he collapsed and fell limp, in the spot where he collapsed, there he fell limp—violently murdered!

- 28 西西拉的母親、從窗戶裡往外觀看、從窗櫺中呼叫說、他的戰車、為何耽延不來呢。他的車輪、為何行得慢呢。
- 29 聰明的宮女安慰他〔原文作回答他〕、他也自言自語的說、
- 30 他們莫非得財而分、每人得了一兩個女子、西西拉得了彩衣為擄物、得繡花的彩衣為掠物、這彩衣兩面繡花。乃是披在被擄之人頸項上的。
- 31 耶和華阿、願你的仇敵、都這樣滅亡、願愛你的人如日頭出現、光輝烈烈。這樣國中太平四十年。

5:28 Through the window she looked;
Sisera's mother cried out through the lattice:
'Why is his chariot so slow to return?
Why are the hoofbeats of his chariot-horses delayed?'

5:29 The wisest of her ladies answer;
indeed she even thinks to herself,

5:30 'No doubt they are gathering and dividing the
plunder—
a girl or two for each man to rape!
Sisera is grabbing up colorful cloth,
he is grabbing up colorful embroidered cloth,
two pieces of colorful embroidered cloth,
for the neck of the plunderer!'

5:31 May all your enemies perish like this, O LORD!
But may those who love you shine
like the rising sun at its brightest!''
And the land had rest for forty years.

第六章

欺凌與責問

- 1 以色列人又行耶和華眼中看為惡的事、耶和華就把他們交在米甸人手裡七年。
- 2 米甸人壓制以色列人、以色列人因為米甸人、就在山中挖穴、挖洞、建造營寨。
- 3 以色列人每逢撒種之後、米甸人、亞瑪力人、和東方人都上來攻打他們、
- 4 對著他們安營、毀壞土產、直到迦薩、沒有給以色列人留下食物、牛羊驢也沒有留下。
- 5 因為那些人帶著牲畜帳棚來、像蝗蟲那樣多、人和駱駝無數、都進入國內、毀壞全地。
- 6 以色列人因米甸人的緣故、極其窮乏、就呼求耶和華。
- 7 以色列人因米甸人的緣故、呼求耶和華、
- 8 耶和華就差遣先知到以色列人那裡、對他們說、耶和華以色列的神、如此說、我曾領你們從埃及上來、出了為奴之家、
- 9 救你們脫離埃及人的手、並脫離一切欺壓你們之人的手、把他們從你們面前趕出、將他們的地賜給你們、
- 10 又對你們說、我是耶和華你們的神、你們住在亞摩利人的地、不可敬畏他們的神、你們竟不聽從我的話。

Oppression and Confrontation

6:1 The Israelites did evil in the LORD's sight, so the LORD turned them over to Midian for seven years. 6:2 The Midianites overwhelmed Israel. Because of Midian the Israelites made shelters for themselves in the hills, as well as caves and strongholds. 6:3 Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, the Midianites, Amalekites, and people from the east would attack them. 6:4 They invaded the land and devoured its crops all the way to Gaza. They left nothing for the Israelites to eat, and they took away the sheep, oxen, and donkeys. 6:5 When they invaded with their cattle and tents, they were as thick as locusts. Neither they nor their camels could be counted. They came to devour the land. 6:6 Israel was so severely weakened by Midian that the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help.

6:7 When the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help because of Midian, 6:8 he sent a prophet to the Israelites. He said to them, "This is what the LORD God of Israel says: 'I brought you up from Egypt and took you out of that place of slavery. 6:9 I rescued you from Egypt's power and from the power of all who oppressed you. I drove them out before you and gave their land to you. 6:10 I said to you, "I am the LORD your God! Do not worship the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are now living!" But you have disobeyed me.'"

基甸見使者

- 11 耶和華的使者到了俄弗拉、坐在亞比以謝族人約阿施的橡樹下。約阿施的兒子基甸正在酒醉那裡打麥子、為要防備米甸人。
- 12 耶和華的使者向基甸顯現、對他說、大能的勇士阿、耶和華與你同在。
- 13 基甸說、主阿、耶和華若與我們同在、我們何至遭遇這一切事呢。我們的列祖不是向我們說、耶和華領我們從埃及上來麼、他那樣奇妙的作為在那裡呢。現在他卻丟棄我們、將我們交在米甸人手裡。
- 14 耶和華觀看基甸、說、你靠著你這能力去從米甸人手裡拯救以色列人。不是我差遣你去的麼。
- 15 基甸說、主阿、我有何能拯救以色列人呢。我家在瑪拿西支派中、是至貧窮的。我在我父家是至微小的。
- 16 耶和華對他說、我與你同在、你就必擊打米甸人、如擊打一人一樣。
- 17 基甸說、我若在你眼前蒙恩、求你給我一個證據、使我知道與我說話的就是主。
- 18 求你不要離開這裡、等我歸回、將禮物帶來供在你面前。主說、我必等你回來。
- 19 基甸去豫備了一隻山羊羔、用一伊法細麵作了無酵餅、將肉放在筐內、把湯盛在壺中、帶到橡樹下、獻在使者面前。
- 20 神的使者吩咐基甸說、將肉和無酵餅放在這磐石上、把湯倒出來。他就這樣行了。
- 21 耶和華的使者伸出手內的杖、杖頭挨了肉和無酵餅、就有火從磐石中出來、燒盡了肉和無酵餅。耶和華的使者也就不見了。
- 22 基甸見他是耶和華的使者、就說、哀哉、主耶和華阿、我不好了、因為我觀看見耶和華的使者。
- 23 耶和華對他說、你放心、不要懼怕、你必不至死。
- 24 於是基甸在那裡為耶和華築了一座壇、起名叫耶和華沙龍〔就是耶和華賜平安的意思〕這壇在亞比以謝族的俄弗拉直到如今。

Gideon Meets Some Visitors

6:11 The LORD's angelic messenger came and sat down under the oak tree in Ophrah owned by Joash the Abiezrite. He arrived while Joash's son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress so he could hide it from the Midianites. 6:12 The LORD's messenger appeared and said to him, "The LORD is with you, courageous warrior!" 6:13 Gideon said to him, "Pardon me, but if the LORD is with us, why has such disaster overtaken us? Where are all his miraculous deeds our ancestors told us about? They said, 'Did the LORD not bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and handed us over to Midian." 6:14 Then the LORD himself turned to him and said, "You have the strength. Deliver Israel from the power of the Midianites! Have I not sent you?" 6:15 Gideon said to him, "But Lord, how can I deliver Israel? Just look! My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my family." 6:16 The LORD said to him, "Ah, but I will be with you! You will strike down the whole Midianite army." 6:17 Gideon said to him, "If you really are pleased with me, then give me a sign as proof that it is really you speaking with me." 6:18 Do not leave this place until I come back with a gift and present it to you." The LORD said, "I will stay here until you come back."

6:19 Gideon went and prepared a young goat, along with unleavened bread made from an ephah of flour. He put the meat in a basket and the broth in a pot. He brought the food to him under the oak tree and presented it to him. 6:20 God's messenger said to him, "Put the meat and unleavened bread on this rock, and pour out the broth." Gideon did as instructed. 6:21 The LORD's messenger touched the meat and the unleavened bread with the tip of his staff. Fire flared up from the rock and consumed the meat and unleavened bread. The LORD's messenger then disappeared.

6:22 When Gideon realized that it was the LORD's messenger, he said, "Oh no! Master, LORD! I have seen the LORD's messenger face to face!" 6:23 The LORD said to him, "You are safe! Do not be afraid! You are not going to die!" 6:24 Gideon built an altar for the LORD there, and named it "The LORD is on friendly terms with me." To this day it is still there in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

清除巴力祭壇

- 25 當那夜耶和華吩咐基甸說、你取你父親的牛來、就是〔或作和〕那七歲的第二隻牛、並拆毀你父親為巴力所築的壇、砍下壇旁的木偶。
- 26 在這磐石〔原文作保障〕上、整整齊齊地為耶和華你的神築一座壇、將第二隻牛獻為燔祭、用你所砍下的木偶作柴。
- 27 基甸就從他僕人中挑了十個人、照著耶和華吩咐他的行了、他因怕父家和本城的人、不敢在白晝行這事、就在夜間行了。
- 28 城裡的人清早起來、見巴力的壇拆毀、壇旁的木偶砍下、第二隻牛獻在新築的壇上、
- 29 就彼此說、這事是誰作的呢、他們訪查之後、就說、這是約阿施的兒子基甸作的。
- 30 城裡的人對約阿施說、將你兒子交出來、好治死他、因為他拆毀了巴力的壇、砍下壇旁的木偶。
- 31 約阿施回答站著攻擊他的眾人說、你們是為巴力爭論麼、你們要救他麼、誰為他爭論、趁早將誰治死、巴力果若是神、有人拆毀他的壇、讓他為自己爭論罷。
- 32 所以當日人稱基甸為耶路巴力、意思說、他拆毀巴力的壇、讓巴力與他爭論。

基甸居集軍隊起而對抗

- 33 那時米甸人亞瑪力人和東方人、都聚集過河、在耶斯列平原安營。
- 34 耶和華的靈降在基甸身上、他就吹角、亞比以謝族都聚集跟隨他。
- 35 他打發人走遍瑪拿西地、瑪拿西人也聚集跟隨他、又打發人去見亞設人、西布倫人、拿弗他利人他們也都出來與他們會合。
- 36 基甸對神說、你若果照著所說的話、藉我手拯救以色列人、
- 37 我就把一團羊毛放在禾場上、若但是羊毛上有露水、別的地方都是乾的、我就知道你必照著所說的話、藉我手拯救以色列人。
- 38 次日早晨基甸起來、見果然是這樣、將羊毛擠一擠、從羊毛中擠出滿盆的露水來。
- 39 基甸又對神說、求你不要向我發怒、我再說這一次、讓我將羊毛再試一次、但願羊毛是乾的、別的地方都有露水。
- 40 這夜神也如此行、獨羊毛上是乾的、別的地方都有露水。

Gideon Destroys the Altar

6:25 That night the LORD said to him, “Take the bull from your father’s herd, as well as a second bull, one that is seven years old. Pull down your father’s Baal altar and cut down the nearby Asherah pole. 6:26 Then build an altar for the LORD your God on the top of this stronghold according to the proper pattern. Take the second bull and offer it as a burnt sacrifice on the wood from the Asherah pole that you cut down.” 6:27 So Gideon took ten of his servants and did just as the LORD had told him. He was too afraid of his father’s family and the men of the city to do it in broad daylight, so he waited until nighttime.

6:28 When the men of the city got up the next morning, they saw the Baal altar pulled down, the nearby Asherah pole cut down, and the second bull sacrificed on the newly built altar. 6:29 They said to one another, “Who did this?” They investigated the matter thoroughly and concluded that Gideon son of Joash had done it. 6:30 The men of the city said to Joash, “Bring out your son, so we can execute him! He pulled down the Baal altar and cut down the nearby Asherah pole.” 6:31 But Joash said to all those who confronted him, “Must you fight Baal’s battles? Must you rescue him? Whoever takes up his cause will die by morning! If he really is a god, let him fight his own battles! After all, it was his altar that was pulled down.” 6:32 That very day Gideon’s father named him Jerub-Baal, because he had said, “Let Baal fight with him, for it was his altar that was pulled down.”

Gideon Summons an Army and Seeks Confirmation

6:33 All the Midianites, Amalekites, and the people from the east assembled. They crossed the Jordan River and camped in the Jezreel Valley. 6:34 The LORD’s spirit took control of Gideon. He blew a trumpet, summoning the Abiezrites to follow him. 6:35 He sent messengers throughout Manasseh and summoned them to follow him as well. He also sent messengers throughout Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali, and they came up to meet him.

6:36 Gideon said to God, “If you really intend to use me to deliver Israel, as you promised, then give me a sign as proof. 6:37 Look, I am putting a wool fleece on the threshing floor. If there is dew on just the fleece, and the ground around it is dry, then I will be sure that you will use me to deliver Israel, as you promised.” 6:38 The LORD did as he asked. When he got up the next morning, he squeezed the fleece, and enough dew dripped from it to fill a bowl. 6:39 Gideon said to God, “Please do not get mad at me, when I ask for just one more sign. Please allow me one more test with the fleece. This time make just the fleece dry, while the ground around it is covered with dew. 6:40 That night God did as he asked. Just the fleece was dry and the ground around it was covered with dew.”

第七章

基甸減少軍兵

- 1 耶路巴力、就是基甸、他和一切跟隨的人、早晨起來、在哈律泉旁安營。米甸營在他們北邊的平原、靠近摩利岡。
- 2 耶和華對基甸說、跟隨你的人過多、我不能將米甸人交在他們手中、免得以色列人向我誇大、說、是我們自己的手救了我們。
- 3 現在你要向這些人宣告說、凡懼怕膽怯的、可以離開基列山回去。於是二萬二千人回去、只剩下一萬。
- 4 耶和華對基甸說、人還是過多。你要帶他們下到水旁、我在那裡為你試試他們。我指點誰說、這人可以同你去、他就可以同你去。我指點誰說、這人不可同你去、他就不可同你去。
- 5 基甸就帶他們下到水旁。耶和華對基甸說、凡用舌頭舐水、像狗舐的、要使他單站在一處。凡跪下喝水的、也要使他單站在一處。
- 6 於是用手捧著水喝的有三百人。其餘的都跪下喝水。
- 7 耶和華對基甸說、我要用這水喝的三百人拯救你們、將米甸人交在你手中。其餘的人、都可以各歸各處去。
- 8 這三百人就帶著食物和角。其餘的以色列人、基甸都打發他們各歸各的帳棚、只留下這三百人。米甸營在他下邊的平原裡。

神重新保證基甸會戰勝

- 9 當那夜耶和華吩咐基甸說、起來、下到米甸營裡去。因我已將他們交在你手中。
- 10 倘若你怕下去、就帶你的僕人普拉下到那營裡去。
- 11 你必聽見他們所說的、然後你就有膽量下去攻營。於是基甸帶著僕人普拉下到營旁。
- 12 米甸人亞瑪力人和一切東方人、都布散在平原、如同蝗蟲那樣多。他們的駱駝無數、多如海邊的沙。
- 13 基甸到了、就聽見一人將夢告訴同伴說、我作了一夢、夢見一個大麥餅輾入米甸營中、到了帳幕、將帳幕撞倒、帳幕就翻轉傾覆了。
- 14 那同伴說、這不是別的、乃是以色列人約阿施的兒子基甸的刀。神已將米甸、和全軍、都交在他的手中。

Gideon Reduces the Ranks

7:1 Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) and his men got up the next morning and camped near the spring of Harod. The Midianites were camped north of them near the hill of Moreh in the valley. 7:2 The LORD said to Gideon, "You have too many men for me to hand Midian over to you. Israel might brag, 'Our own strength has delivered us.' 7:3 Now, announce to the men, 'Whoever is shaking with fear may turn around and leave Mount Gilead.'" Twenty-two thousand men went home; ten thousand remained. 7:4 The LORD spoke to Gideon again, "There are still too many men. Bring them down to the water and I will thin the ranks some more. When I say, 'This one should go with you,' pick him to go; when I say, 'This one should not go with you,' do not take him." 7:5 So he brought the men down to the water. Then the LORD said to Gideon, "Separate those who lap the water as a dog laps from those kneel to drink." 7:6 Three hundred men lapped; the rest of the men kneeled to drink water. 7:7 The LORD said to Gideon, "With the three hundred men who lapped I will deliver the whole army and I will hand Midian over to you. The rest of the men should go home." 7:8 The men who were chosen took supplies and their trumpets. Gideon sent all the men of Israel back to their homes; he kept only three hundred men. Now the Midianites were camped down below in the valley.

Gideon Reassured of Victory

7:9 That night the LORD said to Gideon, "Get up! Attack the camp, for I am handing it over to you. 7:10 But if you are afraid to attack, go down to the camp with Purah your servant 7:11 and listen to what they are saying. Then you will be brave and attack the camp." So he went down with Purah his servant to where the sentries were guarding the camp. 7:12 Now the Midianites, Amalekites, and people from the east covered the valley like a swarm of locusts. Their camels could not be counted; they were as innumerable as the sand on the seashore. 7:13 When Gideon arrived, he heard a man telling another man about a dream he had. The man said, "Look! I had a dream. I saw a stale cake of barley bread rolling into the Midianite camp. It hit a tent so hard it knocked it over and turned it upside down. The tent just collapsed." 7:14 The other man said, "Without a doubt this symbolizes the sword of Gideon son of Joash, the Israelite. God is handing Midian and all the army over to him."

基甸大敗仇敵

- 15 基甸聽見這夢、和夢的講解、就敬拜神、回到以色列營中、說、起來罷、耶和華已將米甸的軍隊交在你們手中了。
- 16 於是基甸將三百人分作三隊、把角和空瓶交在各人手裡、瓶內都藏著火把。
- 17 吩咐他們說、你們要看我行事、我到了營的旁邊怎樣行、你們也要怎樣行。
- 18 我和一切跟隨我的人吹角的時候、你們也要在營的四圍吹角、喊叫說、耶和華和基甸的刀。
- 19 基甸和跟隨他的一百人、在三更之初、纔換更的時候、來到營旁、就吹角、打破手中的瓶。
- 20 三隊的人、就都吹角、打破瓶子、左手拿著火把、右手拿著角、喊叫說、耶和華和基甸的刀。
- 21 他們在營的四圍各站各的地方、全營的人都亂竄、三百人吶喊、使他們逃跑。
- 22 三百人就吹角、耶和華使全營的人用刀互相擊殺、逃到西利拉的伯哈示他、直逃到靠近他巴的亞伯米何拉。
- 23 以色列人就從拿弗他利、亞設、和瑪拿西全地聚集來追趕米甸人。

基甸平息以法蓮人的怒氣

- 24 基甸打發人走遍以法蓮山地、說、你們下來攻擊米甸人、爭先把守約但河的渡口、直到伯巴拉。於是以法蓮的眾人聚集、把守約但河的渡口、直到伯巴拉。
- 25 捉住了米甸人的兩個首領、一名俄立、一名西伊伯、將俄立殺在俄立磐石上、將西伊伯殺在西伊伯酒醅那裡、又追趕米甸人、將俄立和西伊伯的首級帶過約但河、到基甸那裡。

第八章

- 1 以法蓮人對基甸說、你去與米甸人爭戰、沒有招我們同去、為甚麼這樣待我們呢、他們就與基甸大大地爭吵。
- 2 基甸對他們說、我所行的豈能比你們所行的呢、以法蓮拾取剩下的葡萄、不強過亞比以謝所摘的葡萄麼。

Gideon Routs the Enemy

7:15 When Gideon heard the report of the dream and its interpretation, he praised God. Then he went back to the Israelite camp and said, "Get up, for the LORD is handing the Midianite army over to you!" 7:16 He divided the three hundred men into three units. He gave them all trumpets and empty jars with torches inside them. 7:17 He said to them, "Watch me and do as I do. Watch closely! I am going to the edge of the camp. Do as I do! 7:18 When I and all who are with me blow our trumpets, you also blow your trumpets all around the camp. Then say, 'For the LORD and for Gideon!'"

7:19 Gideon took a hundred men to the edge of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just after they had changed the guards. They blew their trumpets and broke the jars they were carrying. 7:20 All three units blew their trumpets and broke their jars. They held the torches in their left hand and the trumpets in their right. Then they yelled, "A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!" 7:21 They stood in order all around the camp. The whole army ran away; they shouted as they scrambled away. 7:22 When the three hundred men blew their trumpets, the LORD caused the Midianites to attack one another with their swords throughout the camp. The army fled to Beth Shittah on the way to Zererah. They went to the border of Abel Meholah near Tabath. 7:23 Israelites from Naphtali, Asher, and Manasseh answered the call and chased the Midianites.

Gideon Appeases the Ephraimites

7:24 Now Gideon sent messengers throughout the Ephraimite hill country who announced, "Go down and head off the Midianites. Take control of the fords of the streams all the way to Beth Barah and the Jordan River." When all the Ephraimites had assembled, they took control of the fords all the way to Beth Barah and the Jordan River. 7:25 They captured the two Midianite generals, Oreb and Zeeb. They executed Oreb on the rock of Oreb and Zeeb in the winepress of Zeeb. They chased the Midianites and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon, who was now on the other side of the Jordan River.

8:1 The Ephraimites said to him, "Why have you done such a thing to us?" You did not summon us when you went to fight the Midianites!" They argued vehemently with him. 8:2 He said to them, "Now what have I accomplished compared to you? Even Ephraim's leftover grapes are better quality than

3 神已將米甸人的兩個首領、俄立和西伊伯、交在你們手中。我所行的、豈能比你們所行的呢。基甸說了這話、以法蓮人的怒氣就消了。

基甸追捕米甸二王

4 基甸和跟隨他的三百人、到約但河過渡、雖然疲乏、還是追趕。

5 基甸對疏割人說、求你們拿餅來給跟隨我的人喫。因為他們疲乏了、我們追趕米甸人的兩個王西巴和撒慕拿。

6 疏割人的首領回答說、西巴和撒慕拿已經在你手裡、你使我們將餅給你的軍兵麼。

7 基甸說、耶和華將西巴和撒慕拿交在我手之後、我就用野地的荊條和枳棘打傷你們。

8 基甸從那裡上到昆努伊勒、對那裡的人也是這樣說、昆努伊勒人也與疏割人回答他的話一樣。

9 他向昆努伊勒人說、我平平安安回來的時候、我必拆毀這樓。

10 那時西巴和撒慕拿、並跟隨他們的軍隊都在加各、約有一萬五千人、就是東方人全軍所剩下的、已經被殺約有十二萬拿刀的。

11 基甸就由挪巴和約比哈東邊、從住帳棚人的路上去、殺敗了米甸人的軍兵。因為他們坦然無懼。

12 西巴和撒慕拿逃跑。基甸追趕他們、捉住米甸的二王西巴和撒慕拿、驚散全軍。

13 約阿施的兒子基甸、由希列斯坡從陣上回來、

14 捉住疏割的一個少年人、問他疏割的首領長老是誰。他就將首領長老七十七個人的名字寫出來。

15 基甸到了疏割、對那裡的人說、你們從前譏誚我說、西巴和撒慕拿已經在你手裡、你使我們將餅給跟隨你的疲乏人麼。現在西巴和撒慕拿在這裡。

16 於是捉住那城內的長老、用野地的荊條和枳棘責打〔原文作指教〕疏割人。

17 又拆了昆努伊勒的樓、殺了那城裡的人。

18 基甸問西巴和撒慕拿說、你們在他泊山所殺的人是甚麼樣式。回答說、他們好像你、各人都有王子的樣式。

19 基甸說、他們是我同母的弟兄。我指著永生的耶和華起誓、你們從前若存留他們的性命、我如今就不殺你們了。

20 於是對他的長子益帖說、你起來殺他們。但益帖因為是童子、害怕、不敢拔刀。

Abiezer's harvest! 8:3 It was to you that God handed over the Midianite generals, Oreb and Zeeb! What did I accomplish to rival that?" When he said this, they calmed down.

Gideon Tracks Down the Midianite Kings

8:4 Now Gideon and his three hundred men had crossed over the Jordan River and, though exhausted, were still chasing the Midianites. 8:5 He said to the men of Succoth, "Give some loaves of bread to the men who are following me, because they are exhausted. I am chasing Zebah and Zalmunna, the kings of Midian." 8:6 The officials of Succoth said, "You have not yet overpowered Zebah and Zalmunna. So why should we give bread to your army?" 8:7 Gideon said, "Since you will not help, after the LORD hands Zebah and Zalmunna over to me, I will thresh your skin with desert thorns and briars." 8:8 He went up from there to Penuel and made the same request. The men of Penuel responded the same way the men of Succoth had. 8:9 He also threatened the men of Penuel, warning, "When I return victoriously, I will tear down this tower."

8:10 Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor with their armies. There were about fifteen thousand survivors from the army of the eastern peoples; a hundred and twenty thousand sword-wielding soldiers had been killed. 8:11 Gideon went up the road of the nomads east of Nobah and Jogbehah and ambushed the surprised army. 8:12 When Zebah and Zalmunna ran away, Gideon chased them and captured the two Midianite kings, Zebah and Zalmunna. He had surprised their entire army.

8:13 Gideon son of Joash returned from the battle by the pass of Heres. 8:14 He captured a young man from Succoth and interrogated him. The young man wrote down for him the names of Succoth's officials and city leaders—seventy-seven men in all. 8:15 He approached the men of Succoth and said, "Look what I have! Zebah and Zalmunna! You insulted me, saying, 'You have not yet overpowered Zebah and Zalmunna. So why should we give bread to your exhausted men?'" 8:16 He grabbed the leaders of the city, along with some desert thorns and briars; he then "threshed" the men of Succoth with them. 8:17 He also tore down the tower of Penuel and executed the city's men.

8:18 He said to Zebah and Zalmunna, "Describe for me the men you killed at Tabor." They said, "They were like you. Each one looked like a king's son." 8:19 He said, "They were my brothers, the sons of my mother. I swear, as surely as the LORD is alive, if you had let them live, I would not kill you." 8:20 He ordered Jether his firstborn son, "Come on! Kill them!" But Jether was too afraid to draw his

21 西巴和撒慕拿說、你自己起來殺我們罷、因為人如何、力量也是如何。基甸就起來、殺了西巴和撒慕拿、奪獲他們駱駝項上戴的月牙圈。

基甸拒絕作王，卻私製以弗得

22 以色列人對基甸說、你既救我們脫離米甸人的手、願你和你的兒孫管理我們。
 23 基甸說、我不管理你們、我的兒子也不管理你們、惟有耶和華管理你們。
 24 基甸又對他們說、我有一件事求你們、請你們各人將所奪的耳環給我、原來仇敵是以實瑪利人、都是戴金耳環的。
 25 他們說、我們情願給你、就鋪開一件外衣、各人將所奪的耳環丟在其上。
 26 基甸所要出來的金耳環、重一千七百舍客勒金子、此外還有米甸王所戴的月環、耳墜、和所穿的紫色衣服、並駱駝項上的金鍊子。
 27 基甸以此製造了一個以弗得、設立在本城俄弗拉、後來以色列人拜那以弗得行了邪淫、這就作了基甸和他全家的網羅。

基甸時代結束

28 這樣、米甸人被以色列人制伏了、不敢再抬頭、基甸還在的日子國中太平四十年。
 29 約阿施的兒子耶路巴力回去、住在自己家裡。
 30 基甸有七十個親生的兒子、因為他有許多的妻。
 31 他的妾住在示劍、也給他生了一個兒子、基甸與他起名叫亞比米勒。
 32 約阿施的兒子基甸、年紀老邁而死、葬在亞比米勒的俄弗拉、在他父親約阿施的墳墓裡。

以色列人又拜巴力

33 基甸死後、以色列人又去隨從諸巴力行邪淫、以巴力比利土為他們的神。
 34 以色列人不記念耶和華他們的神、就是拯救他們脫離四圍仇敵之手的。
 35 也不照著耶路巴力、就是基甸向他們所施的恩惠、厚待他的家。

sword, because he was still young. **8:21** Zebah and Zalmunna said to Gideon, “Come on, you strike us, for a man is judged by his strength.” So Gideon killed Zebah and Zalmunna, and he took the crescent-shaped ornaments which were on the necks of their camels.

Gideon Rejects a Crown but Makes an Ephod

8:22 The men of Israel said to Gideon, “Rule over us—you, your son, and your grandson. For you have delivered us from Midian’s power.” **8:23** Gideon said to them, “I will not rule over you, nor will my son rule over you. The LORD will rule over you.” **8:24** Gideon continued, “I would like to make one request. Each of you give me an earring from the plunder you have taken.” (The Midianites had gold earrings because they were Ishmaelites.) **8:25** They said, “We are happy to give you earrings.” So they spread out a garment, and each one threw an earring from his plunder onto it. **8:26** The total weight of the gold earrings he requested came to seventeen hundred gold shekels. This was in addition to the crescent-shaped ornaments, jewelry, purple clothing worn by the Midianite kings, and the necklaces on the camels. **8:27** Gideon used all this to make an ephod, which he put in his hometown of Ophrah. All the Israelites prostituted themselves to it there. It became a snare to Gideon and his family.

Gideon’s Story Ends

8:28 The Israelites humiliated Midian; the Midianites’ fighting spirit was broken. The land had rest for forty years during Gideon’s time. **8:29** Then Jerub-Baal son of Joash went home and settled down. **8:30** Gideon fathered seventy sons through his many wives. **8:31** His concubine, who lived in Shechem, also gave him a son, whom he named Abimelech. **8:32** Gideon son of Joash died at a very old age and was buried in the tomb of his father Joash located in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

Israel Returns to Baal-Worship

8:33 After Gideon died, the Israelites again prostituted themselves to the Baals. They made Baal-Berith their god. **8:34** The Israelites did not remain true to the LORD their God, who had delivered them from all the enemies who lived around them. **8:35** They did not treat the family of Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) fairly in return for all the good he had done for Israel.

第九章

亞比米勒謀殺眾兄弟

- 1 耶路巴力的兒子亞比米勒、到了示劍見他的眾母舅、對他們、和他外祖全家的人、說、
- 2 請你們問示劍的眾人說、是耶路巴力的眾子七十人都管理你們好呢、還是一人管理你們好呢、你們又要記念我是你們的骨肉。
- 3 他的眾母舅、便將這一切話、為他說給示劍人聽、示劍人的心、就歸向亞比米勒、他們說、他原是我們的弟兄。
- 4 就從巴力比利土的廟中、取了七十舍客勒銀子給亞比米勒、亞比米勒用以雇了些匪徒跟隨他。
- 5 他往俄弗拉到他父親的家、將他弟兄耶路巴力的眾子七十人、都殺在一塊磐石上、只剩下耶路巴力的小兒子約坦、因為他躲藏了。
- 6 示劍人和米羅人、都一同聚集、往示劍橡樹旁的柱子那裡、立亞比米勒為王。

約坦的比喻

- 7 有人將這事告訴約坦、他就去站在基利心山頂上、向眾人大聲喊叫、說、示劍人哪、你們要聽我的話、神也就聽你們的話。
- 8 有一時樹木要膏一樹為王、管理他們、就去對橄欖樹說、請你作我們的王。
- 9 橄欖樹回答說、我豈肯止住供奉。神和尊重人的油、飄飄在眾樹之上呢。
- 10 樹木對無花果樹說、請你來作我們的王。
- 11 無花果樹回答說、我豈肯止住所結甜美的果子、飄飄在眾樹之上呢。
- 12 樹木對葡萄樹說、請你來作我們的王。
- 13 葡萄樹回答說、我豈肯止住使。神和人喜樂的新酒、飄飄在眾樹之上呢。
- 14 眾樹對荊棘說、請你來作我們的王。
- 15 荊棘回答說、你們若誠誠實實地膏我為王、就要投在我的蔭下、不然、願火從荊棘裡出來、燒滅利巴嫩的香柏樹。
- 16 現在你們立亞比米勒為王、若按誠實正直善待耶路巴力和他的全家、這就是酬他的勞。
- 17 從前我父冒死、為你們爭戰、救了你們脫離米甸人的手。

Abimelech Murders His Brothers

9:1 Now Abimelech son of Jerub-Baal went to Shechem to see his mother's relatives. He said to them and to his mother's entire extended family, 9:2 "Tell all the leaders of Shechem this: 'Why would you want to have seventy men, all Jerub-Baal's sons, ruling over you, when you can have just one ruler? Recall that I am your own flesh and blood.'" 9:3 His mother's relatives spoke on his behalf to all the leaders of Shechem and reported his proposal. The leaders were drawn to Abimelech; they said, "He is our close relative." 9:4 They paid him seventy silver shekels out of the temple of Baal-Berith. Abimelech then used the silver to hire some lawless, dangerous men as his followers. 9:5 He went to his father's home in Ophrah and murdered his half-brothers, the seventy legitimate sons of Jerub-Baal, on one stone. Only Jotham, Jerub-Baal's youngest son, escaped, because he hid. 9:6 All the leaders of Shechem and Beth Millo assembled and then went and made Abimelech king by the oak near the pillar in Shechem.

Jotham's Parable

9:7 When Jotham heard the news, he went and stood on the top of Mount Gerizim. He spoke loudly to the people below, "Listen to me, leaders of Shechem, so that God may listen to you!

9:8 "The trees were determined to go out and choose a king for themselves. They said to the olive tree, 'Be our king!' 9:9 But the olive tree said to them, 'I am not going to stop producing my oil, which is used to honor gods and men, just to sway above the other trees!'

9:10 "So the trees said to the fig tree, 'You come and be our king!' 9:11 But the fig tree said to them, 'I am not going to stop producing my sweet figs, my excellent fruit, just to sway above the other trees!'

9:12 "So the trees said to the grapevine, 'You come and be our king!' 9:13 But the grapevine said to them, 'I am not going to stop producing my wine, which makes gods and men so happy, just to sway above the other trees!'

9:14 "So all the trees said to the thornbush, 'You come and be our king!' 9:15 The thornbush said to the trees, 'If you really want to choose me as your king, then come along, find safety under my branches! Otherwise may fire blaze from the thornbush and consume the cedars of Lebanon!'

9:16 "Now, if you have shown loyalty and integrity when you made Abimelech king, if you have done right to Jerub-Baal and his family, if you have properly repaid him— 9:17 my father fought for you; he risked his life and delivered you from Midian's

- 18 你們如今起來攻擊我的父家、將他眾子七十人殺在一塊磐石上、又立他婢女所生的兒子亞比米勒為示劍人的王。他原是你們的弟兄。
- 19 你們如今若按誠實正直待耶路巴力和他的家、就可因亞比米勒得歡樂、他也可因你們得歡樂。
- 20 不然、願火從亞比米勒發出、燒滅示劍人、和米羅眾人、又願火從示劍人和米羅人中出來、燒滅亞比米勒。
- 21 約坦、因怕他弟兄亞比米勒、就逃跑、來到比珥住在那裡。

神容許約坦的咒詛應驗

- 22 亞比米勒管理以色列人三年。
- 23 神使惡魔降在亞比米勒和示劍人中間、示劍人就以詭詐待亞比米勒。
- 24 這是要叫耶路巴力七十個兒子所受的殘害、歸與他們的哥哥亞比米勒、又叫那流他們血的罪、歸與幫助他殺弟兄的示劍人。
- 25 示劍人在山頂上設埋伏、等候亞比米勒、凡從他們那裡經過的人、他們就搶奪、有人將這事告訴亞比米勒。
- 26 以別的兒子迦勒、和他的弟兄來到示劍、示劍人都信靠他。
- 27 示劍人出城到田間去、摘了葡萄、踹酒、設擺筵宴、進他們神的廟中喫喝、咒詛亞比米勒。
- 28 以別的兒子迦勒說、亞比米勒是誰、示劍是誰、使我們服事他呢、他不是耶路巴力的兒子麼、他的幫手不是西布勒麼、你們可以服事示劍的父親哈抹的後裔、我們為何服事亞比米勒呢。
- 29 惟願這民歸我的手下、我就除掉亞比米勒、迦勒又對亞比米勒說、增添你的軍兵出來罷。
- 30 邑宰西布勒聽見以別的兒子迦勒的話、就發怒、
- 31 悄悄的打發人去見亞比米勒、說、以別的兒子迦勒和他的弟兄到了示劍、煽惑城中的民攻擊你。
- 32 現在你和跟隨你的人今夜起來、在田間埋伏。
- 33 到早晨太陽一出、你就起來、闖城、迦勒和跟隨他的人出來攻擊你的時候、你便向他們見機而作。
- 34 於是亞比米勒和跟隨他的眾人夜間起來、分作四隊、埋伏等候示劍人。
- 35 以別的兒子迦勒出去、站在城門口、亞比米勒和跟隨他的人從埋伏之處起來。

power. 9:18 But you have attacked my father's family today. You murdered his seventy legitimate sons on one stone and made Abimelech, the son of his female slave, king over the leaders of Shechem, just because he is your close relative. 9:19 So if you have shown loyalty and integrity to Jerub-Baal and his family today, then may Abimelech bring you happiness and may you bring him happiness! 9:20 But if not, may fire blaze from Abimelech and consume the leaders of Shechem and Beth Millo! May fire also blaze from the leaders of Shechem and Beth Millo and consume Abimelech!" 9:21 Then Jotham ran away to Beer and lived there to escape from Abimelech his half-brother.

God Fulfills Jotham's Curse

9:22 Abimelech commanded Israel for three years. 9:23 God sent a spirit to stir up hostility between Abimelech and the leaders of Shechem. He made the leaders of Shechem disloyal to Abimelech. 9:24 He did this so the violent deaths of Jerub-Baal's seventy sons might be avenged and Abimelech, their half-brother who murdered them, might have to pay for their spilled blood, along with the leaders of Shechem who helped him murder them. 9:25 The leaders of Shechem rebelled against Abimelech by putting bandits in the hills, who robbed everyone who traveled by on the road. But Abimelech found out about it.

9:26 Gaal son of Ebed came through Shechem with his brothers. The leaders of Shechem transferred their loyalty to him. 9:27 They went out to the field, harvested their grapes, squeezed out the juice, and celebrated. They came to the temple of their god and ate, drank, and cursed Abimelech. 9:28 Gaal son of Ebed said, "Who is Abimelech and who is Shechem, that we should serve him? Is he not the son of Jerub-Baal, and is not Zebul the deputy he appointed? Serve the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem! But why should we serve Abimelech? 9:29 If only these men were under my command, I would get rid of Abimelech!" He challenged Abimelech, "Mustering your army and come out for battle!"

9:30 When Zebul, the city commissioner, heard the words of Gaal son of Ebed, he was furious. 9:31 He sent messengers to Abimelech, who was in Arumah, reporting, "Beware! Gaal son of Ebed and his brothers are coming to Shechem and inciting the city to rebel against you. 9:32 Now, come up at night with your men and set an ambush in the field outside the city. 9:33 In the morning at sunrise quickly attack the city. When he and his men come out to fight you, do what you can to him."

9:34 So Abimelech and all his men came up at night and set an ambush outside Shechem—they divided into four units. 9:35 When Gaal son of Ebed came out and stood at the entrance to the city's gate,

- 36 迦勒看見那些人、就對西布勒說、看哪、有人從山頂上下來了。西布勒說、你看見山的影子、以為是人。
- 37 迦勒又說、看那、有人從高處下來、又有一隊從米惡尼橡樹的路上而來。
- 38 西布勒對他說、你曾說、亞比米勒是誰、叫我們服事他、你所誇的口在那裡呢、這不是你所藐視的民嗎、你現在出去、與他們交戰罷。
- 39 於是迦勒率領示劍人出去、與亞比米勒交戰。
- 40 亞比米勒追趕迦勒、迦勒在他面前逃跑、有許多受傷仆倒的、直到城門。
- 41 亞比米勒住在亞魯瑪、西布勒趕出迦勒和他弟兄、不准他們住在示劍。
- 42 次日民出到田間、有人告訴亞比米勒。
- 43 他就把他的人分作三隊、埋伏在田間、看見示劍人從城裡出來、就起來擊殺他們。
- 44 亞比米勒和跟隨他的一隊向前闖去、站在城門口、那兩隊直闖到田間、擊殺了眾人。
- 45 亞比米勒整天攻打城、將城奪取、殺了其中的居民、將城拆毀、撒上了鹽。
- 46 示劍樓的人聽見了、就躲入巴力比利土廟的衛所。
- 47 有人告訴亞比米勒、說、示劍樓的人都聚在一處。
- 48 亞比米勒和跟隨他的人就都上撒們山、亞比米勒手拿斧子、砍下一根樹枝、扛在肩上、對跟隨他的人說、你們看我所行的、也當趕緊照樣行。
- 49 眾人就各砍一枝、跟隨亞比米勒、把樹枝堆在衛所的四圍、放火燒了衛所、以致示劍樓的人都死了、男女約有一千。
- 50 亞比米勒到提備斯、向提備斯安營、就攻取了那城。
- 51 城中有一座堅固的樓、城裡的眾人、無論男女、都逃進樓去、關上門、上了樓頂。
- 52 亞比米勒到了樓前攻打、挨近樓門、要用火焚燒。
- 53 有一個婦人把一塊上磨石拋在亞比米勒的頭上、打破了他的腦骨。
- 54 他就急忙喊叫拿他兵器的少年人、對他說、拔出你的刀來、殺了我罷、免得人議論我說、他為一個婦人所殺。於是少年人把他刺透、他就死了。
- 55 以色列人見亞比米勒死了、便各回自己的地方去了。

Abimelech and his men got up from their hiding places. 9:36 Gaal saw the men and said to Zebul, “Look, men are coming down from the tops of the hills.” But Zebul said to him, “You are seeing the shadows on the hills—it just looks like men.” 9:37 Gaal again said, “Look, men are coming down from the very center of the land. A unit is coming by way of the Oak Tree of the Diviners. 9:38 Zebul said to him, “Where now are your bragging words, ‘Who is Abimelech that we should serve him?’ Are these not the men you insulted? Go out now and fight them!” 9:39 So Gaal led the leaders of Shechem out and fought Abimelech. 9:40 Abimelech chased him, and Gaal ran from him. Many Shechemites fell wounded at the opening of the gate. 9:41 Abimelech went back to Arumah; Zebul drove Gaal and his brothers out of Shechem.

9:42 The next day the Shechemites came out to the field. When Abimelech heard about it, 9:43 he took his men and divided them into three units and set an ambush in the field. When he saw the people coming out of the city, he attacked and struck them down. 9:44 Abimelech and his units attacked and blocked the entrance to the city’s gate. Two units then attacked all the people in the field and struck them down. 9:45 Abimelech fought against the city all that day. He captured the city and killed all the people in it. Then he leveled the city and spread salt over it.

9:46 When all the leaders of the Tower of Shechem heard the news, they went to the stronghold of the temple of El-Berith. 9:47 Abimelech heard that all the leaders of the Tower of Shechem were in one place. 9:48 He and all his men went up on Mount Zalmon. He took an ax in his hand and cut off a tree branch. He put it on his shoulder and said to his men, “Quickly, do what you have just seen me do!” 9:49 So each of his men also cut off a branch and followed Abimelech. They put the branches against the stronghold and set fire to it. All the people of the Tower of Shechem died—about a thousand men and women.

9:50 Abimelech moved on to Thebez; he besieged and captured it. 9:51 There was a fortified tower in the center of the city, so all the men and women, as well as the city’s leaders, ran into it and locked the entrance. Then they went up to the roof of the tower. 9:52 Abimelech came and attacked the tower. When he approached the entrance of the tower to set it on fire, 9:53 a woman threw an upper millstone down on his head and shattered his skull. 9:54 He quickly called to the young man who carried his weapons, “Draw your sword and kill me, so they will not say, ‘A woman killed him.’ So the young man stabbed him and he died. 9:55 When the Israelites saw that Abimelech was dead, they went home.

- 56 這樣、神報應亞比米勒向他父親所行的惡、就是殺了弟兄七十個人的惡。
 57 示劍人的一切惡、神也都報應在他們頭上。耶路巴力的兒子約坦的咒詛、歸到他們身上了。

第十章

恢復社會安全

- 1 亞比米勒以後、有以薩迦人朵多的孫子、普瓦的兒子陀拉興起、拯救以色列人。他住在以法蓮山地的沙密。
 2 陀拉作以色列的士師二十三年、就死了、葬在沙密。
 3 在他以後有基列人睚珥興起、作以色列的士師二十二年。
 4 他有三十個兒子騎著三十匹驢駒。他們有三十座城邑、叫作哈倭特睚珥、直到如今、都是在基列地。
 5 睚珥死了、就葬在加們。

耶和華的怒氣發作

- 6 以色列人又行耶和華眼中看為惡的事、去事奉諸巴力、和亞斯他錄、並亞蘭的神、西頓的神、摩押的神、亞捫人的神、非利士人的神、離棄耶和華、不事奉他。
 7 耶和華的怒氣向以色列人發作、就把他們交在非利士人和亞捫人的手中。
 8 從那年起、他們擾害欺壓約但河那邊住亞摩利人之基列地的以色列人、共有十八年。
 9 亞捫人又渡過約但河去攻打猶大和便雅憫、並以法蓮族。以色列人就甚覺窘迫。
 10 以色列人哀求耶和華、說、我們得罪了你、因為離棄了我們神、去事奉諸巴力。
 11 耶和華對以色列人說、我豈沒有救過你們、脫離埃及人、亞摩利人、亞捫人、和非利士人麼。
 12 西頓人、亞瑪力人、馬雲人也都欺壓你們。你們哀求我、我也拯救你們脫離他們的手。
 13 你們竟離棄我、事奉別神。所以我不再救你們了。
 14 你們去哀求所選擇的神。你們遭遇急難的時候、讓他救你們罷。
 15 以色列人對耶和華說、我們犯罪了。任憑你隨意待我們罷。只求你今日拯救我們。
 16 以色列人就除掉他們中間的外邦神、事奉耶和華、耶和華因以色列人受的苦難、就心中擔憂。

9:56 God repaid Abimelech for the evil he did to his father by murdering his seventy half-brothers. 9:57 God also repaid the men of Shechem for their evil deeds. The curse spoken by Jotham son of Jerub-Baal fell on them.

Stability Restored

10:1 After Abimelech's death, Tola son of Puah, grandson of Dodo, from the tribe of Issachar, rose up to deliver Israel. He lived in Shamir in the Ephraimite hill country. 10:2 He led Israel for twenty-three years, then died and was buried in Shamir.

10:3 Jair the Gileadite rose up after him; he led Israel for twenty-two years. 10:4 He had thirty sons who rode on thirty donkeys and possessed thirty cities. To this day these towns are called Havvoth Jair—they are in the land of Gilead. 10:5 Jair died and was buried in Kamon.

The Lord's Patience Runs Short

10:6 The Israelites again did evil in the LORD's sight. They worshiped the Baals and the Ashtars, as well as the gods of Syria, Sidon, Moab, the Ammonites, and the Philistines. They abandoned the LORD and did not worship him. 10:7 The LORD was furious with Israel and turned them over to the Philistines and Ammonites. 10:8 They ruthlessly oppressed the Israelites that eighteenth year—that is, all the Israelites living east of the Jordan in Amorite country in Gilead. 10:9 The Ammonites crossed the Jordan to fight with Judah, Benjamin, and Ephraim. Israel suffered greatly.

10:10 The Israelites cried out for help to the LORD: "We have sinned against you. We abandoned our God and worshiped the Baals." 10:11 The LORD said to the Israelites, "Did I not deliver you from Egypt, the Amorites, the Ammonites, the Philistines, 10:12 the Sidonians, Amalek, and Midian when they oppressed you? You cried out for help to me, and I delivered you from their power. 10:13 But since you abandoned me and worshiped other gods, I will not deliver you again. 10:14 Go and cry for help to the gods you have chosen! Let them deliver you from trouble!" 10:15 But the Israelites said to the LORD, "We have sinned. You do to us as you see fit, but deliver us today!" 10:16 They threw away the foreign gods they owned and worshiped the LORD. Finally the LORD became tired of seeing Israel suffer so much.

從被逐到成為統帥

- 17 當時亞捫人聚集、安營在基列·以色列人也聚集、安營在米斯巴。
18 基列的民和眾首領、彼此商議說、誰能先去攻打亞捫人、誰必作基列一切居民的領袖。

第十一章

- 1 基列人耶弗他是個大能的勇士、是妓女的兒子。耶弗他是基列所生的。
2 基列的妻也生了幾個兒子、他妻所生的兒子長大了、就趕逐耶弗他說、你不可在我們父家承受產業、因為你是妓女的兒子。
3 耶弗他就逃避他的弟兄、去住在陀伯地、有些匪徒到他那裡聚集、與他一同出入。
4 過了些日子亞捫人攻打以色列。
5 亞捫人攻打以色列的時候、基列的長老到陀伯地去、要叫耶弗他回來。
6 對耶弗他說、請你來作我們的元帥、我們好與亞捫人爭戰。
7 耶弗他回答基列的長老說、從前你們不是恨我、趕逐我出離父家麼、現在你們遭遇急難為何到我這裡來呢。
8 基列的長老回答耶弗他、說、現在我們到你這裡來、是要你同我們去、與亞捫人爭戰、你可以作基列一切居民的領袖。
9 耶弗他對基列的長老說、你們叫我回去、與亞捫人爭戰、耶和華把他交給我、我可以作你們的領袖麼。
10 基列的長老回答耶弗他說、有耶和華在我中間作見證、我們必定照你的話行。
11 於是耶弗他同基列的長老回去、百姓就立耶弗他作領袖、作元帥。耶弗他在米斯巴將自己的一切話、陳明在耶和華面前。

耶弗他的歷史教訓

- 12 耶弗他打發使者去見亞捫人的王、說、你與我有甚麼相干、竟來到我國中攻打我呢。
13 亞捫人的王回答耶弗他的使者說、因為以色列人從埃及上來的時候、佔據我的地、從亞嫩河到雅博河、直到約但河、現在你要好好的將這地歸還罷。
14 耶弗他又打發使者去見亞捫人的王、
15 對他說、耶弗他如此說、以色列人並沒有佔據摩押地、和亞捫人的地。
16 以色列人從埃及上來、乃是經過曠野到紅海、來到加低斯。

An Outcast Becomes a General

10:17 The Ammonites assembled and camped in Gilead; the Israelites gathered together and camped in Mizpah. **10:18** The leaders of Gilead said to one another, “Who is willing to lead the charge against the Ammonites? He will become the leader of all who live in Gilead!”

11:1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a brave warrior. His mother was a prostitute, but Gilead was his father. **11:2** Gilead’s wife also gave him sons. When his wife’s sons grew up, they made Jephthah leave and said to him, “You are not going to inherit any of our father’s wealth, because you are another woman’s son.” **11:3** So Jephthah left his half-brothers and lived in the land of Tob. Lawless men joined Jephthah’s gang and traveled with him.

11:4 It was some time after this when the Ammonites fought with Israel. **11:5** When the Ammonites attacked, the leaders of Gilead asked Jephthah to come back from the land of Tob. **11:6** They said, “Come, be our commander, so we can fight with the Ammonites.” **11:7** Jephthah said to the leaders of Gilead, “But you hated me and made me leave my father’s house. Why do you come to me now, when you are in trouble?” **11:8** The leaders of Gilead said to Jephthah, “That may be true, but now we pledge to you our loyalty. Come with us and fight with the Ammonites. Then you will become the leader of all who live in Gilead.” **11:9** Jephthah said to the leaders of Gilead, “All right! If you take me back to fight with the Ammonites and the LORD gives them to me, I will be your leader.” **11:10** The leaders of Gilead said to Jephthah, “The LORD will judge any grievance you have against us, if we do not do as you say.” **11:11** So Jephthah went with the leaders of Gilead. The people made him their leader and commander. Jephthah repeated the terms of the agreement before the LORD in Mizpah.

Jephthah Gives a History Lesson

11:12 Jephthah sent messengers to the Ammonite king, saying, “Why have you come against me to attack my land?” **11:13** The Ammonite king said to Jephthah’s messengers, “Because Israel stole my land when they came up from Egypt—from the Arnon River in the south to the Jabbok River in the north, and as far west as the Jordan. Now return it peaceably!”

11:14 Jephthah sent messengers back to the Ammonite king **11:15** and said to him, “This is what Jephthah says, ‘Israel did not steal the land of Moab

- 17 就打發使者去見以東王、說、求你容我從你的地經過、以東王卻不應允。又照樣打發使者去見摩押王、他也不允准、以色列人就住在加低斯。
- 18 他們又經過曠野、繞著以東和摩押地、從摩押地的東邊過來、在亞嫩河邊安營、並沒有入摩押的境內、因為亞嫩河是摩押的邊界。
- 19 以色列人打發使者去見亞摩利王西宏、就是希實本的王、對他說、求你容我們從你的地經過、往我們自己的地方去。
- 20 西宏卻不信服以色列人、不容他們經過他的境界、乃招聚他的眾民、在雅雜安營、與以色列人爭戰。
- 21 耶和華以色列的神、將西宏和他的眾民都交在以色列人手中、以色列人就擊殺他們、得了亞摩利人的全地、
- 22 從亞嫩河到雅博河、從曠野直到約但河。
- 23 耶和華以色列的神、在他百姓以色列面前趕出亞摩利人、你竟要得他們的地麼、
- 24 你的神基抹所賜你的地你不是得為業麼、耶和華我們的神在我們面前所趕出的人我們就得他的地。
- 25 難道你比摩押王西撥的兒子巴勒還強麼、他曾與以色列人爭競、或是與他們爭戰麼。
- 26 以色列人住希實本和屬希實本的鄉村、亞羅珥和屬亞羅珥的鄉村、並沿亞嫩河的一切城邑、已經有三百年了、在這三百年之內你們為甚麼沒有取回這些地方呢、
- 27 原來我沒有得罪你、你却攻打我、惡待我、願審判人的耶和華、今日在以色列人和亞捫人中間、判斷是非。
- 28 但亞捫人的王不肯聽耶弗他打發人說的話。

倉猝的誓言斷送女兒終身

- 29 耶和華的靈降在耶弗他身上、他就經過基列和瑪拿西、來到基列的米斯巴、又從米斯巴來到亞捫人那裡。
- 30 耶弗他就向耶和華許願、說、你若將亞捫人交在我手中、
- 31 我從亞捫人那裡平平安安回來的時候、無論甚麼人、先從我家門出來迎接我、就必歸你、我也必將他獻上為燔祭。
- 32 於是耶弗他往亞捫人那裡去、與他們爭戰、耶和華將他們交在他手中。

and the land of the Ammonites. **11:16** When they left Egypt, Israel traveled through the desert as far as the Red Sea and then came to Kadesh. **11:17** Israel sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, "Please allow us to pass through your land." But the king of Edom rejected the request. Israel sent the same request to the king of Moab, but he was unwilling to cooperate. So Israel stayed at Kadesh. **11:18** Then Israel went through the desert and bypassed the land of Edom and the land of Moab. They traveled east of the land of Moab and camped on the other side of the Arnon River; they did not go through Moabite territory (the Arnon was Moab's border). **11:19** Israel sent messengers to King Sihon, the Amorite king who ruled in Heshbon, and said to him, "Please allow us to pass through your land to our land." **11:20** But Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory. He assembled his whole army, camped in Jahaz, and fought with Israel. **11:21** The LORD God of Israel handed Sihon and his whole army over to Israel and they defeated them. Israel took all the land of the Amorites who lived in that land. **11:22** They took all the Amorite territory from the Arnon River on the south to the Jabbok River on the north, from the desert in the east to the Jordan in the west. **11:23** Since the LORD God of Israel has driven out the Amorites before his people Israel, do you think you can just take it from them? **11:24** You have the right to take what Chemosh your god gives you, but we will take the land of all whom the LORD our God has driven out before us. **11:25** Are you really better than Balak son of Zippor, king of Moab? Did he dare to quarrel with Israel? Did he dare to fight with them? **11:26** Israel has been living in Heshbon and its nearby towns, in Aroer and its nearby towns, and in all the cities along the Arnon for three hundred years! Why did you not reclaim them during that time? **11:27** I have not done you wrong, but you are doing wrong by attacking me. May the LORD, the Judge, judge this day between the Israelites and the Ammonites!" **11:28** But the Ammonite king disregarded the message sent by Jephthah.

A Foolish Vow Spells Death for a Daughter

11:29 The LORD's spirit empowered Jephthah. He passed through Gilead and Manasseh and went to Mizpah in Gilead. From there he approached the Ammonites. **11:30** Jephthah made a vow to the LORD, saying, "If you really do hand the Ammonites over to me, **11:31** then whoever is the first to come through the doors of my house to meet me when I return safely from fighting the Ammonites—he will belong to the LORD and I will offer him up as a burnt sacrifice." **11:32** Jephthah approached the

- 33 他就大大殺敗他們、從亞羅珥到米匿、直到亞備勒基拉明、攻取了二十座城。這樣亞捫人就被以色列人制伏了。
- 34 耶弗他回米斯巴到了自己的家。不料、他女兒拿著鼓跳舞出來迎接他、是他獨生的。此外無兒無女。
- 35 耶弗他看見他、就撕裂衣服、說、哀哉、我的女兒阿、你使我甚是愁苦、叫我作難了。因為我已經向耶和華開口許願、不能挽回。
- 36 他女兒回答說、父阿、你既向耶和華開口、就當照你口中所說的向我行、因耶和華已經在仇敵亞捫人身上為你報仇。
- 37 又對父親說、有一件事求你允准。容我去兩個月、與同伴在山上、好哀哭我終為處女。
- 38 耶弗他說、你去罷。就容他去兩個月。他便和同伴去了、在山上為他終為處女哀哭。
- 39 兩月已滿、他回到父親那裡、父親就照所許的願向他行了。女兒終身沒有親近男子。
- 40 此後以色列中有個規矩。每年以色列的女子去為基列人耶弗他的女兒哀哭四天。

第十二章

勝利帶來的內亂

- 1 以法蓮人聚集、到了北方、對耶弗他說、你去與亞捫人爭戰、為甚麼沒有招我們同去呢。我們必用火燒你和你的房屋。
- 2 耶弗他對他們說、我和我的民與亞捫人大大爭戰。我招你們來、你們竟沒有來救我脫離他們的手。
- 3 我見你們不來救我、我就拚命前去攻擊亞捫人、耶和華將他們交在我手中。你們今日為甚麼上我這裡來攻打我呢。
- 4 於是耶弗他招聚基列人、與以法蓮人爭戰。基列人擊殺以法蓮人、是因他們說、你們基列人在以法蓮瑪拿西中間、不過是以法蓮逃亡的人。
- 5 基列人把守約但河的渡口、不容以法蓮人過去。以法蓮逃走的人若說、容我過去、基列人就問他說、你是以法蓮人不是。他若說、不是、
- 6 就對他說、你說示播列。以法蓮人因為咬不真字音、便說西播列。基列人就將他拿住、殺在約但河的渡口。那時以法蓮人被殺的、有四萬二千人。

Ammonites to fight with them, and the LORD handed them over to him. **11:33** He defeated them from Aroer all the way to Minnith—twenty cities in all, even as far as Abel Keramim! He wiped them out! The Israelites humiliated the Ammonites.

11:34 When Jephthah came home to Mizpah, there was his daughter coming out to meet him, dancing to the rhythm of tambourines. She was his only child; except for her he had no son or daughter.

11:35 When he saw her, he ripped his clothes and said, “Oh no! My daughter! You have completely ruined me! You have brought me disaster! I made an oath to the LORD, and I cannot break it.” **11:36** She said to him, “My father, since you made an oath to the LORD, do to me as you promised. After all, the LORD vindicated you before your enemies, the Ammonites.” **11:37** She then said to her father, “Please grant me this one wish. For two months allow me to walk through the hills with my friends and mourn my virginity.” **11:38** He said, “You may go.” He permitted her to leave for two months. She went with her friends and mourned her virginity as she walked through the hills. **11:39** After two months she returned to her father, and he did to her as he had vowed. She died a virgin. Her tragic death gave rise to a custom in Israel. **11:40** Every year Israelite women commemorate the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite for four days.

Civil Strife Mars the Victory

12:1 The Ephraimites assembled and crossed over to Zaphon. They said to Jephthah, “Why did you go and fight with the Ammonites without asking us to go with you? We will burn your house down right over you.” **12:2** Jephthah said to them, “My people and I were entangled in controversy with the Ammonites. I asked for your help, but you did not deliver me from their power. **12:3** When I saw that you were not going to help, I risked my life and advanced against the Ammonites, and the LORD handed them over to me. Why have you come up to fight with me today?” **12:4** Jephthah assembled all the men of Gilead and they fought with Ephraim. The men of Gilead defeated Ephraim, because the Ephraimites insulted them, saying, “You Gileadites are refugees in Ephraim, living within Ephraim’s and Manasseh’s territory.” **12:5** The Gileadites captured the fords of the Jordan River opposite Ephraim. Whenever an Ephraimite fugitive said, “Let me cross over,” the men of Gilead asked him, “Are you an Ephraimite?” If he said, “No,” **12:6** then they said to him, “Say ‘Shibboleth.’” If he said, “Sibboleth,” and could not pronounce the word correctly, they grabbed him and executed him right there at the

- 7 耶弗他作以色列的士師六年。基列人耶弗他死了、葬在基列的一座城裡。

秩序恢復

- 8 耶弗他以後、有伯利恆人以比讚作以色列的士師。
 9 他有三十個兒子、三十個女兒、女兒都嫁出去了、他給眾子從外鄉娶了三十個媳婦。他作以色列的士師七年。
 10 以比讚死了、葬在伯利恆。
 11 以比讚之後、有西布倫人以倫、作以色列的士師十年。
 12 西布倫人以倫死了、葬在西布倫地的亞雅畚。
 13 以倫之後、有比拉頓人希列的兒子押頓、作以色列的士師。
 14 他有四十個兒子、三十個孫子、騎著七匹驢駒、押頓作以色列的士師八年。
 15 比拉頓人希列的兒子押頓死了、葬在以法蓮地的比拉頓、在亞瑪力人的山地。

第十三章

參孫出生

- 1 以色列人又行耶和華眼中看為惡的事、耶和華將他們交在非利士人手中四十年。
 2 那時有一個瑣拉人、是屬但族的、名叫瑪挪亞、他的妻不懷孕、不生育。
 3 耶和華的使者向那婦人顯現、對他說、向來你不懷孕、不生育、如今你必懷孕生一個兒子。
 4 所以你當謹慎、清酒濃酒都不可喝、一切不潔之物也不可喫。
 5 你必懷孕生一個兒子、不可用剃頭刀剃他的頭、因為這孩子一出胎就歸 神作拿細耳人、他必起首拯救以色列人脫離非利士人的手。
 6 婦人就回去對丈夫說、有一個神人到我面前來、他的相貌如 神使者的相貌、甚是可畏、我沒有問他從那裡來、他也沒有將他的名告訴我、
 7 卻對我說、你要懷孕生一個兒子、所以清酒濃酒都不可喝、一切不潔之物也不可喫、因為這孩子從出胎一直到死必歸 神作拿細耳人。

fords of the Jordan. On that day forty-two thousand Ephraimites fell dead. **12:7** Jephthah led Israel for six years; then he died and was buried in his city in Gilead.

Order Restored

12:8 After him Ibzan of Bethlehem led Israel. **12:9** He had thirty sons. He arranged for thirty of his daughters to be married outside his extended family, and he arranged for thirty young women to be brought from outside as wives for his sons. Ibzan led Israel for seven years; **12:10** then he died and was buried in Bethlehem.

12:11 After him Elon the Zebulunite led Israel for ten years. **12:12** Then Elon the Zebulunite died and was buried in Ajalon in the land of Zebulun.

12:13 After him Abdon son of Hillel the Pirathonite led Israel. **12:14** He had forty sons and thirty grandsons who rode on seventy donkeys. He led Israel for eight years. **12:15** Then Abdon son of Hillel the Pirathonite died and was buried in Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the hill country of the Amalekites.

Samson's Birth

13:1 The Israelites again did evil in the LORD's sight, so the LORD handed them over to the Philistines for forty years.

13:2 There was a man named Manoah from Zorah, from the Danite tribe. His wife was infertile and childless. **13:3** The LORD's angelic messenger appeared to the woman and said to her, "You are infertile and childless, but you will conceive and have a son. **13:4** Now be careful! Do not drink wine or beer, and do not eat any food that will make you ritually unclean. **13:5** Look, you will conceive and have a son. You should not cut his hair, for the child will be dedicated to God from birth. He will begin to deliver Israel from the power of the Philistines."

13:6 The woman went and said to her husband, "A man sent from God came to me! He looked like God's angelic messenger—he was very awesome. I did not ask him where he came from, and he did not tell me his name. **13:7** He said to me, 'Look, you will conceive and have a son. So now, do not drink wine or beer and do not eat any food that will make you ritually unclean. For the child will be dedicated to God from birth till the day he dies.'"

- 8 瑪挪亞就祈求耶和華說、主阿、求你再差遣那神人到我們這裡來、好指教我們怎樣待這將要生的孩子。
- 9 神應允瑪挪亞的話、婦人正坐在田間的時候、神的使者又到他那裡、他丈夫瑪挪亞卻沒有同他在一處。
- 10 婦人急忙跑去告訴丈夫說、那日到我面前來的人、又向我顯現。
- 11 瑪挪亞起來跟隨他的妻來到那人面前、對他說、與這婦人說話的就是你麼、他說、是我。
- 12 瑪挪亞說、願你的話應驗、我們當怎樣待這孩子、他後來當怎樣呢。
- 13 耶和華的使者對瑪挪亞說、我告訴婦人的一切事、他都當謹慎。
- 14 葡萄樹所結的都不可喫、清酒濃酒都不可喝、一切不潔之物也不可喫、凡我所吩咐的他都當遵守。
- 15 瑪挪亞對耶和華的使者說、求你容我們款留你、好為你豫備一隻山羊羔。
- 16 耶和華的使者對瑪挪亞說、你雖然款留我、我卻不喫你的食物、你若豫備燔祭就當獻與耶和華。原來瑪挪亞不知道他是耶和華的使者。
- 17 瑪挪亞對耶和華的使者說、請將你的名告訴我、到你話應驗的時候、我們好尊敬你。
- 18 耶和華的使者對他說、你何必問我的名、我名是奇妙的。
- 19 瑪挪亞將一隻山羊羔和素祭、在磐石上獻與耶和華、使者行奇妙的事、瑪挪亞和他的妻觀看。
- 20 見火燄從壇上往上升、耶和華的使者在壇上的火燄中也升上去了、瑪挪亞和他的妻看見、就俯伏於地。
- 21 耶和華的使者不再向瑪挪亞和他的妻顯現、瑪挪亞纔知道他是耶和華的使者。
- 22 瑪挪亞對他的妻說、我們必要死、因為看見了神。
- 23 他的妻卻對他說、耶和華若要殺我們、必不從我們手裡收納燔祭和素祭、並不將這一切事指示我們、今日也不將這些話告訴我們。
- 24 後來婦人生了一個兒子、給他起名叫參孫、孩子長大、耶和華賜福與他。
- 25 在瑪哈尼但、就是瑣拉和以實陶中間、耶和華的靈纔感動他。

13:8 Manoah prayed to the LORD, "Excuse me, Lord. Please allow the man sent from God to visit us again, so he can teach us how we should raise the child who will be born." 13:9 God answered Manoah's prayer. God's angelic messenger visited the woman again while she was sitting in the field. But her husband Manoah was not with her. 13:10 The woman ran quickly and told her husband, "Come quickly, the man who visited me the other day has appeared to me!" 13:11 So Manoah got up and followed his wife. When he met the man, he said to him, "Are you the man who spoke to this woman?" He said, "Yes." 13:12 Manoah said, "Now, when your announcement comes true, how should the child be raised and what should he do?" 13:13 The LORD's messenger told Manoah, "Your wife should pay attention to everything I told her. 13:14 She should not drink anything that the grapevine produces. She must not drink wine or beer, and she must not eat any food that will make her ritually unclean. She should obey everything I commanded her to do." 13:15 Manoah said to the LORD's messenger, "Please stay here awhile, so we can prepare a young goat for you to eat." 13:16 The LORD's messenger said to Manoah, "If I stay, I will not eat your food. But if you want to make a burnt sacrifice to the LORD, you should offer it." (He said this because Manoah did not know that he was the LORD's messenger.) 13:17 Manoah said to the LORD's messenger, "Tell us your name, so we can honor you when your announcement comes true." 13:18 The LORD's messenger said to him, "You should not ask me my name, because you cannot comprehend it." 13:19 Manoah took a young goat and a grain offering and offered them on a rock to the LORD. The LORD's messenger did an amazing thing as Manoah and his wife watched. 13:20 As the flame went up from the altar toward the sky, the LORD's messenger went up in it while Manoah and his wife watched. They fell facedown to the ground.

13:21 The LORD's messenger did not appear again to Manoah and his wife. After all this happened Manoah realized that the visitor had been the LORD's messenger. 13:22 Manoah said to his wife, "We will certainly die, because we have seen a supernatural being!" 13:23 But his wife said to him, "If the LORD wanted to kill us, he would not have accepted the burnt offering and the grain offering from us. He would not have shown us all these things, or just now have spoken to us like this."

13:24 Manoah's wife gave birth to a son and named him Samson. The child grew and the LORD empowered him. 13:25 The LORD's spirit began to control him in Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

第十四章

參孫未成的婚事

- 1 參孫下到亭拿、在那裡看見一個女子、是非利士人的女兒。
- 2 參孫上來稟告他父母說、我在亭拿看見一個女子、是非利士人的女兒、願你們給我娶來為妻。
- 3 他父母說、在你弟兄的女兒中、或在本國的民中、豈沒有一個女子、何至你去在未受割禮的非利士人中娶妻呢、參孫對他父親說、願你給我娶那女子、因我喜悅他。
- 4 他的父母卻不知道這事是出於耶和華、因為他找機會攻擊非利士人、那時非利士人轄制以色列人。
- 5 參孫跟他父母下亭拿去、到了亭拿的葡萄園、見有一隻少壯獅子向他吼叫。
- 6 耶和華的靈大大感動參孫、他雖然手無器械、卻將獅子撕裂、如同撕裂山羊羔一樣、他行這事並沒有告訴父母。
- 7 參孫下去與女子說話、就喜悅他。
- 8 過了些日子、再下去要娶那女子、轉向道旁要看死獅、見有一群蜂子和蜜在死獅之內、
- 9 就用手取蜜、且喫且走、到了父母那裡、給他父母、他們也喫了、只是沒有告訴這蜜是從死獅之內取來的。
- 10 他父親下去見女子、參孫在那裡設擺筵宴、因為向來少年人都有這個規矩。
- 11 眾人看見參孫、就請了三十個人陪伴他。
- 12 參孫對他們說、我給你們出一個謎語、你們在七日筵宴之內、若能猜出意思告訴我、我就給你們三十件裡衣、三十套衣裳。
- 13 你們若不能猜出意思告訴我、你們就給我三十件裡衣、三十套衣裳、他們說、請將謎語說給我們聽。
- 14 參孫對他們說、喫的從喫者出來、甜的從強者出來、他們三日不能猜出謎語的意思。
- 15 到第七天、他們對參孫的妻說、你誑哄你丈夫、探出謎語的意思告訴我們、免得我們用火燒你和你父家、你們請了我們來、是要奪我們所有的麼。
- 16 參孫的妻在丈夫面前啼哭說、你是恨我、不是愛我、你給我本國的人出謎語、卻沒有將意思告訴我、參孫回答說、連我父母我都沒有告訴、豈可告訴你呢。

Samson's Unconsummated Marriage

14:1 Samson went down to Timnah, where a Philistine girl caught his eye. 14:2 When he got home, he told his father and mother, "A Philistine girl in Timnah has caught my eye. Now get her for my wife." 14:3 But his father and mother said to him, "Certainly you can find a wife among your relatives or among all our people! You should not have to go and get a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines." But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, because she is the right one for me." 14:4 Now his father and mother did not realize this was the LORD's doing. He was looking for an opportunity to stir up trouble with the Philistines, for at that time the Philistines were ruling Israel.

14:5 Samson went down to Timnah. When he approached the vineyards of Timnah, he saw a roaring young lion attacking him. 14:6 The LORD's spirit empowered him and he tore the lion in two with his bare hands as easily as one would tear a young goat. But he did not tell his father or mother what he had done.

14:7 Samson continued on down to Timnah and spoke to the girl. In his opinion, she was just the right one. 14:8 Some time later, when he went back to marry her, he turned aside to see the lion's remains. He saw a swarm of bees in the lion's carcass, as well as some honey. 14:9 He scooped it up with his hands and ate it as he walked along. When he returned to his father and mother, he offered them some and they ate it. But he did not tell them he had scooped the honey out of the lion's carcass.

14:10 Then Samson's father accompanied him to Timnah for the marriage. Samson hosted a party there, for this was customary for bridegrooms to do. 14:11 When the Philistines saw he had no attendants, they gave him thirty groomsmen who kept him company. 14:12 Samson said to them, "I will give you a riddle. If you really can solve it during the seven days the party lasts, I will give you thirty linen robes and thirty sets of clothes. 14:13 But if you cannot solve it, you will give me thirty linen robes and thirty sets of clothes." They said to him, "Let us hear your riddle." 14:14 He said to them,

"Out of the one who eats came something to eat;
out of the strong one came something sweet."

They could not solve the riddle for three days.

14:15 On the fourth day they said to Samson's bride, "Trick your husband into giving the solution to the riddle. If you refuse, we will burn up you and your father's family. Did you invite us here to make us poor?" 14:16 So Samson's bride cried on his shoulder and said, "You must hate me; you do not love me! You told the young men a riddle, but you have not told me the solution." He said to her, "Look,

- 17 七日筵宴之內、他在丈夫面前啼哭、到第七天逼著他、他纔將謎語的意思告訴他妻、他妻就告訴本國的人。
- 18 到第七天、日頭未落以前、那城裡的人對參孫說、有甚麼比蜜還甜呢、有甚麼比獅子還強呢、參孫對他們說、你們若非用我的母牛犢耕地、就猜不出我謎語的意思來。
- 19 耶和華的靈大大感動參孫、他就下到亞實基倫擊殺了三十個人、奪了他們的衣裳、將衣裳給了猜出謎語的人、參孫發怒、就上父家去了。
- 20 參孫的妻便歸了參孫的陪伴、就是作過他朋友的。

第十五章

參孫和非利士人對敵

- 1 過了些日子、到割麥子的時候、參孫帶著一隻山羊羔去看他的妻、說、我要進內室見我的妻、他岳父不容他進去、
- 2 說、我估定你是極其恨他、因此我將他給了你的陪伴、他的妹子不是比他還美麗麼、你可以娶來代替他罷。
- 3 參孫說、這回我加害於非利士人不算有罪。
- 4 於是參孫去捉了三百隻狐狸〔或作野狗〕、將狐狸尾巴一對一對地捆上、將火把捆在兩條尾巴中間、
- 5 點著火把、就放狐狸進入非利士人站著的禾稼、將堆集的禾捆、和未割的禾稼、並橄欖園盡都燒了。
- 6 非利士人說、這事是誰作的呢、有人說、是亭拿人的女婿參孫、因為他岳父將他的妻給了他的陪伴、於是非利士人上去、用火燒了婦人和他的父親。
- 7 參孫對非利士人說、你們既然這樣行、我必向你們報仇纔肯罷休。
- 8 參孫就大大擊殺他們、連腿帶腰都砍斷了、他便下去住在以坦磐的穴內。
- 9 非利士人上去安營在猶大、布散在利希。
- 10 猶大人說、你們為何上來攻擊我們呢、他們說、我們上來是要捆綁參孫、他向我們怎樣行、我們也要向他怎樣行。

I have not even told my father or mother. Do you really expect me to tell you?" 14:17 She cried on his shoulder until the party was almost over. Finally, on the seventh day, he told her because she had nagged him so much. Then she told the young men the solution to the riddle. 14:18 On the seventh day, before the sun set, the men of the city said to him,

"What is sweeter than honey?
What is stronger than a lion?"

He said to them,

"If you had not plowed with my heifer,
you would not have solved my riddle!"

14:19 The LORD's spirit empowered him. He went down to Ashkelon and murdered thirty men. He took their clothes and gave them to the men who had solved the riddle. He was furious as he went back home. 14:20 Samson's bride was then given to his best man.

Samson Versus the Philistines

15:1 Sometime later, during the wheat harvest, Samson took a young goat as a gift and went to visit his bride. He said to her father, "I want to have sex with my bride in her bedroom!" But her father would not let him enter. 15:2 Her father said, "I really thought you absolutely despised her, so I gave her to your best man. Her younger sister is more attractive than she is. Take her instead!" 15:3 Samson said to them, "This time I am justified in doing the Philistines harm!" 15:4 Samson went and captured three hundred jackals and got some torches. He tied the jackals in pairs by their tails and then tied a torch to each pair. 15:5 He lit the torches and set the jackals loose in the Philistines' standing grain. He burned up the grain heaps and the standing grain, as well as the vineyards and olive groves. 15:6 The Philistines asked, "Who did this?" They were told, "Samson, the Timnite's son-in-law, because the Timnite took Samson's bride and gave her to his best man." So the Philistines went up and burned her and her father. 15:7 Samson said to them, "Because you did this, I will get revenge against you before I quit fighting." 15:8 He struck them down and defeated them. Then he went down and lived for a time in the cave in the cliff of Etam.

15:9 The Philistines went up and invaded Judah. They arrayed themselves for battle in Lehi. 15:10 The men of Judah said, "Why are you attacking us?" The Philistines said, "We have come up to take

- 11 於是三千猶大人下到以坦磐的穴內、對參孫說、非利士人轄制我們、你不知道麼、你向我們行的是甚麼事呢。他回答說、他們向我怎樣行、我也要向他們怎樣行。
- 12 猶大人對他說、我們下來是要捆綁你、將你交在非利士人手中、參孫說、你們要向我起誓、應承你們自己不害死我。
- 13 他們說、我們斷不殺你、只要將你捆綁交在非利士人手中、於是用兩條新繩捆綁參孫、將他從以坦磐帶上去。
- 14 參孫到了利希、非利士人都迎著喧嚷、耶和華的靈大大感動參孫、他臂上的繩就像火燒的麻一樣、他的綁繩都從他手上脫落下來。
- 15 他見一塊未乾的驢腮骨、就伸手拾起來用以擊殺一千人。
- 16 參孫說、我用驢腮骨殺人成堆、用驢腮骨殺了一千人。
- 17 說完這話、就把那腮骨從手裡拋出去了、那地便叫拉末利希。
- 18 參孫甚覺口渴、就求告耶和華說、你既藉僕人的手施行這麼大的拯救、豈可任我渴死、落在未受割禮的人手中呢。
- 19 神就使利希的窪處裂開、有水從其中湧出來、參孫喝了精神復原、因此那泉名叫隱哈歌利、那泉直到今日還在利希。
- 20 當非利士人轄制以色列人的時候、參孫作以色列的士師二十年。

Samson prisoner so we can do to him what he has done to us.” **15:11** Three thousand men of Judah went down to the cave in the cliff of Etam and said to Samson, “Do you not know that the Philistines rule over us? Why have you done this to us?” He said to them, “I have only done to them what they have done to me.” **15:12** They said to him, “We have come down to take you prisoner so we can hand you over to the Philistines.” Samson said to them, “Promise me you will not kill me.” **15:13** They said to him, “We promise! We will only take you prisoner and hand you over to them. We promise not to kill you.” They tied him up with two brand new ropes and led him up from the cliff. **15:14** When he arrived in Lehi, the Philistines shouted as they approached him. But the LORD’s spirit empowered him. The ropes around his arms were like flax dissolving in fire, and they melted away from his hands. **15:15** He happened to see a solid jawbone of a donkey. He grabbed it and struck down a thousand men. **15:16** Samson then said,

“With the jawbone of a donkey

I have left them in heaps;

with the jawbone of a donkey

I have struck down a thousand men!”

15:17 When he finished speaking, he threw the jawbone down and named that place Ramath Lehi.

15:18 He was very thirsty, so he cried out to the LORD and said, “You have given your servant this great victory. But now must I die of thirst and fall into hands of the Philistines?” **15:19** So God split open the basin at Lehi and water flowed out from it. When he took a drink, his strength was restored and he revived. For this reason he named the spring En Hakkore. It remains in Lehi to this very day. **15:20** Samson led Israel for twenty years during the days of Philistine prominence.

第十六章

參孫的敗落

- 1 參孫到了迦薩、在那裡看見一個妓女、就與他親近。
- 2 有人告訴迦薩人說、參孫到這裡來了、他們就把他團團圍住、終夜在城門悄悄埋伏、說、等到天亮我們便殺他。
- 3 參孫睡到半夜、起來、將城門的門扇、門樞、門門、一齊拆下來、扛在肩上、扛到希伯崙前的山頂上。

Samson's Downfall

16:1 Samson went to Gaza. There he saw a prostitute and went in to have sex with her. **16:2** The Gazites were told, “Samson has come here!” So they surrounded the town and hid all night at the city gate, waiting for him to leave. They relaxed all night, thinking, “He will not leave until morning comes; then we will kill him!” **16:3** Samson spent half the night with the prostitute; then he got up in the middle of the night and left. He grabbed the doors of the city gate, as well as the two posts, and pulled them right off, bar and all. He put them on his shoulders and carried them up to the top of a hill east of Hebron.

- 4 後來參孫在梭烈谷喜愛一個婦人、名叫大利拉。
- 5 非利士人的首領上去見那婦人、對他說、求你誑哄參孫、探探他因何有這麼大的力氣、我們用何法能勝他、捆綁剋制他、我們就每人給你一千一百舍客勒銀子。
- 6 大利拉對參孫說、求你告訴我、你因何有這麼大的力氣、當用何法捆綁剋制你。
- 7 參孫回答說、人若用七條未乾的青繩子捆綁我、我就軟弱像別人一樣。
- 8 於是非利士人的首領拿了七條未乾的青繩子來、交給婦人、他就用繩子捆綁參孫。
- 9 有人豫先埋伏在婦人的內室裡、婦人說、參孫哪、非利士人拿你來了。參孫就掙斷繩子、如掙斷經火的麻線一般。這樣他力氣的根由人還是不知道。
- 10 大利拉對參孫說、你欺哄我、向我說謊言、現在求你告訴我當用何法捆綁你。
- 11 參孫回答說、人若用沒有使過的新繩捆綁我、我就軟弱像別人一樣。
- 12 大利拉就用新繩捆綁他、對他說、參孫哪、非利士人拿你來了。有人豫先埋伏在內室裡、參孫將臂上的繩掙斷了、如掙斷一條線一樣。
- 13 大利拉對參孫說、你到如今還是欺哄我、向我說謊言、求你告訴我、當用何法捆綁你。參孫回答說、你若將我頭上的七條髮絡、與緯線同織就可以了。
- 14 於是大利拉將他的髮絡與緯線同織、用橛子釘住、對他說、參孫哪、非利士人拿你來了。參孫從睡中醒來、將機上的橛子和緯線、一齊都拔出來了。
- 15 大利拉對參孫說、你既不與我同心、怎麼說你愛我呢、你這三次欺哄我、沒有告訴我、你因何有這麼大的力氣。
- 16 大利拉天天用話催逼他、甚至他心裡煩悶要死。
- 17 參孫就把心中所藏的都告訴了他、對他說、向來人沒有用剃頭刀剃我的頭、因為我自出母胎就歸 神作拿細耳人。若剃了我的頭髮、我的力氣就離開我、我便軟弱像別人一樣。
- 18 大利拉見他把心中所藏的都告訴了他、就打發人到非利士人的首領那裡、對他們說、他已經把心中所藏的都告訴了我、請你們再上來一次。於是非利士人的首領手裡拿著銀子、上到婦人那裡。
- 19 大利拉使參孫枕著他的膝睡覺、叫了一個人來剃除他頭上的七條髮絡。於是大利拉剋制他、他的力氣就離開他了。

16:4 After this Samson fell in love with a woman named Delilah, who lived in the Sorek Valley. 16:5 The rulers of the Philistines went up to visit her and said to her, "Trick him! Find out what makes him so strong and how we can subdue him and humiliate him. Each one of us will give you eleven hundred silver pieces."

16:6 So Delilah said to Samson, "Tell me what makes you so strong and how you can be subdued and humiliated." 16:7 Samson said to her, "If they tie me up with seven fresh bowstrings that have not been dried, I will become weak and be just like any other man." 16:8 So the rulers of the Philistines brought her seven fresh bowstrings which had not been dried and they tied him up with them. 16:9 They hid in the bedroom and then she said to him, "The Philistines are here, Samson!" He snapped the bowstrings as easily as a thread of yarn snaps when it is put close to fire. The secret of his strength was not discovered.

16:10 Delilah said to Samson, "Look, you deceived me and told me lies. Now tell me how you can be subdued." 16:11 He said to her, "If they tie me tightly with brand new ropes that have never been used, I will become weak and be just like any other man." 16:12 So Delilah took new ropes and tied him with them and said to him, "The Philistines are here, Samson!" (The Philistines were hiding in the bedroom.) But he tore the ropes from his arms as if they were a piece of thread.

16:13 Delilah said to Samson, "Up to now you have deceived me and told me lies. Tell me how you can be subdued." He said to her, "If you weave the seven braids of my hair into the fabric on the loom and secure it with the pin, I will become weak and be like any other man." 16:14 So she made him go to sleep, wove the seven braids of his hair into the fabric on the loom, fastened it with the pin, and said to him, "The Philistines are here, Samson!" He woke up and tore away the pin of the loom and the fabric.

16:15 She said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you,' when you will not share your secret with me? Three times you have deceived me and have not told me what makes you so strong." 16:16 She nagged him every day and pressured him until he was sick to death of it. 16:17 Finally he told her his secret. He said to her, "My hair has never been cut, for I have been dedicated to God from the time I was conceived. If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me; I would become weak, and be just like all other men." 16:18 When Delilah saw that he had told her his secret, she sent for the rulers of the Philistines, saying, "Come up here again, for he has told me his secret. So the rulers of the Philistines went up to visit her, bringing the silver in their hands. 16:19 She made him go to sleep on her lap and then called a man in to shave off the seven braids of his hair. She made him vulnerable and his strength left him. 16:20 She said, "The Philistines are here, Sam

- 20 大利拉說、參孫哪、非利士人拿你來了。參孫從睡中醒來、心裡說、我要像前幾次出去活動身體、他卻不知道耶和華已經離開他了。
- 21 非利士人將他拿住、剜了他的眼睛、帶他下到迦薩、用銅鍊拘索他、他就在監裡推磨。
- 22 然而他的頭髮被剃之後、又漸漸長起來了。

參孫的死與埋葬

- 23 非利士人的首領聚集、要給他們的神大袞獻大祭、並且歡樂、因為他們說、我們的神將我們的仇敵參孫交在我們手中了。
- 24 眾人看見參孫、就讚美他們的神、說、我們的神將毀壞我們地、殺害我們許多人的仇敵、交在我們手中了。
- 25 他們正宴樂的時候、就說、叫參孫來、在我們面前戲耍戲耍。於是將參孫從監裡提出來、他就在眾人面前戲耍。他們使他站在兩柱中間。
- 26 參孫向拉他手的童子說、求你讓我摸著托房的柱子、我要靠一靠。
- 27 那時房內充滿男女、非利士人的眾首領也都在那裡。房的平頂上約有三千男女觀看參孫戲耍。
- 28 參孫求告耶和華說、主耶和華阿、求你眷念我、神阿、求你賜我這一次的力量、使我在非利士人身上報那剜我雙眼的仇。
- 29 參孫就抱住托房的那兩根柱子、左手抱一根、右手抱一根、
- 30 說、我情願與非利士人同死、就盡力屈身、房子倒塌、壓住首領和房內的眾人。這樣、參孫死時所殺的人、比活著所殺的還多。
- 31 參孫的弟兄和他父的全家、都下去取他的屍首、抬上來葬在瑣拉和以實陶中間、在他父瑪挪亞的墳墓裡。參孫作以色列的士師二十年。

第十七章

自製的宗教

- 1 以法蓮山地有一個人名叫米迦、
- 2 他對母親說、你那一千一百舍客勒銀子被人拿去、你因此咒詛、並且告訴了我、看哪、這銀子在我這裡、是我拿去了、他母親說、我兒阿、願耶和華賜福與你。

son!” He woke up and thought, “I will do as I did before and shake myself free.” But he did not realize that the LORD had left him. **16:21** The Philistines captured him and gouged out his eyes. They brought him down to Gaza and bound him in bronze chains. He became a grinder in the prison. **16:22** His hair began to grow back after it had been shaved off.

Samson's Death and Burial

16:23 The rulers of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to celebrate. They said, “Our god has handed Samson, our enemy, over to us.” **16:24** When the people saw him, they praised their god, saying, “Our god has handed our enemy over to us, the one who ruined our land and killed so many of us!”

16:25 When they really started celebrating, they said, “Call for Samson so he can entertain us!” So they summoned Samson from the prison and he entertained them. They made him stand between two pillars. **16:26** Samson said to the young man who held his hand, “Position me so I can touch the pillars that support the temple. Then I can lean on them.” **16:27** Now the temple was filled with men and women, and all the rulers of the Philistines were there. There were three thousand men and women on the roof watching Samson entertain. **16:28** Samson called to the LORD, “O Master, LORD, remember me! Strengthen me just one more time, O God, so I can get swift revenge against the Philistines for my two eyes!” **16:29** Samson took hold of the two middle pillars that supported the temple and he leaned against them, with his right hand on one and his left hand on the other. **16:30** Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines!” He pushed hard and the temple collapsed on the rulers and all the people in it. He killed many more people in his death than he had killed during his life. **16:31** His brothers and all his family went down and brought him back. They buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had led Israel for twenty years.

Homemade Religion

17:1 There was a man named Micah from the Ephraimite hill country. **17:2** He said to his mother, “You know the eleven hundred pieces of silver which were stolen from you, about which I heard you pronounce a curse? Look here, I have the silver.

- 3 米迦就把這一千一百舍客勒銀子還他母親，他母親說我分出這銀子來為你獻給耶和華、好雕刻一個像、鑄成一個像、現在我還是交給你。
- 4 米迦將銀子還他母親，他母親將二百舍客勒銀子交給銀匠、雕刻一個像、鑄成一個像、安置在米迦的屋內。
- 5 這米迦有了神堂、又製造以弗得、和家中的神像、分派他一個兒子作祭司。
- 6 那時以色列中沒有王、各人任意而行。

米迦僱專業祭司

- 7 猶大伯利恆有一個少年人、是猶大族的利未人、他在那裡寄居。
- 8 這人離開猶大伯利恆城、要找一個可住的地方，行路的時候、到了以法蓮山地、走到米迦的家。
- 9 米迦問他說、你從那裡來，他回答說、從猶大伯利恆來、我是利未人、要找一個可住的地方。
- 10 米迦說、你可以住在我這裡、我以你為父為祭司，我每年給你十舍客勒銀子、一套衣服、和度日的食物，利未人就進了他的家。
- 11 利未人情願與那人同住，那人看這少年人如自己的兒子一樣。
- 12 米迦分派這少年的利未人作祭司、他就住在米迦的家裡。
- 13 米迦說、現在我知道耶和華必賜福與我、因我有一個利未人作祭司。

第十八章

但族尋得地業

- 1 那時以色列中沒有王，但支派的人仍是尋地居住，因為到那日子，他們還沒有在以色列支派中得地為業。
- 2 但人從瑣拉和以實陶、打發本族中的五個勇士、去仔細窺探那地，吩咐他們說、你們去窺探那地，他們來到以法蓮山地、進了米迦的住宅、就在那裡住宿。
- 3 他們臨近米迦的住宅、聽出那少年利未人的口音來、就進去問他說、誰領你到這裡來、你在這裡作甚麼、你在這裡得甚麼。
- 4 他回答說、米迦待我如此如此、請我作祭司。
- 5 他們對他說、請你求問神、使我們知道所行的道路、通達不通達。

I stole it, but now I am giving it back to you.” His mother said, “May the LORD reward you, my son!” 17:3 When he gave back to his mother the eleven hundred pieces of silver, his mother said, “I solemnly dedicate this silver to the LORD. It will be for my son’s benefit. We will use it to make a carved image and a metal image.” 17:4 When he gave the silver back to his mother, she took two hundred pieces of silver to a silversmith, who made them into a carved image and a metal image. She then put them in Micah’s house. 17:5 Now this man Micah owned a shrine. He made an ephod and some personal idols and hired one of his sons to serve as a priest. 17:6 In those days Israel had no king. Each man did what he considered to be right.

Micah Hires a Professional

17:7 There was a young man from Bethlehem in Judah. He was a Levite who had been temporarily residing among the tribe of Judah. 17:8 This man left the town of Bethlehem in Judah to find another place to live. He came to the Ephraimite hill country and made his way to Micah’s house. 17:9 Micah said to him, “Where do you come from?” He replied, “I am a Levite from Bethlehem in Judah. I am looking for a new place to live.” 17:10 Micah said to him, “Stay with me. Become my adviser and priest. I will give you ten pieces of silver per year, plus clothes and food.” 17:11 So the Levite agreed to stay with the man; the young man was like a son to Micah. 17:12 Micah paid the Levite; the young man became his priest and lived in Micah’s house. 17:13 Micah said, “Now I know God will make me rich, because I have this Levite as my priest.”

The Tribe of Dan Finally Finds an Inheritance

18:1 In those days Israel had no king. And in those days the Danite tribe was looking for a place to settle, because at that time they did not yet have a place to call their own among the tribes of Israel. 18:2 The Danites sent out from their whole tribe five representatives, capable men from Zorah and Eshtaol, to spy out the land and explore it. They said to them, “Go, explore the land.” They came to the Ephraimite hill country and spent the night at Micah’s house. 18:3 As they approached Micah’s house, they recognized the accent of the young Levite. So they stopped there and said to him, “Who brought you here? What are you doing in this place? What is your business here?” 18:4 He told them what Micah had done for him, saying, “He hired me and I

- 6 祭司對他們說、你們可以平平安安的去、你們所行的道路是在耶和華面前的。
- 7 五人就走了、來到拉億、見那裡的民安居無慮、如同西頓人安居一樣、在那地沒有人掌權擾亂他們、他們離西頓人也遠、與別人沒有來往。
- 8 五人回到瓊拉和以實陶見他們的弟兄、弟兄問他們說、你們有甚麼話。
- 9 他們回答說、起來、我們上去攻擊他們罷、我們已經窺探那地、見那地甚好、你們為何靜坐不動呢、要急速前往得那地為業、不可遲延。
- 10 你們到了那裡、必看見安居無慮的民、地也寬闊、神已將那地交在你們手中、那地百物俱全、一無所缺。
- 11 於是但族中的六百人、各帶兵器、從瓊拉和以實陶前往。
- 12 上到猶大的基列耶琳、在基列耶琳後邊安營、因此那地方名叫瑪哈尼但、直到今日。
- 13 他們從那裡往以法蓮山地去、來到米迦的住宅。
- 14 從前窺探拉億地的五個人、對他們的弟兄說、這宅子裡有以弗得、和家中的神像、並雕刻的像、與鑄成的像、你們知道麼、現在你們要想一想當怎樣行。
- 15 五人就進入米迦的住宅、到了那少年利未人的房內問他好。
- 16 那六百但人、各帶兵器、站在門口。
- 17 窺探地的五個人走進去、將雕刻的像、以弗得、家中的神像、並鑄成的像、都拿了去、祭司和帶兵器的六百人、一同站在門口。
- 18 那五個人進入米迦的住宅、拿出雕刻的像、以弗得、家中的神像、並鑄成的像、祭司就問他們說、你們作甚麼呢。
- 19 他們回答說、不要作聲、用手搗口、跟我們去罷、我們必以你為父、為祭司、你作一家的祭司好呢、還是作以色列一族一支派的祭司好呢。
- 20 祭司心裡喜悅、便拿著以弗得和家中的神像、並雕刻的像、進入他們中間。
- 21 他們就轉身離開那裡、妻子、兒女、牲畜、財物、都在前頭。
- 22 離米迦的住宅已遠、米迦的近鄰都聚集來、追趕但人、
- 23 呼叫但人、但人回頭問米迦說、你聚集這許多人來作甚麼呢。
- 24 米迦說、你們將我所作的神像、和祭司都帶了去、我還有所剩的麼、怎麼還問我說、作甚麼呢。

became his priest.” **18:5** They said to him, “Seek a divine oracle for us, so we can know if we will be successful on our mission.” **18:6** The priest said to them, “Go with confidence. The LORD will be with you on your mission.”

18:7 So the five men journeyed on and arrived in Laish. They noticed that the people there were living securely, like the Sidonians do, undisturbed and unsuspecting. No conqueror was troubling them in any way. They lived far from the Sidonians and had no dealings with anyone. **18:8** When the Danites returned to their tribe in Zorah and Eshtaol, their kinsmen asked them, “How did it go?” **18:9** They said, “Come on, let’s attack them, for we saw their land and it is very good. You seem lethargic, but don’t hesitate to invade and conquer the land.” **18:10** When you invade, you will encounter unsuspecting people. The land is wide! God is handing it over to you—a place that lacks nothing on earth!”

18:11 So six hundred Danites, fully armed, set out from Zorah and Eshtaol. **18:12** They went up and camped in Kiriath Jearim in Judah. (To this day that place is called Camp of Dan. It is west of Kiriath Jearim.) **18:13** From there they traveled through the Ephraimite hill country and arrived at Micah’s house. **18:14** The five men who had gone to spy out the land of Laish said to their kinsmen, “Do you realize that inside these houses are an ephod, some personal idols, a carved image, and a metal image? Decide now what you want to do.” **18:15** They stopped there, went inside the young Levite’s house (which belonged to Micah), and asked him how he was doing. **18:16** Meanwhile the six hundred Danites, fully armed, stood at the entrance to the gate. **18:17** The five men who had gone to spy out the land broke in and stole the carved image, the ephod, the personal idols, and the metal image, while the priest was standing at the entrance to the gate with the six hundred fully armed men. **18:18** When these men broke into Micah’s house and stole the carved image, the ephod, the personal idols, and the metal image, the priest said to them, “What are you doing?” **18:19** They said to him, “Shut up! Put your hand over your mouth and come with us! You can be our adviser and priest. Wouldn’t it be better to be a priest for a whole Israelite tribe than for just one man’s family?” **18:20** The priest was happy. He took the ephod, the personal idols, and the carved image and joined the group.

18:21 They turned and went on their way, but they walked behind the children, the cattle, and their possessions. **18:22** After they had gone a good distance from Micah’s house, Micah’s neighbors gathered together and caught up with the Danites. **18:23** When they called out to the Danites, the Danites turned around and said to Micah, “Why have you gathered together?” **18:24** He said, “You stole my gods that I made, as well as this priest, and then went

- 25 但人對米迦說、你不要使我們聽見你的聲音、恐怕有性暴的人攻擊你、以致你和你的全家盡都喪命。
- 26 但人還是走他們的路、米迦見他們的勢力比自己強盛、就轉身回家去了。
- 27 但人將米迦所作的神像、和他的祭司都帶到拉億、見安居無慮的民、就用刀殺了那民、又放火燒了那城。
- 28 並無人搭救、因為離西頓遠、他們又與別人沒有來往、城在平原、那平原靠近伯利合、但人又在那裡修城居住、
- 29 照著他們始祖以色列之子但的名字、給那城起名叫但、原先那城名叫拉億。
- 30 但人就為自己設立那雕刻的像、摩西的孫子、革舜的兒子約拿單、和他的子孫作但支派的祭司、直到那地遭擄掠的日子。
- 31 神的殿在示羅多少日子、但人為自己設立米迦所雕刻的像、也在但多少日子。

away. What do I have left? How can you have the audacity to say to me, ‘What do you want?’” **18:25** The Danites said to him, “Don’t say another word to us, or some very angry men will attack you, and you and your family will die.” **18:26** The Danites went on their way; when Micah realized they were too strong to resist, he turned around and went home.

18:27 Now the Danites took what Micah had made, as well as his priest, and came to Laish, where the people were undisturbed and unsuspecting. They struck them down with the sword and burned the city. **18:28** No one came to the rescue because the city was far from Sidon and they had no dealings with anyone. The city was in a valley near Beth Rehob. The Danites rebuilt the city and occupied it. **18:29** They named it Dan after their ancestor, who was one of Israel’s sons. But the city’s name used to be Laish. **18:30** The Danites worshiped the carved image. Jonathan, descendant of Gershom, son of Moses, and his descendants served as priests for the tribe of Dan until the time of the exile. **18:31** They worshiped Micah’s carved image the whole time God’s authorized shrine was in Shiloh.

第十九章

所多瑪、蛾摩拉重演

- 1 當以色列中沒有王的時候、有住以法蓮山地那邊的一個利未人、娶了一個猶大伯利恆的女子為妾。
- 2 妾行淫離開丈夫、回猶大伯利恆、到了父家、在那裡住了四個月。
- 3 他丈夫起來、帶著一個僕人兩匹驢去見他、用好話勸他回來、女子就引丈夫進入父家、他父見了那人、便歡歡喜喜的迎接。
- 4 那人的岳父、就是女子的父親、將那人留下住了三天、於是二人一同喫喝、住宿。
- 5 到第四天、利未人清早起來要走、女子的父親對女婿說、請你喫點飯、加添心力、然後可以行路。
- 6 於是二人坐下一同喫喝、女子的父親對那人說、請你再住一夜暢快你的心。
- 7 那人起來要走、他岳父強留他、他又住了一宿。
- 8 到第五天、他清早起來要走、女子的父親說、請你喫點飯加添心力、等到日頭偏西再走、於是二人一同喫飯。
- 9 那人同他的妾和僕人起來要走、他岳父、就是女子的父親、對他說、看哪、日頭偏西了、請你再住一夜、天快晚了、可以在這裡住宿暢快你的心。明天早早起行回家去。

Sodom and Gomorrah Revisited

19:1 In those days Israel had no king. There was a Levite living temporarily in the remote region of the Ephraimite hill country. He acquired a concubine from Bethlehem in Judah. **19:2** However, she got mad at him and went home to her father’s house in Bethlehem in Judah. When she had been there four months, **19:3** her husband came after her, hoping he could convince her to return. He brought with him his servant and a pair of donkeys. When she brought him into her father’s house and the girl’s father saw him, he warmly greeted him. **19:4** His father-in-law, the girl’s father, persuaded him to stay with him for three days, and they ate and drank together, and spent the night there. **19:5** On the fourth day they woke up early and the Levite got ready to leave. But the girl’s father said to his son-in-law, “Have a bite to eat for some energy, then you can go.” **19:6** So the two of them sat down and had a meal together. Then the girl’s father said to the man, “Why not stay another night and have a good time!” **19:7** When the man got ready to leave, his father-in-law convinced him to stay another night. **19:8** He woke up early in the morning on the fifth day so he could leave, but the girl’s father said, “Get some energy. Wait until later in the day to leave!” So they ate a meal together. **19:9** When the man got ready to leave with his concubine and his servant, his father-

- 10 那人不願再住一夜、就備上那兩匹驢、帶著妾起身走了、來到耶布斯的對面、耶布斯就是耶路撒冷。
- 11 臨近耶布斯的時候、日頭快要落了、僕人對主人說、我們不如進這耶布斯人的城裡住宿。
- 12 主人回答說、我們不可進不是以色列人住的外邦城、不如過到基比亞去。
- 13 又對僕人說、我們可以到一個地方、或住在基比亞、或住在拉瑪。
- 14 他們就往前走、將到便雅憫的基比亞、日頭已經落了。
- 15 他們進入基比亞要在那裡住宿、就坐在城裡的街上、因為無人接他們進家住宿。
- 16 晚上有一個老年人、從田間作工回來、他原是以法蓮山地的人、住在基比亞、那地方的人卻是便雅憫人。
- 17 老年人舉目看見客人坐在城裡的街上、就問他說、你從那裡來、要往那裡去。
- 18 他回答說、我們從猶大伯利恆來、要往以法蓮山地那邊去、我原是在那裡的人、到過猶大伯利恆、現在我往耶和華的殿去、在這裡無人接我進他的家。
- 19 其實我有糧草可以餵驢、我與我的妾、並我的僕人、有餅有酒、並不缺少甚麼。
- 20 老年人說、願你平安、你所需用的我都給你、只是不可在街上過夜。
- 21 於是領他們到家裡、餵上驢、他們就洗腳喫喝。
- 22 他們心裡正歡暢的時候、城中的匪徒圍住房子、連連叩門、對房主老人說、你把那進你家人帶出來、我們要與他交合。
- 23 那房主出來對他們說、弟兄們哪、不要這樣作惡、這人既然進了我的家、你們就不要行這醜事。
- 24 我有個女兒、還是處女、並有這人的妾、我將他們領出來任憑你們玷辱他們、只是向這人不可行這樣的醜事。
- 25 那些人卻不聽從他的話、那人就把他的妾拉出去交給他們、他們便與他交合、終夜凌辱他、直到天色快亮纔放他去。
- 26 天快亮時候、婦人回到他主人住宿的房門前、就仆倒在地、直到天亮。

in-law, the girl's father, said to him, "Look! The day is almost over! Stay another night! Since the day is over, stay another night here and have a good time. You can get up early tomorrow and start your trip home." 19:10 But the man did not want to stay another night. He left and traveled as far as Jebus (that is, Jerusalem). He had with him a pair of saddled donkeys and his concubine.

19:11 When they got near Jebus, it was getting quite late and the servant said to his master, "Come on, let's stop at this Jebusite city and spend the night in it." 19:12 But his master said to him, "We should not stop at a foreign city where non-Israelites live. We will travel on to Gibeah." 19:13 He said to his servant, "Come on, we will go into one of the other towns and spend the night in Gibeah or Ramah." 19:14 So they traveled on, and the sun went down when they were near Gibeah in Benjamin. 19:15 They stopped there and decided to spend the night in Gibeah. They came into the city and sat down in the town square, but no one invited them to spend the night.

19:16 But then an old man passed by, returning at the end of the day from his work in the field. The man was from the Ephraimite hill country; he was living temporarily in Gibeah. (The residents of the town were Benjaminites.) 19:17 When he looked up and saw the traveler in the town square, the old man said, "Where are you heading? Where do you come from?" 19:18 The Levite said to him, "We are traveling from Bethlehem in Judah to the remote region of the Ephraimite hill country. That's where I'm from. I had business in Bethlehem in Judah, but now I'm heading home. But no one has invited me into their home. 19:19 We have enough straw and grain for our donkeys, and there is enough food and wine for me, your female servant, and the young man who is with your servants. We lack nothing." 19:20 The old man said, "Everything is just fine! I will take care of all your needs. But don't spend the night in the town square." 19:21 So he brought him to his house and fed the donkeys. They washed their feet and had a meal.

19:22 They were having a good time, when suddenly some men of the city, some good-for-nothings, surrounded the house and kept beating on the door. They said to the old man who owned the house, "Send out the man who came to visit you so we can have sex with him." 19:23 The man who owned the house went outside and said to them, "No, my brothers! Don't do this wicked thing! After all, this man is a guest in my house. Don't do such a disgraceful thing! 19:24 Here are my virgin daughter and the visitor's concubine. I will send them out and you can abuse them and do to them whatever you like. But don't do such a disgraceful thing to this man!" 19:25 The men refused to listen to him, so the Levite grabbed his concubine and made her go out-

- 27 早晨、他的主人起來開了房門、出去要行路、不料那婦人仆倒在房門前、兩手搭在門檻上。
- 28 就對婦人說、起來、我們走罷、婦人卻不回答。那人便將他馱在驢上、起身回本處去了。
- 29 到了家裡、用刀將妾的屍身切成十二塊、使人拿著傳送以色列的四境。
- 30 凡看見的人都說、從以色列人出埃及地、直到今日、這樣的事沒有行過、也沒有見過、現在應當思想、大家商議當怎樣辦理。

第二十章

基比亞內戰

- 1 於是以色列從但到別是巴、以及住基列地的眾人都出來如同一人、聚集在米斯巴耶和華面前。
- 2 以色列民的首領、就是各支派的軍長、都站在 神百姓的會中、拿刀的步兵共有四十萬。
- 3 以色列人上到米斯巴、便雅憫人都聽見了。以色列人說、請你將這件惡事的情由對我們說明。
- 4 那利未人、就是被害之婦人的丈夫、回答說、我和我的妾到了便雅憫的基比亞住宿。
- 5 基比亞人夜間起來、圍了我住的房子、想要殺我、又將我的妾強姦致死。
- 6 我就把我妾的屍身切成塊子、使人拿著傳送以色列得為業的全地、因為基比亞人在以色列中行了兇淫醜惡的事。
- 7 你們以色列人、都當籌劃商議。
- 8 眾民都起來如同一人、說、我們連一人都不回自己帳棚、自己房屋去。
- 9 我們向基比亞人必這樣行、照所掣的籤去攻擊他們。
- 10 我們要在以色列各支派中、一百人挑取十人、一千人挑取百人、一萬人挑取千人為民運糧、等大眾到了便雅憫的基比亞、就照基比亞人在以色列中所行的醜事征伐他們。
- 11 於是以色列眾人彼此連合如同一人、聚集攻擊那城。

side. They raped her and abused her all night long until morning. They let her go at dawn. **19:26** The woman arrived back at daybreak and was sprawled out on the doorstep of the house where her master was staying until it became light. **19:27** When her master got up in the morning, opened the doors of the house, and went outside to start on his journey, there was the woman, his concubine, sprawled out on the doorstep of the house with her hands on the threshold. **19:28** He said to her, "Get up, let's leave!" But there was no response. He put her on the donkey and went home. **19:29** When he got home, he took a knife, grabbed his concubine, and carved her up into twelve pieces. Then he sent them throughout Israel. **19:30** Everyone who saw the sight said, "Nothing like this has happened or been witnessed during the entire time since the Israelites left the land of Egypt. Take careful note of it! Discuss it and speak!"

Civil War Breaks Out

20:1 All the Israelites from Dan to Beer Sheba and from the land of Gilead left their homes and assembled together before the LORD at Mizpah. **20:2** The leaders of all the people from all the tribes of Israel took their places in the assembly of God's people, which numbered four hundred thousand sword-wielding foot soldiers. **20:3** The Benjaminites heard that the Israelites had gone up to Mizpah. Then the Israelites said, "Explain how this wicked thing happened!" **20:4** The Levite, the husband of the murdered woman, spoke up, "I and my concubine stopped in Gibeah of Benjamin to spend the night. **20:5** The leaders of Gibeah attacked me and at nighttime surrounded the house where I was staying. They wanted to kill me; instead they abused my concubine so badly that she died. **20:6** I grabbed hold of my concubine and carved her up and sent the pieces throughout the territory occupied by Israel, because they committed such an unthinkable atrocity in Israel. **20:7** All you Israelites, make a decision here!"

20:8 All Israel rose up in unison and said, "Not one of us will go home! Not one of us will return to his house! **20:9** Now this is what we will do to Gibeah: We will attack the city as the lot dictates. **20:10** We will take ten of every group of a hundred men from all the tribes of Israel (and a hundred of every group of a thousand, and a thousand of every group of ten thousand) to get supplies for the army. When they arrive in Gibeah of Benjamin they will punish them for the atrocity which they committed in Israel. **20:11** So all the men of Israel gathered together at the city as allies.

- 12 以色列眾支派打發人去、問便雅憫支派的各家說、你們中間怎麼作了這樣的惡事呢。
- 13 現在你們要將基比亞的那些匪徒交出來、我們好治死他們、從以色列中除掉這惡、便雅憫人卻不肯聽從他們弟兄以色列人的話。
- 14 便雅憫人從他們的各城裡出來、聚集到了基比亞、要與以色列人打仗。
- 15 那時便雅憫人、從各城裡點出拿刀的、共有二萬六千、另外還有基比亞人點出七百精兵。
- 16 在眾軍之中有揀選的七百精兵、都是左手便利的、能用機弦甩石打人、毫髮不差。
- 17 便雅憫人之外、點出以色列人拿刀的、共有四十萬、都是戰士。
- 18 以色列人就起來、到伯特利去求問神、說、我們中間誰當首先上去與便雅憫人爭戰呢、耶和華說、猶大當先上去。
- 19 以色列人早晨起來、對著基比亞安營。
- 20 以色列人出來、要與便雅憫人打仗、就在基比亞前擺陣。
- 21 便雅憫人就從基比亞出來、當日殺死以色列人二萬二千。
- 22 以色列人彼此奮勇、仍在頭一日擺陣的地方又擺陣。
- 23 未擺陣之先、以色列人上去、在耶和華面前哭號直到晚上、求問耶和華說、我們再去與我們弟兄便雅憫人打仗可以不可以、耶和華說、可以上去攻擊他們。
- 24 第二日、以色列人就上前攻擊便雅憫人。
- 25 便雅憫人也在這日從基比亞出來、與以色列人接戰、又殺死他們一萬八千、都是拿刀的。
- 26 以色列眾人就上到伯特利、坐在耶和華面前哭號、當日禁食直到晚上、又在耶和華面前獻燔祭和平安祭。
- 27 那時、神的約櫃在那裡、亞倫的孫子、
- 28 以利亞撒的兒子非尼哈、侍立在約櫃前、以色列人問耶和華說、我們當再出去與我們弟兄便雅憫人打仗呢、還是罷兵呢、耶和華說、你們當上去、因為明日我必將他們交在你們手中。
- 29 以色列人在基比亞的四圍、設下伏兵。
- 30 第三日、以色列人又上去攻擊便雅憫人、在基比亞前擺陣、與前兩次一樣。
- 31 便雅憫人也出來迎敵、就被引誘離城、在田間兩條路上、一通伯特利、一通基比亞、像前兩次、動手殺死以色列人約有三十個。

20:12 The tribes of Israel sent men throughout the tribe of Benjamin, saying, "How could such a wicked thing take place? **20:13** Now, hand over the good-for-nothings in Gibeah so we can execute them and purge Israel of wickedness." But the Benjaminites refused to listen to their Israelite brothers. **20:14** The Benjaminites came from their cities and assembled at Gibeah to make war against the Israelites. **20:15** That day the Benjaminites mustered from their cities twenty-six thousand sword-wielding soldiers, besides seven hundred well-trained soldiers from Gibeah. **20:16** Among this army were seven hundred specially-trained left-handed soldiers. Each one could sling a stone and hit even the smallest target. **20:17** The men of Israel (not counting Benjamin) had mustered four hundred thousand sword-wielding soldiers, every one an experienced warrior.

20:18 The Israelites went up to Bethel and asked God, "Who should lead the charge against the Benjaminites?" The LORD said, "Judah should lead." **20:19** The Israelites got up the next morning and moved against Gibeah. **20:20** The men of Israel marched out to fight Benjamin; they arranged their battle lines against Gibeah. **20:21** The Benjaminites attacked from Gibeah and struck down twenty-two thousand Israelites that day.

20:22 The Israelite army took heart and once more arranged their battle lines, in the same place where they had taken their positions the day before. **20:23** The Israelites went up and wept before the LORD until evening. They asked the LORD, "Should we again march out to fight the Benjaminites, our brothers?" The LORD said, "Attack them!" **20:24** So the Israelites marched toward the Benjaminites the next day. **20:25** The Benjaminites again attacked them from Gibeah and struck down eighteen thousand sword-wielding Israelite soldiers.

20:26 So all the Israelites, the whole army, went up to Bethel. They wept and sat there before the LORD; they did not eat anything that day until evening. They offered up burnt sacrifices and tokens of peace to the LORD. **20:27** The Israelites asked the LORD (for the ark of God's covenant was there in those days; **20:28** Phinehas son of Eleazar, son of Aaron, was serving the LORD in those days), "Should we once more march out to fight the Benjaminites our brothers, or should we quit?" The LORD said, "Attack, for tomorrow I will hand them over to you."

20:29 So Israel hid men in ambush outside Gibeah. **20:30** The Israelites attacked the Benjaminites the next day; they took their positions against Gibeah just as they had done before. **20:31** The Benjaminites attacked the army, leaving the city unguarded. They began to strike down their enemy just as they had done before. On the main roads (one

- 32 便雅憫人說、他們仍舊敗在我們面前。但以色列人說、我們不如逃跑引誘他們離開城到路上來。
- 33 以色列眾人都起來、在巴力他瑪擺陣、以色列的伏兵、從馬利迦巴埋伏的地方衝上前去。
- 34 有以色列人中的一萬精兵、來到基比亞前接戰、勢派甚是兇猛、便雅憫人卻不知道災禍臨近了。
- 35 耶和華使以色列人殺敗便雅憫人、那日以色列人殺死便雅憫人二萬五千一百、都是拿刀的。
- 36 於是便雅憫人知道自己敗了、先是以色列人、因為靠著在基比亞前所設的伏兵、就在便雅憫人面前詐敗。
- 37 伏兵急忙闖進基比亞、用刀殺死全城的人。
- 38 以色列人豫先同伏兵約定在城內放火、以煙氣上騰為號。
- 39 以色列人臨退陣的時候、便雅憫人動手殺死以色列人、約有三十個、就說、他們仍像前次被我們殺敗了。
- 40 當煙氣如柱從城中上騰的時候、便雅憫人回頭觀看、見全城的煙氣沖天。
- 41 以色列人又轉身回來、便雅憫人就甚驚惶、因為看見災禍臨到自己了。
- 42 他們在以色列人面前、轉身往曠野逃跑、以色列人在後面追殺、那從各城裡出來的、也都夾攻殺滅他們。
- 43 以色列人圍繞便雅憫人、追趕他們、在他們歇腳之處、對著日出之地的基比亞踐踏他們。
- 44 便雅憫人死了的、有一萬八千、都是勇士。
- 45 其餘的人轉身向曠野逃跑、往臨門磐去、以色列人在道路上殺了他們五千人、如拾取遺穗一樣、追到基頓又殺了他們二千人。
- 46 那日便雅憫死了的、共有二萬五千人、都是拿刀的勇士。
- 47 只剩下六百人、轉身向曠野逃跑、到了臨門磐、就在那裡住了四個月。
- 48 以色列人又轉到便雅憫地、將各城的人和牲畜、並一切所遇見的、都用刀殺盡、又放火燒了一切城邑。

leads to Bethel, the other to Gibeah) and in the field, they struck down about thirty Israelites. **20:32** Then the Benjaminites said, “They are defeated just as before.” But the Israelites said, “Let’s retreat and lure them away from the city into the main roads.” **20:33** All the men of Israel got up from their places and took their positions at Baal Tamar, while the Israelites hiding in ambush jumped out of their places west of Gibeah. **20:34** Ten thousand men, well-trained soldiers from all Israel, then made a frontal assault against Gibeah—the battle was fierce. But the Benjaminites did not realize that disaster was at their doorstep. **20:35** The LORD annihilated Benjamin before Israel; the Israelites struck down that day 25,100 sword-wielding Benjaminites. **20:36** Then the Benjaminites saw they were defeated.

The Israelites retreated before Benjamin, because they had confidence in the men they had hid in ambush outside Gibeah. **20:37** The men hiding in ambush made a mad dash to Gibeah. They attacked and put the sword to the entire city. **20:38** The Israelites and the men hiding in ambush had arranged a signal. When the men hiding in ambush sent up a smoke signal from the city, **20:39** the Israelites counterattacked. Benjamin had begun to strike down the Israelites; they struck down about thirty men. They said, “There’s no doubt about it! They are totally defeated as in the earlier battle.” **20:40** But when the signal, a pillar of smoke, began to rise up from the city, the Benjaminites turned around and saw the whole city going up in a cloud of smoke that rose high into the sky. **20:41** When the Israelites turned around, the Benjaminites panicked because they could see that disaster was on their doorstep. **20:42** They retreated before the Israelites, taking the road to the wilderness. But the battle overtook them as men from the surrounding cities struck them down. **20:43** They surrounded the Benjaminites, chased them from Nohah, and annihilated them all the way to a spot east of Geba. **20:44** Eighteen thousand Benjaminites, all of them capable warriors, fell dead. **20:45** The rest turned and ran toward the wilderness, heading toward the cliff of Rimmon. But the Israelites caught five thousand of them on the main roads. They stayed right on their heels all the way to Gidom and struck down two thousand more. **20:46** That day twenty-five thousand sword-wielding Benjaminites fell in battle, all of them capable warriors. **20:47** Six hundred survivors turned and ran away to the wilderness, to the cliff of Rimmon. They stayed there four months. **20:48** The Israelites returned to the Benjaminite towns and put the sword to them. They wiped out the cities, the animals, and everything they could find. They set fire to every city in their path.

第二十一章

為六百便雅憫人謀妻

- 1 以色列人在米斯巴曾起誓說、我們都不將女兒給便雅憫人為妻。
- 2 以色列人來到伯特利坐在 神面前直到晚上放聲痛哭、
- 3 說、耶和華以色列的 神阿、為何以色列中有這樣缺了一支派的事呢。
- 4 次日清早百姓起來、在那裡築了一座壇、獻燔祭和平安祭。
- 5 以色列人彼此問說、以色列各支派中、誰沒有同會眾上到耶和華面前來呢、先是以色列人起過大誓說、凡不上米斯巴到耶和華面前來的、必將他治死。
- 6 以色列人為他們的弟兄便雅憫後悔、說、如今以色列中絕了一個支派了。
- 7 我們既在耶和華面前起誓說、必不將我們的女兒給便雅憫人為妻、現在我們當怎樣辦理、使他們剩下的人有妻呢。
- 8 又彼此問說、以色列支派中誰沒有上米斯巴到耶和華面前來呢、他們就查出基列雅比沒有一人進營到會眾那裡。
- 9 因為百姓被數的時候、沒有一個基列雅比人在那裡。
- 10 會眾就打發一萬二千大勇士、吩咐他們說、你們去用刀將基列雅比人連婦女帶孩子都擊殺了。
- 11 所當行的就是這樣、要將一切男子、和已嫁的女子盡行殺戮。
- 12 他們在基列雅比人中、遇見了四百個未嫁的處女、就帶到迦南地的示羅營裡。
- 13 全會眾打發人到臨門磐的便雅憫人那裡、向他們說和睦的話。
- 14 當時便雅憫人回來了、以色列人就把所存活基列雅比的女子給他們為妻、還是不敷。
- 15 百姓為便雅憫人後悔、因為耶和華使以色列人缺了一個支派〔原文作使以色列中有了破口〕。
- 16 會中的長老說、便雅憫中的女子既然除滅了、我們當怎樣辦理、使那餘剩的人有妻呢。
- 17 又說、便雅憫逃脫的人當有地業、免得以色列中塗抹了一個支派。
- 18 只是我們不能將自己的女兒給他們為妻、因為以色列人曾起誓說、有將女兒給便雅憫人為妻的、必受咒詛。

600 Brides for 600 Brothers

21:1 The Israelites had taken an oath in Mizpah, saying, “Not one of us will allow his daughter to marry a Benjaminite.” 21:2 So the people came to Bethel and sat there before God until evening, weeping loudly and uncontrollably. 21:3 They said, “Why, O LORD God of Israel, has this happened in Israel? An entire tribe has disappeared from Israel today!”

21:4 The next morning the people got up early and built an altar there. They offered up burnt sacrifices and token of peace. 21:5 The Israelites asked, “Who from all the Israelite tribes has not assembled before the LORD?” They had made a solemn oath that whoever did not assemble before the LORD at Mizpah must certainly be executed. 21:6 The Israelites regretted what had happened to their brother Benjamin. They said, “Today we cut off an entire tribe from Israel! 21:7 How can we find wives for those who are left? After all, we took an oath in the LORD’s name not to give them our daughters as wives.” 21:8 So they asked, “Who from all the Israelite tribes did not assemble before the LORD at Mizpah?” Now it just so happened no one from Jabesh Gilead had come to the gathering. 21:9 When they took roll call, they noticed none of the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead were there. 21:10 So the assembly sent 12,000 capable warriors against Jabesh Gilead. They commanded them, “Go and kill with your swords the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead, including the women and little children. 21:11 Do this: exterminate every male, as well as every woman who has had sexual relations with a male. But spare the lives of any virgins.” So they did as instructed. 21:12 They found among the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead four hundred young girls who were virgins—they had never had sexual relations with a male. They brought them back to the camp at Shiloh in the land of Canaan.

21:13 The entire assembly sent messengers to the Benjaminites at the cliff of Rimmon and assured them they would not be harmed. 21:14 The Benjaminites returned at that time, and the Israelites gave to them the women they had spared from Jabesh Gilead. But there were not enough to go around.

21:15 The people regretted what had happened to Benjamin because the LORD had weakened the Israelite tribes. 21:16 The leaders of the assembly said, “How can we find wives for those who are left? After all, the Benjaminites women have been wiped out. 21:17 The remnant of Benjamin must be preserved. An entire Israelite tribe should not be wiped out. 21:18 But we can’t allow our daughters to marry them, for the Israelites took an oath, saying, ‘Whoever gives a woman to a Benjaminite will be destroyed!’ 21:19 However, there is an annual festival

- 19 他們又說、在利波拿以南、伯特利以北、在示劍大路以東的示羅、年年有耶和華的節期。
- 20 就吩咐便雅憫人說、你們去、在葡萄園中埋伏、
- 21 若看見示羅的女子出來跳舞、就從葡萄園出來、在示羅的女子中各搶一個為妻、回便雅憫地去。
- 22 他們的父親、或是弟兄若來與我們爭競、我們就說、求你們看我們的情面、施恩給這些人、因我們在爭戰的時候沒有給他們留下女子為妻。這也不是你們將女子給他們的、若是你們給的、就算有罪。
- 23 於是便雅憫人照樣而行、按著他們的數目從跳舞的女子中搶去為妻、就回自己的地業去、又重修城邑居住。
- 24 當時以色列人離開那裡、各歸本支派、本宗族、本地業去了。
- 25 那時以色列中沒有王、各人任意而行。

to the LORD in Shiloh, which is north of Bethel (east of the main road that goes up from Bethel to Shechem) and south of Lebonah.” **21:20** So they commanded the Benjaminites, “Go hide in the vineyards, **21:21** and keep your eyes open. When you see the daughters of Shiloh coming out to dance in the celebration, jump out from the vineyards. Each one of you, catch yourself a wife from among the daughters of Shiloh and then go home to the land of Benjamin. **21:22** When their fathers or brothers come and protest to us, we’ll say to them, “Do us a favor and let them be, for we could not get each one a wife through battle. Don’t worry about breaking your oath! You would only be guilty if you had voluntarily given them wives.”

21:23 The Benjaminites did as instructed. They abducted two hundred of the dancing girls to be their wives. They went home to their own territory, rebuilt their cities, and settled down. **21:24** Then the Israelites dispersed from there to their respective tribal and clan territories. Each went from there to his own property. **21:25** In those days Israel had no king. Each man did what he considered to be right.