

Genesis

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. And God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And God made the firmament and separated the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament. And it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. And God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, upon the earth." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was

morning, a third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. And

5 God made the two great lights, the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night; he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, a

10 fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the firmament of the heavens." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God

15 blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. And God made the beasts

20 of the earth according to their kinds and the cattle according to their kinds,

and everything that creeps upon the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, a sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work which he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from

all his work which he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up--for the LORD God

5 had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no man to till the ground; but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground-- then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put

10 the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. The name of the first is Pishon; it is the

15 one which flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one which flows around the whole land of Cush. And the name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. The LORD God took the man

20 and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD

God commanded the man, saying, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit
5 for him." So out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper fit
10 for him. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh; and the rib which the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she
15 was taken out of Man." Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed. Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?"
20 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of

the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good
5 and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves
10 aprons. And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of thee in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was
15 naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent beguiled me, and I
20 ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

cursed are you above all cattle, and above all wild animals; upon your belly
you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put
enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed;
he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." To the woman he
5 said, "I will greatly multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall
bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall
rule over you." And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the
voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you,
'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you
10 shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring
forth to you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. In the sweat of your
face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were
taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The man called his wife's
name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. And the LORD God
15 made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins, and clothed them. Then
the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us, knowing
good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand and take also of the tree
of life, and eat, and live for ever" -- therefore the LORD God sent him
forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken.
20 He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the

cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is couching at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it." Cain said to Abel his brother, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength; you shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to

the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, thou hast driven me this day away from the ground; and from thy face I shall be hidden; and I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will slay me." Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If any one
5 slays Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who came upon him should kill him. Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden. Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch; and he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son,
10 Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad was the father of Me-hu'ja-el, and Me-hu'ja-el the father of Me-thu'sha-el, and Me-thu'sha-el the father of Lamech. And Lamech took two wives; the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have cattle. His brother's name was Jubal; he was the
15 father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. Zillah bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Na'amah. Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, hearken to what I say: I have slain a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. If Cain is avenged sevenfold,
20 truly Lamech seventy-sevenfold." And Adam knew his wife again, and she

bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another child instead of Abel, for Cain slew him." To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time men began to call upon the name of the LORD. This is the book of the generations of Adam.

- 5 When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. When Adam had lived a hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. The days of Adam after he became the father of Seth were eight
- 10 hundred years; and he had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died. When Seth had lived a hundred and five years, he became the father of Enosh. Seth lived after the birth of Enosh eight hundred and seven years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve
- 15 years; and he died. When Enosh had lived ninety years, he became the father of Kenan. Enosh lived after the birth of Kenan eight hundred and fifteen years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years; and he died. When Kenan had lived seventy years, he became the father of Ma-hal'alel. Kenan lived after the birth of
- 20 Ma-hal'alel eight hundred and forty years, and had other sons and daughters.

Thus all the days of Kenan were nine hundred and ten years; and he died.

When Ma-hal'alel had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Jared.

Ma-hal'alel lived after the birth of Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Ma-hal'alel were eight

5 hundred and ninety-five years; and he died. When Jared had lived a hundred and sixty-two years he became the father of Enoch. Jared lived after the birth of Enoch eight hundred years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died.

When Enoch had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Methu'selah.

10 Enoch walked with God after the birth of Methu'selah three hundred years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him. When Methu'selah had lived a hundred and eighty-seven years, he became the father of Lamech. Methu'selah lived after the birth of

15 Lamech seven hundred and eighty-two years, and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Methu'selah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years; and he died. When Lamech had lived a hundred and eighty-two years, he became the father of a son, and called his name Noah, saying, "Out of the ground which the LORD has cursed this one shall bring us relief from

20 our work and from the toil of our hands." Lamech lived after the birth of

Noah five hundred and ninety-five years, and had other sons and daughters.

Thus all the days of Lamech were seven hundred and seventy-seven years;

and he died. After Noah was five hundred years old, Noah became the father

of Shem, Ham, and Japheth. When men began to multiply on the face of the

5 ground, and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the

daughters of men were fair; and they took to wife such of them as they

chose. Then the LORD said, "My spirit shall not abide in man for ever, for

he is flesh, but his days shall be a hundred and twenty years." The Nephilim

were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God

10 came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. These

were the mighty men that were of old, the men of renown. The LORD saw

that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every

imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the

LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to

15 his heart. So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created

from the face of the ground, man and beast and creeping things and birds of

the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the

eyes of the LORD. These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous

man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God. And Noah had

20 three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Now the earth was corrupt in God's

sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh; for the earth is filled with violence through them; behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its breadth fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above; and set the door of the ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks. For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life from under heaven; everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you, to keep them alive. Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them." Noah did this; he did all that God commanded

him. Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate;
5 and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive upon the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him. Noah was six hundred years old when the
10 flood of waters came upon the earth. And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him went into the ark, to escape the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. And after seven days
15 the waters of the flood came upon the earth. In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and
20 Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered

the ark, they and every beast according to its kind, and all the cattle
according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth
according to its kind, and every bird according to its kind, every bird of
every sort. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in
5 which there was the breath of life. And they that entered, male and female
of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him
in. The flood continued forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased,
and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters prevailed
and increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the
10 waters. And the waters prevailed so mightily upon the earth that all the high
mountains under the whole heaven were covered; the waters prevailed above
the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. And all flesh died that
moved upon the earth, birds, cattle, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm
upon the earth, and every man; everything on the dry land in whose nostrils
15 was the breath of life died. He blotted out every living thing that was upon
the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of
the air; they were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those
that were with him in the ark. And the waters prevailed upon the earth a
hundred and fifty days. But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all
20 the cattle that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over

the earth, and the waters subsided; the fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, and the waters receded from the earth continually. At the end of a hundred and fifty days the waters had abated; and in the seventh month, on
5 the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest upon the mountains of Ar'arat. And the waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen. At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made, and sent forth a raven; and it went to and fro until the waters
10 were dried up from the earth. Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put forth his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. He waited another seven days,
15 and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and lo, in her mouth a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent forth the dove; and she did not return to him any more. In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day
20 of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth; and Noah removed

the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, "Go forth from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring forth with you
5 every living thing that is with you of all flesh--birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth--that they may breed abundantly on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply upon the earth." So Noah went forth, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. And every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves upon the earth,
10 went forth by families out of the ark. Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And when the LORD smelled the pleasing odor, the LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I
15 ever again destroy every living creature as I have done. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease." And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every bird of
20 the air, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the

sea; into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you; and as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything.

Only you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. For your lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning; of every beast I will require it

5 and of man; of every man's brother I will require the life of man. Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for God made man in his own image. And you, be fruitful and multiply, bring forth abundantly on the earth and multiply in it." Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your descendants

10 after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I

15 make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters

20 shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in

the clouds, I will look upon it and remember the everlasting covenant
between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth."
God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have
established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth." The sons of
5 Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham was
the father of Canaan. These three were the sons of Noah; and from these the
whole earth was peopled. Noah was the first tiller of the soil. He planted a
vineyard; and he drank of the wine, and became drunk, and lay uncovered in
his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father,
10 and told his two brothers outside. Then Shem and Japheth took a garment,
laid it upon both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the
nakedness of their father; their faces were turned away, and they did not see
their father's nakedness. When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his
youngest son had done to him, he said, "Cursed be Canaan; a slave of slaves
15 shall he be to his brothers." He also said, "Blessed by the LORD my God
be Shem; and let Canaan be his slave." God enlarge Japheth, and let him
dwell in the tents of Shem; and let Canaan be his slave." After the flood
Noah lived three hundred and fifty years. All the days of Noah were nine
hundred and fifty years; and he died. These are the generations of the sons
20 of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth; sons were born to them after the flood.

The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and
Tiras. The sons of Gomer: Ash'kenaz, Riphath, and Togar'mah. The sons of
Javan: Eli'shah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Do'danim. From these the coastland
peoples spread. These are the sons of Japheth in their lands, each with his
5 own language, by their families, in their nations. The sons of Ham: Cush,
Egypt, Put, and Canaan. The sons of Cush: Seba, Hav'ilah, Sabtah, Ra'amah,
and Sab'teca. The sons of Ra'amah: Sheba and Dedan. Cush became the
father of Nimrod; he was the first on earth to be a mighty man. He was a
mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty
10 hunter before the LORD." The beginning of his kingdom was Ba'bel, Erech,
and Accad, all of them in the land of Shinar. From that land he went into
Assyria, and built Nin'veh, Reho'both-Ir, Calah, and Resen between Nin'veh
and Calah; that is the great city. Egypt became the father of Ludim,
An'amim, Leha'bim, Naph-tu'him, Pathru'sim, Caslu'him (whence came the
15 Philistines), and Caph'torim. Canaan became the father of Sidon his first-born,
and Heth, and the Jeb'usites, the Amorites, the Gir'gashites, the Hivites, the
Arkites, the Sinites, the Ar'vadites, the Zem'arites, and the Ha'mathites.
Afterward the families of the Canaanites spread abroad. And the territory of
the Canaanites extended from Sidon, in the direction of Gerar, as far as
20 Gaza, and in the direction of Sodom, Gomor'rah, Admah, and Zeboi'im, as

far as Lasha. These are the sons of Ham, by their families, their languages,
their lands, and their nations. To Shem also, the father of all the children of
Eber, the elder brother of Japheth, children were born. The sons of Shem:
Elam, Asshur, Arpach'shad, Lud, and Aram. The sons of Aram: Uz, Hul,
5 Gether, and Mash. Arpach'shad became the father of Shelah; and Shelah
became the father of Eber. To Eber were born two sons: the name of the
one was Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided, and his brother's name
was Joktan. Joktan became the father of Almo'dad, Sheleph, Hazarma'veth,
Jerah, Hador'am, Uzal, Diklah, Obal, Abim'a-el, Sheba, Ophir, Hav'ilah, and
10 Jobab; all these were the sons of Joktan. The territory in which they lived
extended from Mesha in the direction of Sephar to the hill country of the
east. These are the sons of Shem, by their families, their languages, their
lands, and their nations. These are the families of the sons of Noah,
according to their genealogies, in their nations; and from these the nations
15 spread abroad on the earth after the flood. Now the whole earth had one
language and few words. And as men migrated from the east, they found a
plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another,
"Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick
for stone, and bitumen for mortar. Then they said, "Come, let us build
20 ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a

name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the sons of men had built. And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they

5 will do; and nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. Come, let us go down, and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore its name was called Ba'bel, because there the LORD confused the

10 language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth. These are the descendants of Shem. When Shem was a hundred years old, he became the father of Arpach'shad two years after the flood; and Shem lived after the birth of Arpach'shad five hundred years, and had other sons and daughters. When Arpach'shad had

15 lived thirty-five years, he became the father of Shelah; and Arpach'shad lived after the birth of Shelah four hundred and three years, and had other sons and daughters. When Shelah had lived thirty years, he became the father of Eber; and Shelah lived after the birth of Eber four hundred and three years, and had other sons and daughters. When Eber had lived thirty-four years, he

20 became the father of Peleg; and Eber lived after the birth of Peleg four

hundred and thirty years, and had other sons and daughters. When Peleg had lived thirty years, he became the father of Re'u; and Peleg lived after the birth of Re'u two hundred and nine years, and had other sons and daughters. When Re'u had lived thirty-two years, he became the father of Serug; and

5 Re'u lived after the birth of Serug two hundred and seven years, and had other sons and daughters. When Serug had lived thirty years, he became the father of Nahor; and Serug lived after the birth of Nahor two hundred years, and had other sons and daughters. When Nahor had lived twenty-nine years, he became the father of Terah; and Nahor lived after the birth of Terah a

10 hundred and nineteen years, and had other sons and daughters. When Terah had lived seventy years, he became the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Now these are the descendants of Terah. Terah was the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran was the father of Lot. Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chalde'ans. And Abram

15 and Nahor took wives; the name of Abram's wife was Sar'ai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. Now Sar'ai was barren; she had no child. Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sar'ai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chalde'ans to

20 go into the land of Canaan; but when they came to Haran, they settled there.

The days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran. Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name
5 great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. And Abram took Sar'ai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all
10 their possessions which they had gathered, and the persons that they had gotten in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your descendants I
15 will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. Thence he removed to the mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb. Now there was a famine
20 in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine

was severe in the land. When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to Sar'ai his wife, "I know that you are a woman beautiful to behold; and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife'; then they will kill me, but they will let you live. Say you are my sister, that it may go well with
5 me because of you, and that my life may be spared on your account." When Abram entered Egypt the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful. And when the princes of Pharaoh saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. And for her sake he dealt well with Abram; and he had sheep, oxen, he-asses, menservants, maidservants,
10 she-asses, and camels. But the LORD afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sar'ai, Abram's wife. So Pharaoh called Abram, and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife, take her, and be gone." And Pharaoh
15 gave men orders concerning him; and they set him on the way, with his wife and all that he had. So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb. Now Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. And he journeyed on from the Negeb as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the
20 beginning, between Bethel and Ai, to the place where he had made an altar

at the first; and there Abram called on the name of the LORD. And Lot,
who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, so that the land
could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were
so great that they could not dwell together, and there was strife between the
5 herdsmen of Abram's cattle and the herdsmen of Lot's cattle. At that time the
Canaanites and the Per'izzites dwelt in the land. Then Abram said to Lot,
"Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and
my herdsmen; for we are kinsmen. Is not the whole land before you?
Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the
10 right; or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left." And Lot
lifted up his eyes, and saw that the Jordan valley was well watered
everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the
direction of Zo'ar; this was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and
Gomor'rah. So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan valley, and Lot journeyed
15 east; thus they separated from each other. Abram dwelt in the land of
Canaan, while Lot dwelt among the cities of the valley and moved his tent
as far as Sodom. Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against
the LORD. The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him,
"Lift up your eyes, and look from the place where you are, northward and
20 southward and eastward and westward; for all the land which you see I will

give to you and to your descendants for ever. I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your descendants also can be counted. Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you." So Abram moved his tent, and came and dwelt by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron; and there he built an altar to the LORD. In the days of Am'raphel king of Shinar, Ar'ioch king of Ella'sar, Ched-or-lao'mer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goi'im, these kings made war with Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomor'rah, Shinab king of Admah, Sheme'ber king of Zeboi'im, and the king of Bela (that is, Zo'ar). And all these joined forces in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea). Twelve years they had served Ched-or-lao'mer, but in the thirteenth year they rebelled. In the fourteenth year Ched-or-lao'mer and the kings who were with him came and subdued the Reph'aim in Ash'teroth-karna'im, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in Sha'veh-kiriatha'im, and the Horites in their Mount Se'ir as far as El-paran on the border of the wilderness; then they turned back and came to Enmish'pat (that is, Kadesh), and subdued all the country of the Amal'ekites, and also the Amorites who dwelt in Haz'azon-ta'mar. Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomor'rah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboi'im, and the king of Bela (that is, Zo'ar) went out, and they joined battle in the Valley of Siddim with Ched-or-

lao'mer king of Elam, Tidal king of Goi'im, Am'raphel king of Shinar, and
Ar'ioch king of Ella'sar, four kings against five. Now the Valley of Siddim
was full of bitumen pits; and as the kings of Sodom and Gomor'rah fled,
some fell into them, and the rest fled to the mountain. So the enemy took
5 all the goods of Sodom and Gomor'rah, and all their provisions, and went
their way; they also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who dwelt in
Sodom, and his goods, and departed. Then one who had escaped came, and
told Abram the Hebrew, who was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite,
brother of Eshcol and of Aner; these were allies of Abram. When Abram
10 heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men,
born in his house, three hundred and eighteen of them, and went in pursuit
as far as Dan. And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his
servants, and routed them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus.
Then he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his kinsman Lot
15 with his goods, and the women and the people. After his return from the
defeat of Ched-or-lao'mer and the kings who were with him, the king of
Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's
Valley). And Mel-chiz'edek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he
was priest of God Most High. And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be
20 Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God

Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to the LORD God Most High, maker of
5 heaven and earth, that I would not take a thread or a sandal-thong or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.' I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me; let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share." After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Fear not,
10 Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Elie'zer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "Behold, thou hast given me no offspring; and a slave born in my house will be my heir." And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your
15 heir; your own son shall be your heir." And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and he reckoned it to him as righteousness. And he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chalde'ans, to give you
20 this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I

shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a she-goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." And he brought him all these, cut them in two, and laid each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds
5 of prey came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram; and lo, a dread and great darkness fell upon him. Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know of a surety that your descendants will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs, and will be slaves there, and they will be oppressed for four hundred years; but I will
10 bring judgment on the nation which they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. As for yourself, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. And they shall come back here in the fourth generation; for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete." When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a
15 smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphra'tes, the land of the Ken'ites, the Ken'izzites, the Kad'monites, the Hittites, the Per'izzites, the Reph'aim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the
20 Gir'gashites and the Jeb'usites." Now Sar'ai, Abram's wife, bore him no

children. She had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar; and Sar'ai said to Abram, "Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my maid; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sar'ai. So, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, Sar'ai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her maid, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. And Sar'ai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my maid to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between you and me!" But Abram said to Sar'ai, "Behold, your maid is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sar'ai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her. The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. And he said, "Hagar, maid of Sar'ai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sar'ai." The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit to her." The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will so greatly multiply your descendants that they cannot be numbered for multitude." And the angel of the LORD said to her, "Behold, you are with child, and shall bear a son; you shall call

his name Ish'mael; because the LORD has given heed to your affliction. He shall be a wild ass of a man, his hand against every man and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen." So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "Thou art a God of seeing"; for she said, "Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?" Therefore the well was called Beer-la'hai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered. And Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ish'mael. Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ish'mael to Abram. When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come forth from you. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you. And I will give to you, and to your descendants after

you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God." And God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. This is my covenant, which you shall keep,

5 between me and you and your descendants after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. He that is eight days old among you shall be circumcised; every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house, or bought with your money from

10 any foreigner who is not of your offspring, both he that is born in your house and he that is bought with your money, shall be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant." And God said to Abraham,

15 "As for Sar'ai your wife, you shall not call her name Sar'ai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her; I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall

20 Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" And Abraham said to God, "O

that Ish'mael might live in thy sight!" God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him. As for Ish'mael, I have heard you; behold, I will bless him and make him fruitful and multiply him exceedingly; he shall be the father of twelve
5 princes, and I will make him a great nation. But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this season next year." When he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham. Then Abraham took Ish'mael his son and all the slaves born in his house or
10 bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him. Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. And Ish'mael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. That very day Abraham and his
15 son Ish'mael were circumcised; and all the men of his house, those born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him. And the LORD appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men stood in front of him. When he saw them, he
20 ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the earth, and

said, "My lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I fetch a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on--since you have come to your

5 servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes." And Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it.

Then he took curds, and milk, and the calf which he had prepared, and set

10 it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent."

The LORD said, "I will surely return to you in the spring, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him.

Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be

15 with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, in the spring, and Sarah shall have a

20 son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He

said, "No, but you did laugh." Then the men set out from there, and they looked toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to set them on their way. The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by him? No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice; so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him." Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomor'rah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry which has come to me; and if not, I will know." So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham still stood before the LORD. Then Abraham drew near, and said, "Wilt thou indeed destroy the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; wilt thou then destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from thee to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from thee! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Behold, I have taken upon

myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Wilt thou destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For
5 the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Behold, I have taken upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh let not the
10 Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place. The two angels came to Sodom in the evening; and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he
15 rose to meet them, and bowed himself with his face to the earth, and said, "My lords, turn aside, I pray you, to your servant's house and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise up early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in the street." But he urged them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he made
20 them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. But before they lay

down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house; and they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them." Lot went out of the door to the men, shut the door after him, and said, "I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. Behold, I have two daughters who have not known man; let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please; only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof." But they said, "Stand back!" And they said, "This fellow came to sojourn, and he would play the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them." Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door. But the men put forth their hands and brought Lot into the house to them, and shut the door. And they struck with blindness the men who were at the door of the house, both small and great, so that they wearied themselves groping for the door. Then the men said to Lot, "Have you any one else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or any one you have in the city, bring them out of the place; for we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it." So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, "Up, get out of this place; for the LORD is about to destroy the city." But he

seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting. When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city." But he lingered; so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him forth and set him
5 outside the city. And when they had brought them forth, they said, "Flee for your life; do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley; flee to the hills, lest you be consumed." And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords; behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great
10 kindness in saving my life; but I cannot flee to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me, and I die. Behold, yonder city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there--is it not a little one? --and my life will be saved!" He said to him, "Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. Make haste, escape there;
15 for I can do nothing till you arrive there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zo'ar. The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zo'ar. Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomor'rah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; and he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But Lot's
20 wife behind him looked back, and she became a pillar of salt. And Abraham

went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD; and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomor'rah and toward all the land of the valley, and beheld, and lo, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace. So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in which Lot dwelt. Now Lot went up out of Zo'ar, and dwelt in the hills with his two daughters, for he was afraid to dwell in Zo'ar; so he dwelt in a cave with his two daughters. And the first-born said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth. Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve offspring through our father." So they made their father drink wine that night; and the first-born went in, and lay with her father; he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. And on the next day, the first-born said to the younger, "Behold, I lay last night with my father; let us make him drink wine tonight also; then you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve offspring through our father." So they made their father drink wine that night also; and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father. The first-born bore a son, and called his

name Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day. The younger also bore a son, and called his name Ben-ammi; he is the father of the Ammonites to this day. From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb, and dwelt between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in

5 Gerar. And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." And Abim'elech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. But God came to Abim'elech in a dream by night, and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man, because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a man's wife." Now Abim'elech had not approached her; so he said, "Lord, wilt thou slay an

10 innocent people? Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this." Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me; therefore I did not let

15 you touch her. Now then restore the man's wife; for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you, and all that are yours." So Abim'elech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told them all these things; and the men were very much afraid. Then Abim'elech called

20 Abraham, and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I

sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done." And Abim'elech said to Abraham, "What were you thinking of, that you did this thing?" Abraham said, "I did it because I thought, There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife. Besides she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife. And when God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, He is my brother.'" Then Abim'elech took sheep and oxen, and male and female slaves, and gave them to Abraham, and restored Sarah his wife to him. And Abim'elech said, "Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you." To Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver; it is your vindication in the eyes of all who are with you; and before every one you are righted." Then Abraham prayed to God; and God healed Abim'elech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. For the LORD had closed all the wombs of the house of Abim'elech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife. The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. And Sarah conceived, and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him.

Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; every one who hears will laugh over me." And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would suckle children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age." And the child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not be heir with my son Isaac." And the thing was very displeasing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Be not displeased because of the lad and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your descendants be named. And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child

under one of the bushes. Then she went, and sat down over against him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Let me not look upon the death of the child." And as she sat over against him, the child lifted up his voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the lad; and the
5 angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Fear not; for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is. Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him fast with your hand; for I will make him a great nation." Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the lad a
10 drink. And God was with the lad, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt. At that time Abim'elech and Phicol the commander of his army said to Abraham, "God is with you in all that you do; now therefore swear to me
15 here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my offspring or with my posterity, but as I have dealt loyally with you, you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned." And Abraham said, "I will swear." When Abraham complained to Abim'elech about a well of water which Abim'elech's servants had seized, Abim'elech said, "I do not know who
20 has done this thing; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until

today." So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abim'elech, and the two men made a covenant. Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart. And Abim'elech said to Abraham, "What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs which you have set apart?" He said, "These seven ewe lambs you
5 will take from my hand, that you may be a witness for me that I dug this well." Therefore that place was called Beer-sheba; because there both of them swore an oath. So they made a covenant at Beer-sheba. Then Abim'elech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines. Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beer-sheba, and called there
10 on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God. And Abraham sojourned many days in the land of the Philistines. After these things God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Mori'ah, and offer him there as a burnt offering upon one of the mountains
15 of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; and he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here
20 with the ass; I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to

you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood; but
5 where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. Then Abraham put forth his hand,
10 and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold,
15 behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place The LORD will provide; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided." And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said,
20 "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this, and

have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore. And your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your descendants shall all the nations of the earth bless themselves, because you have obeyed my voice." So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beer-sheba. Now after these things it was told Abraham, "Behold, Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor: Uz the first-born, Buz his brother, Kemu'el the father of Aram, Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethu'el." Bethu'el became the father of Rebekah. These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother. Moreover, his concubine, whose name was Reumah, bore Tebah, Gaham, Tahash, and Ma'acah. Sarah lived a hundred and twenty-seven years; these were the years of the life of Sarah. And Sarah died at Kir'iath-ar'ba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan; and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. And Abraham rose up from before his dead, and said to the Hittites, "I am a stranger and a sojourner among you; give me property among you for a burying place, that I may bury my dead out of my sight." The Hittites answered Abraham, "Hear us, my lord; you are a mighty prince among us. Bury your dead in the choicest of our sepulchres; none of us will withhold from you his

sepulchre, or hinder you from burying your dead." Abraham rose and bowed to the Hittites, the people of the land. And he said to them, "If you are willing that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me, and entreat for me Ephron the son of Zohar, that he may give me the cave of Mach-pe'lah, 5 which he owns; it is at the end of his field. For the full price let him give it to me in your presence as a possession for a burying place." Now Ephron was sitting among the Hittites; and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the Hittites, of all who went in at the gate of his city, "No, my lord, hear me; I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in 10 it; in the presence of the sons of my people I give it to you; bury your dead." Then Abraham bowed down before the people of the land. And he said to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, "But if you will, hear me; I will give the price of the field; accept it from me, that I may bury my dead there." Ephron answered Abraham, "My lord, listen to me; a 15 piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver, what is that between you and me? Bury your dead." Abraham agreed with Ephron; and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver which he had named in the hearing of the Hittites, four hundred shekels of silver, according to the weights current among the merchants. So the field of Ephron in Mach-pe'lah, which was to 20 the east of Mamre, the field with the cave which was in it and all the trees

that were in the field, throughout its whole area, was made over to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the Hittites, before all who went in at the gate of his city. After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Mach-pe'lah east of Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of

5 Canaan. The field and the cave that is in it were made over to Abraham as a possession for a burying place by the Hittites. Now Abraham was old, well advanced in years; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. And Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his house, who had charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh, and I will make you swear by

10 the LORD, the God of heaven and of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell, but will go to my country and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac." The servant said to him, "Perhaps the woman may not be willing to follow me to this land; must I then take your son back to the land from

15 which you came?" Abraham said to him, "See to it that you do not take my son back there. The LORD, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my birth, and who spoke to me and swore to me, 'To your descendants I will give this land,' he will send his angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. But if

20 the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be free from this oath

of mine; only you must not take my son back there." So the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter. Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, taking all sorts of choice gifts from his master; and he arose, and went to
5 Mesopota'mia, to the city of Nahor. And he made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at the time of evening, the time when women go out to draw water. And he said, "O LORD, God of my master Abraham, grant me success today, I pray thee, and show steadfast love to my master Abraham. Behold, I am standing by the spring of water, and the
10 daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water. Let the maiden to whom I shall say, 'Pray let down your jar that I may drink,' and who shall say, 'Drink, and I will water your camels' --let her be the one whom thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac. By this I shall know that thou hast shown steadfast love to my master." Before he had done speaking,
15 behold, Rebekah, who was born to Bethu'el the son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, came out with her water jar upon her shoulder. The maiden was very fair to look upon, a virgin, whom no man had known. She went down to the spring, and filled her jar, and came up. Then the servant ran to meet her, and said, "Pray give me a little water to drink from
20 your jar." She said, "Drink, my lord"; and she quickly let down her jar upon

her hand, and gave him a drink. When she had finished giving him a drink,
she said, "I will draw for your camels also, until they have done drinking."
So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough and ran again to the well to
draw, and she drew for all his camels. The man gazed at her in silence to
5 learn whether the LORD had prospered his journey or not. When the camels
had done drinking, the man took a gold ring weighing a half shekel, and
two bracelets for her arms weighing ten gold shekels, and said, "Tell me
whose daughter you are. Is there room in your father's house for us to lodge
in?" She said to him, "I am the daughter of Bethu'el the son of Milcah,
10 whom she bore to Nahor." She added, "We have both straw and provender
enough, and room to lodge in." The man bowed his head and worshiped the
LORD, and said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of my master Abraham,
who has not forsaken his steadfast love and his faithfulness toward my
master. As for me, the LORD has led me in the way to the house of my
15 master's kinsmen." Then the maiden ran and told her mother's household
about these things. Rebekah had a brother whose name was Laban; and
Laban ran out to the man, to the spring. When he saw the ring, and the
bracelets on his sister's arms, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his
sister, "Thus the man spoke to me," he went to the man; and behold, he was
20 standing by the camels at the spring. He said, "Come in, O blessed of the

LORD; why do you stand outside? For I have prepared the house and a place for the camels." So the man came into the house; and Laban ungirded the camels, and gave him straw and provender for the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men who were with him. Then food was set before him to eat; but he said, "I will not eat until I have told my errand." He said, "Speak on." So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become great; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, camels and asses. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and to him he has given all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell; but you shall go to my father's house and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son.' I said to my master, 'Perhaps the woman will not follow me.' But he said to me, 'The LORD, before whom I walk, will send his angel with you and prosper your way; and you shall take a wife for my son from my kindred and from my father's house; then you will be free from my oath, when you come to my kindred; and if they will not give her to you, you will be free from my oath.' "I came today to the spring, and said, 'O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now thou wilt prosper the way which I go, behold, I am

standing by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Pray give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also," let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.' "Before I had done speaking in my heart, behold, Rebekah came out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Pray let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will give your camels drink also.' So I drank, and she gave the camels drink also. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, The daughter of Bethu'el, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to take the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me; that I may turn to the right hand or to the left." Then Laban and Bethu'el answered, "The thing comes from the LORD; we cannot speak to you bad or good. Behold, Rebekah is before you, take her and go, and let her be the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has spoken." When Abraham's servant heard their words, he bowed himself to the earth before the LORD.

And the servant brought forth jewelry of silver and of gold, and raiment, and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave to her brother and to her mother costly ornaments. And he and the men who were with him ate and drank, and they spent the night there. When they arose in the morning, he said, "Send me
5 back to my master." Her brother and her mother said, "Let the maiden remain with us a while, at least ten days; after that she may go." But he said to them, "Do not delay me, since the LORD has prospered my way; let me go that I may go to my master." They said, "We will call the maiden, and ask her." And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with
10 this man?" She said, "I will go." So they sent away Rebekah their sister and her nurse, and Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah, and said to her, "Our sister, be the mother of thousands of ten thousands; and may your descendants possess the gate of those who hate them!" Then Rebekah and her maids arose, and rode upon the camels and followed the
15 man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-la'hai-roi, and was dwelling in the Negeb. And Isaac went out to meditate in the field in the evening; and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, there were camels coming. And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she alighted from the camel, and said to the servant,
20 "Who is the man yonder, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said,

"It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into the tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death. Abraham took another wife, whose
5 name was Ketu'rah. She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Mid'ian, Ishbak, and Shuah. Jokshan was the father of Sheba and Dedan. The sons of Dedan were Asshu'rim, Letu'shim, and Le-um'mim. The sons of Mid'ian were Ephah, Ephher, Hanoah, Abi'da, and Elda'ah. All these were the children of Ketu'rah. Abraham gave all he had to Isaac. But to the sons of his concubines
10 Abraham gave gifts, and while he was still living he sent them away from his son Isaac, eastward to the east country. These are the days of the years of Abraham's life, a hundred and seventy-five years. Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people. Isaac and Ish'mael his sons buried him in the cave of
15 Mach-pe'lah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre, the field which Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried, with Sarah his wife. After the death of Abraham God blessed Isaac his son. And Isaac dwelt at Beer-la'hai-roi. These are the descendants of Ish'mael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's maid, bore to
20 Abraham. These are the names of the sons of Ish'mael, named in the order

of their birth: Neba'ioth, the first-born of Ish'mael; and Kedar, Adbeel,
Mibsam, Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and
Ked'emah. These are the sons of Ish'mael and these are their names, by their
villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes.
5 (These are the years of the life of Ish'mael, a hundred and thirty-seven years;
he breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his kindred.) They dwelt
from Hav'ilah to Shur, which is opposite Egypt in the direction of Assyria;
he settled over against all his people. These are the descendants of Isaac,
Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years
10 old when he took to wife Rebekah, the daughter of Bethu'el the Aramean of
Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean. And Isaac prayed to the
LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his
prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived. The children struggled together
within her; and she said, "If it is thus, why do I live?" So she went to
15 inquire of the LORD. And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your
womb, and two peoples, born of you, shall be divided; the one shall be
stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her days to
be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb. The first
came forth red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they called his name
20 Esau. Afterward his brother came forth, and his hand had taken hold of

Esau's heel; so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he ate of his game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was
5 boiling pottage, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red pottage, for I am famished!" (Therefore his name was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his
10 birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentils, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright. Now there was a famine in the land, besides the former famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Gerar, to Abim'elech king of the Philistines. And the LORD appeared to him, and said, "Do not
15 go down to Egypt; dwell in the land of which I shall tell you. Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you, and will bless you; for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will fulfil the oath which I swore to Abraham your father. I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give to your descendants all these lands; and by your
20 descendants all the nations of the earth shall bless themselves: because

Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws." So Isaac dwelt in Gerar. When the men of the place asked him about his wife, he said, "She is my sister"; for he feared to say, "My wife," thinking, "lest the men of the place should kill me for the sake
5 of Rebekah"; because she was fair to look upon. When he had been there a long time, Abim'elech king of the Philistines looked out of a window and saw Isaac fondling Rebekah his wife. So Abim'elech called Isaac, and said, "Behold, she is your wife; how then could you say, 'She is my sister'?" Isaac said to him, "Because I thought, 'Lest I die because of her.'" Abim'elech
10 said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us." So Abim'elech warned all the people, saying, "Whoever touches this man or his wife shall be put to death." And Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold. The LORD blessed him, and the man became rich,
15 and gained more and more until he became very wealthy. He had possessions of flocks and herds, and a great household, so that the Philistines envied him. (Now the Philistines had stopped and filled with earth all the wells which his father's servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father.) And Abim'elech said to Isaac, "Go away from us; for you are much mightier than
20 we." So Isaac departed from there, and encamped in the valley of Gerar and

dwelt there. And Isaac dug again the wells of water which had been dug in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham; and he gave them the names which his father had given them. But when Isaac's servants dug in the valley and found there a well of springing water, the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, "The water is ours." So he called the name of the well Esek, because they contended with him. Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over that also; so he called its name Sitnah. And he moved from there and dug another well, and over that they did not quarrel; so he called its name Reho'both, saying, "For now the LORD has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land." From there he went up to Beer-sheba. And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, "I am the God of Abraham your father; fear not, for I am with you and will bless you and multiply your descendants for my servant Abraham's sake." So he built an altar there and called upon the name of the LORD, and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac's servants dug a well. Then Abim'elech went to him from Gerar with Ahuz'zath his adviser and Phicol the commander of his army. Isaac said to them, "Why have you come to me, seeing that you hate me and have sent me away from you?" They said, "We see plainly that the LORD is with you; so we say, let there be an oath between you and us,

and let us make a covenant with you, that you will do us no harm, just as we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed of the LORD." So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank. In the morning they rose early and took oath with one another; and Isaac set them on their way, and they departed from him in peace. That same day Isaac's servants came and told him about the well which they had dug, and said to him, "We have found water." He called it Shibah; therefore the name of the city is Beer-sheba to this day. When Esau was forty years old, he took to wife Judith the daughter of Be-e'ri the Hittite, and Bas'emath the daughter of Elon the Hittite; and they made life bitter for Isaac and Rebekah. When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called Esau his older son, and said to him, "My son"; and he answered, "Here I am." He said, "Behold, I am old; I do not know the day of my death. Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field, and hunt game for me, and prepare for me savory food, such as I love, and bring it to me that I may eat; that I may bless you before I die." Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to his son Esau. So when Esau went to the field to hunt for game and bring it, Rebekah said to her son Jacob, "I heard your father speak to your brother Esau, 'Bring me game, and prepare for me

savory food, that I may eat it, and bless you before the LORD before I die.'

Now therefore, my son, obey my word as I command you. Go to the flock, and fetch me two good kids, that I may prepare from them savory food for your father, such as he loves; and you shall bring it to your father to eat, so

5 that he may bless you before he dies." But Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, "Behold, my brother Esau is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man. Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall seem to be mocking him, and bring a curse upon myself and not a blessing." His mother said to him, "Upon me be your curse, my son; only obey my word, and go, fetch them

10 to me." So he went and took them and brought them to his mother; and his mother prepared savory food, such as his father loved. Then Rebekah took the best garments of Esau her older son, which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son; and the skins of the kids she put upon his hands and upon the smooth part of his neck; and she gave the

15 savory food and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob. So he went in to his father, and said, "My father"; and he said, "Here I am; who are you, my son?" Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your first-born. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, that you may bless me." But Isaac said to his son, "How is it that you have

20 found it so quickly, my son?" He answered, "Because the LORD your God

granted me success." Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Come near, that I may feel
you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not." So
Jacob went near to Isaac his father, who felt him and said, "The voice is
Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau." And he did not
5 recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so
he blessed him. He said, "Are you really my son Esau?" He answered, "I
am." Then he said, "Bring it to me, that I may eat of my son's game and
bless you." So he brought it to him, and he ate; and he brought him wine,
and he drank. Then his father Isaac said to him, "Come near and kiss me,
10 my son." So he came near and kissed him; and he smelled the smell of his
garments, and blessed him, and said, "See, the smell of my son is as the
smell of a field which the LORD has blessed! May God give you of the
dew of heaven, and of the fatness of the earth, and plenty of grain and
wine. Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be lord over
15 your brothers, and may your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be
every one who curses you, and blessed be every one who blesses you!" As
soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, when Jacob had scarcely gone out
from the presence of Isaac his father, Esau his brother came in from his
hunting. He also prepared savory food, and brought it to his father. And he
20 said to his father, "Let my father arise, and eat of his son's game, that you

may bless me." His father Isaac said to him, "Who are you?" He answered, "I am your son, your first-born, Esau." Then Isaac trembled violently, and said, "Who was it then that hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him? --yes, and he shall be

5 blessed." When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to his father, "Bless me, even me also, O my father!" But he said, "Your brother came with guile, and he has taken away your blessing." Esau said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has supplanted me these two times. He took away my birthright; and

10 behold, now he has taken away my blessing." Then he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?" Isaac answered Esau, "Behold, I have made him your lord, and all his brothers I have given to him for servants, and with grain and wine I have sustained him. What then can I do for you, my son?" Esau said to his father, "Have you but one blessing, my father? Bless me,

15 even me also, O my father." And Esau lifted up his voice and wept. Then Isaac his father answered him: "Behold, away from the fatness of the earth shall your dwelling be, and away from the dew of heaven on high. By your sword you shall live, and you shall serve your brother; but when you break loose you shall break his yoke from your neck." Now Esau hated Jacob

20 because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said

to himself, "The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will
kill my brother Jacob." But the words of Esau her older son were told to
Rebekah; so she sent and called Jacob her younger son, and said to him,
"Behold, your brother Esau comforts himself by planning to kill you. Now
5 therefore, my son, obey my voice; arise, flee to Laban my brother in Haran,
and stay with him a while, until your brother's fury turns away; until your
brother's anger turns away, and he forgets what you have done to him; then
I will send, and fetch you from there. Why should I be bereft of you both
in one day?" Then Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am weary of my life because
10 of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries one of the Hittite women such as
these, one of the women of the land, what good will my life be to me?"
Then Isaac called Jacob and blessed him, and charged him, "You shall not
marry one of the Canaanite women. Arise, go to Paddan-aram to the house
of Bethu'el your mother's father; and take as wife from there one of the
15 daughters of Laban your mother's brother. God Almighty bless you and make
you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a company of peoples.
May he give the blessing of Abraham to you and to your descendants with
you, that you may take possession of the land of your sojournings which
God gave to Abraham!" Thus Isaac sent Jacob away; and he went to
20 Paddan-aram to Laban, the son of Bethu'el the Aramean, the brother of

Rebekah, Jacob's and Esau's mother. Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Paddan-aram to take a wife from there, and that as he blessed him he charged him, "You shall not marry one of the Canaanite women," and that Jacob had obeyed his father and his mother and
5 gone to Paddan-aram. So when Esau saw that the Canaanite women did not please Isaac his father, Esau went to Ish'mael and took to wife, besides the wives he had, Ma'halath the daughter of Ish'mael Abraham's son, the sister of Neba'ioth. Jacob left Beer-sheba, and went toward Haran. And he came to a certain place, and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking
10 one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of
15 Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your descendants; and your descendants shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and by you and your descendants shall all the families of the earth bless themselves. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and
20 will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done

that of which I have spoken to you." Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place; and I did not know it." And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone which he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called the name of that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first. Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that thou givest me I will give the tenth to thee." Then Jacob went on his journey, and came to the land of the people of the east. As he looked, he saw a well in the field, and lo, three flocks of sheep lying beside it; for out of that well the flocks were watered. The stone on the well's mouth was large, and when all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone from the mouth of the well, and water the sheep, and put the stone back in its place upon the mouth of the well. Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where do you come from?" They said, "We are from Haran." He said to them, "Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?" They said, "We

know him." He said to them, "Is it well with him?" They said, "It is well; and see, Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep!" He said, "Behold, it is still high day, it is not time for the animals to be gathered together; water the sheep, and go, pasture them." But they said, "We cannot until all the
5 flocks are gathered together, and the stone is rolled from the mouth of the well; then we water the sheep." While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep; for she kept them. Now when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, Jacob went up and rolled the stone from the
10 well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother. Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and wept aloud. And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman, and that he was Rebekah's son; and she ran and told her father. When Laban heard the tidings of Jacob his sister's son, he ran to meet him, and embraced him and kissed him, and brought him to his house.
15 Jacob told Laban all these things, and Laban said to him, "Surely you are my bone and my flesh!" And he stayed with him a month. Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger
20 was Rachel. Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful and lovely.

Jacob loved Rachel; and he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days

5 because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her.

(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) And in

10 the morning, behold, it was Leah; and Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "It is not so done in our country, to give the younger before the first-born. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob

15 did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to wife. (Laban gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her maid.) So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served Laban for another seven years. When the LORD saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb; but Rachel was barren. And Leah

20 conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Reuben; for she said,

"Because the LORD has looked upon my affliction; surely now my husband will love me." She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Because the LORD has heard that I am hated, he has given me this son also"; and she called his name Simeon. Again she conceived and bore a son, and said,

5 "Now this time my husband will be joined to me, because I have borne him three sons"; therefore his name was called Levi. And she conceived again and bore a son, and said, "This time I will praise the LORD"; therefore she called his name Judah; then she ceased bearing. When Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, she envied her sister; and she said to Jacob, "Give

10 me children, or I shall die!" Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel, and he said, "Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?" Then she said, "Here is my maid Bilhah; go in to her, that she may bear upon my knees, and even I may have children through her." So she gave him her maid Bilhah as a wife; and Jacob went in to her. And

15 Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son. Then Rachel said, "God has judged me, and has also heard my voice and given me a son"; therefore she called his name Dan. Rachel's maid Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son. Then Rachel said, "With mighty wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister, and have prevailed"; so she called his name Naph'tali. When Leah

20 saw that she had ceased bearing children, she took her maid Zilpah and gave

her to Jacob as a wife. Then Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a son. And Leah said, "Good fortune!" so she called his name Gad. Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a second son. And Leah said, "Happy am I! For the women will call me happy"; so she called his name Asher. In the days of wheat harvest

5 Reuben went and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, "Give me, I pray, some of your son's mandrakes." But she said to her, "Is it a small matter that you have taken away my husband? Would you take away my son's mandrakes also?" Rachel said, "Then he may lie with you tonight for your son's mandrakes."

10 When Jacob came from the field in the evening, Leah went out to meet him, and said, "You must come in to me; for I have hired you with my son's mandrakes." So he lay with her that night. And God hearkened to Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth son. Leah said, "God has given me my hire because I gave my maid to my husband"; so she called his name

15 Is'sachar. And Leah conceived again, and she bore Jacob a sixth son. Then Leah said, "God has endowed me with a good dowry; now my husband will honor me, because I have borne him six sons"; so she called his name Zeb'ulun. Afterwards she bore a daughter, and called her name Dinah. Then God remembered Rachel, and God hearkened to her and opened her womb.

20 She conceived and bore a son, and said, "God has taken away my reproach";

and she called his name Joseph, saying, "May the LORD add to me another son!" When Rachel had borne Joseph, Jacob said to Laban, "Send me away, that I may go to my own home and country. Give me my wives and my children for whom I have served you, and let me go; for you know the
5 service which I have given you." But Laban said to him, "If you will allow me to say so, I have learned by divination that the LORD has blessed me because of you; name your wages, and I will give it." Jacob said to him, "You yourself know how I have served you, and how your cattle have fared with me. For you had little before I came, and it has increased abundantly;
10 and the LORD has blessed you wherever I turned. But now when shall I provide for my own household also?" He said, "What shall I give you?" Jacob said, "You shall not give me anything; if you will do this for me, I will again feed your flock and keep it: let me pass through all your flock today, removing from it every speckled and spotted sheep and every black
15 lamb, and the spotted and speckled among the goats; and such shall be my wages. So my honesty will answer for me later, when you come to look into my wages with you. Every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats and black among the lambs, if found with me, shall be counted stolen." Laban said, "Good! Let it be as you have said." But that day Laban
20 removed the he-goats that were striped and spotted, and all the she-goats that

were speckled and spotted, every one that had white on it, and every lamb that was black, and put them in charge of his sons; and he set a distance of three days' journey between himself and Jacob; and Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flock. Then Jacob took fresh rods of poplar and almond and plane, and peeled white streaks in them, exposing the white of the rods. He set the rods which he had peeled in front of the flocks in the runnels, that is, the watering troughs, where the flocks came to drink. And since they bred when they came to drink, the flocks bred in front of the rods and so the flocks brought forth striped, speckled, and spotted. And Jacob separated the lambs, and set the faces of the flocks toward the striped and all the black in the flock of Laban; and he put his own droves apart, and did not put them with Laban's flock. Whenever the stronger of the flock were breeding Jacob laid the rods in the runnels before the eyes of the flock, that they might breed among the rods, but for the feebler of the flock he did not lay them there; so the feebler were Laban's, and the stronger Jacob's. Thus the man grew exceedingly rich, and had large flocks, maidservants and menservants, and camels and asses. Now Jacob heard that the sons of Laban were saying, "Jacob has taken all that was our father's; and from what was our father's he has gained all this wealth." And Jacob saw that Laban did not regard him with favor as before. Then the LORD said to Jacob, "Return to the land of

your fathers and to your kindred, and I will be with you." So Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah into the field where his flock was, and said to them, "I see that your father does not regard me with favor as he did before. But the God of my father has been with me. You know that I have served your

5 father with all my strength; yet your father has cheated me and changed my wages ten times, but God did not permit him to harm me. If he said, 'The spotted shall be your wages,' then all the flock bore spotted; and if he said, 'The striped shall be your wages,' then all the flock bore striped. Thus God has taken away the cattle of your father, and given them to me. In the

10 mating season of the flock I lifted up my eyes, and saw in a dream that the he-goats which leaped upon the flock were striped, spotted, and mottled. Then the angel of God said to me in the dream, 'Jacob,' and I said, 'Here I am!' And he said, 'Lift up your eyes and see, all the goats that leap upon the flock are striped, spotted, and mottled; for I have seen all that Laban is

15 doing to you. I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and made a vow to me. Now arise, go forth from this land, and return to the land of your birth.'" Then Rachel and Leah answered him, "Is there any portion or inheritance left to us in our father's house? Are we not regarded by him as foreigners? For he has sold us, and he has been using up the

20 money given for us. All the property which God has taken away from our

father belongs to us and to our children; now then, whatever God has said to you, do." So Jacob arose, and set his sons and his wives on camels; and he drove away all his cattle, all his livestock which he had gained, the cattle in his possession which he had acquired in Paddan-aram, to go to the land of Canaan to his father Isaac. Laban had gone to shear his sheep, and Rachel stole her father's household gods. And Jacob outwitted Laban the Aramean, in that he did not tell him that he intended to flee. He fled with all that he had, and arose and crossed the Euphra'tes, and set his face toward the hill country of Gilead. When it was told Laban on the third day that Jacob had fled, he took his kinsmen with him and pursued him for seven days and followed close after him into the hill country of Gilead. But God came to Laban the Aramean in a dream by night, and said to him, "Take heed that you say not a word to Jacob, either good or bad." And Laban overtook Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the hill country, and Laban with his kinsmen encamped in the hill country of Gilead. And Laban said to Jacob, "What have you done, that you have cheated me, and carried away my daughters like captives of the sword? Why did you flee secretly, and cheat me, and did not tell me, so that I might have sent you away with mirth and songs, with tambourine and lyre? And why did you not permit me to kiss my sons and my daughters farewell? Now you have done foolishly. It

is in my power to do you harm; but the God of your father spoke to me last night, saying, 'Take heed that you speak to Jacob neither good nor bad.' And now you have gone away because you longed greatly for your father's house, but why did you steal my gods?" Jacob answered Laban, "Because I
5 was afraid, for I thought that you would take your daughters from me by force. Any one with whom you find your gods shall not live. In the presence of our kinsmen point out what I have that is yours, and take it." Now Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them. So Laban went into Jacob's tent, and into Leah's tent, and into the tent of the two maidservants,
10 but he did not find them. And he went out of Leah's tent, and entered Rachel's. Now Rachel had taken the household gods and put them in the camel's saddle, and sat upon them. Laban felt all about the tent, but did not find them. And she said to her father, "Let not my lord be angry that I cannot rise before you, for the way of women is upon me." So he searched,
15 but did not find the household gods. Then Jacob became angry, and upbraided Laban; Jacob said to Laban, "What is my offense? What is my sin, that you have hotly pursued me? Although you have felt through all my goods, what have you found of all your household goods? Set it here before my kinsmen and your kinsmen, that they may decide between us two. These
20 twenty years I have been with you; your ewes and your she-goats have not

miscarried, and I have not eaten the rams of your flocks. That which was torn by wild beasts I did not bring to you; I bore the loss of it myself; of my hand you required it, whether stolen by day or stolen by night. Thus I was; by day the heat consumed me, and the cold by night, and my sleep

5 fled from my eyes. These twenty years I have been in your house; I served you fourteen years for your two daughters, and six years for your flock, and you have changed my wages ten times. If the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, had not been on my side, surely now you would have sent me away empty-handed. God saw my affliction and the

10 labor of my hands, and rebuked you last night." Then Laban answered and said to Jacob, "The daughters are my daughters, the children are my children, the flocks are my flocks, and all that you see is mine. But what can I do this day to these my daughters, or to their children whom they have borne? Come now, let us make a covenant, you and I; and let it be a witness

15 between you and me." So Jacob took a stone, and set it up as a pillar. And Jacob said to his kinsmen, "Gather stones," and they took stones, and made a heap; and they ate there by the heap. Laban called it Je'gar-sahadu'tha: but Jacob called it Galeed. Laban said, "This heap is a witness between you and me today." Therefore he named it Galeed, and the pillar Mizpah, for he said,

20 "The LORD watch between you and me, when we are absent one from the

other. If you ill-treat my daughters, or if you take wives besides my daughters, although no man is with us, remember, God is witness between you and me." Then Laban said to Jacob, "See this heap and the pillar, which I have set between you and me. This heap is a witness, and the pillar is a witness, that I will not pass over this heap to you, and you will not pass over this heap and this pillar to me, for harm. The God of Abraham and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge between us." So Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac, and Jacob offered a sacrifice on the mountain and called his kinsmen to eat bread; and they ate bread and tarried all night on the mountain. Early in the morning Laban arose, and kissed his grandchildren and his daughters and blessed them; then he departed and returned home. Jacob went on his way and the angels of God met him; and when Jacob saw them he said, "This is God's army!" So he called the name of that place Mahana'im. And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother in the land of Se'ir, the country of Edom, instructing them, "Thus you shall say to my lord Esau: Thus says your servant Jacob, 'I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed until now; and I have oxen, asses, flocks, menservants, and maidservants; and I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.'" And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, "We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and

four hundred men with him." Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed;
and he divided the people that were with him, and the flocks and herds and
camels, into two companies, thinking, "If Esau comes to the one company
and destroys it, then the company which is left will escape." And Jacob said,
5 "O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O LORD who
didst say to me, 'Return to your country and to your kindred, and I will do
you good,' I am not worthy of the least of all the steadfast love and all the
faithfulness which thou hast shown to thy servant, for with only my staff I
crossed this Jordan; and now I have become two companies. Deliver me, I
10 pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear
him, lest he come and slay us all, the mothers with the children. But thou
didst say, 'I will do you good, and make your descendants as the sand of
the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.'" So he lodged there that
night, and took from what he had with him a present for his brother Esau,
15 two hundred she-goats and twenty he-goats, two hundred ewes and twenty
rams, thirty milch camels and their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty
she-asses and ten he-asses. These he delivered into the hand of his servants,
every drove by itself, and said to his servants, "Pass on before me, and put
a space between drove and drove." He instructed the foremost, "When Esau
20 my brother meets you, and asks you, 'To whom do you belong? Where are

you going? And whose are these before you?' then you shall say, 'They belong to your servant Jacob; they are a present sent to my lord Esau; and moreover he is behind us.'" He likewise instructed the second and the third and all who followed the droves, "You shall say the same thing to Esau

5 when you meet him, and you shall say, 'Moreover your servant Jacob is behind us.'" For he thought, "I may appease him with the present that goes before me, and afterwards I shall see his face; perhaps he will accept me."

So the present passed on before him; and he himself lodged that night in the camp. The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two maids, and

10 his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. And Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day.

When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and Jacob's thigh was put out of joint as he wrestled

15 with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then he said, "Your name shall no more be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Tell me, I pray, your

20 name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he

blessed him. So Jacob called the name of the place Peni'el, saying, "For I
have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose
upon him as he passed Penu'el, limping because of his thigh. Therefore to
this day the Israelites do not eat the sinew of the hip which is upon the
5 hollow of the thigh, because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh on the
sinew of the hip. And Jacob lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, Esau
was coming, and four hundred men with him. So he divided the children
among Leah and Rachel and the two maids. And he put the maids with their
children in front, then Leah with her children, and Rachel and Joseph last of
10 all. He himself went on before them, bowing himself to the ground seven
times, until he came near to his brother. But Esau ran to meet him, and
embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. And
when Esau raised his eyes and saw the women and children, he said, "Who
are these with you?" Jacob said, "The children whom God has graciously
15 given your servant." Then the maids drew near, they and their children, and
bowed down; Leah likewise and her children drew near and bowed down;
and last Joseph and Rachel drew near, and they bowed down. Esau said,
"What do you mean by all this company which I met?" Jacob answered, "To
find favor in the sight of my lord." But Esau said, "I have enough, my
20 brother; keep what you have for yourself." Jacob said, "No, I pray you, if I

have found favor in your sight, then accept my present from my hand; for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God, with such favor have you received me. Accept, I pray you, my gift that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." Thus he

5 urged him, and he took it. Then Esau said, "Let us journey on our way, and I will go before you." But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children are frail, and that the flocks and herds giving suck are a care to me; and if they are overdriven for one day, all the flocks will die. Let my lord pass on before his servant, and I will lead on slowly, according to the

10 pace of the cattle which are before me and according to the pace of the children, until I come to my lord in Se'ir." So Esau said, "Let me leave with you some of the men who are with me." But he said, "What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord." So Esau returned that day on his way to Se'ir. But Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built himself a house,

15 and made booths for his cattle; therefore the name of the place is called Succoth. And Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, on his way from Paddan-aram; and he camped before the city. And from the sons of Hamor, Shechem's father, he bought for a hundred pieces of money the piece of land on which he had pitched his tent.

20 There he erected an altar and called it El-El'ohé-Israel. Now Dinah the

daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to visit the
women of the land; and when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, the
prince of the land, saw her, he seized her and lay with her and humbled her.
And his soul was drawn to Dinah the daughter of Jacob; he loved the
5 maiden and spoke tenderly to her. So Shechem spoke to his father Hamor,
saying, "Get me this maiden for my wife." Now Jacob heard that he had
defiled his daughter Dinah; but his sons were with his cattle in the field, so
Jacob held his peace until they came. And Hamor the father of Shechem
went out to Jacob to speak with him. The sons of Jacob came in from the
10 field when they heard of it; and the men were indignant and very angry,
because he had wrought folly in Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter, for
such a thing ought not to be done. But Hamor spoke with them, saying,
"The soul of my son Shechem longs for your daughter; I pray you, give her
to him in marriage. Make marriages with us; give your daughters to us, and
15 take our daughters for yourselves. You shall dwell with us; and the land
shall be open to you; dwell and trade in it, and get property in it." Shechem
also said to her father and to her brothers, "Let me find favor in your eyes,
and whatever you say to me I will give. Ask of me ever so much as
marriage present and gift, and I will give according as you say to me; only
20 give me the maiden to be my wife." The sons of Jacob answered Shechem

and his father Hamor deceitfully, because he had defiled their sister Dinah.

They said to them, "We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one who is uncircumcised, for that would be a disgrace to us. Only on this condition will we consent to you: that you will become as we are and every male of

5 you be circumcised. Then we will give our daughters to you, and we will take your daughters to ourselves, and we will dwell with you and become one people. But if you will not listen to us and be circumcised, then we will take our daughter, and we will be gone." Their words pleased Hamor and Hamor's son Shechem. And the young man did not delay to do the thing,

10 because he had delight in Jacob's daughter. Now he was the most honored of all his family. So Hamor and his son Shechem came to the gate of their city and spoke to the men of their city, saying, "These men are friendly with us; let them dwell in the land and trade in it, for behold, the land is large enough for them; let us take their daughters in marriage, and let us give

15 them our daughters. Only on this condition will the men agree to dwell with us, to become one people: that every male among us be circumcised as they are circumcised. Will not their cattle, their property and all their beasts be ours? Only let us agree with them, and they will dwell with us." And all who went out of the gate of his city hearkened to Hamor and his son

20 Shechem; and every male was circumcised, all who went out of the gate of

his city. On the third day, when they were sore, two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took their swords and came upon the city unawares, and killed all the males. They slew Hamor and his son Shechem with the sword, and took Dinah out of Shechem's house, and went away.

5 And the sons of Jacob came upon the slain, and plundered the city, because their sister had been defiled; they took their flocks and their herds, their asses, and whatever was in the city and in the field; all their wealth, all their little ones and their wives, all that was in the houses, they captured and made their prey. Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have brought

10 trouble on me by making me odious to the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites and the Per'izzites; my numbers are few, and if they gather themselves against me and attack me, I shall be destroyed, both I and my household." But they said, "Should he treat our sister as a harlot?" God said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there; and make there an altar

15 to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau." So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away the foreign gods that are among you, and purify yourselves, and change your garments; then let us arise and go up to Bethel, that I may make there an altar to the God who answered me in the day of my distress and has been

20 with me wherever I have gone." So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods

that they had, and the rings that were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which was near Shechem. And as they journeyed, a terror from God fell upon the cities that were round about them, so that they did not pursue the sons of Jacob. And Jacob came to Luz (that is, Bethel),

5 which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him, and there he built an altar, and called the place El-bethel, because there God had revealed himself to him when he fled from his brother. And Deb'orah, Rebekah's nurse, died, and she was buried under an oak below Bethel; so the name of it was called Al'lou-bacuth. God appeared to Jacob again, when he

10 came from Paddan-aram, and blessed him. And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So his name was called Israel. And God said to him, "I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall spring from you. The land which I

15 gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your descendants after you." Then God went up from him in the place where he had spoken with him. And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone; and he poured out a drink offering on it, and poured oil on it. So Jacob called the name of the place where

20 God had spoken with him, Bethel. Then they journeyed from Bethel; and

when they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel travailed, and she had hard labor. And when she was in her hard labor, the midwife said to her, "Fear not; for now you will have another son." And as her soul was departing (for she died), she called his name Ben-o'ni; but his father called

5 his name Benjamin. So Rachel died, and she was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem), and Jacob set up a pillar upon her grave; it is the pillar of Rachel's tomb, which is there to this day. Israel journeyed on, and pitched his tent beyond the tower of Eder. While Israel dwelt in that land Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine; and Israel

10 heard of it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve. The sons of Leah: Reuben (Jacob's first-born), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Is'sachar, and Zeb'ulun. The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin. The sons of Bilhah, Rachel's maid: Dan and Naph'tali. The sons of Zilpah, Leah's maid: Gad and Asher. These were the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan-aram. And Jacob came to

15 his father Isaac at Mamre, or Kir'iath-ar'ba (that is, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had sojourned. Now the days of Isaac were a hundred and eighty years. And Isaac breathed his last; and he died and was gathered to his people, old and full of days; and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him. These are the descendants of Esau (that is, Edom). Esau took his wives from the

20 Canaanites: Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite, Oholiba'mah the daughter

of Anah the son of Zib'eon the Hivite, and Bas'emath, Ish'mael's daughter,
the sister of Neba'ioth. And Adah bore to Esau, El'iphaz; Bas'emath bore
Reu'el; and Oholiba'mah bore Je'ush, Jalam, and Korah. These are the sons of
Esau who were born to him in the land of Canaan. Then Esau took his
5 wives, his sons, his daughters, and all the members of his household, his
cattle, all his beasts, and all his property which he had acquired in the land
of Canaan; and he went into a land away from his brother Jacob. For their
possessions were too great for them to dwell together; the land of their
sojournings could not support them because of their cattle. So Esau dwelt in
10 the hill country of Se'ir; Esau is Edom. These are the descendants of Esau
the father of the E'domites in the hill country of Se'ir. These are the names
of Esau's sons: El'iphaz the son of Adah the wife of Esau, Reu'el the son of
Bas'emath the wife of Esau. The sons of El'iphaz were Teman, Omar, Zepho,
Gatam, and Kenaz. (Timna was a concubine of El'iphaz, Esau's son; she bore
15 Am'alek to El'iphaz.) These are the sons of Adah, Esau's wife. These are the
sons of Reu'el: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah. These are the sons of
Bas'emath, Esau's wife. These are the sons of Oholiba'mah the daughter of
Anah the son of Zib'eon, Esau's wife: she bore to Esau Je'ush, Jalam, and
Korah. These are the chiefs of the sons of Esau. The sons of El'iphaz the
20 first-born of Esau: the chiefs Teman, Omar, Zepho, Kenaz, Korah, Gatam,

and Am'alek; these are the chiefs of El'iphaz in the land of Edom; they are
 the sons of Adah. These are the sons of Reu'el, Esau's son: the chiefs
 Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah; these are the chiefs of Reu'el in the
 land of Edom; they are the sons of Bas'emath, Esau's wife. These are the
 5 sons of Oholiba'mah, Esau's wife: the chiefs Je'ush, Jalam, and Korah; these
 are the chiefs born of Oholiba'mah the daughter of Anah, Esau's wife. These
 are the sons of Esau (that is, Edom), and these are their chiefs. These are
 the sons of Se'ir the Horite, the inhabitants of the land: Lotan, Shobal,
 Zib'eon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan; these are the chiefs of the Horites,
 10 the sons of Se'ir in the land of Edom. The sons of Lotan were Hori and
 Heman; and Lotan's sister was Timna. These are the sons of Shobal: Alvan,
 Man'ahath, Ebal, Shepho, and Onam. These are the sons of Zib'eon: A'iah
 and Anah; he is the Anah who found the hot springs in the wilderness, as
 he pastured the asses of Zib'eon his father. These are the children of Anah:
 15 Dishon and Oholiba'mah the daughter of Anah. These are the sons of Dishon:
 Hemdan, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran. These are the sons of Ezer: Bilhan,
 Za'avan, and Akan. These are the sons of Dishan: Uz and Aran. These are
 the chiefs of the Horites: the chiefs Lotan, Shobal, Zib'eon, Anah, Dishon,
 Ezer, and Dishan; these are the chiefs of the Horites, according to their clans
 20 in the land of Se'ir. These are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom,

before any king reigned over the Israelites. Bela the son of Be'or reigned in Edom, the name of his city being Din'habah. Bela died, and Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his stead. Jobab died, and Husham of the land of the Te'manites reigned in his stead. Husham died, and Hadad the son of Bedad, who defeated Mid'ian in the country of Moab, reigned in his stead, the name of his city being Avith. Hadad died, and Samlah of Masre'kah reigned in his stead. Samlah died, and Shaul of Reho'both on the Euphra'tes reigned in his stead. Shaul died, and Ba'al-ha'nan the son of Achbor reigned in his stead. Ba'al-ha'nan the son of Achbor died, and Hadar reigned in his stead, the name of his city being Pau; his wife's name was Mehet'abel, the daughter of Matred, daughter of Me'zahab. These are the names of the chiefs of Esau, according to their families and their dwelling places, by their names: the chiefs Timna, Alvah, Jetheth, Oholiba'mah, Elah, Pinon, Kenaz, Teman, Mibzar, Mag'diel, and Iram; these are the chiefs of Edom (that is, Esau, the father of Edom), according to their dwelling places in the land of their possession. Jacob dwelt in the land of his father's sojournings, in the land of Canaan. This is the history of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a lad with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought an ill report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other

of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they only
5 hated him the more. He said to them, "Hear this dream which I have dreamed: behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and lo, my sheaf arose and stood upright; and behold, your sheaves gathered round it, and bowed down to my sheaf." His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to have dominion over us?" So they hated
10 him yet more for his dreams and for his words. Then he dreamed another dream, and told it to his brothers, and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream; and behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me." But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him, and said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed?
15 Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow ourselves to the ground before you?" And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the saying in mind. Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." And he said to him,
20 "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your

brothers, and with the flock; and bring me word again." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. And a man found him wandering in the fields; and the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said, "tell me, I pray you, where they are
5 pasturing the flock." And the man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him afar off, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of
10 the pits; then we shall say that a wild beast has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; cast him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand upon him" --that he might rescue him out of
15 their hand, to restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and cast him into a pit. The pit was empty, there was no water in it. Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ish'maelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum,
20 balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said

to his brothers, "What profit is it if we slay our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ish'maelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers heeded him. Then Mid'ianite traders passed by; and they drew Joseph up and lifted
5 him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ish'maelites for twenty shekels of silver; and they took Joseph to Egypt. When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he rent his clothes and returned to his brothers, and said, "The lad is gone; and I, where shall I go?" Then they took Joseph's robe, and killed a goat, and dipped the robe in the blood; and
10 they sent the long robe with sleeves and brought it to their father, and said, "This we have found; see now whether it is your son's robe or not." And he recognized it, and said, "It is my son's robe; a wild beast has devoured him; Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces." Then Jacob rent his garments, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days. All his
15 sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted, and said, "No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning." Thus his father wept for him. Meanwhile the Mid'ianites had sold him in Egypt to Pot'i-phar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard. It happened at that time that Judah went down from his brothers, and turned in
20 to a certain Adullamite, whose name was Hirah. There Judah saw the

daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name was Shua; he married her and went in to her, and she conceived and bore a son, and he called his name Er. Again she conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Onan. Yet again she bore a son, and she called his name Shelah. She was in Chezib
5 when she bore him. And Judah took a wife for Er his first-born, and her name was Tamar. But Er, Judah's first-born, was wicked in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD slew him. Then Judah said to Onan, "Go in to your brother's wife, and perform the duty of a brother-in-law to her, and raise up offspring for your brother." But Onan knew that the offspring would not be
10 his; so when he went in to his brother's wife he spilled the semen on the ground, lest he should give offspring to his brother. And what he did was displeasing in the sight of the LORD, and he slew him also. Then Judah said to Tamar his daughter-in-law, "Remain a widow in your father's house, till Shelah my son grows up" --for he feared that he would die, like his
15 brothers. So Tamar went and dwelt in her father's house. In course of time the wife of Judah, Shua's daughter, died; and when Judah was comforted, he went up to Timnah to his sheepshearers, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite. And when Tamar was told, "Your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep," she put off her widow's garments, and put on a
20 veil, wrapping herself up, and sat at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the

road to Timnah; for she saw that Shelah was grown up, and she had not been given to him in marriage. When Judah saw her, he thought her to be a harlot, for she had covered her face. He went over to her at the road side, and said, "Come, let me come in to you," for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. She said, "What will you give me, that you may come in to me?" He answered, "I will send you a kid from the flock." And she said, "Will you give me a pledge, till you send it?" He said, "What pledge shall I give you?" She replied, "Your signet and your cord, and your staff that is in your hand." So he gave them to her, and went in to her, and she conceived by him. Then she arose and went away, and taking off her veil she put on the garments of her widowhood. When Judah sent the kid by his friend the Adullamite, to receive the pledge from the woman's hand, he could not find her. And he asked the men of the place, "Where is the harlot who was at Enaim by the wayside?" And they said, "No harlot has been here." So he returned to Judah, and said, "I have not found her; and also the men of the place said, 'No harlot has been here.'" And Judah replied, "Let her keep the things as her own, lest we be laughed at; you see, I sent this kid, and you could not find her." About three months later Judah was told, "Tamar your daughter-in-law has played the harlot; and moreover she is with child by harlotry." And Judah said, "Bring her out, and let her be burned."

As she was being brought out, she sent word to her father-in-law, "By the man to whom these belong, I am with child." And she said, "Mark, I pray you, whose these are, the signet and the cord and the staff." Then Judah acknowledged them and said, "She is more righteous than I, inasmuch as I
5 did not give her to my son Shelah." And he did not lie with her again.

When the time of her delivery came, there were twins in her womb. And when she was in labor, one put out a hand; and the midwife took and bound on his hand a scarlet thread, saying, "This came out first." But as he drew back his hand, behold, his brother came out; and she said, "What a breach
10 you have made for yourself!" Therefore his name was called Perez. Afterward his brother came out with the scarlet thread upon his hand; and his name was called Zerah. Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Pot'i-phar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ish'maelites who had brought him down there. The LORD was with
15 Joseph, and he became a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian, and his master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hands. So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. From the time that he made
20 him overseer in his house and over all that he had the LORD blessed the

Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had, in house and field. So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge; and having him he had no concern for anything but the food which he ate. Now Joseph was handsome and good-looking. And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph, and said, "Lie with me." But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Lo, having me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my hand; he is not greater in this house than I am; nor has he kept back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife; how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" And although she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not listen to her, to lie with her or to be with her. But one day, when he went into the house to do his work and none of the men of the house was there in the house, she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and got out of the house. And when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and had fled out of the house, she called to the men of her household and said to them, "See, he has brought among us a Hebrew to insult us; he came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice; and when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, he left his garment with me, and fled and got out of the house." Then she laid up his garment by her until his

master came home, and she told him the same story, saying, "The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me; but as soon as I lifted up my voice and cried, he left his garment with me, and fled out of the house." When his master heard the words which his wife

5 spoke to him, "This is the way your servant treated me," his anger was kindled. And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison. But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison

10 committed to Joseph's care all the prisoners who were in the prison; and whatever was done there, he was the doer of it; the keeper of the prison paid no heed to anything that was in Joseph's care, because the LORD was with him; and whatever he did, the LORD made it prosper. Some time after this, the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker offended their lord the

15 king of Egypt. And Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, the chief butler and the chief baker, and he put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the prison where Joseph was confined. The captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he waited on them; and they continued for some time in custody. And one night they both dreamed--the butler and

20 the baker of the king of Egypt, who were confined in the prison--each his

own dream, and each dream with its own meaning. When Joseph came to them in the morning and saw them, they were troubled. So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in custody in his master's house, "Why are your faces downcast today?" They said to him, "We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them." And Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell them to me, I pray you." So the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, "In my dream there was a vine before me, and on the vine there were three branches; as soon as it budded, its blossoms shot forth, and the clusters ripened into grapes. Pharaoh's cup was in my hand; and I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand." Then Joseph said to him, "This is its interpretation: the three branches are three days; within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your office; and you shall place Pharaoh's cup in his hand as formerly, when you were his butler. But remember me, when it is well with you, and do me the kindness, I pray you, to make mention of me to Pharaoh, and so get me out of this house. For I was indeed stolen out of the land of the Hebrews; and here also I have done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon." When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was favorable, he said to Joseph, "I also had a dream: there were three cake baskets on my head, and in the

uppermost basket there were all sorts of baked food for Pharaoh, but the birds were eating it out of the basket on my head." And Joseph answered, "This is its interpretation: the three baskets are three days; within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head--from you! --and hang you on a tree; and the birds will eat the flesh from you." On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he made a feast for all his servants, and lifted up the head of the chief butler and the head of the chief baker among his servants. He restored the chief butler to his butlership, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand; but he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. Yet the chief butler did not remember Joseph, but forgot him. After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile, and behold, there came up out of the Nile seven cows sleek and fat, and they fed in the reed grass. And behold, seven other cows, gaunt and thin, came up out of the Nile after them, and stood by the other cows on the bank of the Nile. And the gaunt and thin cows ate up the seven sleek and fat cows. And Pharaoh awoke. And he fell asleep and dreamed a second time; and behold, seven ears of grain, plump and good, were growing on one stalk. And behold, after them sprouted seven ears, thin and blighted by the east wind. And the thin ears swallowed up the seven plump and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and behold, it was a dream. So in the morning his spirit was troubled; and he

sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men; and
Pharaoh told them his dream, but there was none who could interpret it to
Pharaoh. Then the chief butler said to Pharaoh, "I remember my faults today.
When Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me and the chief baker
5 in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, we dreamed on the
same night, he and I, each having a dream with its own meaning. A young
Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard; and when
we told him, he interpreted our dreams to us, giving an interpretation to each
man according to his dream. And as he interpreted to us, so it came to pass;
10 I was restored to my office, and the baker was hanged." Then Pharaoh sent
and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon; and
when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before
Pharaoh. And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and there is no
one who can interpret it; and I have heard it said of you that when you
15 hear a dream you can interpret it." Joseph answered Pharaoh, "It is not in
me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer." Then Pharaoh said to
Joseph, "Behold, in my dream I was standing on the banks of the Nile; and
seven cows, fat and sleek, came up out of the Nile and fed in the reed
grass; and seven other cows came up after them, poor and very gaunt and
20 thin, such as I had never seen in all the land of Egypt. And the thin and

gaunt cows ate up the first seven fat cows, but when they had eaten them
no one would have known that they had eaten them, for they were still as
gaunt as at the beginning. Then I awoke. I also saw in my dream seven ears
growing on one stalk, full and good; and seven ears, withered, thin, and
5 blighted by the east wind, sprouted after them, and the thin ears swallowed
up the seven good ears. And I told it to the magicians, but there was no
one who could explain it to me." Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dream
of Pharaoh is one; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. The
seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years;
10 the dream is one. The seven lean and gaunt cows that came up after them
are seven years, and the seven empty ears blighted by the east wind are also
seven years of famine. It is as I told Pharaoh, God has shown to Pharaoh
what he is about to do. There will come seven years of great plenty
throughout all the land of Egypt, but after them there will arise seven years
15 of famine, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; the
famine will consume the land, and the plenty will be unknown in the land
by reason of that famine which will follow, for it will be very grievous. And
the doubling of Pharaoh's dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and
God will shortly bring it to pass. Now therefore let Pharaoh select a man
20 discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh proceed

to appoint overseers over the land, and take the fifth part of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plenteous years. And let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming, and lay up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. That food

5 shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine which are to befall the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine." This proposal seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his servants. And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a man as this, in whom is the Spirit of God?" So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you

10 all this, there is none so discreet and wise as you are; you shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command; only as regards the throne will I be greater than you." And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Behold, I have set you over all the land of Egypt." Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in

15 garments of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck; and he made him to ride in his second chariot; and they cried before him, "Bow the knee!" Thus he set him over all the land of Egypt. Moreover Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no man shall lift up hand or foot in all the land of Egypt." And Pharaoh called Joseph's name

20 Zaph'enath-pane'ah; and he gave him in marriage As'enath, the daughter of

Poti'phera priest of On. So Joseph went out over the land of Egypt. Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went through all the land of Egypt. During the seven plenteous years the earth brought forth abundantly, and he gathered up all the food of the seven years when there was plenty in the land of Egypt, and stored up food in the cities; he stored up in every city the food from the fields around it. And Joseph stored up grain in great abundance, like the sand of the sea, until he ceased to measure it, for it could not be measured. Before the year of famine came, Joseph had two sons, whom As'enath, the daughter of Poti'phera priest of On, bore to him. Joseph called the name of the first-born Manas'seh, "For," he said, "God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house." The name of the second he called E'phraim, "For God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction." The seven years of plenty that prevailed in the land of Egypt came to an end; and the seven years of famine began to come, as Joseph had said. There was famine in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread; and Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do." So when the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold to the

Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt. Moreover, all the earth came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was severe over all the earth. When Jacob learned that there was grain in Egypt, he said to his sons, "Why do you look at one another?" And he said, "Behold, I
5 have heard that there is grain in Egypt; go down and buy grain for us there, that we may live, and not die." So ten of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt. But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's brother, with his brothers, for he feared that harm might befall him. Thus the sons of Israel came to buy among the others who came, for the famine was in the
10 land of Canaan. Now Joseph was governor over the land; he it was who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came, and bowed themselves before him with their faces to the ground. Joseph saw his brothers, and knew them, but he treated them like strangers and spoke roughly to them. "Where do you come from?" he said. They said, "From the
15 land of Canaan, to buy food." Thus Joseph knew his brothers, but they did not know him. And Joseph remembered the dreams which he had dreamed of them; and he said to them, "You are spies, you have come to see the weakness of the land." They said to him, "No, my lord, but to buy food have your servants come. We are all sons of one man, we are honest men,
20 your servants are not spies." He said to them, "No, it is the weakness of the

land that you have come to see." And they said, "We, your servants, are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; and behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is no more." But Joseph said to them, "It is as I said to you, you are spies. By this you shall be tested:

5 by the life of Pharaoh, you shall not go from this place unless your youngest brother comes here. Send one of you, and let him bring your brother, while you remain in prison, that your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you; or else, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies." And he put them all together in prison for three days. On the third day Joseph said to

10 them, "Do this and you will live, for I fear God: if you are honest men, let one of your brothers remain confined in your prison, and let the rest go and carry grain for the famine of your households, and bring your youngest brother to me; so your words will be verified, and you shall not die." And they did so. Then they said to one another, "In truth we are guilty

15 concerning our brother, in that we saw the distress of his soul, when he besought us and we would not listen; therefore is this distress come upon us." And Reuben answered them, "Did I not tell you not to sin against the lad? But you would not listen. So now there comes a reckoning for his blood." They did not know that Joseph understood them, for there was an

20 interpreter between them. Then he turned away from them and wept; and he

returned to them and spoke to them. And he took Simeon from them and bound him before their eyes. And Joseph gave orders to fill their bags with grain, and to replace every man's money in his sack, and to give them provisions for the journey. This was done for them. Then they loaded their
5 asses with their grain, and departed. And as one of them opened his sack to give his ass provender at the lodging place, he saw his money in the mouth of his sack; and he said to his brothers, "My money has been put back; here it is in the mouth of my sack!" At this their hearts failed them, and they turned trembling to one another, saying, "What is this that God has done to
10 us?" When they came to Jacob their father in the land of Canaan, they told him all that had befallen them, saying, "The man, the lord of the land, spoke roughly to us, and took us to be spies of the land. But we said to him, 'We are honest men, we are not spies; we are twelve brothers, sons of our father; one is no more, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of
15 Canaan.' Then the man, the lord of the land, said to us, 'By this I shall know that you are honest men: leave one of your brothers with me, and take grain for the famine of your households, and go your way. Bring your youngest brother to me; then I shall know that you are not spies but honest men, and I will deliver to you your brother, and you shall trade in the
20 land.'" As they emptied their sacks, behold, every man's bundle of money

was in his sack; and when they and their father saw their bundles of money,
they were dismayed. And Jacob their father said to them, "You have
bereaved me of my children: Joseph is no more, and Simeon is no more,
and now you would take Benjamin; all this has come upon me." Then
5 Reuben said to his father, "Slay my two sons if I do not bring him back to
you; put him in my hands, and I will bring him back to you." But he said,
"My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he only is
left. If harm should befall him on the journey that you are to make, you
would bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to Sheol." Now the famine
10 was severe in the land. And when they had eaten the grain which they had
brought from Egypt, their father said to them, "Go again, buy us a little
food." But Judah said to him, "The man solemnly warned us, saying, 'You
shall not see my face, unless your brother is with you.' If you will send our
brother with us, we will go down and buy you food; but if you will not
15 send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us, 'You shall not see
my face, unless your brother is with you.'" Israel said, "Why did you treat
me so ill as to tell the man that you had another brother?" They replied,
"The man questioned us carefully about ourselves and our kindred, saying, 'Is
your father still alive? Have you another brother?' What we told him was in
20 answer to these questions; could we in any way know that he would say,

'Bring your brother down'?" And Judah said to Israel his father, "Send the lad with me, and we will arise and go, that we may live and not die, both we and you and also our little ones. I will be surety for him; of my hand you shall require him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before
5 you, then let me bear the blame for ever; for if we had not delayed, we would now have returned twice." Then their father Israel said to them, "If it must be so, then do this: take some of the choice fruits of the land in your bags, and carry down to the man a present, a little balm and a little honey, gum, myrrh, pistachio nuts, and almonds. Take double the money with you;
10 carry back with you the money that was returned in the mouth of your sacks; perhaps it was an oversight. Take also your brother, and arise, go again to the man; may God Almighty grant you mercy before the man, that he may send back your other brother and Benjamin. If I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved." So the men took the present, and they took double
15 the money with them, and Benjamin; and they arose and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph. When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the steward of his house, "Bring the men into the house, and slaughter an animal and make ready, for the men are to dine with me at noon." The man did as Joseph bade him, and brought the men to Joseph's
20 house. And the men were afraid because they were brought to Joseph's

house, and they said, "It is because of the money, which was replaced in our
sacks the first time, that we are brought in, so that he may seek occasion
against us and fall upon us, to make slaves of us and seize our asses." So
they went up to the steward of Joseph's house, and spoke with him at the
5 door of the house, and said, "Oh, my lord, we came down the first time to
buy food; and when we came to the lodging place we opened our sacks, and
there was every man's money in the mouth of his sack, our money in full
weight; so we have brought it again with us, and we have brought other
money down in our hand to buy food. We do not know who put our money
10 in our sacks." He replied, "Rest assured, do not be afraid; your God and the
God of your father must have put treasure in your sacks for you; I received
your money." Then he brought Simeon out to them. And when the man had
brought the men into Joseph's house, and given them water, and they had
washed their feet, and when he had given their asses provender, they made
15 ready the present for Joseph's coming at noon, for they heard that they
should eat bread there. When Joseph came home, they brought into the house
to him the present which they had with them, and bowed down to him to
the ground. And he inquired about their welfare, and said, "Is your father
well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?" They said, "Your
20 servant our father is well, he is still alive." And they bowed their heads and

made obeisance. And he lifted up his eyes, and saw his brother Benjamin,
his mother's son, and said, "Is this your youngest brother, of whom you
spoke to me? God be gracious to you, my son!" Then Joseph made haste,
for his heart yearned for his brother, and he sought a place to weep. And he
5 entered his chamber and wept there. Then he washed his face and came out;
and controlling himself he said, "Let food be served." They served him by
himself, and them by themselves, and the Egyptians who ate with him by
themselves, because the Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews, for
that is an abomination to the Egyptians. And they sat before him, the first-
10 born according to his birthright and the youngest according to his youth; and
the men looked at one another in amazement. Portions were taken to them
from Joseph's table, but Benjamin's portion was five times as much as any of
theirs. So they drank and were merry with him. Then he commanded the
steward of his house, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can
15 carry, and put each man's money in the mouth of his sack, and put my cup,
the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, with his money for
the grain." And he did as Joseph told him. As soon as the morning was
light, the men were sent away with their asses. When they had gone but a
short distance from the city, Joseph said to his steward, "Up, follow after the
20 men; and when you overtake them, say to them, 'Why have you returned evil

for good? Why have you stolen my silver cup? Is it not from this that my lord drinks, and by this that he divines? You have done wrong in so doing."

When he overtook them, he spoke to them these words. They said to him, "Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants

5 that they should do such a thing! Behold, the money which we found in the mouth of our sacks, we brought back to you from the land of Canaan; how then should we steal silver or gold from your lord's house? With whomever of your servants it be found, let him die, and we also will be my lord's slaves." He said, "Let it be as you say: he with whom it is found shall be

10 my slave, and the rest of you shall be blameless." Then every man quickly lowered his sack to the ground, and every man opened his sack. And he searched, beginning with the eldest and ending with the youngest; and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. Then they rent their clothes, and every man loaded his ass, and they returned to the city. When Judah and his

15 brothers came to Joseph's house, he was still there; and they fell before him to the ground. Joseph said to them, "What deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that such a man as I can indeed divine?" And Judah said, "What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how can we clear ourselves? God has found out the guilt of your servants; behold, we are my

20 lord's slaves, both we and he also in whose hand the cup has been found."

But he said, "Far be it from me that I should do so! Only the man in whose hand the cup was found shall be my slave; but as for you, go up in peace to your father." Then Judah went up to him and said, "O my lord, let your servant, I pray you, speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not your
5 anger burn against your servant; for you are like Pharaoh himself. My lord asked his servants, saying, 'Have you a father, or a brother?' And we said to my lord, 'We have a father, an old man, and a young brother, the child of his old age; and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother's children; and his father loves him.' Then you said to your servants, 'Bring
10 him down to me, that I may set my eyes upon him.' We said to my lord, 'The lad cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die.' Then you said to your servants, 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall see my face no more.' When we went back to your servant my father we told him the words of my lord. And when our
15 father said, 'Go again, buy us a little food,' we said, 'We cannot go down. If our youngest brother goes with us, then we will go down; for we cannot see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us.' Then your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons; one left me, and I said, Surely he has been torn to pieces; and I have never seen him
20 since. If you take this one also from me, and harm befalls him, you will

bring down my gray hairs in sorrow to Sheol.' Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father, and the lad is not with us, then, as his life is bound up in the lad's life, when he sees that the lad is not with us, he will die; and your servants will bring down the gray hairs of your servant our

5 father with sorrow to Sheol. For your servant became surety for the lad to my father, saying, 'If I do not bring him back to you, then I shall bear the blame in the sight of my father all my life.' Now therefore, let your servant, I pray you, remain instead of the lad as a slave to my lord; and let the lad go back with his brothers. For how can I go back to my father if the lad is

10 not with me? I fear to see the evil that would come upon my father." Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him; and he cried, "Make every one go out from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. And Joseph said

15 to his brothers, "I am Joseph; is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, I pray you." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me

20 here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been

in the land these two years; and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; and he has made me a father to

5 Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Make haste and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry; you shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds,

10 and all that you have; and there I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come; lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty.' And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father of all my splendor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Make

15 haste and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. When the report was heard in Pharaoh's house, "Joseph's brothers have come," it pleased Pharaoh and his servants well. And Pharaoh said to Joseph,

20 "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load your beasts and go back to the land of

Canaan; and take your father and your households, and come to me, and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt, and you shall eat the fat of the land.' Command them also, 'Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father, and come. Give
5 no thought to your goods, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.'"

The sons of Israel did so; and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the command of Pharaoh, and gave them provisions for the journey. To each and all of them he gave festal garments; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred shekels of silver and five festal garments. To his father he sent as follows:
10 ten asses loaded with the good things of Egypt, and ten she-asses loaded with grain, bread, and provision for his father on the journey. Then he sent his brothers away, and as they departed, he said to them, "Do not quarrel on the way." So they went up out of Egypt, and came to the land of Canaan to their father Jacob. And they told him, "Joseph is still alive, and he is ruler
15 over all the land of Egypt." And his heart fainted, for he did not believe them. But when they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them, and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived; and Israel said, "It is enough; Joseph my son is still alive; I will go and see him before I die." So Israel took his
20 journey with all that he had, and came to Beer-sheba, and offered sacrifices

to the God of his father Isaac. And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night, and said, "Jacob, Jacob." And he said, "Here am I." Then he said, "I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt; for I will there make of you a great nation. I will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again; and Joseph's hand shall close your eyes."

5 Then Jacob set out from Beer-sheba; and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him. They also took their cattle and their goods, which they had gained in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob and all

10 his offspring with him, his sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters; all his offspring he brought with him into Egypt.

Now these are the names of the descendants of Israel, who came into Egypt, Jacob and his sons. Reuben, Jacob's first-born, and the sons of Reuben: Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi. The sons of Simeon: Jemu'el, Jamin,

15 Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul, the son of a Canaanitish woman. The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merar'i. The sons of Judah: Er, Onan, Shelah, Perez, and Zerah (but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan); and the sons of Perez were Hezron and Hamul. The sons of Is'sachar: Tola, Puvah, Iob, and Shimron. The sons of Zeb'ulun: Sered, Elon, and Jah'leel (these are

20 the sons of Leah, whom she bore to Jacob in Paddan-aram, together with his

daughter Dinah; altogether his sons and his daughters numbered thirty-three).

The sons of Gad: Ziph'ion, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Aro'di, and Are'li. The sons of Asher: Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, Beri'ah, with Serah their sister. And the sons of Beri'ah: Heber and Mal'chi-el (these are the sons of Zilpah, whom

5 Laban gave to Leah his daughter; and these she bore to Jacob--sixteen persons). The sons of Rachel, Jacob's wife: Joseph and Benjamin. And to Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manas'seh and E'phraim, whom As'enath, the daughter of Poti'phera the priest of On, bore to him. And the sons of Benjamin: Bela, Becher, Ashbel, Gera, Na'aman, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim,

10 Huppim, and Ard (these are the sons of Rachel, who were born to Jacob--fourteen persons in all). The sons of Dan: Hushim. The sons of Naph'tali: Jahzeel, Guni, Jezer, and Shillem (these are the sons of Bilhah, whom Laban gave to Rachel his daughter, and these she bore to Jacob--seven persons in all). All the persons belonging to Jacob who came into Egypt, who were his

15 own offspring, not including Jacob's sons' wives, were sixty-six persons in all; and the sons of Joseph, who were born to him in Egypt, were two; all the persons of the house of Jacob, that came into Egypt, were seventy. He sent Judah before him to Joseph, to appear before him in Goshen; and they came into the land of Goshen. Then Joseph made ready his chariot and went

20 up to meet Israel his father in Goshen; and he presented himself to him, and

fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while. Israel said to Joseph,
"Now let me die, since I have seen your face and know that you are still
alive." Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, "I will go
up and tell Pharaoh, and will say to him, 'My brothers and my father's
5 household, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me; and the men
are shepherds, for they have been keepers of cattle; and they have brought
their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have.' When Pharaoh calls you,
and says, 'What is your occupation?' you shall say, 'Your servants have been
keepers of cattle from our youth even until now, both we and our fathers,' in
10 order that you may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an
abomination to the Egyptians." So Joseph went in and told Pharaoh, "My
father and my brothers, with their flocks and herds and all that they possess,
have come from the land of Canaan; they are now in the land of Goshen."
And from among his brothers he took five men and presented them to
15 Pharaoh. Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is your occupation?" And they
said to Pharaoh, "Your servants are shepherds, as our fathers were." They
said to Pharaoh, "We have come to sojourn in the land; for there is no
pasture for your servants' flocks, for the famine is severe in the land of
Canaan; and now, we pray you, let your servants dwell in the land of
20 Goshen." Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Your father and your brothers have

come to you. The land of Egypt is before you; settle your father and your brothers in the best of the land; let them dwell in the land of Goshen; and if you know any able men among them, put them in charge of my cattle." Then Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh, and

5 Jacob blessed Pharaoh. And Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How many are the days of the years of your life?" And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my sojourning are a hundred and thirty years; few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their sojourning."

10 And Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from the presence of Pharaoh. Then Joseph settled his father and his brothers, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Ram'eses, as Pharaoh had commanded. And Joseph provided his father, his brothers, and all his father's household with food, according to the number of their

15 dependents. Now there was no food in all the land; for the famine was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished by reason of the famine. And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, for the grain which they bought; and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. And when the

20 money was all spent in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the

Egyptians came to Joseph, and said, "Give us food; why should we die before your eyes? For our money is gone." And Joseph answered, "Give your cattle, and I will give you food in exchange for your cattle, if your money is gone." So they brought their cattle to Joseph; and Joseph gave them food

5 in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the herds, and the asses: and he supplied them with food in exchange for all their cattle that year. And when that year was ended, they came to him the following year, and said to him, "We will not hide from my lord that our money is all spent; and the herds of cattle are my lord's; there is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our

10 bodies and our lands. Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for food, and we with our land will be slaves to Pharaoh; and give us seed, that we may live, and not die, and that the land may not be desolate." So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh; for all the Egyptians sold their fields, because the famine was severe upon

15 them. The land became Pharaoh's; and as for the people, he made slaves of them from one end of Egypt to the other. Only the land of the priests he did not buy; for the priests had a fixed allowance from Pharaoh, and lived on the allowance which Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their land. Then Joseph said to the people, "Behold, I have this day bought you

20 and your land for Pharaoh. Now here is seed for you, and you shall sow the

land. And at the harvests you shall give a fifth to Pharaoh, and four fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and as food for yourselves and your households, and as food for your little ones." And they said, "You have saved our lives; may it please my lord, we will be slaves to Pharaoh." So

5 Joseph made it a statute concerning the land of Egypt, and it stands to this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth; the land of the priests alone did not become Pharaoh's. Thus Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the land of Goshen; and they gained possessions in it, and were fruitful and multiplied exceedingly. And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years; so the

10 days of Jacob, the years of his life, were a hundred and forty-seven years.

And when the time drew near that Israel must die, he called his son Joseph and said to him, "If now I have found favor in your sight, put your hand under my thigh, and promise to deal loyally and truly with me. Do not bury me in Egypt, but let me lie with my fathers; carry me out of Egypt and

15 bury me in their burying place." He answered, "I will do as you have said."

And he said, "Swear to me"; and he swore to him. Then Israel bowed himself upon the head of his bed. After this Joseph was told, "Behold, your father is ill"; so he took with him his two sons, Manas'seh and E'phraim.

And it was told to Jacob, "Your son Joseph has come to you"; then Israel

20 summoned his strength, and sat up in bed. And Jacob said to Joseph, "God

Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me, and said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful, and multiply you, and I will make of you a company of peoples, and will give this land to your descendants after you for an everlasting possession.' And now your two sons, 5 who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; E'phraim and Manas'seh shall be mine, as Reuben and Simeon are. And the offspring born to you after them shall be yours; they shall be called by the name of their brothers in their inheritance. For when I came from Paddan, Rachel to my sorrow died in the land of Canaan on the way, when 10 there was still some distance to go to Ephrath; and I buried her there on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem)." When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, "Who are these?" Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." And he said, "Bring them to me, I pray you, that I may bless them." Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not 15 see. So Joseph brought them near him; and he kissed them and embraced them. And Israel said to Joseph, "I had not thought to see your face; and lo, God has let me see your children also." Then Joseph removed them from his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth. And Joseph took them both, E'phraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and 20 Manas'seh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near

him. And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it upon the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand upon the head of Manas'seh, crossing his hands, for Manas'seh was the first-born. And he blessed Joseph, and said, "The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has led me all my life long to this day, the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and in them let my name be perpetuated, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth." When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him; and he took his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manas'seh's head. And Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my father; for this one is the first-born; put your right hand upon his head." But his father refused, and said, "I know, my son, I know; he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; nevertheless his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a multitude of nations." So he blessed them that day, saying, "By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying, 'God make you as Ephraim and as Manas'seh'; and thus he put Ephraim before Manas'seh. Then Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I am about to die, but God will be with you, and will bring you again to the land of your fathers. Moreover I have given to you rather than to your brothers one

mountain slope which I took from the hand of the Amorites with my sword
 and with my bow." Then Jacob called his sons, and said, "Gather yourselves
 together, that I may tell you what shall befall you in days to come.
 Assemble and hear, O sons of Jacob, and hearken to Israel your father.
 5 Reuben, you are my first-born, my might, and the first fruits of my strength,
 pre-eminent in pride and pre-eminent in power. Unstable as water, you shall
 not have pre-eminence because you went up to your father's bed; then you
 defiled it--you went up to my couch! Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons
 of violence are their swords. O my soul, come not into their council; O my
 10 spirit, be not joined to their company; for in their anger they slay men, and
 in their wantonness they hamstring oxen. Cursed be their anger, for it is
 fierce; and their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob and
 scatter them in Israel. Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall
 be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before
 15 you. Judah is a lion's whelp; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He
 stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as a lioness; who dares rouse him
 up? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from
 between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs; and to him shall be
 the obedience of the peoples. Binding his foal to the vine and his ass's colt
 20 to the choice vine, he washes his garments in wine and his vesture in the

blood of grapes; his eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with
milk. Zeb'ulun shall dwell at the shore of the sea; he shall become a haven
for ships, and his border shall be at Sidon. Is'sachar is a strong ass,
crouching between the sheepfolds; he saw that a resting place was good, and
5 that the land was pleasant; so he bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a
slave at forced labor. Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of
Israel. Dan shall be a serpent in the way, a viper by the path, that bites the
horse's heels so that his rider falls backward. I wait for thy salvation, O
LORD. Raiders shall raid Gad, but he shall raid at their heels. Asher's food
10 shall be rich, and he shall yield royal dainties. Naph'tali is a hind let loose,
that bears comely fawns. Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a
spring; his branches run over the wall. The archers fiercely attacked him,
shot at him, and harassed him sorely; yet his bow remained unmoved, his
arms were made agile by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob (by the
15 name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel), by the God of your father who
will help you, by God Almighty who will bless you with blessings of heaven
above, blessings of the deep that couches beneath, blessings of the breasts
and of the womb. The blessings of your father are mighty beyond the
blessings of the eternal mountains, the bounties of the everlasting hills; may
20 they be on the head of Joseph, and on the brow of him who was separate

from his brothers. Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey, and at even dividing the spoil." All these are the twelve tribes of Israel; and this is what their father said to them as he blessed them, blessing each with the blessing suitable to him. Then he charged them, and said to
5 them, "I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, in the cave that is in the field at Mach-pe'lah, to the east of Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite to possess as a burying place. There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and
10 Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah-- the field and the cave that is in it were purchased from the Hittites." When Jacob finished charging his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed, and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people. Then Joseph fell on his father's face, and wept over him, and kissed him. And Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm
15 his father. So the physicians embalmed Israel; forty days were required for it, for so many are required for embalming. And the Egyptians wept for him seventy days. And when the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph spoke to the household of Pharaoh, saying, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, speak, I pray you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying, My father made
20 me swear, saying, 'I am about to die: in my tomb which I hewed out for

myself in the land of Canaan, there shall you bury me.' Now therefore let
me go up, I pray you, and bury my father; then I will return." And Pharaoh
answered, "Go up, and bury your father, as he made you swear." So Joseph
went up to bury his father; and with him went up all the servants of
5 Pharaoh, the elders of his household, and all the elders of the land of Egypt,
as well as all the household of Joseph, his brothers, and his father's
household; only their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the
land of Goshen. And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen; it
was a very great company. When they came to the threshing floor of Atad,
10 which is beyond the Jordan, they lamented there with a very great and
sorrowful lamentation; and he made a mourning for his father seven days.
When the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning on the
threshing floor of Atad, they said, "This is a grievous mourning to the
Egyptians." Therefore the place was named A'bel-mizraim; it is beyond the
15 Jordan. Thus his sons did for him as he had commanded them; for his sons
carried him to the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field
at Mach-pe'lah, to the east of Mamre, which Abraham bought with the field
from Ephron the Hittite, to possess as a burying place. After he had buried
his father, Joseph returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who had gone
20 up with him to bury his father. When Joseph's brothers saw that their father

was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil which we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, 'Say to Joseph, Forgive, I pray you, the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because
5 they did evil to you.' And now, we pray you, forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him, and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Fear not, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, to
10 bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he reassured them and comforted them. So Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he and his father's house; and Joseph lived a hundred and ten years. And Joseph saw E'phraim's children of the third generation; the children also of Machir the son of
15 Manas'seh were born upon Joseph's knees. And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die; but God will visit you, and bring you up out of this land to the land which he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." Then Joseph took an oath of the sons of Israel, saying, "God will visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." So Joseph died, being a hundred and

ten years old; and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.*

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