

## 1Kings

### 1Kings 1

- ¶1. Now, King David was old and advanced in years, and they covered him with garments, but he could not keep warm.
2. Therefore, his servants said to him, "Let them seek a young virgin for my lord, the King, and let her stand before the King, and let her be of service to him, and lie in your bosom so that my lord the King may be warm."
3. So they sought for a beautiful young woman throughout all the territory of Israel, and they found Abishag the Shunammite, and they brought her to the King.
4. And the young woman was very beautiful, and she began attending to the King and ministered to him, but the King did not know her.
5. Now, Adonijah, son of Haggith, had exalted himself saying, "I will be king!", and he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him,
6. and his father had not grieved him at any time by saying, "Why have you done like this?" He also was very handsome, and *his mother* bore him after Absalom.
7. Moreover, he conferred with Joab ben Zeruiah, and with Abiathar the priest, and they followed Adonijah and helped *him*.
8. But Zadok the priest, and Benaiah ben Jehoiada, and Nathan the prophet, and Shimei, and Rei, and those who were David's mighty men were not with Adonijah.
9. And Adonijah sacrificed sheep, and cattle, and fatlings near the stone of Zoheleth which is beside Engedel, and he called all his brothers, sons of the King, and all the men of Judah, servants of the King.
10. However, Nathan the prophet, or Benaiah, or the mighty men, or Solomon his brother, he did not call.
11. Then Nathan spoke to Bathsheba, Solomon's mother, saying, "Have you not heard that Adonijah ben Haggith has begun to reign, and David our lord does not know?"
12. Therefore, come! Let me, I beg you, give you counsel, that you and your son Solomon may escape!
13. Go, and enter in to David the King and say to him, 'O King, my lord, did you not swear to your handmaid saying, "Solomon your son shall certainly become king after me, and he will sit on my throne!" Why, then, is Adonijah king?'
14. Behold, while you are still there, speaking with the King, I will come in after you and confirm your words."
15. So, Bathsheba went in to the King, to his chamber (now the King was very old, and Abishag the Shunammite was ministering to the King).
16. And Bathsheba bowed and prostrated herself before the King, and the King said, "What do you want?"
17. Then she said to him, "My lord, you swore to your handmaid by Jehovah, your God, saying, 'Solomon, your son shall certainly become king after me, and he will sit on my throne,'"
18. but behold, Adonijah has now become king, even though, my lord the King, you did not know.
19. Also, he has sacrificed a multitude of oxen, and fatlings, and sheep, and he has called all the kings' sons, and Abiathar the priest, and Joab the captain of the army, but Solomon your servant, he did not call.
20. And you, my lord the King, the eyes of all Israel are upon you to make known to them who should sit upon the throne of my lord the King after him.
21. Otherwise, it will come to pass that when my lord the King sleeps with his fathers, I and my son Solomon will be condemned sinners."
22. And behold, while she was still speaking with the King, Nathan the prophet came in.
23. And they announced to the King, "Behold, Nathan the prophet!" And he entered in before the King, and prostrated himself before the King, with his face to the ground.

24. And Nathan said, "My lord the King, you have said, 'Adonijah will reign after me, and he will sit on my throne,'
25. for he has gone down today and is sacrificing a multitude of oxen, and fatlings, and sheep, and he has called all the King's sons, and captains of the army, and Abiathar the priest. And behold, they are eating and drinking before him, and they are saying, 'Long live King Adonijah!'
26. But me, your servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah ben Jehoiada, and Solomon your servant, he did not call.
27. If this thing has been done by my lord the King, then you did not tell your servant who will sit on the throne of my lord the King after him!"
28. Then David the King answered and said, "Call Bathsheba to me!" And she entered into the King's presence, and stood before the King.
29. And the King swore and said, "As Jehovah lives, who redeemed my life from all distress,
30. just as I swore to you by the LORD God of Israel, saying, 'Surely, Solomon your son will be king after me, and he will sit on my throne in my stead,' so I will certainly do this day!"
31. Then Bathsheba bowed her face to the earth, and prostrated herself before the King, and said, "Let my lord, David the King, live forever!"
32. And King David said, "Call Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah ben Jehoiada to me," and they entered in before the King.
33. Then the King said to them, "Take the servants of your lord with you, and have my son Solomon to ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon,
34. and Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet shall anoint him there as King over Israel, and you shall blow with the shofar, and declare, 'Long live King Solomon!'
35. Then you shall go up after him, and he shall come in and sit upon my throne, and he shall reign in my stead, for him I commanded to be ruler over Israel and over Judah."
36. And Benaiah ben Jehoiada answered the King and said, "Amen! May Jehovah, the God of my lord the King, say so!
37. As Jehovah has been with my lord the King, so may He be with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord, King David!"
38. Then Zadok the priest went down, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah ben Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, and they mounted Solomon on King David's mule and brought him to Gihon.
39. And Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the tent, and he anointed Solomon, and they blew with the shofar, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!"
40. And all the people came up after him, and the people were piping with pipes, and rejoicing with great joy such that the earth was rent with the sound of them.
41. Then Adonijah and all the guests with him heard it, and they stopped eating. And Joab heard the sound of the shofar and said, "Why is a sound of an uproar in the city?"
42. And while he was yet speaking, behold, Jonathan ben Abiathar the priest came in. Then Adonijah said, "Come in, for you are a valiant man and you bring good tidings."
43. And Jonathan answered and said to Adonijah, "Truly, our lord David the King has made Solomon king,
44. and the King has sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah ben Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, and they made him to ride upon the King's mule,
45. and Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anointed him King in Gihon, and they have gone up from there rejoicing, and the city is in an uproar. This is the sound that you heard.
46. And now, Solomon is sitting on the throne of the kingdom!
47. And also the King's servants have come to bless our lord, King David, saying, 'May your God make the name of Solomon better than your name, and his throne greater than your throne!' Then the King worshipped on the bed.

48. And the King also said this: ‘Blesséd be Jehovah, God of Israel, who this day has given a man to sit on my throne while my eyes can see it.’”
49. And all who were called, who were for Adonijah, were terrified and stood up, and they departed, each man went his way.
50. And Adonijah was afraid because of Solomon, so he arose, and departed, and took hold of the horns of the altar.
51. Then it was reported to Solomon, saying, “Behold, Adonijah fears Solomon the King, and behold, he has taken hold of the horns of the altar, saying, ‘Let King Solomon swear to me this day that he will not put his servant to death with the sword.’”
52. Then Solomon said, “If he is deserving, not a hair of his will fall to the ground, but if evil be found in him, then he will die.”
53. And King Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar, and he came in and bowed himself to Solomon the King. Then Solomon said to him, “Go to your house!”

## 1Kings 2

- ¶1. Now, the days of David drew near that he should die, and he commanded Solomon his son, saying,
  2. “I am going the way of all the earth; therefore, be strong and be a man,
  3. and keep the charge of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, and His Judgments, and His testimonies as it is written in the law of Moses, so that you may prosper in all that you do, and wherever you turn,
  4. so that the LORD may establish His word that He spoke to me, saying, ‘If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before me faithfully with all their heart and with all their soul, you will never fail,’ He said, ‘to have a man on the throne of Israel.’
  5. Moreover, you also know what Joab, the son of Zeruah did to me, what he did to the two captains of the armies of Israel, to Abner ben-Ner and to Amasa ben-Jether, that he slew them and shed the blood of war in peacetime, spilling blood of war on his belt that was about his loins and on his sandals that were on his feet.
  6. Therefore, do according to your wisdom, and do not allow his gray hair go down to sheol in peace.
  7. But deal kindly with the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite and let them be among those who eat at your table, for thus they came to me when I fled from before Absalom your brother.
  8. Behold, also with you is Shimei ben-Gera, the Benjamite from Bahurim, who cursed me with a grievous curse on the day I fled to Mahanaim, but he came down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by Jehovah, saying, ‘*May God damn me* if I put you to death by the sword.’
  9. But do not leave him unpunished now, for you are a wise man, and you will know what you should do to him, but bring down his gray head with blood to sheol!”
- ¶10. Then David slept with his fathers, and he was buried in the city of David.
11. Now the days that David reigned over Israel were forty years. He reigned seven years in Hebron, and he reigned thirty-three years in Jerusalem.
12. And Solomon sat upon the throne of David his father, and his kingdom was greatly established.
13. And Adonijah the son of Haggith went to Bathsheba, mother of Solomon, and she said, “Do you come peacefully?” Then he said, “Peacefully.”
14. Then he said, “I have something to say to you.” And she said, “Speak.”
15. Then he said, “You know that the kingdom would have been mine and that all Israel had set their faces on me to be king, but the kingdom is turned about, and has become my brother’s, for it was his from the LORD,

16. so, as things are, I would make one request of you. Do not refuse me.” And she said to him, “Speak.”
17. Then he said, “If you will, speak to Solomon the King, for he will not refuse you, that he give to me Abishag the Shunammite to wife.”
18. And Bathsheba said, “Very well. I will speak to the King for you.”
19. Then Bathsheba went in to King Solomon to speak to him for Adonijah. And the King stood up to greet her, and bowed to her, then he sat down upon his throne, and a seat was set for the King’s mother, and she sat at his right hand.
20. And she said, “I would make one small request of you. Do not refuse me.” And the King said to her, “Ask me, my mother, for I will not refuse you.”
21. Then she said, “Let *the King* give Abishag the Shunammite to your brother Adonijah to wife.”
22. And King Solomon answered and said to his mother, “Now, why are you asking Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom also, for he is my elder brother, and he has both Abiathar the priest and Joab son of Zeruah!”
23. Then King Solomon swore by Jehovah saying, “God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word at the expense of his own life!
24. And now, as Jehovah lives, who established me and set me on the throne of David my father, and who made for me a house, just as he spoke, surely, Adonijah will be put to death this day!”
25. And King Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah ben-Jehoiada, and he fell upon him and he died.
  
- ¶26. Then the King said to Abiathar the priest, “Go to Anathoth, to your fields, for you are a dead man. But I will not put you to death on this day because you carried the ark of the Lord GOD before David my father and because you were afflicted in all that my father was afflicted.”
27. So Solomon cast Abiathar out from being the LORD’s priest, to fulfill the word of the LORD which He spoke concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.
  
- ¶28. And the report came to Joab (for Joab had turned after Adonijah, although he had not turned after Absalom). Then Joab fled to the tent of the LORD and grasped the horns of the altar.
29. And it was reported to King Solomon that Joab had fled to the tent of the LORD and that, behold, *he was* at the altar. And Solomon sent Benaiah ben-Jehoiada, saying, “Go! Fall upon him!”
30. So, Benaiah went to the tent of the LORD, and said to him, “Thus says the King, ‘Come out!’” and he said, “No, but I will die here.” Therefore, Benaiah brought word back to the King, saying, “Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me.”
31. And the King said to him, “Do as he has said and fall upon him and bury him, that you remove the blood from me and from my father’s house which Joab shed without cause.
32. And the LORD shall return his blood upon his own head, who fell upon two men more just and better than he and slew them with the sword (my father David not knowing): Abner ben-Ner, captain of the army of Israel, and Amasa ben-Jether, captain of the army of Judah.
33. So, their blood will return upon the head of Joab and upon the head of his seed forever. But for David and for his seed, and for his house, and for his throne, there will be peace forever from the LORD.”
34. Then Benaiah ben-Jehoiada went up and fell upon him, and he killed him, and he was buried in his place in the wilderness.
35. And the King appointed Benaiah ben-Jehoiada in his stead over the army, and the King appointed Zadok the priest in the stead of Abiathar.
36. And the King sent and called for Shimei, and he said to him, “Build a house for yourself in Jerusalem, and you shall remain there, and from there, you shall not go forth anywhere whatsoever.

37. For on the day that you go out and cross over the brook Kidron, know for certain that you will surely die. Your blood will be on your own head.”
38. Then Shimei said to the King, “The saying is good. As my lord the King has spoken, so will your servant do.” And Shimei dwelled in Jerusalem many days.
39. But it came to pass at the end of three years, two servants of Shimei ran away to Achish ben-Maachah, King of Gath, and they told Shimei, saying, “Behold, your servants are in Gath.”
40. Then Shimei rose up, and saddled his donkey, and departed for Gath, to Achish, to look for his servants. Then Shimei went and brought his servants from Gath.
41. And it was reported to Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath and had returned.
42. And the King sent and called for Shimei. Then he said to him, “Did I not make you swear by Jehovah, and solemnly warn you, saying, ‘In the day you go forth, and go anywhere whatsoever, know for certain that you will surely die!’ And you said, ‘The saying is good. I understand.’
43. Therefore, why have you not kept the oath of Jehovah and the commandment that I commanded you?”
44. The King also said to Shimei, “You know all the evil that your heart knows, which you did to David my father; therefore, Jehovah will return your evil upon your own head.
45. And King Solomon will be blessed, and the throne of David will be established before Jehovah forever.”
46. Then the King commanded Benaiah ben-Jehioada, and he went out and fell upon him, and he died. And the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

### 1Kings 3

- ¶1. And Solomon made an alliance with Pharaoh, King of Egypt, and took the daughter of Pharaoh. Then he brought her to the city of David until he had completed building his house, and the house of the LORD, and the wall around Jerusalem.
2. Only, the people were sacrificing in the high places because a house for the name of the LORD had not been built before those days.
3. And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David, only he sacrificed and burned incense in the high places.
- ¶4. Now the King went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for it was the great high place, and Solomon offered one-thousand burnt offerings upon that altar.
5. The LORD appeared to Solomon in Gibeon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.”
6. Then Solomon said, “You showed great lovingkindness to your servant David my father, inasmuch as he walked before you in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with you. And you have preserved for him this great lovingkindness, that you have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.
7. Indeed, O LORD my God, you have now made your servant to reign in David my father’s stead. But I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in,
8. and your servant is in the midst of your people that you have chosen, a great people that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude.
9. Therefore, give to your servant a listening heart that I might judge your people, discerning between good and evil, for who is able to judge this great nation of yours?”
10. And it pleased the Lord that Solomon asked this.

11. Then God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have you asked for yourself riches, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies; but you have asked for yourself understanding to perceive justice.
  12. Behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that no one like you has been before you, nor after you will any like you arise.
  13. Moreover, I have also given to you that which you have not asked for, both riches and honor, so that among the kings, there will not be any like you all your days.
  14. And if you walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will prolong your days."
  15. And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and made peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.
- ¶16. Then two women, harlots, came to the King and stood before him.
17. And the one woman said, "If you please, my lord! This woman and I live in one house, and I gave birth, with her in the house.
  18. And it came to pass on the third day after I gave birth that this woman also bore a child, and we were together. No one else was with us in the house; only we two were in the house.
  19. Then this woman's son died during the night because she lay upon him.
  20. And she got up in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your maid-servant was asleep, and she laid him on her bosom and laid her dead son on my bosom.
  21. And I got up in the morning to nurse my son, and behold, he was dead, but when I really looked at him in the morning, behold, it was not the son that I gave birth to!"
  22. Then the other woman said, "No! My son is the live one, and the dead one is your son!" And this one said, "No! Your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one!" Thus, they spoke before the King.
  23. And the King said, "This woman says, 'This living one is my son, and the dead one is your son. But this one says, 'No! Your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one.'"
  24. And the King said, "Bring me a sword." And they brought the sword before the King.
  25. Then the King said, "Divide the living boy in two, and give half to one and half to the other."
  26. And the woman whose son was alive spoke to the King, for she was moved with compassion for her son, and she said, "If you please, my lord! Give the living child to her! Please do not put him to death!" But the other one kept saying, "He should be neither mine nor yours. You men cut him in two!"
  27. Then the King answered and said, "Give the living child to her, and by no means put him to death. She is his mother."
  28. And all Israel heard of the judgment which the King had made, and they feared the King because they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to execute judgment.

#### 1Kings 4

- ¶1. So, King Solomon was king over all Israel.
2. And these were his chief officials: Azariah ben-Zadok the priest,
  3. Elihoreph and Ahijah, sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat ben-Ahilud, the recorder;
  4. and Benaiah ben-Jehoiada, over the army; and Zadok and Abiathar, priests;
  5. and Azariah ben-Nathan, over the officers; and Zabud ben-Nathan, a priest and friend of the King;
  6. and Ahishar, over the household; and Adoniram ben-Abda, over the forced labor.

7. And Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel, and they provided food for the King and his house. One month each year, it was one man's responsibility to make provision,
8. and these are their names: Ben-Hur in Mount Ephraim;
9. Ben-Dekar in Makaz, and in Shaalbim, and in Bethshemesh, and Elon Beth-Hanan;
10. Ben-Hesed in the Arubboth had Sochoh and all the land of Hopher;
  
11. Ben-Abinadab, all of Naphath-Dor (he had Taphath, daughter of Solomon, as his wife);
12. Baana ben-Ahilud, Taanach, and Megiddo, and all Bethshean (which is near Zarethan) below Jezreel, from Bethshean to Abel-meholah, as far as the other side of Jokmeam;
13. Ben-Geber in Ramoth-Gilead had the villages of Jair<sup>1</sup> ben-Manasseh, which are in Gilead. He had the region of Argob that is in Bashan, sixty great cities with wall and bronze bar;
14. Ahinadab ben-Iddo, Mahanaim;
15. Ahimaaz, in Naphtali (he also took Basmath, daughter of Solomon, for a wife);
16. Baana ben-Hushai, in Asher and in Aloth;
17. Jehoshaphat ben-Paruah, in Issachar;
18. Shimei ben-Ela, in Benjamin;
19. Geber ben-Uri, in the land of Gilead, territory of Sihon, King of the Amorites, and Og, King of Bashan, (and he was the only officer in that territory).
20. Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand that is by the sea in abundance, eating and drinking, and they were joyful.
21. And so it was that Solomon reigned over all the kingdoms, from the River to the land of the Philistines, even to the border of Egypt. They brought tribute, and served Solomon all the days of his life.
  
- ¶22. Now, Solomon's provision for one day was thirty cors of fine flour and sixty cors of meal,
23. ten fat oxen, and twenty cattle out of the pasture, and one hundred sheep, besides deer, and gazelle, and roebuck, and fattened fowl,
24. for he had dominion over all the region across the River, from Tiphseh even unto Gaza, over all the kings beyond the River. And he had peace around him on all sides.
25. So, Judah and Israel lived securely, each man beneath his vine and beneath his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.
26. And Solomon had forty-thousand stalls of horses for his chariots, and twelve-thousand horsemen.
27. And these officers supported King Solomon and all who came to King's Solomon's table, each man in his month. They lacked nothing.
28. And men brought barley and straw for the horses and steeds to the place where the *officers* were, each man according to his quota.
29. And God gave Solomon wisdom, and very great understanding, and breadth of heart, as the sand that is on the seashore.
30. So, Solomon's wisdom was greater than the wisdom of any of the sons of the East and greater than all the wisdom of Egypt.
31. Indeed, he was wiser than any man, *wiser* than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol. And his fame was in all the nations round about.
32. Moreover, he spoke three-thousand proverbs and his songs were a thousand and five.
33. And he spoke concerning the trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall. And he spoke of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fish.
34. And they came from all nations to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth who heard of his wisdom.

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<sup>1</sup> That is, Havoth-Jair.

## 1Kings 5

- ¶1. And Hiram, King of Tyre, sent his servants to Solomon because he had heard that they anointed him king in place of his father, for Hiram always loved David.
2. And Solomon sent to Hiram saying,
  3. “You know that David my father was not able to build a house for the name of Jehovah his God because of the warfare with which *his enemies* surrounded him, until Jehovah put them under the soles of his feet.
  4. But now, Jehovah my God has given me rest on every side. There is neither adversary nor adverse circumstance.
  5. And behold, I intend to build a house for the name of Jehovah my God, as Jehovah spoke to David my father, saying, ‘Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your stead, he will build the house for my name.’
  6. Therefore, command now that cedars from Lebanon be cut down for me. And my servants will be with your servants, and I will give wages to your servants according to all that you say, for you know there is not a man among us who knows how to cut timber like the Sidonians.”
  7. And it came to pass when Hiram heard the words of Solomon that he was exceedingly glad, and he said, “Blessed be Jehovah this day, who has given to David a wise son over this great people!”
  8. And Hiram sent to Solomon, saying, “I have heard that which you sent to me. I will do all that you desire concerning cedar trees and concerning cypress<sup>2</sup> trees.
  9. My servants will bring them down from Lebanon to the sea, and in the sea, I will make them rafts *to go* to the place that you designate for me, and I will take them apart there, and you will take them. And you will satisfy my requirement to provide food for my house.”
  10. And so, Hiram gave Solomon cedar trees and cypress trees, all his desire.
  11. And Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand cors of wheat as food for his house, and twenty cors of beaten oil. Solomon gave this to Hiram year by year.
  12. And the LORD gave wisdom to Solomon as He said to him. And there was peace between Hiram and Solomon, and the two of them made a covenant.
- ¶13. Then King Solomon conscripted forced labor out of all Israel, and the labor force consisted of thirty thousand men.
14. And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month in shifts. They were in Lebanon a month, then two months at home. And Adoniram was over the labor force.
  15. And so it was that Solomon had seventy thousand men to bear burdens and eighty thousand to hew in the mountain,
  16. apart from Solomon’s chief officers who were over the work, three thousand and three hundred, who had charge over the people who were doing the work.
  17. And the King commanded, and they quarried great stones, costly stones, in order to lay the foundation of the house *with* hewn stones.
  18. And Solomon’s builders, and Hiram’s builders, and the Giblites hewed them and prepared the timber and the stones to build the house.

## 1Kings 6

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<sup>2</sup> Possibly “fir”.



- ¶1. And it came to pass, in the four hundred and eightieth year after the sons of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Ziv, the second month, he *began to build the house of the LORD.*
2. And the length of the house that King Solomon built for the LORD was sixty cubits, and twenty cubits was its width, and thirty cubits was its height.
  3. And the length of the porch in front of the temple, the house, was twenty cubits, corresponding to the width of the house; its depth in front of the house was ten cubits.
  4. And he made windows with narrowing frames for the house.
  5. And he built a structure against the wall of the house all around, walls for the house round about, for the temple and the oracle, and he made chambers all around.
  6. The lowest story was five cubits wide, and the middle, six cubits wide, and the third, seven cubits wide, for around the outside of the house, he made offsets so that they would not be fastened to the walls of the house.
  7. And when the house was being built, it was built with finished stone from the quarry. Neither hammer nor ax, nor any tool of iron, was heard in the house while it was being built.
  8. The entrance for the middle chamber was on the right side of the house, and they went up by winding steps to the middle *story*, and from the middle *story* to the third.
  9. So, he built the house and completed it. And he covered the house with beams and rows of cedar.
  10. And he built the structure against all the house, five cubits was its height, and it was fastened to the house with timbers of cedar.
- ¶11. And the word of the LORD came to Solomon, saying,
12. "As for this house which you are building, if you walk in my statutes, and carry out my judgments, and keep all my commandments and walk in them, then with you will I establish my word which I spoke to David your father,
  13. and I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel, and not forsake my people Israel."
  14. So, Solomon built the house and completed it.
  15. And he built walls inside the house with cedar boards. Both the floor of the house and the walls of the ceiling, he covered with wood within, and he covered the floors of the house with cypress boards.
  16. And he built twenty cubits of the rear of the house with cedar boards, both the floor and the walls, and he built it within for an oracle, for the Most Holy Place,
  17. and the house in front of it, that is, the temple, was forty cubits.
  18. And the facing of the cedar for the house was carved with knops and blossoming flowers. Everything was cedar; not a stone could be seen.
  19. And he prepared the oracle within the house to put the ark of the covenant of the LORD there.
  20. And the length of the oracle within was twenty cubits, and its width was twenty cubits, and its height was twenty cubits. And he overlaid it with pure gold. He also overlaid the altar of cedar.
  21. And Solomon overlaid the inside of the house with pure gold, and he made chains of gold to pass across the front of the oracle, which he also overlaid with pure gold.
  22. And he overlaid the whole house with gold until the entire house was finished. Also, the entire altar that was by the oracle, he overlaid with gold.
  23. And within the oracle, he made two cherubim of olive wood, ten cubits high.
  24. And five cubits was one wing of the cherub, and five cubits was the second wing of the cherub, ten cubits from the tip of its wing to the tip of its *other* wing.
  25. And the second cherub was ten cubits. The two cherubim had one measure and one form.
  26. The height of the one cherub was ten cubits, and likewise, the second cherub.

27. And he set the cherubim in the midst of the inner house, and they spread the wings of the cherubim so that the wing of the one touched the wall, and the wing of the second cherub touched the other wall, and their wings touched one another in the midst of the house.
28. And he overlaid the cherubim with gold.
29. And he carved all the surrounding walls of the house with engravings: carvings of cherubim, and palms, and blossoming flowers, from the inner *parts* to the outer *part*.
30. And the floor of the house, he overlaid with gold, within and without.
31. And for the entrance of the oracle, he made doors of olive-wood, the pilaster, doorposts, a fifth part.
32. And on the two doors of olive wood, he carved carvings of cherubim, and palms, and blossoming flowers, and he overlaid them with gold, and he beat out the gold upon the cherubim and upon the palms.
33. And likewise, he made for the entrance of the temple doorposts of olive-wood from a fourth part.
34. And the two doors were of cypress wood. The two leaves of the one door were hinged, and the two leaves<sup>3</sup> of the second door were hinged.
35. And he carved cherubim, and palms, and blossoming flowers, and he overlaid the carved work evenly with gold.
36. And he built the inner court with three courses of hewn *stone*, and a course of hewn cedars.
37. In the fourth year, in the month of Zif, was the foundation of the house of the LORD laid.
38. And in the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was completed according to all His commands, and according to all His specifications. And he was seven years in building it.

#### 1Kings 7

- ¶1. And Solomon built his own house, and his entire house was completed in thirteen years.
2. And he built the House of the Forest of Lebanon. Its length was one hundred cubits, and its width was fifty cubits, and its height was thirty cubits, with four rows of cedar pillars and hewn cedars upon the pillars.
3. And it was paneled with cedar above, over the side-chambers that lay atop forty-five pillars, fifteen per row.
4. And there were three rows of *window* frames, with light toward light in three ranks.
5. And all the entrances and posts were made square with frame-work, with light facing toward light in three ranks.
6. And he made a porch of pillars. Its length was fifty cubits, and its width was thirty cubits, and a porch was in front of them with pillars, and a canopy was over them.
7. And he made a porch for the throne where he would judge, the Porch of Judgment, and it was covered with cedar from floor to floor.
8. And his house where he was to live had another court within the porch which was of similar workmanship. He also made a house like this porch for the daughter of Pharaoh, whom Solomon had taken.
9. All these were of costly stones, according to the measurements of hewed stones, sawed with a saw, within and without, even from the foundation to the coping, and from the outside to the Great Court.
10. And the foundation was of costly stones, great stones, stones of ten cubits and stones of eight cubits.
11. And above were costly stones according to the measure of hewed *stones*, and cedar,

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<sup>3</sup> Hebrew: "hangings".

12. and the Great Court round about had three courses of hewn *stone* and a course of hewn cedars, for both the inner court of the house of the LORD and the porch of this house.

¶13. And King Solomon sent, and brought Hiram from Tyre,

14. (the son of a widow from the tribe of Naphtali, whose father had been a man of Tyre), an engraver of bronze, and he was filled with wisdom and understanding, and skill for making any work of bronze. And he came to King Solomon and wrought all his work.

15. And he fashioned the two pillars of bronze; the one pillar was eighteen cubits high, and a line of twelve cubits encompassed the second pillar.

16. And he made two chapiters of cast bronze to set on the tops of the pillars. The height of the one chapter was five cubits, and the height of the second chapter was five cubits,

17. and networks of lattice-work, festoons of chain-work for the chapiters that were on top of the pillars: seven for the one chapter and seven for the second chapter.

18. And he made the pillars with two rows of pomegranates all around on the one lattice-work to cover the chapiters that were on the top, and thus he did for the second chapter.

19. And the chapiters that were on top of the pillars on the porch had lily-work of four cubits.

20. Moreover, there were also two hundred pomegranates in rows round about upon the second chapter, even above the chapiters on the two pillars, next to the belly which was across the lattice-work.

21. And he raised up the pillars for the porch of the temple. And he raised up the right pillar and called its name Jachin, then he raised up the left pillar and called its name Boaz.

22. And on top of the pillars was lily-work. And the work of the pillars was completed.

23. And he made the molten sea, circular, ten cubits from its brim to its brim all around. And its height was five cubits, and a line of thirty cubits compassed it about.

24. And beneath its brim all around, there were knops encompassing it, ten in a cubit, surrounding the sea in a circuit. Two rows of knops were cast when it was cast.

25. It stood on twelve oxen, three facing north, and three facing west, and three facing south, and three facing east. And the sea was above them, and all their back parts were inward.

26. And its thickness was a handbreadth, and its rim was made like the rim of a cup, *like* a lily flower. It contained two-thousand baths.

¶27. And he made ten bronze bases: each base was four cubits long, and its width was four cubits, and its height, three cubits.

28. And this was the workmanship of each base: they had borders, and the borders were between the ledges.

29. And on the borders that were between the ledges were lions, oxen, and cherubim, and upon the ledges was a stand above. And below the lions and oxen were wreaths of hanging work.

30. And each base had four bronze wheels with bronze bosses, and they had four feet as supports. Underneath the laver were supports cast with wreaths on each side.

31. And its opening within the chapter and above was a cubit, and its opening was round. The work of the stand was a cubit and a half, and also at its opening were carvings, and their borders were square, not round.

32. And underneath the borders were four wheels, and the sides of the wheels were in the base, and the height of one wheel was one and a half cubit.

33. And the work of the wheels was like the work of a chariot wheel. Their sides, and their rims, and their spokes, and their hubs were all cast.

34. And four supports were at the four corners of each base, and its supports were part of the base.

35. And on the top of the base was an encircling compass, half a cubit high, and on the top of the base its stays and its borders were one piece.

36. And on the surfaces of its sides and on its borders, he engraved cherubim, lions, and palms according to the space for each one, with wreaths round about.
37. He made ten bases like this, all of them had one casting, one size, *and* one shape.
- ¶38. And he made ten lavers of bronze. One laver contained forty baths. Each laver was four cubits, and on each of the ten bases was one laver.
39. And he placed five bases on the right side of the house, and five on the left side of the house, and he placed the sea on the right side of the house, toward the southeast.
- ¶40. And Hiram made the lavers, and the shovels, and the basins. And Hiram finished doing all the work that he made for King Solomon for the house of the LORD:
41. two pillars, and two bowls of the chapiters that were on the top of the two pillars; and the two lattice-works for covering the two bowls of the chapiters that were on the top of the pillars;
42. and the four hundred pomegranates for the two lattice-works; two rows of pomegranates for one lattice-work for covering the two bowls of the chapiters that were on the faces of the pillars;
43. and the ten bases; and the ten lavers on the bases;
44. and the one sea; and the twelve oxen underneath the sea;
45. and the pans, and the shovels, and the basins – and all these vessels that Hiram made for King Solomon for the house of the LORD were burnished bronze.
46. The King cast them in the area of the Jordan, in the clayey ground between Succoth and Zarethan.
47. And Solomon left all the vessels *unweighed* because they were very, very many. The weight of the bronze was never ascertained.
- ¶48. And Solomon made all the vessels that were in the house the LORD: the altar of gold; and the golden table upon which was the Bread of the Presence;
49. and the five menorahs of pure gold, five on the right and five on the left before the oracle, and the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs, of gold;
50. and the cups; and the snuffers; and the basins, and the spoons, and the fire-pans, of pure gold; and the sockets for the doors of the innermost house, for the Holy of Holies, and for the doors of the house for the temple, of gold.
51. So, all the work that King Solomon did for the house of the LORD was completed. And Solomon brought in the things his father David had consecrated. He put the silver, and the gold, and the vessels into the treasuries of the house of the LORD.

#### 1Kings 8

- ¶1. Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes, the chiefs of the fathers of the sons of Israel, to King Solomon in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the city of David, that is, Zion.
2. And all the men of Israel assembled themselves to King Solomon for the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.
3. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark.
4. And they brought up the ark of the LORD, and the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent, and the priests and the Levites brought them up.
5. And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel that were gathered to him were with him before the ark began sacrificing sheep and oxen which could not be counted or numbered for multitude.
6. And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, the oracle of the house, the most holy place, beneath the wings of the cherubim,

7. for the cherubim spread two wings for the place of the ark, and from above, the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles.
8. And the poles were extended so that the ends of the poles could be seen from the holy place before the oracle, but they could not be seen outside. And they are there to this day.
9. Nothing was in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses placed there at Horeb when Jehovah made a covenant with the sons of Israel when they came out from the land of Egypt.
10. And it came to pass when the priests came out from the holy place that the cloud filled the house of the LORD.
11. And the priests were not able to stand to minister before the cloud because the LORD's glory filled the house of the LORD.

¶12. Then Solomon said, "Jehovah said that He would dwell in thick darkness.

13. I have indeed built you a majestic house, a fixed place for you to dwell in forever."

14. And the King turned his face about, and blessed all the Assembly of Israel, and the whole Assembly of Israel stood up.

15. And he said, "Blessed be Jehovah, God of Israel, who spoke by His mouth to David, my father, and by His hand has fulfilled it, saying,

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

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

18. And Jehovah said to David my father, 'Forasmuch as it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you have done well, in that it was in your heart.

19. Yet, you will not build the house, but your son, who will come forth from your loins; he will build the house for my name.'

20. And Jehovah caused His word to stand which He spoke, for I have risen up in the place of my father David, and I sit on the throne of Israel, as Jehovah said, and I have built the house for the name of Jehovah, God of Israel.

21. And there, I have provided a place for the ark, in which is the covenant of Jehovah that He made with our fathers when He brought them out from the land of Egypt."

22. And Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the Assembly of Israel, and he spread his hands toward heaven.

23. And he said, "O Jehovah, God of Israel, there is no god like you in the heavens above or on the earth beneath, preserving the covenant and lovingkindness for your servants who walk before you with all their heart,

24. you who has kept for your servant David my father what you spoke to him. Yea, you spoke with your mouth, and with your hand you have fulfilled it, as at this day.

25. And now, O Jehovah, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father that which you spoke to him, saying, 'You will not lack a man before me to sit upon the throne of Israel – if only your sons take heed to their way, to walk before me as you have walked.'

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

27. But will God indeed dwell on earth? Behold, heaven – even the heaven of heavens – cannot contain you! How much less this house that I have built?

28. Yet, you have regarded the prayer of your servant and his supplication, O Jehovah, my God, that you would hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying before you today,

29. that your eyes be open toward this house night and day, toward the place of which you said, 'My name will be there,' that you hear the prayer that your servant prays toward this place,

30. and hear the supplication of your servant and your people Israel when they pray toward this place, that you hear in your dwelling-place in heaven; yea, hear and forgive.
31. *If* a man sins against his fellow, and an oath be laid upon him that he is made to swear, and the oath comes before your altar in this house,
32. may you hear in heaven, and act, and judge your servants, condemning the wicked, setting his wicked way upon his head, and justifying the righteous, to give to him according to his righteousness.
33. When your people Israel are smitten before an enemy because they have sinned against you, and they turn back to you and confess your name, and they pray and plead with you for mercy in this house,
34. then hear from heaven, and forgive the sin of your people Israel, and bring them back to the land that you gave to their fathers.
35. When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain because they have sinned against you, and they pray toward this place, and they confess your name, and turn from their sin when you afflict them,
36. then hear from heaven, and forgive the sin of your servants, even your people Israel, that you may teach them the good way in which they should walk and give rain to your land that you gave to your people for an inheritance.
37. If there is famine in the land, if there is pestilence, blight, mildew, swarming locust, destroying locust, if it come to pass that their enemy presses hard on them in the land at their gates – whatever affliction, whatever illness –
38. any prayer, any supplication by any man or by all your people Israel if they confess, each man, the affliction of his heart, and he spreads out his hands toward this house,
39. then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to all his ways, for you will know his heart (for you, you alone, know the heart of all the sons of man),
40. that they may fear you all the days that they live on the face of the land that you gave to our fathers.
41. And *hear* also the foreigner who is not of your people Israel when he comes from a distant land because of your renown,
42. for they will hear of your great renown, and of your mighty hand, and of your out-stretched arm. When he comes and prays toward this house,
43. hear *from* heaven, your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner cries out to you, so that all peoples of the earth may know your name, to fear you as do your people Israel, and to know that this house which I have built is called by your name.
44. When your people go out to battle against an enemy in the way that you send them, and they pray to Jehovah toward the city that you have chosen and the house that I have built for your name,
45. then hear *from* heaven their prayer and their supplication, and uphold their cause.
46. When they sin against you (for there is no man who does not sin), and you become angry with them and deliver them before an enemy, and they take them away as their captives to the land of the enemy, far or near,
47. but they turn back their heart in the land in which they were taken captive, and they repent and make supplication in the land of their captors, saying, ‘We have sinned and committed iniquity! We have done wickedness!’,
48. and they return to you with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies who took them captive, and they pray to you toward their land that you gave to their fathers, the city which you have chosen, and the house that you have built for your name,
49. then from heaven, your dwelling place, hear their prayer and their supplication, and uphold their cause.

50. And forgive your people who have sinned against you, and all their transgressions which they have transgressed against you, and grant them compassion in the presence of their captors so that they will have compassion on them,
51. because they are your people and your inheritance whom you brought out from Egypt, out of the midst of the iron furnace.
52. Let your eyes be open to the supplication of your servant and to the supplication of your people Israel, to hear them in all *for which* they cry out to you.
53. For you separated them for yourself from all peoples of the earth for an inheritance, as you said, by the hand of Moses your servant when you brought our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord GOD.”

¶54. And it came to pass, when Solomon finished praying to Jehovah all this prayer and supplication, he arose from before the altar of Jehovah, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread out toward heaven.

55. And he stood, and he blessed all the Assembly of Israel *with* a loud voice, saying,
56. “Blessed is Jehovah, who has given His people Israel a resting place, according to all that He said. Not one word has fallen of all His good word which He spoke by the hand of His servant Moses.
57. May Jehovah our God be with us as He was with our fathers. May He not leave us or forsake us,
58. that He may incline our hearts to Him to walk in all His ways and to keep His commandments, and His statutes, and His judgments which He commanded our fathers.
59. And let these words with which I have sought favor before Jehovah, be near Jehovah our God day and night, that He may execute judgment for His servant and judgment for His people Israel, *as the matter requires*, day by day,
60. that all the peoples of the earth may know that Jehovah, He is God, *and* there is no other.
61. Let your heart be perfect with Jehovah our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as at this day.”

¶62. Then the King and all Israel with him offered sacrifice before Jehovah.

63. And Solomon offered sacrifice for a peace offering, which he slaughtered before Jehovah, twenty-two thousand oxen and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep. And so, the King and all the children of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD.
64. On that day, the King consecrated the middle of the court that is before the house of the LORD, for there he made the burnt offering, and the grain offering, and the fat of the peace offerings because the bronze altar before Jehovah was too small to hold the burnt offering, and the grain offering, and the fat of the peace offerings.
65. And at that time, Solomon made a feast, and all Israel with him, a great Assembly from the entering in of Hamath to the Brook of Egypt, before Jehovah our God, seven days, then seven *more* days, *even* fourteen days.
66. On the eighth day, he sent the people away, and they blessed the King and went to their tents joyful and glad of heart for all the good that Jehovah had done for David, His servant, and for His people Israel.

#### 1Kings 9

- ¶1 And it came to pass, when Solomon finished building the house of the LORD, and the house of the King, and all Solomon’s desire that he was pleased to do,
2. that Jehovah appeared to Solomon a second *time* as He had appeared to him at Gibeon.

3. And Jehovah said, "I have heard your prayer and your supplication that you made before me. I have consecrated this house that you have built, to put my name there forever, and my eyes and my heart will always be there.
3. And Jehovah said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your supplication which you have made before me. I have sanctified this house that you built, to put my name there forever, and my eyes and my heart will always be there."
4. Now, if you walk before me as your father David walked with a heart of integrity and with uprightness to do according to all that I have commanded you *and* will keep my statutes and my judgments,
5. Then I will establish the throne of your kingdom upon Israel forever, as I spoke unto David your father saying, 'You will not lack a man upon the throne of Israel.'
5. And I will establish the throne of your kingdom over Israel forever, as I spoke concerning David your father, saying, "You will not lack a man upon the throne of Israel."
6. But, if you or your sons indeed turn away from following me, and do not keep my commandments *and* my statutes that I set before you, but depart and serve other gods and worship them,
7. then I will cut-off Israel from before the land that I have given them, and the house that I have consecrated for my name I will cast out from before me, and Israel will become a byword and a mockery among all nations.
8. As to this house *which* is high, all that pass by will be astounded, and hiss, and say, 'Why has Jehovah done thus to this land and to this house?'
9. Then they will say, 'For they have forsaken Jehovah their God who brought their fathers from the land of Egypt, and they have laid hold on other gods, and bowed themselves to them, and have served them. Therefore Jehovah has brought all this evil upon them.'"
10. And it came to pass, at the end of twenty years; Solomon had built the two houses, the house of the LORD and the house of the King.
11. Hiram, King of Tyre supplied Solomon with timbers of cedar and cypress wood, and gold according to all his desire. Then King Solomon gave to Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee.
12. And Hiram came from Tyre to see the cities that Solomon had given to him and they were not pleasing in his eyes.
13. Then he said, "What are these cities that you have given to me, my brother?" And he called them *the* land of Cabul to this day.
14. And Hiram sent to the King one hundred twenty talents of gold.
15. And this is the *reason* for the forced labor that King Solomon raised up: to build the house of the LORD and his own house, and Millo, and the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, and Megiddo, and Gezer,
16. *for* Pharaoh, King of Egypt had gone up and seized Gezer, and burned it with fire, and slew the Canaanites that lived in the city, and he gave it as a parting gift to his daughter, Solomon's wife.
17. And Solomon built Gezer, and Lower Beth-horon,
18. and Balath, and Tamar (Tadmor) in the wilderness, in the land,
19. and all the storage cities that Solomon had, the cities of the chariotry, and the cities of the horsemen, and of *all* Solomon's desire that he longed to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.
20. And all the people who were left of the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites who were not of the sons of Israel,
21. their sons that were left behind in the land whom the sons of Israel were not able to completely destroy, Solomon raised upon them a levy of bondservants unto this day.



22. But of the sons of Israel, Solomon did not put in place bondservants because they were men of war, and his servants, and his officials, and his officers, and his captains of the chariotry, and his horsemen.
23. These were the chief officers who were over Solomon's work, five hundred and fifty who had charge over the people who were doing the work.
24. But, Pharaoh's daughter went up from the city of David to her house that *Solomon* built for her; then he built Millo.
25. And three times a year, Solomon offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings upon the altar that he built to Jehovah, and burned incense that was before Jehovah. So, he finished the house.
26. And King Solomon made a fleet of ships in Ezion-geber that is near Elath on the edge of the Red Sea in the land of Edom.
27. And Hiram sent along with the fleet his servants, shipmen who had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon.
28. Then they came to Ophir and took from there four hundred twenty talents of gold and *brought* them to King Solomon.

1Kings 10

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28. So the King took counsel and made two golden calves. Then he said to them, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Behold your gods, O' Israel, that brought you up from the land of Egypt!"

29. And he set the one in Bethel, and put the other in Dan.

30. And this thing became sin. And the people went before one *or the other, even* to Dan.

31. And he built temples on the high places, and he ordained priests from all the people, who were not of the sons of Levi.

### 1Kings 13

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7. And the king said to the man of God, "Come to the house with me and refresh yourself, and let me give you a gift."

8. But the man of God said to the king, "Even if you would give me half your house, I will not come with you, nor will I eat bread or drink water in this place."

9. For thus was it commanded me by the word of Jehovah, saying, 'You shall not eat bread, and you shall not drink water, and you shall not return by the road that you came.' ”

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#### 1Kings 14

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### 1Kings 15

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13. Moreover, he also removed his mother, Maacah, from being queen-mother because she made an abomination for Asherah, and Asa cut down her abomination and burned it by the brook Kidron.
14. But the high places were not taken away; still, Asa's heart was perfect with Jehovah all his days.
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## 1Kings 16

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## 1Kings 17

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1Kings 18

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21. How long will you hobble around on two opinions?
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#### 1Kings 19

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12. and after the earthquake was a fire, but Jehovah was not in the fire; and after the fire was a voice, a low whisper.

13. And when Elijah heard it, he covered his face with his cloak, and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. And, behold, a voice came to him and said, "Why are you here, Elijah?"

#### 1Kings 20

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1Kings 21

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And he said, "I saw the LORD sitting on His throne and all the host of heaven standing about Him, to His right and to His left.

And the LORD said, 'Who will entice Ahab to go up and die at Ramoth-gilead?' And one answered this way, while another was answering that way.

Then a spirit there came forth and stood before the LORD, and said, 'I will persuade him.' And the LORD said to him, 'How?'

And he said, 'I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And He said, 'You will entice him, and you will surely succeed. Go on, and do so!'"

## 1Kings 22

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Micaiah said, “I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing about Him, to His right and to His left.

And the LORD said, ‘Who will entice Ahab to go up and die at Ramoth-gilead?’ And one answered this way, and another answered that way.

Then a spirit there came forth and stood before the LORD, and said, ‘I will persuade him.’ And the LORD said to him, ‘How?’

And he said, ‘I will go out, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And He said, ‘You will entice him, and will surely succeed. Go on and do so!’ ”