

THE FIRST BOOK OF THE CHRONICLES

Genealogies from Adam to Saul

1¹ADAM, SETH, ENOSH, ² [vv2-4: cp Gen. 5.9-32]Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, ³Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, ⁴Noah.

The sons of Noah: Shem, Ham and Japheth.

⁵ [vv5-7: cp Gen. 10. 2-4]The sons of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan [*Or Greece*], Tubal, Meshech and Tiras. ⁶The sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Diphath and Togarmah. ⁷The sons of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim [*Or Tarshish of the Kittians*] and Rodanim.

⁸ [vv8-10: cp Gen. 10.6-8]The sons of Ham: Cush, Mizraim [*Or Egypt*], Put and Canaan. ⁹The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raama and Sabtecha. The sons of Raama: Sheba and Dedan. ¹⁰Cush was the father of Nimrod, who began to show himself a man of might on earth. ¹¹ [vv11-16: cp Gen. 10.13-18]From Mizraim sprang the Lydians, Anamites, Lehabites, Naphtuhites, ¹²Pathrusites, Casluhites, and the Caphtorites, from whom the Philistines were descended.

¹³Canaan was the father of Sidon, who was his eldest son, and Heth [*Or the Hittites*], ¹⁴the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites, ¹⁵the Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites, ¹⁶the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites.

¹⁷ [vv17-23: cp Gen. 10.22-29]The sons of Shem: Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud [*Or the Lydians*] and Aram. The sons of Aram: Uz, Hul, Gether and Mash. ¹⁸Arphaxad was the father of Shelah, and Shelah the father of Eber. ¹⁹Eber had two sons: one was named Peleg [*That is Division*], because in his time the earth was divided, and his brother's name was Joktan. ²⁰Joktan was the father of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmoth, Jerah, ²¹Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, ²²Ebal [*Or Obal, cp Gen. 10.28*], Abimael, Sheba, ²³Ophir, Havilah and Jobab. All these were sons of Joktan.

²⁴ [vv24-27: cp Gen. 11.10-26]The line of [*The line of: prob. rdg, Heb omitted*] Shem: Arphaxad, Shelah, ²⁵Eber, Peleg, Reu, ²⁶Serug, Nahor, Terah, ²⁷Abram, also known as Abraham, ²⁸whose sons were Isaac and Ishmael.

²⁹ [vv29-31: cp Gen. 25.13-16]The sons of [*The sons of: prob. rdg, cp Gen. 25.13; Heb omitted*] Ishmael in the order of their birth: Nebaioth the eldest, then Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, ³⁰Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, Teman, ³¹Jetur, Naphish and Kedemah. These were Ishmael's sons.

³² [vv32, 33: cp Gen. 25.1-4]The sons of Keturah, Abraham's concubine: she bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak and Shuah. The sons of Jokshan: Sheba and Dedan. ³³The sons of Midian: Ephah, Ephher, Enoch, Abida and Eldaah. All these were descendants of Keturah.

³⁴Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac's sons were Esau and Israel. ³⁵ [vv35-37: cp Gen. 36.4, 5, 9-13] The sons of Esau: Eliphaz, Reuel, Jeush, Jalam and Korah. ³⁶The sons of Eliphaz: Teman, Omar, Zephi, Gatam, Kenaz, Timna and Amalek. ³⁷The sons of Reuel: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah and Mizzah.

³⁸ [vv38-42: cp Gen. 36.20-28] The sons of Seir: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer and Dishan. ³⁹The sons of Lotan: Hori and Homam; and Lotan had a sister named Timna. ⁴⁰The sons of Shobal: Alvan, Manahath, Ebal, Shephi and Onam. The sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah. ⁴¹The son [prob. rdg, Heb sons; the same correction is made in several other places in chapters 1-9] of Anah: Dishon. The sons of Dishon: Amram, Eshban, Ithran and Cheran. ⁴²The sons of Ezer: Bilhan, Zavan and Akan. The sons of Dishan: Uz and Aran.

⁴³ [vv43-54: cp Gen. 36.31-43] These are the kings who ruled over Edom before there were kings in Israel: Bela son of Beor, whose city was named Dinhabah. ⁴⁴When he died, he was succeeded by Jobab son of Zerah of Bozrah. ⁴⁵When Jobab died, he was succeeded by Husham of Teman. ⁴⁶When Husham died, he was succeeded by Hadad son of Bedad, who defeated Midian in Moabite country. His city was named Avith. ⁴⁷When Hadad died, he was succeeded by Samlah of Masrekah. ⁴⁸When Samlah died, he was succeeded by Saul of Rehoboth on the River. ⁴⁹When Saul died, he was succeeded by Baal-hanan son of Akbor. ⁵⁰When Baal-hanan died, he was succeeded by Hadad. His city was named Pai; his wife's name was Mehetabel daughter of Matred a woman of Me-zahab [Or daughter of Mezahab].

⁵¹After Hadad died the chiefs in Edom were: chief Timna, chief Aliah, chief Jetheth, ⁵²chief Oholibamah, chief Elah, chief Pinon, ⁵³chief Kenaz, chief Teman, chief Mibzar, ⁵⁴chief Magdiel and chief Iram. These were the chiefs of Edom.

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

³The sons of Judah: Er, Onan and Shelah; the mother of these three was a Canaanite woman, Bathshua [Bathshua: or daughter of Shua] Er, Judah's eldest son, displeased the LORD and the LORD slew him. ⁴Then Tamar, Judah's daughter-in-law, bore him Perez and Zerah, making in all five sons of Judah. ⁵The sons of Perez: Hezron and Hamul. ⁶The sons of Zerah: Zimri, Ethan, Heman, Calcol and Darda, five in all. The son of Zimri: Carmi [The son ... Carmi: prob. rdg, (cp Josh. 7.1, 18); Heb omitted]. ⁷The son of Carmi: Achar, who troubled Israel by his violation of the sacred ban. ⁸The son of Ethan: Azariah. ⁹The sons of Hezron: Jerahmeel, Ram and Caleb. ¹⁰Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab father of Nahshon prince of Judah. ¹¹Nahshon was the father of Salma, Salma father of Boaz, ¹²Boaz father of Obed, Obed father of Jesse. ¹³The eldest son of Jesse was Eliab, the second Abinadab, the third Shimea, ¹⁴the fourth Nethaneel, the fifth Raddai, ¹⁵the sixth Ozem, the seventh David; ¹⁶their sisters were Zeruiah and Abigail. The sons of Zeruiah: Abishai, Joab and Asahel, three in all. ¹⁷Abigail was the mother of Amasa; his father was Jether the Ishmaelite.

¹⁸Caleb son of Hezron had Jerioth by Azubah his wife [*his wife: prob. rdg, Heb a woman and*]; these were her sons: Jeshur, Shobab and Ardon. ¹⁹When Azubah died, Caleb married Ephrath, who bore him Hur. ²⁰Hur was the father of Uri, and Uri father of Bezalel. ²¹Later, Hezron, then sixty years of age, had intercourse with the daughter of Machir father of Gilead, having married her, and she bore Segub. ²²Segub was the father of Jair, who had twenty-three cities in Gilead. ²³Geshur and Aram took from them Havvoth-jair, and Kenath and its dependent villages, a total of sixty towns. All these were descendants of Machir father of Gilead. ²⁴After the death of Hezron, Caleb had intercourse with Ephrathah and she bore him Ashhur the founder of Tekoa.

²⁵The sons of Jerahmeel eldest son of Hezron by [*by: prob. rdg, Heb omitted*] Ahijah were Ram the eldest, Bunah, Oren and Ozem. ²⁶Jerahmeel had another wife, whose name was Atarah; she was the mother of Onam. ²⁷The sons of Ram eldest son of Jerahmeel: Maaz, Jamin and Eker. ²⁸The sons of Onam: Shammai and Jada. The sons of Shammai: Nadab and Abishur. ²⁹The name of Abishur's wife was Abihail; she bore him Ahban and Molid. ³⁰The sons of Nadab: Seled and Ephraim; Seled died without children. ³¹Ephraim's son was Ishi, Ishi's son Sheshan, Sheshan's son Ahlai. ³²The sons of Jada brother of Shammai: Jether and Jonathan; Jether died without children. ³³The sons of Jonathan: Peleth and Zaza. These were the descendants of Jerahmeel.

³⁴Sheshan had daughters but no sons. He had an Egyptian servant named Jarha; ³⁵he gave his daughter in marriage to this Jarha, and she bore him Attai. ³⁶Attai was the father of Nathan, Nathan father of Zabad, ³⁷Zabad father of Ephlal, Ephlal father of Obed, ³⁸Obed father of Jehu, Jehu father of Azariah, ³⁹Azariah father of Helez, Helez father of Elasah, ⁴⁰Elasah father of Sisamai, Sisamai father of Shallum, ⁴¹Shallum father of Jekamiah, and Jekamiah father of Elishama.

⁴²The sons of Caleb brother of Jerahmeel: Mesha the eldest, founder of Ziph, and [*prob. rdg, Heb adds the sons of*] Mareshah founder of Hebron. ⁴³The sons of Hebron: Korah, Tappuah, Rekem and Shema. ⁴⁴Shema was the father of Raham father of Jorkoam, and Rekem was the father of Shammai. ⁴⁵The son of Shammai was Maon, and Maon was the founder of Beth-zur. ⁴⁶Ephah, Caleb's concubine, was the mother of Haran, Moza and Gazez; Haran was the father of Gazez. ⁴⁷The sons of Jahdai: Regem, Jotham, Geshan, Pelet, Ephah and Shaaph. ⁴⁸Maacah, Caleb's concubine, was the mother of Sheber and Tirhanah; ⁴⁹she bore also Shaaph founder of Madmannah, and Sheva founder of Machbenah and Gibeon. Caleb also had a daughter named Achsah.

⁵⁰The descendants of Caleb: the sons of Hur, the eldest son of Ephrathah: Shobal the founder of Kiriath-jearim, ⁵¹Salma the founder of Bethlehem, and Hareph the founder of Beth-gader. ⁵²Shobal the founder of Kiriathjearim was the father of Reaiah [*prob. rdg, cp 4.2; Heb the seer*] and the ancestor of half the Manahethites [*prob. rdg, cp v54; Heb Menuhoth*].

⁵³The clans of Kiriath-jearim: Ithrites, Puhites, Shumathites, and Mishraites, from whom were descended the Zareathites and the Eshtaulites.

⁵⁴The descendants of Salma: Bethlehem, the Netophathites, Ataroth, Beth-joab, half the Manahethites, and the Zorites.

⁵⁵The clans of Sophrites [*Or secretaries*] living at Jabez: Tirathites, Shimeathites, and Suchathites. These were Kenites who were connected by marriage with the ancestor of the Rechabites.

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These were the sons of David, born at Hebron: the eldest Amnon, whose mother was Ahinoam of Jezreel; the second Daniel, whose mother was Abigail of Carmel; ²the third Absalom, whose mother was Maacah daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; the fourth Adonijah, whose mother was Haggith; ³the fifth Shephatiah, whose mother was Abital; the sixth Ithream, whose mother was David's wife Eglah. ⁴These six were born at Hebron, where David reigned seven years and six months. In Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years, ⁵ [*vv5-8: cp 14.4-7; 2Sam. 5.14-16*] and there the following sons were born to him: Shimea, Shobab, Nathan and Solomon; these four were sons of Bathsheba daughter of Amrniel. ⁶There were nine others: Ibhar, Elishama, Eliphelet, ⁷Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, ⁸Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet. ⁹These were all the sons of David, with their sister Tamar, in addition to his sons by concubines.

¹⁰Solomon's son was Rehoboam, his son Abia, his son Asa, his son Jehoshaphat, ¹¹his son Joram, his son Ahaziah, his son Joash, ¹²his son Amaziah, his son Azariah, his son Jotham, ¹³his son Ahaz, his son Hezekiah, his son Manasseh, ¹⁴his son Amon, and his son Josiah. ¹⁵The sons of Josiah: the eldest was Johanan, the second Jehoiakim, the third Zedekiah, the fourth Shallum. ¹⁶The sons of Jehoiakim: Jeconiah and Zedekiah. ¹⁷The sons of Jeconiah, a prisoner [*Jeconiah, a prisoner: or Jeconiah: Assir*]: Shealtiel, ¹⁸Malchiram, Pedaiah, Shenazzar, Jekamiah, Hoshama and Nedabiah. ¹⁹The sons of Pedaiah: Zerubbabel and Shimei. The sons of Zerubbabel: Meshullam and Hananiah; they had a sister, Shelomith. ²⁰There were five others: Hashubah, Ohel, Berechiah, Hasadiah and Jushab-hesed. ²¹The sons of Hananiah: Pelatiah and Isaiah; his son was Rephaiah, his son Arnan, his son Obadiah, his son Shecaniah. The sons of Shecaniah: ²²Shemaiah [*prob. rdg, Heb adds and the sons of Shemaiah*], Hattush, Igeal, Bariah, Neariah and Shaphat, six in all. ²³The sons of Neariah: Elioenai, Hezekiah and Azrikam, three in all. ²⁴The sons of Elioenai: Hodaiah, Eliashib, Pelaiah, Akkub, Johanan, Dalaiah and Anani, seven in all.

4¹The sons of Judah: Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hut and Shobal. ²Reaiah son of Shobal was the father of Jahath, Jahath father of Ahumai and Lahad. These were the clans of the Zorathites.

³⁻⁴The sons of Etam: Jezreel, Ishma, Idbash, Penuel the founder of Gedor, and Ezer the founder of Hushah; they had a sister named Hazelelponi. These were the sons of Hur: Ephrathah the eldest, the founder of Bethlehem.

⁵Ashhur the founder of Tekoa had two wives, Helah and Naarah. ⁶Naarah bore him Ahuzam, Hopher, Temeni and Haahashtari [*Temeni and Haahashtari: or the Temanite*]

and the Ahashtarite]. These were the sons of Naarah. ⁷The sons of Helah: Zereth, Jezoar, Ethnan and Coz. ⁸Coz was the father of Anub and Zobebah and the clans of Aharhel son of Harum.

⁹Jabez ranked higher than his brothers; his mother called him Jabez because, as she said, she had borne him in pain. ¹⁰Jabez called upon the God of Israel and said, 'I pray thee, bless me and grant me wide territories. May thy hand be with me, and do me no harm, I pray thee, and let me be free from pain'; and God granted his petition.

¹¹Kelub brother of Shuah was the father of Mehir the father of Eshton. ¹²Eshton was the father of Beth-rapha, Paseah, and Tehinnah father of Ir-nahash. These were the men of Rechah.

¹³The sons of Kenaz: Othniel and Seraiah. The sons of Othniel: Hathath and Meonothai.

¹⁴Meonothai was the father of Ophrah.

Seraiah was the father of Joab founder of Ge-harashim [*Or the Valley of Craftsmen*], for they were craftsmen.

¹⁵The sons of Caleb son of Jephunneh: Iru, Elah and Naam. The son of Elah: Kenaz.

¹⁶The sons of Jehaleleel: Ziph and Ziphah, Tiria and Asareel.

¹⁷⁻¹⁸The sons of Ezra: Jether, Mered, Epher and Jalon. These were the sons of Bithiah daughter of Pharaoh, whom Mered had married; she conceived and gave birth to [and gave birth to: *prob. rdg, Heb omitted*] Miriam, Shammai and Ishbah founder of Eshtemoa. His Jewish wife was the mother of Jered founder of Gedor, Heber founder of Soco, and Jekuthiel founder of Zanoah. ¹⁹The sons of his [*his: prob. rdg, Heb omitted*] wife Hodiah sister of Naham were Daliah father of Keilah the Garmite, and Eshtemoa the Maacathite.

²⁰The sons of Shimon: Amnon, Rinnah, Ben-hanan and Tilon.

The sons of Ishi: Zoheth and Ben-zoheth.

²¹The sons of Shelah son of Judah: Er founder of Lecah, Laadah founder of Mareshah, the clans of the guild of linen-workers at Ashbea, ²²Jokim, the men of Kozeba, Joash, and Saraph who fell out with Moab and came back to Bethlehem [and came ... Bethlehem: *prob. rdg, Heb unintelligible*]. (The records are ancient.) ²³They were the potters, and those who lived at Netaim and Gederah were there on the king's service.

²⁴The sons of Simeon: Nemuel, Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, Saul, ²⁵his son Shallum, his son Mibsam and his son Mishma. ²⁶The sons of Mishma: his son Hamuel, his son Zaccur and his son Shimei. ²⁷Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters, but others of his family had fewer children, and the clan as a whole did not increase as much as the tribe of Judah. ²⁸They lived at Beersheba, Moladah, Hazar-shual, ²⁹Billah, Ezem, Tolad, ³⁰Bethuel, Hormah, Ziklag, ³¹Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susim, Beth-birei, and Shaaraim.

These were their cities until David came to the throne. ³²Their settlements [*prob. rdg, Heb hamlets*] were Etam, Ain, Rimmon, Tochen, and Ashan, five cities in all. ³³They had also hamlets round these cities as far as Baal. These were the places where they lived.

The names on their register were: ³⁴Meshobab, Jamlech, Joshah son of Amaziah, ³⁵Joel, Jehu son of Josibiah, son of Seraiah, son of Asiel, ³⁶Elioenai, Jaakobah, Jeshohaiah, Asaiah, Adiel, Jesimiel, Benaiah, ³⁷Ziza son of Shiphi, son of Allon, son of Jedaiah, son of Shimri, son of Shemaiah, ³⁸whose names are recorded as princes in their clans, and their families had greatly increased. ³⁹They then went from the approaches to Gedor east of the valley in search of pasture for their flocks. ⁴⁰They found rich and good pasture in a wide stretch of open country where everything was quiet and peaceful; before then it had been occupied by Hamites. ⁴¹During the reign of Hezekiah king of Judah these whose names are written above came and destroyed the tribes of Ham [*the tribes of Ham: prob. rdg, cp v40; Heb their tribes*] and the Meunites whom they found there. They annihilated them so that no trace of them has remained to this day; and they occupied the land in their place, for there was pasture for their flocks. ⁴²Of their number five hundred Simeonites invaded the hill-country of Seir, led by Pelatiah, Neariah, Rephaiah, and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi. ⁴³They destroyed all who were left of the surviving Amalekites; and they live there still.

⁵¹The sons of Reuben, the eldest of Israel's sons. (He was, in fact, the first son born, but because he had committed incest with a wife of his father's the rank of the eldest was transferred to the sons of Joseph, Israel's son, who, however, could not be registered as the eldest son. ²Judah held the leading place among his brothers because he fathered a ruler, and the rank of the eldest was his, not [*his, not: prob. rdg, Heb omitted*] Joseph's.) ³The sons of Reuben, the eldest of Israel's sons: Enoch, Pallu, Hezron and Carmi. ⁴The sons of Joel: his son Shemaiah, his son Gog, his son Shimei, ⁵his son Micah, his son Reaia, his son Baal, ⁶his son Beerah, whom Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria carried away into exile; he was a prince of the Reubenites. ⁷His kinsmen, family by family, as registered in their tribal lists: Jeiel the chief, Zechariah, ⁸Bela son of Azaz, son of Shema, son of Joel. They lived in Aroer, and their lands stretched as far as Nebo and Baal-meon. ⁹Eastwards they occupied territory as far as the edge of the desert which stretches from the river Euphrates, for they had large numbers of cattle in Gilead. ¹⁰During Saul's reign they made war on the Hagarites, whom they conquered, occupying their encampments over all the country east of Gilead.

¹¹Adjoining them were the Gadites, occupying the district of Bashan as far as Salcah: ¹²Joel the chief; second in rank, Shapham; then Jaanai and Shaphat in Bashan. ¹³Their fellow-tribesmen belonged to the families of Michael, Meshullam, Sheba, Jorai, Jachan, Zia and Heber, seven in all. ¹⁴These were the sons of Abihail son of Huri, son of Jaroah, son of Gilead, son of Michael, son of Jeshishai, son of Jahdo, son of Buz. ¹⁵Ahi son of Abdiel, son of Guni, was head of their family; ¹⁶they lived in Gilead, in Bashan and its villages, in all the common land of Sharon as far as it stretched. ¹⁷These registers were all compiled in the reigns of Jotham king of Judah and Jeroboam king of Israel.

¹⁸The sons of Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh: of their fighting men armed

with shield and sword, their archers and their battle-trained soldiers, forty-four thousand seven hundred and sixty were ready for active service. ¹⁹They made war on the Hagarites, Jetur, Nephish, and Nodab. ²⁰They were given help against them, for they cried to their God for help in the battle, and because they trusted him he listened to their prayer, and the Hagarites and all their allies surrendered to them [They were ... surrendered to them: *or* They attacked them boldly, and the Hagarites and all their allies surrendered to them, for they cried ... to their prayer]. ²¹They drove off their cattle, fifty thousand camels, two hundred and fifty thousand sheep, and two thousand asses, and they took a hundred thousand captives. ²²Many had been killed, for the war was of God's making, and they occupied the land instead of them until the exile.

²³Half the tribe of Manasseh lived in the land from Bashan to Baalhermon, Senir, and Mount Hermon, and were numerous also in Lebanon. ²⁴The heads of their families were: Ephraim, Ishi, Eliel, Azriel, Jeremiah, Hodaviah, and Jahdiel, all men of ability and repute, heads of their families. ²⁵But they sinned against the God of their fathers, and turned wantonly to worship the gods of the peoples whom God had destroyed before them. ²⁶So the God of Israel stirred up Pul king of Assyria, that is Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and he carried into exile Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh. He took them to Halah, Habor, Hara, and the river Gozan, where they are to this day.

6¹THE SONS OF LEVI: Gershon [*Gershon in vv16 and 17*], Kohath and Merari. ²The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel. ³The children of Amram: Aaron, Moses and Miriam. The sons of Aaron: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. ⁴ [*vv4-8: cp vv50-53*] Eleazar was the father of Phinehas, Phinehas father of Abishua, ⁵Abishua father of Bukki, Bukki father of Uzzi, ⁶Uzzi father of Zerahiah, Zerahiah father of Meraioth, ⁷Meraioth father of Amariah, Amariah father of Ahitub, ⁸Ahitub father of Zadok, Zadok father of Ahimaaz, ⁹Ahimaaz father of Azariah, Azariah father of Johanan, ¹⁰and Johanan father of Azariah, the priest who officiated in the LORD's house which Solomon built at Jerusalem. ¹¹Azariah was the father of Amariah, Amariah father of Ahitub, ¹²Ahitub father of Zadok, Zadok father of Shallum, ¹³Shallum father of Hilkiyah, Hilkiyah father of Azariah, ¹⁴Azariah father of Seraiah, and Seraiah father of Jehozadak. ¹⁵Jehozadak went into exile when the LORD sent Judah and Jerusalem into exile under Nebuchadnezzar.

¹⁶ [*vv16-19. cp Exod. 6.16-19*] The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath and Merari. ¹⁷The sons of Gershon: Libni and Shimei. ¹⁸The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel. ¹⁹The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The clans of Levi, family by family: ²⁰ [*vv20, 21: cp vv41-43*] Gershon: his son Libni, his son Jahath, his son Zimmah, ²¹his son Joah, his son Iddo, his son Zerah, his son Jeaterai. ²² [*vv22-28: cp vv33-38*] The sons of Kohath: his son Amminadab, his son Korah, his son Assir, ²³his son Elkanah, his son Ebiasaph, his son Assir, ²⁴his son Tahath, his son Uriel, his son Uzziyah, his son Saul. ²⁵The sons of Elkanah: Amasai and Ahimoth, ²⁶his son Elkanah, his son Zophai, his son Nahath, ²⁷his son Eliab, his son Jeroham, his son Elkanah. ²⁸The sons of Samuel: Joel the eldest and Abiah the second. ²⁹The sons of Merari: his son Mahli, his son Libni, his son Shimei, his son Uzza, ³⁰his son Shimea, his son Haggiah, his son Asaiah.

³¹These are the men whom David appointed to take charge of the music in the house of the LORD when the Ark should be deposited there. ³²They performed their musical duties before the Tent of the Presence until Solomon built the house of the LORD in Jerusalem, and took their regular turns of duty there. ³³The following, with their descendants, took this duty. Of the line of Kohath: Heman the musician, son of Joel, son of Samuel, ³⁴son of Elkanah, son of Jeroham, son of Eliel, son of Toah, ³⁵son of Zuph, son of Elkanah, son of Mahath, son of Amasai, ³⁶son of Elkanah, son of Joel, son of Azariah, son of Zephaniah, ³⁷son of Tahath, son of Assir, son of Ebiasaph, son of Korah, ³⁸son of Izhar, son of Kohath, son of Levi, son of Israel. ³⁹Heman's colleague Asaph stood at his right hand. He was the son of Berachiah, son of Shimea, ⁴⁰son of Michael, son of Baaseiah, son of Malchiah, ⁴¹ [vv41-43: cp vv20, 21] son of Ethni, son of Zerah, son of Adaiah, ⁴²son of Ethan, son of Zimmah, son of Shimei, ⁴³son of Jahath, son of Gershom, son of Levi. ⁴⁴On their left stood their colleague of the line of Merari: Ethan son of Kishi, son of Abdi, son of Malluch, ⁴⁵son of Hashabiah, son of Amaziah, son of Hilkiyah, ⁴⁶son of Amzi, son of Bani, son of Shamer, ⁴⁷son of Mahli, son of Mushi, son of Merari, son of Levi. ⁴⁸Their kinsmen the Levites were dedicated to all the service of the Tabernacle, the house of God.

⁴⁹But it was Aaron and his descendants who burnt the sacrifices on the altar of whole-offering and the altar of incense, in fulfilment of all the duties connected with the most sacred gifts, and to make expiation for Israel, exactly as Moses the servant of God had commanded. ⁵⁰ [vv50-53: cp vv4-8] The sons of Aaron: his son Eleazar, his son Phinehas, his son Abishua, ⁵¹his son Bukki, his son Uzzi, his son Zerahiah, ⁵²his son Meraioth, his son Amariah, his son Ahitub, ⁵³his son Zadok, his son Ahimaaz.

⁵⁴These are their settlements in encampments in the districts assigned to the descendants of Aaron, to the clan of Kohath, for it was to them that the lot had fallen: ⁵⁵they gave them Hebron in Judah, with the common land round it, ⁵⁶but they assigned to Caleb son of Jephunneh the open country belonging to the town and its hamlets. ⁵⁷ [vv57-81: cp Josh. 21.13-39] They gave to the sons of Aaron: Hebron the city [prob. rdg, cp Josh. 21. 13, Heb cities] of refuge, Libnah, Jattir, Eshtemoa, ⁵⁸Hilen, Debir, ⁵⁹Ashan, and Beth-shemesh, each with its common land. ⁶⁰And from the tribe of Benjamin: Geba, Alemeth, and Anathoth, each with its common land, making thirteen cities in all by their clans.

⁶¹They gave to the remaining clans of the sons of Kohath ten cities by lot from the half tribe of Manasseh. ⁶²To the sons of Gershom according to their clans they gave thirteen cities from the tribes of Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Manasseh in Bashan. ⁶³To the sons of Merari according to their clans they gave by lot twelve cities from the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Zebulun. ⁶⁴Israel gave these cities, each with its common land, to the Levites. ⁶⁵(The cities mentioned above, from the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin, were assigned by lot.)

⁶⁶Some of the clans of Kohath had cities allotted [allotted: prob. rdg, cp Josh. 21. 20, Heb of their frontier] to them. ⁶⁷They gave them the city [prob. rdg, cp Josh. 21.21; Heb cities] of refuge, Shechem in the hill-country of Ephraim, Gezer, ⁶⁸Jokmeam, Beth-

horon, ⁶⁹Aijalon, and Gath-rimmon, each with its common land. ⁷⁰From the half tribe of Manasseh, Aner and Bileam, each with its common land, were given to the rest of the clans of Kohath.

⁷¹To the sons of Gershon they gave from the half tribe of Manasseh: Golan in Bashan, and Ashtaroth, each with its common land. ⁷²From the tribe of Issachar: Kedesh, Daberath, ⁷³Ramoth, and Anem, each with its common land. ⁷⁴From the tribe of Asher: Mashal, Abdon, ⁷⁵Hukok, and Rehob, each with its common land. ⁷⁶From the tribe of Naphtali: Kedesh in Galilee, Hammon, and Kiriathaim, each with its common land.

⁷⁷To the rest of the sons of Merari they gave from the tribe of Zebulun: Rimmon and Tabor, each with its common land. ⁷⁸On the east of Jordan, opposite Jericho, from the tribe of Reuben: Bezer-in-the-wilderness, Jahzah, ⁷⁹Kedemoth, and Mephaath, each with its common land. ⁸⁰From the tribe of Gad: Ramoth in Gilead, Mahanaim, ⁸¹Heshbon, and Jazer, each with its common land.

7¹ [*vv1, 6, 13, 30 and 8.1-5: cp Gen. 46.13, 17, 21-24*]The sons of Issachar: Tola, Pua, Jashub and Shimron, four. ²The sons of Tola: Uzzi, Rephaiah, Jeriel, Jahmai, Jibsam, and Samuel, all able men and heads of families by paternal descent from Tola according to their tribal lists; their number in David's time was twenty-two thousand six hundred. ³The son of Uzzi: Izrahiah. The sons of Izrahiah: Michael, Obadiah, Joel and Isshiah, making a total of five, all of them chiefs. ⁴In addition there were bands of fighting men recorded by families according to the tribal lists to the number of thirty-six thousand, for they had many wives and children. ⁵Their fellow-tribesmen in all the clans of Issachar were able men, eighty-seven thousand; every one of them was registered.

⁶The sons of Benjamin: Bela, Becher and Jediael, three. ⁷The sons of Bela: Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth and Iri, five. They were heads of their families and able men; the number registered was twenty-two thousand and thirty-four. ⁸The sons of Becher: Zemira, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abiah, Anathoth and Alemeth; all these were sons of Becher ⁹according to their tribal lists, heads of their families and able men; and the number registered was twenty thousand two hundred. ¹⁰The son of Jediael: Bilhan. The sons of Bilhan: Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Kenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish and Ahishahar. ¹¹All these were descendants of Jediael, heads of [*prob. rdg, Heb to the heads of*] families and able men. The number was seventeen thousand two hundred men, fit for active service in war.

¹²The sons of Dan [*The sons of Dan: prob. rdg, cp Gen. 46.23, Heb And Shuppim and Huppim, the sons of Ir*]: Hushim and the sons of Aher [*Or another*].

¹³The sons of Naphtali: Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, Shallum. These were sons of Bilhah.

¹⁴ [*vv14-19: cp Num. 26.29-33*]The sons of Manasseh [*prob. rdg, Heb adds Asriel*], born of his concubine, an Aramaean: Machir father of Gilead. ¹⁵Machir married a woman whose name was [*whose name was: prob. rdg, Heb to Huppim and Shuppim, and his sister's name was*] Maacah. The second son was named Zelophehad, and Zelophehad had daughters. ¹⁶Maacah wife of Machir had a son whom she named Peresh. His brother's

name was Sheresh, and his sons were Ulam and Rakem. ¹⁷The son of Ulam: Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead son of Machir, son of Manasseh. ¹⁸His sister Hammoleketh was the mother of Ishhod, Abiezer and Mahalah. ¹⁹The sons of Shemida: Ahian, Shechem, Likhi and Aniam.

²⁰The sons of Ephraim: Shuthelah, his son Bered, his son Tahath, his son Eladah, his son Tahath, ²¹his son Zabad, his son Shuthelah. Ephraim's other sons Ezer and Elead were killed by the native Gittites when they came down to lift their cattle. ²²Their father Ephraim long mourned for them, and his kinsmen came to comfort him. ²³Then he had intercourse with his wife; she conceived and had a son whom he named Beriah (because disaster [*Heb beraah*] had come on his family). ²⁴He had a daughter named Sherah; she built Lower and Upper Beth-horon and Uzzen-sherah. ²⁵He also had a son named Rephah; his son was Resheph, his son Telah, his son Tahan, ²⁶his son Laadan, his son Ammihud, his son Elishama, ²⁷his son Nun, his son Joshua.

²⁸Their lands and settlements were: Bethel and its dependent villages, to the east Naaran, to the west Gezer, Shechem, and Gaza, with their villages. ²⁹In the possession of Manasseh were Beth-shean, Taanach, Megiddo, and Dor, with their villages. In all of these lived the descendants of Joseph the son of Israel.

³⁰The sons of Asher: Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi and Beriah, together with their sister Serah. ³¹The sons of Beriah: Heber and Malchiel father of Birzavith. ³²Heber was the father of Japhlet, Shomer, Hotham, and their sister Shua. ³³The sons of Japhlet: Pasach, Birnhai and Ashvath. These were the sons of Japhlet. ³⁴The sons of Shomer: Ahi, Rohgah, Jehubbah and Aram. ³⁵The sons of his brother Hotham [*prob. rdg, cp v32; Heb Helem*]: Zophah, Imna, Shelesh and Amal. ³⁶The sons of Zophah: Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri, Imrah, ³⁷Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah, Ithran and Beera. ³⁸The sons of Jether: Jephunneh, Pispah and Ara. ³⁹The sons of Ulla: Arah, Haniel and Rezia. ⁴⁰All these were descendants of Asher, heads of families, picked men of ability, leading princes. They were enrolled among the fighting troops; the total number was twenty-six thousand men.

8¹The sons of Benjamin were: the eldest Bela, the second Ashbel, the third Aharah, ²the fourth Nohah and the fifth Rapha. ³The sons of Bela: Addar, Gera father of Ehud [*father of Ehud: prob. rdg, cp Judg. 3.15; Heb Abihud*], ⁴Abishua, Naaman, Ahoah, ⁵Gera, Shephuphan and Hiram. ⁶These were the sons of Ehud, heads of families living in Geba, who were removed to Manahath: ⁷Naaman, Ahiah, and Gera – he it was who removed them. He was the father of Uzza and Ahihud, ⁸Shaharaim had sons born to him in Moabite country, after putting away his wives Mahasham and Baara. ⁹By his wife Hodesh he had Jobab, Zibia, Mesha, Malcham, ¹⁰Jeuz, Shachia and Mirmah. These were his sons, heads of families. ¹¹By Mahasham he had had Abitub and Elpaal. ¹²The sons of Elpaal: Eber, Misham, Shamed who built Ono and Lod with its villages, ¹³also Beriah and Shema who were heads of families living in Aiialon, having expelled the inhabitants of Gath. ¹⁴Ahio, Shashak, Jeremoth, ¹⁵Zebadiah, Arad, Ader, ¹⁶Michael, Ispah, and Joha were sons of Beriah; ¹⁷Zebadiah, Meshullam, Hezeki, Heber, ¹⁸Ishmerai, Jezliah, and

Jobab were sons of Elpaal; ¹⁹Jakim, Zichri, Zabdi, ²⁰Elienai, Zilthai, Eliel, ²¹Adaiah, Beraiah, and Shimrath were sons of Shimei; ²²Ishpan, Heber, Eliel, ²³Abdon, Zichri, Hanan, ²⁴Hananiah, Elam, Antothiah, ²⁵Iphedeiah, and Penuel were sons of Shashak; ²⁶Shamsherai, Shehariah, Athaliah, ²⁷Jaresiah, Eliah, and Zichri were sons of Jeroham. ²⁸These were enrolled in the tribal lists as heads of families, chiefs living in Jerusalem.

²⁹ [vv29-38: cp 9.35-44] Jehiel founder of Gibeon lived at Gibeon; his wife's name was Maacah. ³⁰His eldest son was Abdon, followed by Zur, Kish, Baal, Nadab, ³¹Gedor, Ahio, Zacher ³²and Mikloth. Mikloth was the father of Shimeah; they lived alongside their kinsmen in Jerusalem.

³³Ner was the father of Kish, Kish father of Saul, Saul father of Jonathan, Malchishua, Abinadab and Eshbaal. ³⁴Jonathan's son was Meribbaal, and he was the father of Micah; ³⁵The sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech, Tarea and Ahaz. ³⁶Ahaz was the father of Jehoaddah, Jehoaddah father of Alemeth, Azmoth and Zimri. Zimri was the father of Moza, ³⁷and Moza father of Binea; his son was Raphah, his son Elasa, and his son Azel. ³⁸Azel had six sons, whose names were Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah and Hanan. All these were sons of Azel. ³⁹The sons of his brother Eshek: the eldest Ulam, the second Jeush, the third Eliphelet. ⁴⁰The sons of Ulam were able men, archers, and had many sons and grandsons, a hundred and fifty. All these were descendants of Benjamin.

The restored community

⁹SO ALL ISRAEL WERE REGISTERED and recorded in the book of the kings of Israel; but Judah for their sins were carried away to exile in Babylon. ² [vv2-22: cp Neh. 11.3-22] The first to occupy their ancestral land in their cities were lay Israelites, priests, Levites, and temple-servitors. ³Jerusalem was occupied partly by Judahites, partly by Benjamites, and partly by men of Ephraim and Manasseh. Judahites [*prob. rdg, Heb omitted*]: ⁴Uthai son of Ammihud, son of Omri, son of Imri, son of Bani, a descendant of Perez son of Judah. ⁵Shelanites: Asaiah the eldest and his sons. ⁶The sons of Zerah: Jeuel and six hundred and ninety of their kinsmen. ⁷Benjamites: Sallu son of Meshullam, son of Hodaviah, son of Hassenuah, ⁸Ibneiah son of Jeroham, Elah son of Uzzi, son of Micri, Meshullam son of Shephatiah, son of Reuel, son of Ibniah, ⁹and their recorded kinsmen numbering nine hundred and fifty-six, all heads of families.

¹⁰Priests: Jedaiah, Jehoiarib, Jachin, ¹¹Azariah son of Hilkiah, son of Meshullam, son of Zadok, son of Meraioth, son of Ahitub, the officer in charge of the house of God, ¹²Adaiah son of Jeroham, son of Pashhur, son of Malchiah, Maasai son of Adiel, son of Jahzerah, son of Meshullam, son of Meshillemith, son of Immer, ¹³and their colleagues, heads of families numbering one thousand seven hundred and sixty, men of substance and fit for the work connected with the service of the house of God.

¹⁴Levites: Shemaiah son of Hasshub, son of Azrikam, son of Hashabiah, a descendant of Merari, ¹⁵Bakbakkar, Heresh, Galal, Mattaniah son of Mica, son of Zichri, son of Asaph,

¹⁶Obadiah son of Shemaiah, son of Galal, son of Jeduthun, and Berechiah son of Asa, son of Elkanah, who lived in the hamlets of the Netophathites.

¹⁷The door-keepers were Shallum, Akkub, Talmon, and Ahiman; their brother Shallum was the chief. ¹⁸Until then they had all been door-keepers in the quarters of the Levites at the king's gate, on the east. ¹⁹Shallum son of Kore, son of Ebiasaph, son of Korah, and his kinsmen of the Korahite family were responsible for service as guards of the thresholds of the Tabernacle; their ancestors had performed the duty of guarding the entrances to the camp of the LORD. ²⁰Phinehas son of Eleazar had been their overseer in the past – the LORD be with him! ²¹Zechariah son of Meshelemiah was the door-keeper of the Tent of the Presence. ²²Those picked to be door-keepers numbered two hundred and twelve in all, registered in their hamlets. David and Samuel the seer had installed them because they were trustworthy. ²³They and their sons had charge, by watches, of the gates of the house, the tent-dwelling of the LORD. ²⁴The door-keepers were to be on four sides, east, west, north, and south. ²⁵Their kinsmen from their hamlets had to come on duty with them for seven days at a time in turn. ²⁶The four principal door-keepers were chosen for their trustworthiness; they were Levites and had charge of the rooms and the stores in the house of God. ²⁷They always slept in the precincts of the house of God (for the watch was their duty) and they had charge of the key for opening the gates every morning. ²⁸Some of them had charge of the vessels used in the service of the temple, keeping count of them as they were brought in and taken out. ²⁹Some of them were detailed to take charge of the furniture and all the sacred vessels, the flour, the wine, the oil, the incense, and the spices.

³⁰Some of the priests compounded the ointment for the spices. ³¹Mattithiah the Levite, the eldest son of Shallum the Korahite, was in charge of the preparation of the wafers because he was trustworthy. ³²Some of their Kohathite kinsmen were in charge of setting out the rows of the Bread of the Presence every sabbath.

³³These, the musicians, heads of Levite families, were lodged in rooms set apart for them, because they were liable for duty by day and by night.

³⁴These are the heads of Levite families, chiefs according to their tribal lists, living in Jerusalem.

³⁵ [*vv35-44: cp 8.29-38*] Jehiel founder of Gibeon lived at Gibeon; his wife's name was Maacah, ³⁶and his sons were Abdon the eldest, Zur, Kish, Baal, Ner, Nadab, ³⁷Gedor, Ahio, Zechariah and Mikloth. ³⁸Mikloth was the father of Shimeam; they lived alongside their kinsmen in Jerusalem [*prob. rdg, Heb adds with their kinsmen*]. ³⁹Ner was the father of Kish, Kish father of Saul, Saul father of Jonathan, Malchishua, Abinadab and Eshbaal. ⁴⁰The son of Jonathan was Meribbaal, and Meribbaal was the father of Micah. ⁴¹The sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech, Tahrea and Ahaz. ⁴²Ahaz was the father of Jarah, Jarah father of Alemeth, Azmoth, and Zimri; Zimri father of Moza, ⁴³and Moza father of Binea; his son was Rephaiah, his son Elasa, his son Azel. ⁴⁴Azel had six sons, whose names were Azrikam, Bocheru, Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah and Hanan. These were the sons of Azel.

The death of Saul

10¹ [*vv1-12: cp 1Sam. 31.1-13*] THE PHILISTINES FOUGHT A BATTLE against Israel, and the men of Israel were routed, leaving their dead on Mount Gilboa. ²The Philistines hotly pursued Saul and his sons and killed the three sons, Jonathan, Abinadab and Malchishua. ³The battle went hard for Saul, for some archers came upon him and he was wounded by them. ⁴So he said to his armour-bearer, 'Draw your sword and run me through, so that these uncircumcised brutes may not come and make sport of me.' But the armour-bearer refused, he dared not; whereupon Saul took his own sword and fell on it. ⁵When the armour-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he too fell on his sword and died. ⁶Thus Saul died and his three sons; his whole house perished at one and the same time. ⁷And all the Israelites in the Vale, when they saw that their army had fled and that Saul and his sons had perished, fled likewise, abandoning their cities, and the Philistines went in and occupied them.

⁸Next day, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, they found Saul and his sons lying dead on Mount Gilboa. ⁹They stripped him, cut off his head and took away his armour; then they sent messengers through the length and breadth of their land to take the good news to idols and people alike. ¹⁰They deposited his armour in the temple of their god [*Or gods*], and nailed up his skull in the temple of Dagon. ¹¹When the people of Jabesh-gilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul, ¹²the bravest of them set out together to recover the bodies of Saul and his sons; they brought them back to Jabesh and buried their bones under the oak-tree there, and fasted for seven days. ¹³Thus Saul paid with his life for his unfaithfulness: he had disobeyed the word of the LORD and had resorted to ghosts for guidance. ¹⁴He had not sought guidance of the LORD, who therefore destroyed him and transferred the kingdom to David son of Jesse.

David king over Israel

11¹ [*vv1-9: cp 2Sam. 5.1-3, 6-10*] THEN ALL ISRAEL ASSEMBLED, at Hebron to wait upon David. 'We are your own flesh and blood', they said. ²In the past, while Saul was still king, you led the forces of Israel to war, and you brought them home again. And the LORD your God said to you, "You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be their prince." ³All the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; there David made a covenant with them before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel, as the LORD had said through the lips of Samuel.

⁴Then David and all Israel went to Jerusalem (that is Jebus, where the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, lived). ⁵The people of Jebus said to David, 'Never shall you come in here'; none the less David did capture the stronghold of Zion, and it is now known as the City of David. ⁶David said, 'The first man to kill a Jebusite shall become a commander or an officer', and the first man to go up was Joab son of Zeruiah; so he was given the command.

⁷David took up his residence in the stronghold: that is why they called it the City of David. ⁸He built the city round it, starting at the Millo and including its neighbourhood,

while Joab reconstructed the rest of the city. ⁹So David steadily grew stronger, for the LORD of Hosts was with him.

¹⁰ [vv10-41: cp 2 Sam. 23.8-39] Of David's heroes these were the chief, men who lent their full strength to his government and, with all Israel, joined in making him king; such was the LORD's decree for Israel. ¹¹First came Jashoboam the Hachmonite, chief of the three; he it was who brandished his spear over three hundred, all slain at one time. ¹²Next to him was Eleazar son of Dodo the Ahohite, one of the heroic three. ¹³He was with David at Pas-dammim where the Philistines had gathered for battle in a field carrying a good crop of barley; and when the people had fled from the Philistines ¹⁴he stood his ground in the field, saved it [saved it: or cleared it of the Philistines] and defeated them. So the LORD brought about a great victory.

¹⁵Three of the thirty chiefs went down to the rock to join David at the cave of Adullam, while the Philistines were encamped in the Vale of Rephaim. ¹⁶At that time David was in the stronghold, and a Philistine garrison held Bethlehem. ¹⁷One day a longing came over David, and he exclaimed, 'If only I could have a drink of water from the well [Or cistern] by the gate of Bethlehem!' ¹⁸At this the three made their way through the Philistine lines and drew water from the well by the gate of Bethlehem, and brought it to David. But David refused to drink it; he poured it out to the LORD ¹⁹and said, 'God forbid that I should do such a thing! Can I drink the blood of these men? They have brought it at the risk of their lives.' So he would not drink it. Such were the exploits of the heroic three.

²⁰Abishai the brother of Joab was chief of the thirty. He once brandished his spear over three hundred dead, and he was famous among the thirty. ²¹He held higher rank than the rest of the thirty and became their captain, but he did not rival the three. ²²Benaiah son of Jehoiada, from Kabzeel, was a hero of many exploits. It was he who smote the two champions of Moab, and who went down into a pit and killed a lion on a snowy day. ²³It was he who also killed the Egyptian, a giant seven and a half feet high armed with a spear as big as the beam of a loom; he went to meet him with a club, snatched the spear out of the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own weapon. ²⁴Such were the exploits of Benaiah son of Jehoiada, famous among the heroic thirty [prob. rdg, Heb three]. ²⁵He was more famous than the rest of the thirty, but did not rival the three. David appointed him to his household.

²⁶These were his valiant heroes: Asahel the brother of Joab, and Elhanan son of Dodo from Bethlehem; ²⁷Shammoth from Harod [prob. rdg, cp 2Sam. 23.25, Heb Haror], and Helez from a place unknown; ²⁸Ira son of Ikkesh from Tekoa, and Abiezer from Anathoth; ²⁹Sibbecai from Hushah, and Ilai the Ahohite, ³⁰Maharai from Netophah, and Heled son of Baanah from Netophah; ³¹Ithai son of Ribai from Gibeah of Benjamin, and Benaiah from Pirathon; ³²Hurai from the ravines of Gaash, and Abiel from Beth-arabah; ³³Azmoth from Bahurim, and Eliahba from Shaalbon; ³⁴Hashem the Gizonite, and Jonathan son of Shage the Hararite; ³⁵Ahiam son of Sacar the Hararite, and Eliphal son of Ur; ³⁶Hepher from Mecherah, and Ahijah from a place unknown; ³⁷Hezro from Carmel, and Naarai son of Ezbai; ³⁸Joel the brother of Nathan, and Mibhar the son of Haggeri; ³⁹Zelek the Ammonite, and Naharai from Beeroth, armour-bearer to Joab son

of Zeruah; ⁴⁰Ira the Ithrite, and Gareb the Ithrite; ⁴¹Uriah the Hittite, and Zabad son of Ahlai. ⁴²Adina son of Shiza the Reubenite, a chief of the Reubenites, was over these thirty. ⁴³Also Hanan son of Maacah, and Joshaphat the Mithnite; ⁴⁴Uzzia from Ashtaroth, Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham from Aroer; ⁴⁵Jediael son of Shimri, and Joha his brother, the Tizite; ⁴⁶Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai and Joshaviah sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite; ⁴⁷Eliel, Obed, and Jasiel, from Zobah [from Zobah: *prob. rdg, Heb obscure*].

12¹These are the men who joined David at Ziklag while he was banned from the presence of Saul son of Kish. They ranked among the warriors valiant in battle. ²They carried bows and could sling stones or shoot arrows with the left hand or the right; they were Benjamites, kinsmen of Saul. ³The foremost were Ahiezer and Joash, the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite; Jeziel and Pelet, men of Beth-azmoth; Berachah and Jehu of Anathoth; ⁴Ishmaiah the Gibeonite, a hero among the thirty and a chief among them; Jeremiah, Jahaziel, Johanan, and Josabad of Gederah; ⁵Eluzai, Jerimoth, Bealiah, Shemariah, and Shephatiah the Haruphite; ⁶Elkanah, Isshiah, Azareel, Joezer, Jashobeam, the Korahites; ⁷and Joelah and Zebadiah sons of Jeroham, of Gedor.

⁸Some Gadites also joined David at the stronghold in the wilderness, valiant men trained for war, who could handle the heavy shield and spear, grim as lions and swift as gazelles on the hills. ⁹Ezer was their chief, Obadiah the second, Eliab the third; ¹⁰Mishmannah the fourth and Jeremiah the fifth; ¹¹Attai the sixth and Eliel the seventh; ¹²Johanan the eighth and Elzabad the ninth; ¹³Jeremiah the tenth and Machbanai the eleventh. ¹⁴These were chiefs of the Gadites in the army, the least of them a match for a hundred, the greatest a match for a thousand. ¹⁵These were the men who in the first month crossed the Jordan, which was in full flood in all its reaches, and wrought havoc in the valleys, east and west.

¹⁶Some men of Benjamin and Judah came to David at the stronghold. ¹⁷David went out to them and said, 'If you come as friends to help me, join me and welcome; but if you come to betray me to my enemies, innocent though I am of any crime of violence, may the God of our fathers see and judge.' ¹⁸At that a spirit took possession of Amasai, the chief of the thirty, and he said:

We are on your side, David!
We are with you, son of Jesse!
Greetings, greetings to you
and greetings to your ally!
For your God is your ally.

So David welcomed them and attached them to the columns of his raiding parties.

¹⁹Some men of Manasseh had deserted to David when he went with the Philistines to war against Saul, though he did not, in fact, fight on the side of the Philistines. Their princes brusquely dismissed him, saying to themselves that he would desert them for his master Saul, and that would cost them their heads. ²⁰The men of Manasseh who deserted to him when he went to Ziklag were these: Adnah, Jozabad, Jediael, Michael, Jozabad, Elihu, and Zilthai, each commanding his thousand in Manasseh. ²¹It was they who stood valiantly by David against the raiders, for they were all good fighters, and

they were given commands in his forces. ²²From day to day men came in to help David, until he had gathered an immense army.

²³These are the numbers of the armed bands which joined David at Hebron to transfer Saul's sovereignty to him, as the LORD had said: ²⁴men of Judah, bearing heavy shield and spear, six thousand eight hundred, drafted for active service; ²⁵of Simeon, fighting men drafted for active service, seven thousand one hundred; ²⁶of Levi, four thousand six hundred, ²⁷together with Jehoiada prince of the house of Aaron and three thousand seven hundred men, ²⁸and Zadok a valiant fighter, with twenty-two officers of his own clan; ²⁹of Benjamin, Saul's kinsmen, three thousand, though most of them had hitherto remained loyal to the house of Saul, ³⁰of Ephraim, twenty thousand eight hundred, fighting men, famous in their own clans; ³¹of the half tribe of Manasseh, eighteen thousand, who had been nominated to come and make David king; ³²of Issachar, whose tribesmen were skilled in reading the signs of the times to discover what course Israel should follow, two hundred chiefs, with all their kinsmen under their command; ³³of Zebulun, fifty thousand troops well-drilled for battle, armed with every kind of weapon, bold and single-minded; ³⁴of Naphtali, a thousand officers with thirty-seven thousand men bearing heavy shield and spear; ³⁵of the Danites, twenty-eight thousand six hundred well-drilled for battle; ³⁶of Asher, forty thousand troops well-drilled for battle; ³⁷of the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half tribe of Manasseh east of Jordan, a hundred and twenty thousand, armed with every kind of weapon.

³⁸All these warriors, bold men in battle, came to Hebron, loyally determined to make David king over the whole of Israel; the rest of Israel, too, had but one thought, to make him king. ³⁹They spent three days there with David, eating and drinking, for their kinsmen made provision for them. ⁴⁰Their neighbours also round about, as far away as Issachar, Zebulun, and Naphtali, brought food on asses and camels, on mules and oxen, supplies of meal, fig-cakes, raisin-cakes, wine and oil, oxen and sheep, in plenty; for there was rejoicing in Israel.

13¹DAVID CONSULTED THE OFFICERS over units of a thousand and a hundred on every matter brought forward. ²Then he said to the whole assembly of Israel, 'If you approve, and if the LORD our God opens a way, let us [and if ... let us: *or* and if it is from the LORD our God, let us seize the opportunity and] send to our kinsmen who have stayed behind, in all the districts of Israel, and also to the priests and Levites in the cities where they have common lands, bidding them join us. ³Let us fetch the Ark of our God, for while Saul lived we never resorted to it.' ⁴The whole assembly resolved to do this; the entire nation approved it.

⁵So David assembled all Israel from the Shihor in Egypt to Lebo-hamath, in order to fetch the Ark of God from Kiriath-jearim. ⁶ [vv6-14: *cp 2Sam. 6.2-11*] Then David and all Israel went up to Baalah, to Kiriath-jearim, which belonged to Judah, to fetch the Ark of God, the LORD enthroned upon the cherubim, the Ark which bore his name [which bore his name: *prob. rdg, Heb obscure*]. ⁷And they conveyed the Ark of God on a new cart from the house of Abinadab, with Uzza and Ahio guiding the cart. ⁸David and all Israel danced for joy before God without restraint to the sound of singing, of harps and lutes,

of tambourines, and cymbals and trumpets. ⁹But when they came to the threshing-floor of Kidon, the oxen stumbled, and Uzza put out his hand to hold the Ark. ¹⁰The LORD was angry with Uzza and struck him down because he had put out his hand to the Ark. So he died there before God. ¹¹David was vexed because the LORD's anger had broken out upon Uzza, and he called the place Perez-uzza [*That is Outbreak on Uzza*], the name it still bears. ¹²David was afraid of God that day and said, 'How can I harbour the Ark of God after this?' ¹³So he did not take the Ark with him into the City of David, but turned aside and carried it to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. ¹⁴Thus the Ark of God remained beside the house of Obed-edom, in its tent [*Or in his tent*], for three months, and the LORD blessed the family of Obed-edom and all that he had.

14¹ [*vv1-16. cp 2Sam. 5.11-25*] Hiram king of Tyre sent an embassy to David; he sent cedar logs, and masons and carpenters with them to build him a house. ²David knew by now that the LORD had confirmed him as king over Israel and had made his royal power stand higher for the sake of his people Israel.

³David married more wives in Jerusalem, and more sons and daughters were born to him. ⁴ [*vv4-7: cp 3.5-8*] These are the names of the children born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, ⁵Ibhar, Elishua, Elpelet, ⁶Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, ⁷Elishama, Beeliada and Eliphelet.

⁸When the Philistines learnt that David had been anointed king over the whole of Israel, they came up in force to seek him out. David, hearing of this, went out to face them. ⁹Now the Philistines had come and raided the Vale of Rephaim. ¹⁰So David inquired of God, 'If I attack the Philistines, wilt thou deliver them into my hands?' And the LORD answered, 'Go; I will deliver them into your hands.' ¹¹So he went up and attacked them at Baal-perazim and defeated them there. 'God has used me to break through my enemies' lines,' David said, 'as a river breaks its banks'; that is why the place was named Baal-perazim [*That is Baal of Break-through*] ¹²The Philistines left their gods behind them there, and by David's orders these were burnt.

¹³The Philistines made another raid on the Vale. ¹⁴Again David inquired of God, and God said to him, 'No, you must go up towards their rear; wheel round without making contact and [*No ... contact and: or Do not go up to the attack; withdraw from them and then*] come upon them opposite the aspens. ¹⁵Then, as soon as you hear a rustling sound in the tree-tops, you shall give battle, for God will have gone out before you to defeat the Philistine army.' ¹⁶David did as God commanded, and they drove the Philistine army in flight all the way from Gibeon to Gezer. ¹⁷So David's fame spread through every land, and the LORD inspired all nations with dread of him.

15¹DAVID BUILT HIMSELF QUARTERS in the City of David, and prepared a place for the Ark of God and pitched a tent for it. ²Then he decreed that only Levites should carry the Ark of God, since they had been chosen by the LORD to carry it and to serve him [*Or it*] for ever. ³Next David assembled all Israel at Jerusalem, to bring up the Ark of the LORD to the place he had prepared for it. ⁴He gathered together the sons of Aaron and the Levites: ⁵of the sons of Kohath, Uriel the chief with a hundred and twenty of his kinsmen; ⁶of the sons of Merari, Asaiah the chief with two hundred and twenty of his

kinsmen; ⁷of the sons of Gershon, Joel the chief with a hundred and thirty of his kinsmen; ⁸of the sons of Elizaphan, Shemaiah the chief with two hundred of his kinsmen; ⁹of the sons of Hebron, Eliel the chief with eighty of his kinsmen; ¹⁰of the sons of Uzziel, Amminadab the chief with a hundred and twelve of his kinsmen. ¹¹And David summoned Zadok and Abiathar the priests, together with the Levites, Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and Amminadab, ¹²and said to them, 'You who are heads of families of the Levites, hallow yourselves, you and your kinsmen, and bring up the Ark of the LORD the God of Israel to the place which I have prepared for it. ¹³It was because you were not present the first time, that the LORD our God broke out upon us. For we had not sought his guidance as we should have done.' ¹⁴So the priests and the Levites hallowed themselves to bring up the Ark of the LORD the God of Israel, ¹⁵and the Levites carried the Ark of God, bearing it on their shoulders with poles as Moses had prescribed at the command of the LORD.

¹⁶David also ordered the chiefs of the Levites to install as musicians those of their kinsmen who were players skilled in making joyful music on their instruments, lutes and harps and cymbals. ¹⁷So the Levites installed Heman son of Joel and, from his kinsmen, Asaph son of Berechiah; and from their kinsmen the Merarites, Ethan son of Kushaiah, ¹⁸together with their kinsmen of the second degree, Zechariah, Jaaziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, and Mikneiah, and the door-keepers Obed-edom and Jeiel. ¹⁹They installed the musicians Heman, Asaph, and Ethan to sound the cymbals of bronze; ²⁰Zechariah, Jaaziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah, and Benaiah to play on lutes [*prob. rdg, Heb adds al alamotheh, possibly a musical term*]; ²¹Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-edom, Jeiel, and Azariah to play on harps [*prob. rdg, Heb adds al hashsheminith lenasseah, possibly musical terms*]. ²²Kenaniah, officer of the Levites, was precentor in charge of the music because of his proficiency. ²³Berechiah and Elkanah were door-keepers for the Ark, while the priests ²⁴Shebaniah, Jehoshaphat, Nethaneel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah, and Eliezer sounded the trumpets before the Ark of God; and Obed-edom and Jehiah also were door-keepers for the Ark.

²⁵ [*vv25-29: cp 2Sam. 6.12-16*] Then David and the elders of Israel and the captains of units of a thousand went to bring up the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD with much rejoicing from the house of Obed-edom. ²⁶Because God had helped the Levites who carried the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD, they sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams.

²⁷Now David and all the Levites who carried the Ark, and the musicians, and Kenaniah the precentor [*the precentor: prob. rdg, Heb obscure*], were arrayed in robes of fine linen; and David had on a linen ephod. ²⁸All Israel escorted the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD with shouts of acclamation, blowing on horns and trumpets, clashing cymbals and playing on lutes and harps. ²⁹But as the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD was entering the city of David, Saul's daughter Michal looked down through a window and saw King David dancing and making merry, and she despised him in her heart.

16¹ [*vv1-3. cp 2Sam. 6.17-19*] When they had brought in the Ark of God, they put it inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and they offered whole-offerings and shared-offerings before God. ²After David had completed these sacrifices, he blessed the people

in the name of the LORD ³and gave food, a loaf of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins, to each Israelite, man or woman. ⁴He appointed certain Levites to serve before the Ark of the LORD, to repeat the Name, to confess and to praise the LORD the God of Israel. ⁵Their leader was Asaph; second to him was Zechariah; then came Jaaziel [*prob. rdg, cp 15.18, 20; Heb Jeiel*], Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Mattithiah, Eliab, Benaiah, Obed-edom, and Jeiel, with lutes and harps, Asaph, who sounded the cymbals; ⁶and Benaiah and Jahaziel the priests, who blew the trumpets before the Ark of the Covenant of God continuously throughout that day. ⁷It was then that David first ordained the offering of thanks to the LORD by Asaph and his kinsmen:

⁸ [*vv8-22: cp Ps. 105.1-15*] Give the LORD thanks and invoke him by name, make his deeds known in the world around.

⁹ Pay him honour with song and psalm and think upon all his wonders.

¹⁰ Exult in his hallowed name; let those who seek the LORD be joyful in heart.

¹¹ Turn to the LORD, your strength [*your strength: or the symbol of his strength; literally and his strength*], seek his presence always.

¹² Remember the wonders that he has wrought, his portents and the judgements he has given,

¹³ O offspring of Israel his servants, O chosen sons of Jacob.

¹⁴ He is the LORD our God; his judgements fill the earth.

¹⁵ He called to mind his covenant from long ago [*from long ago: or for ever*], the promise he extended to a thousand generations –

¹⁶ the covenant made with Abraham, his oath given to Isaac,

¹⁷ the decree by which he bound himself for Jacob, his everlasting covenant with Israel:

¹⁸ 'I will give you the land of Canaan', he said, 'to be your possession, your patrimony.'

¹⁹ A small company it was, few in number, strangers in that land,

²⁰ roaming from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another;

²¹ but he let no man ill-treat them, for their sake he admonished kings:

²² 'Touch not my anointed servants, do my prophets no harm.'

²³ [*vv23-33: cp Ps. 96.1-13*] Sing to the LORD, all men on earth, proclaim his triumph day by day.

²⁴ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous deeds among all peoples.

²⁵ Great is the LORD and worthy of all praise; he is more to be feared than all gods.

²⁶For the gods of the nations are idols every one;
but the LORD made the heavens.

²⁷Majesty and splendour attend him,
might and joy are in his dwelling.

²⁸Ascribe to the LORD, you families of nations,
ascribe to the LORD glory and might;

²⁹ascribe to the LORD the glory due to his name,
bring a gift and come before him.

Bow down to the LORD in the splendour of holiness [*Or in holy vestments*],
³⁰and dance in his honour, all men on earth.

He has fixed the earth firm, immovable.

³¹Let the heavens rejoice and the earth exult,
let men declare among the nations, 'The LORD is king.'

³²Let the sea roar and all the creatures in it,
let the fields exult and all that is in them;

³³then let the trees of the forest shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes to judge the earth.

³⁴ [*v34: cp Ps. 107.1*] It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
for his love endures for ever.

³⁵ [*vv35, 36: cp Ps. 106.47, 48*] Cry, 'Deliver us, O God our saviour,
gather us in and save us from the nations
that we may give thanks to thy holy name
and make thy praise our pride.'

³⁶Blessed be the LORD the God of Israel
from everlasting to everlasting.

And all the people said 'Amen' and 'Praise the LORD.'

³⁷David left Asaph and his kinsmen there before the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD,
to perform regular service before the Ark as each day's duty required; ³⁸as door-
keepers he left Obed-edom son of Jeduthun, and Hosah. (Obed-edom and his kinsmen
were sixty-eight in number.) ³⁹He left Zadok the priest and his kinsmen the priests
before the Tabernacle of the LORD at the hill-shrine in Gibeon, ⁴⁰to make offerings there
to the LORD upon the altar of whole-offering regularly morning and evening, exactly as
it is written in the law enjoined by the LORD upon Israel. ⁴¹With them he left Heman
and Jeduthun and the other men chosen and nominated to give thanks to the LORD, 'for
his love endures for ever.' ⁴²They had trumpets and cymbals for the players, and the
instruments used for sacred song. The sons of Jeduthun kept the gate.

⁴³So all the people went home, and David returned to greet his household.

17¹ [*vv1-27: cp 2Sam. 7.1-29*] AS SOON AS DAVID WAS ESTABLISHED in his house, he said
to Nathan the prophet, 'Here I live in a house of cedar, while the Ark of the Covenant of
the LORD is housed in curtains.' ²Nathan answered David, 'Do whatever you have in

mind, for God is with you.’³ But that night the word of God came to Nathan: ⁴Go and say to David my servant, “This is the word of the LORD: It is not you who shall build me a house to dwell in. ⁵Down to this day I have never dwelt in a house since I brought Israel up from Egypt; I lived in a tent and a tabernacle [I lived ... tabernacle: *prob. rdg, Heb* I have been from tent to tent and from a tabernacle]. ⁶Wherever I journeyed with Israel, did I ever ask any of the judges whom I appointed shepherds of my people why they had not built me a house of cedar?” ⁷Then say this to my servant David: “This is the word of the LORD of Hosts: I took you from the pastures, and from following the sheep, to be prince over my people Israel. ⁸I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have destroyed all the enemies in your path. I will make you as famous as the great ones of the earth. ⁹I will assign a place for my people Israel; there I will plant them, and they shall dwell in their own land. They shall be disturbed no more, never again shall wicked men wear them down as they did ¹⁰from the time when I first appointed judges over Israel my people, and I will subdue all your enemies. But I will make you great and the LORD shall build up your royal house. ¹¹When your life ends and you go to join your forefathers, I will set up one of your family, one of your own sons, to succeed you, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹²It is he shall build me a house, and I will establish his throne for all time. ¹³I will be his father, and he shall be my son. I will never withdraw my love from him as I withdrew it from your predecessor. ¹⁴But I will give him a sure place in my house and kingdom for all time, and his throne shall be established for ever.” ’

¹⁵Nathan recounted to David all that had been said to him and all that had been revealed. ¹⁶Then King David went into the presence of the LORD and took his place there and said, ‘What am I, LORD God, and what is my family, that thou hast brought me thus far? ¹⁷It was a small thing in thy sight, O God, to have planned for thy servant’s house in days long past, and now thou lookest upon me as a man already embarked on a high career, O LORD God. ¹⁸What more can David say to thee of the honour thou hast done thy servant, well though thou knowest him? ¹⁹For the sake of thy servant, LORD, and according to thy purpose, thou hast brought me to all this greatness. ²⁰O LORD, we have never heard of one like thee; there is no god but thee. ²¹And thy people Israel, to whom can they be compared? Is there any other nation on earth whom God has gone out to redeem from slavery, to make them his people? Thou hast won a name for thyself by great and terrible deeds, driving out nations before thy people whom thou didst redeem from Egypt. ²²Thou hast made thy people Israel thy own for ever, and thou, O LORD, hast become their God. ²³But now, LORD, let what thou hast promised for thy servant and his house stand fast for all time; make good what thou hast said. Let it stand fast, ²⁴that thy fame may be great for ever, and let men say, “The LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, is Israel’s God.” So shall the house of thy servant David be established before thee. ²⁵Thou, my God, hast shown me thy purpose to build up thy servant’s house; therefore I have been able to pray before thee. ²⁶Thou, O LORD, art God, and thou hast made these noble promises to thy servant; ²⁷thou hast been pleased to bless thy servant’s house, that it may continue always before thee; thou it is who hast blessed it, and it shall be blessed for ever.’

18¹ [*vv1-13: cp 2Sam. 8.1-14*] After this David defeated the Philistines and conquered them, and took from them Gath with its villages; ²he defeated the Moabites, and they became

subject to him and paid him tribute. ³He also defeated Hadadezer king of Zobah-hamath, who was on his way to set up a monument of victory by the river Euphrates. ⁴From him David captured a thousand chariots, seven thousand horsemen and twenty thousand foot; he hamstrung all the chariot-horses, except a hundred which he retained. ⁵When the Aramaeans of Damascus came to the help of Hadadezer king of Zobah, David destroyed twenty-two thousand of them, ⁶and established garrisons among these Aramaeans; they became subject to him and paid him tribute. Thus the LORD gave David victory wherever he went. ⁷David took the gold quivers borne by Hadadezer's servants and brought them to Jerusalem. ⁸He also took a great quantity of bronze [*Or copper*] from Hadadezer's cities, Tibhath and Kun; from this Solomon made the Sea of bronze [*Or copper*], the pillars, and the bronze [*Or copper*] vessels.

⁹When Tou king of Hamath heard that David had defeated the entire army of Hadadezer king of Zobah, ¹⁰he sent his son Hadoram to King David to greet him and to congratulate him on defeating Hadadezer in battle (for Hadadezer had been at war with Tou); and he brought with him vessels of gold, silver, and copper, ¹¹which King David dedicated to the LORD. He dedicated also the silver and the gold which he had carried away from all the other nations, from Edom and Moab, from the Ammonites and the Philistines, and from Amalek.

¹²Edom was defeated by Abishai son of Zeruiah, who destroyed eighteen thousand of them in the Valley of Salt ¹³and stationed garrisons in the country. All the Edomites now became subject to David. Thus the LORD gave victory to David wherever he went.

¹⁴ [*vv14-17: cp 2Sam. 8.15-18; 20.23-26; 1Kgs. 4.2-4*] David ruled over the whole of Israel and maintained law and justice among all his people. ¹⁵Joab son of Zeruiah was in command of the army; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was secretary; of state; ¹⁶Zadok and Abiathar son of Ahimelech, son of Ahitub [*and Abiathar ... Ahitub: prob. rdg, cp 2Sam. 8.17; Heb son of Ahitub and Abimelech son of Abiathar*], were priests; Shavsha was adjutant-general; ¹⁷Benaiah son of Jehoiada commanded the Kerethite and Pelethite guards. The eldest sons of David were in attendance on the king.

19¹ [*vv1-19: cp 2Sam. 10.1-19*] Some time afterwards Nahash king of the Ammonites died and was succeeded by his son. ²David said, 'I must keep up the same loyal friendship with Hanun son of Nahash as his father showed me', and he sent a mission to condole with him on the death of his father. But when David's envoys entered the country of the Ammonites to condole with Hanun, ³the Ammonite princes said to Hanun, 'Do you suppose David means to do honour to your father when he sends you his condolences? These men of his are spies whom he has sent to find out how to overthrow the country.' ⁴So Hanun took David's servants, and he shaved them, cut off half their garments up to the hips, ⁵and dismissed them. When David heard how they had been treated, he sent to meet them, for they were deeply humiliated, and ordered them to wait in Jericho and not to return until their beards had grown again. ⁶The Ammonites knew that they had brought themselves into bad odour with David, so Hanun and the Ammonites sent a thousand talents of silver to hire chariots and horsemen from Aram-naharaim [*That is Aram of Two Rivers*], Maacah, and Aram-zobah [*Maacah, and Aram-zobah: prob. rdg, Heb Aram-maacah, and Zobah*]. ⁷They hired thirty-two thousand chariots and the king

of Maacah and his people, who came and encamped before Medeba, while the Ammonites came from their cities and mustered for battle. ⁸When David heard of it, he sent out Joab and all the fighting men. ⁹The Ammonites came and took up their position at the entrance to the city, while the allied kings took up theirs in the open country. ¹⁰When Joab saw that he was threatened both front and rear, he detailed some picked Israelite troops and drew them up facing the Aramaeans. ¹¹The rest of his forces he put under his brother Abishai, who took up a position facing the Ammonites. ¹²'If the Aramaeans prove too strong for me,' he said, 'you must come to my relief; and if the Ammonites prove too strong for you, I will relieve you. ¹³Courage! Let us fight bravely for our people and for the cities [*Or altars*] of our God. And the LORD's will be done.'¹⁴But when Joab and his men came to close quarters with the Aramaeans, they put them to flight; ¹⁵and when the Ammonites saw them in flight, they too fled before his brother Abishai and entered the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem. ¹⁶The Aramaeans saw that they had been worsted by Israel, and they sent messengers to summon other Aramaeans from the Great Bend of the Euphrates under Shophach, commander of Hadadezer's army. ¹⁷Their movement was reported to David, who immediately mustered all the forces of Israel, crossed the Jordan and advanced against them and took up battle positions. The Aramaeans likewise took up positions facing David and engaged him, ¹⁸but were put to flight by Israel. David slew seven thousand Aramaeans in chariots and forty thousand infantry, killing Shophach the commander of the army. ¹⁹When Hadadezer's men saw that they had been worsted by Israel, they sued for peace and submitted to David. The Aramaeans were never again willing to give support to the Ammonites.

20¹ [*vv1-3: cp 2Sam. 12.26-31*] **AT THE TURN OF THE YEAR**, when kings take the field, Joab led the army out and ravaged the Ammonite country. He came to Rabbah and laid siege to it, while David remained in Jerusalem; he reduced the city and razed it to the ground. ²David took the crown from the head of Milcom and found that it weighed a talent of gold and was set with a precious stone, and this he placed on his own head. He also removed a great quantity of booty from the city; ³he took its inhabitants and set them to work with saws and other iron tools, sharp and toothed. David did this to all the cities of the Ammonites; then he and all his people returned to Jerusalem.

⁴ [*vv4-7: cp 2Sam. 21.18-22*] Some time later war with the Philistines broke out in Gezer; it was then that Sibbechai of Hushah killed Sippai, a descendant of the Rephaim, and the Philistines were reduced to submission. ⁵In another war with the Philistines, Elhanan son of Jair killed Lahmi brother of Goliath of Gath, whose spear had a shaft like a weaver's beam. ⁶In yet another war in Gath, there appeared a giant with six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in all; he too was descended from the Rephaim, ⁷and, when he defied Israel, Jonathan son of David's brother Shimea killed him. ⁸These giants were the descendants of the Rephaim in Gath, and they all fell at the hands of David and his men.

21¹ [*vv1-27: cp 2Sam. 24.1-25*] **NOW SATAN, SETTING HIMSELF AGAINST ISRAEL**, incited David to count the people. ²So he instructed Joab and his public officers to go out and number Israel, from Beersheba to Dan, and to report the number to him. ³Joab answered, 'Even if the LORD should increase his people a hundredfold, would not your

majesty still be king and all the people your slaves? Why should your majesty want to do this? It will only bring guilt on Israel.’⁴ But Joab was overruled by the king; he set out and went up and down the whole country.⁵ He then came to Jerusalem and reported to David the numbers recorded: those capable of bearing arms were one million one hundred thousand in Israel, and four hundred and seventy thousand in Judah.⁶ Levi and Benjamin were not counted by Joab, so deep was his repugnance against the king’s order.

⁷God was displeased with all this and proceeded to punish Israel.⁸ David said to God, ‘I have done a very wicked thing: I pray thee remove thy servant’s guilt, for I have been very foolish.’⁹ And the LORD said to Gad, David’s seer,¹⁰ ‘Go and tell David, “This is the word of the LORD: I have three things to offer you; choose one of them and I will bring it upon you.”’¹¹ So Gad came to David and said to him, ‘This is the word of the LORD: “Make your choice: ¹²three years of famine, three months of harrying by your foes and close pursuit by the sword of your enemy, or three days of the LORD’s own sword, bringing pestilence throughout the country, and the LORD’s angel working destruction in all the territory of Israel.” Consider now what answer I am to take back to him who sent me.’¹³ Thereupon David said to Gad, ‘I am in a desperate plight; let me fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is very great; and let me not fall into the hands of man.’¹⁴ So the LORD sent a pestilence throughout Israel, and seventy thousand men of Israel died.¹⁵ And God sent an angel to Jerusalem to destroy it; but, as he was destroying it, the LORD saw and repented of the evil, and said to the destroying angel at the moment when he was standing beside the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite, ‘Enough! Stay your hand.’

¹⁶When David looked up and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, with his sword drawn in his hand and stretched out over Jerusalem, he and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell prostrate to the ground;¹⁷ and David said to God, ‘It was I who gave the order to count the people. It was I who sinned, I, the shepherd [the shepherd: *prob. rdg, Heb doing wrong*], who did wrong. But these poor sheep, what have they done? O LORD my God, let thy hand fall upon me and upon my family, but check this plague on the people [check ... people: *prob. rdg, Heb among thy people, not for a plague*].’

¹⁸The angel of the LORD, speaking through the lips of Gad, commanded David to go to the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite and to set up there an altar to the LORD.¹⁹ David went up as Gad had bidden him in the LORD’s name. Ornan’s four sons who were with him hid themselves,²⁰ but he was busy threshing his wheat when he turned and saw the angel.²¹ As David approached, Ornan looked up and, seeing the king, came out from the threshing-floor and prostrated himself before him.²² David said to Ornan, ‘Let me have the site of the threshing-floor that I may build on it an altar to the LORD; sell it me at the full price, that the plague which has attacked my people may be stopped.’²³ Ornan answered David, ‘Take it and let your majesty do as he thinks fit; see, here are the oxen for whole-offerings, the threshing-sledges for the fuel, and the wheat for the grain-offering; I give you everything.’²⁴ But King David said to Ornan, ‘No, I will pay the full price; I will not present to the LORD what is yours, or offer a whole-offering which has cost me nothing.’²⁵ So David gave Ornan six hundred shekels

of gold for the site, ²⁶and built an altar to the LORD there; on this he offered whole-offerings and shared-offerings, and called upon the LORD, who answered him with fire falling from heaven on the altar of whole-offering. ²⁷Then, at the LORD's command, the angel sheathed his sword.

²⁸It was when David saw that the LORD had answered him at the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite that he offered sacrifice there. ²⁹The tabernacle of the LORD and the altar of whole-offering which Moses had made in the wilderness were then at the hill-shrine in Gibeon; ³⁰but David had been unable to go there and seek God's guidance, so shocked and shaken was he at the sight of the angel's sword. **22**¹Then David said, 'This is to be the house of the LORD God, and this is to be an altar of whole-offering for Israel.'

The temple and its organization

²DAVID NOW GAVE ORDERS to assemble the aliens resident in Israel, and he set them as masons to dress hewn stones and to build the house of God. ³He laid in a great store of iron to make nails and clamps for the doors, more bronze than could be weighed ⁴and cedar-wood without limit; the men of Sidon and Tyre brought David an ample supply of cedar. ⁵David said, 'My son Solomon is a boy of tender years, and the house that is to be built to the LORD must be exceedingly magnificent, renowned and celebrated in every land; therefore I must make preparations for it myself.' So David made abundant preparation before his death.

⁶He sent for Solomon his son and charged him to build a house for the LORD the God of Israel. ⁷'Solomon, my son,' he said, 'I had intended to build a house in honour of the name of the LORD my God; ⁸but the LORD forbade me and said, "You have shed much blood in my sight and waged great wars; for this reason you shall not build a house in honour of my name. ⁹ [v9: cp 1Kgs.5. 4] But you shall have a son who shall be a man of peace; I will give him peace from all his enemies on every side; his name shall be Solomon, 'Man of Peace', and I will grant peace and quiet to Israel in his days. ¹⁰He shall build a house in honour of my name; he shall be my son and I will be a father to him, and I will establish the throne of his sovereignty over Israel for ever." ¹¹Now, Solomon my son, the LORD be with you! May you prosper and build the house of the LORD your God, as he promised you should. ¹²But may the LORD grant you wisdom and discretion, so that when he gives you authority in Israel you may keep the law of the LORD your God. ¹³You will prosper only if you are careful to observe the decrees and ordinances which the LORD enjoined upon Moses for Israel; be strong and resolute, neither faint-hearted nor dismayed.

¹⁴In spite of all my troubles, I have here ready for the house of the LORD a hundred thousand talents of gold and a million talents of silver, with great quantities of bronze and iron, more than can be weighed; timber and stone, too, I have got ready; and you may add to them. ¹⁵Besides, you have a large force of workmen, masons, sculptors, and carpenters, and countless men skilled in work of every kind, ¹⁶in gold and silver, bronze and iron. So now to work, and the LORD be with you!'

¹⁷David ordered all the officers of Israel to help Solomon his son: ¹⁸Is not the LORD your God with you? Will he not give you peace on every side? For he has given the inhabitants of the land into my power, and they will be subject to the LORD and his people. ¹⁹Devote yourselves, therefore, heart and soul, to seeking guidance of the LORD your God, and set about building his sanctuary, so that the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD and God's holy vessels may be brought into a house built in honour of his name.'

23¹David was now an old man, weighed down with years, and he appointed Solomon his son king over Israel. ²He gathered together all the officers of Israel, the priests, and the Levites. ³The Levites were enrolled from the age of thirty upwards, their males being thirty-eight thousand in all. ⁴Of these, twenty-four thousand were to be responsible for the maintenance and service of the house of the LORD, six thousand to act as officers and magistrates, ⁵four thousand to be door-keepers, and four thousand to praise the LORD on the musical instruments which David had made for the service of praise. ⁶David organized them in divisions, called after Gershon, Kohath, and Merari, the sons of Levi.

⁷The sons of Gershon: Laadan and Shimei. ⁸The sons of Laadan: Jehiel the chief, Zetham and Joel, three [*prob. rdg, Heb adds* ⁹The sons of Shimei: Shelomith, Haziël and Haran, three]. These were the heads of the families grouped under Laadan. ¹⁰The sons of Shimei: Jahath, Ziza, Jeush and Beriah, four. ¹¹Jahath was the chief and Ziza the second, but Jeush and Beriah, having few children, were reckoned for duty as a single family.

¹²The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel, four. ¹³The sons of Amram: Aaron and Moses. Aaron was set apart, he and his sons in perpetuity, to dedicate the most holy gifts [*to dedicate ... gifts: or to be hallowed as most holy*], to burn sacrifices before the LORD, to serve him, and to give the blessing in his name for ever, ¹⁴but the sons of Moses, the man of God, were to keep the name of Levite. ¹⁵The sons of Moses: Gershom and Eliezer. ¹⁶The sons of Gershom: Shubael the chief. ¹⁷The sons of Eliezer: Rehabiah the chief. Eliezer had no other sons, but Rehabiah had very many. ¹⁸The sons of Izhar: Shelomoth the chief. ¹⁹The sons of Hebron: Jeriah the chief, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third and Jekameam the fourth. ²⁰The sons of Uzziel: Micah the chief and Isshiah the second.

²¹The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Mahli: Eleazar and Kish. ²²When Eleazar died, he left daughters but no sons, and their cousins, the sons of Kish, married them. ²³The sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder and Jeremoth, three.

²⁴Such were the Levites, grouped by families in the father's line whose heads were entered in the detailed list; they performed duties in the service of the house of the LORD, from the age of twenty upwards. ²⁵For David said, 'The LORD the God of Israel has given his people peace and has made his abode in Jerusalem for ever. ²⁶The Levites will no longer have to carry the Tabernacle or any of the vessels for its service.' ²⁷By these last words of David the Levites were enrolled from the age of twenty upwards. ²⁸Their duty was to help the sons of Aaron in the service of the house of the LORD: they

were responsible for the care of the courts and the rooms, for the cleansing of all holy things, and the general service of the house of God; ²⁹for the rows of the Bread of the Presence, the flour for the grain-offerings, unleavened wafers, cakes baked on the griddle, and pastry, and for the weights and measures. ³⁰They were to be on duty continually before the LORD every morning and evening, giving thanks and praise to him, ³¹and at every offering of whole-offerings to the LORD, on sabbaths, new moons and at the appointed seasons, according to their prescribed number. ³²The Levites were to have charge of the Tent of the Presence and of the sanctuary, but the sons of Aaron their kinsmen were charged with the service of worship in the house of the LORD.

24¹The divisions of the sons of Aaron: his sons were Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. ²Nadab and Abihu died before their father, leaving no sons; therefore Eleazar and Ithamar held the office of priest. ³David, acting with Zadok of the sons of Eleazar and with Ahimelech of the sons of Ithamar, organized them in divisions for the discharge of the duties of their office. ⁴The male heads of families proved to be more numerous in the line of Eleazar than in that of Ithamar, so that sixteen heads of families were grouped under the line of Eleazar and eight under that of Ithamar. ⁵He organized them by drawing lots among them, for there were sacred officers [*sacred officers: or officers of the sanctuary*] and officers of God in the line of Eleazar and in that of Ithamar. ⁶Shemaiah the clerk, a Levite, son of Nethaneel, wrote down the names in the presence of the king, the officers, Zadok the priest, and Ahimelech son of Abiathar, and of the heads of the priestly and levitical families, one priestly family being taken from the line of Eleazar and one from that of Ithamar. ⁷The first lot fell to Jehoiarib, the second to Jedaiah, ⁸the third to Harim, the fourth to Seorim, ⁹the fifth to Malchiah, the sixth to Mijamin, ¹⁰the seventh to Hakkoz, the eighth to Abiah, ¹¹the ninth to Jeshua, the tenth to Shecaniah, ¹²the eleventh to Eliashib, the twelfth to Jakim, ¹³the thirteenth to Huppah, the fourteenth to Jeshebeab, ¹⁴the fifteenth to Bilgah, the sixteenth to Immer, ¹⁵the seventeenth to Hezir, the eighteenth to Aphses, ¹⁶the nineteenth to Pethahiah, the twentieth to Jehezkel, ¹⁷the twenty-first to Jachin, the twenty-second to Gamul, ¹⁸the twenty-third to Delaiah, and the twenty-fourth to Maaziah. ¹⁹This was their order of duty for the discharge of their service when they entered the house of the LORD, according to the rule prescribed for them by their ancestor Aaron, who had received his instructions from the LORD the God of Israel.

²⁰Of the remaining Levites: of the sons of Amram: Shubael. Of the sons of Shubael: Jehdeiah. ²¹Of Rehabiah: Isshiah, the chief of Rehabiah's sons. ²²Of the line of Izhar: Shelomoth. Of the sons of Shelomoth: Jahath. ²³The sons of Hebron: Jeriah the chief, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third and Jekameam the fourth. ²⁴The sons of Uzziel: Micah. Of the sons of Micah: Shamir; ²⁵Micah's brother: Isshiah. Of the sons of Isshiah: Zechariah. ²⁶The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi and also [*and also: prob. rdg, Heb the sons of*] Jaaziah his son. ²⁷The sons of Merari: of Jaaziah: Beno, Shoham, Zaccur and Ibri. ²⁸Of Mahli: Eleazar, who had no sons; ²⁹of Kish: the sons of Kish: Jerahmeel; ³⁰and the sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder and Jerimoth. These were the Levites by families. ³¹These also, side by side with their kinsmen the sons of Aaron, cast lots in the presence of King David, Zadok, Ahimelech, and the heads of the priestly and levitical families, the senior and junior houses casting lots side by side.

25¹David and his chief officers assigned special duties to the sons of Asaph, of Heman, and of Jeduthun, leaders in inspired prophecy to the accompaniment of harps, lutes, and cymbals; the number of the men who performed this work in the temple was as follows. ²Of the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah and Asarelah; these were under Asaph, a leader in inspired prophecy under the king. ³Of the sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, Izri [*prob. rdg, cp v11; Heb Zeri*], Isaiah, Shimei, Hashabiah, Mattithiah, these six under their father Jeduthun, a leader in inspired prophecy to the accompaniment of the harp, giving thanks and praise to the LORD. ⁴Of the sons of Heman: Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shubael, Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, Romamti-ezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth; ⁵all these were sons of Heman the king's seer, given to him through the promises of God for his greater glory. God had given Heman fourteen sons and three daughters, ⁶and they all served under their father for the singing in the house of the LORD; they took part in the service of the house of God, with cymbals, lutes, and harps, while Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman were under the king. ⁷Reckoned with their kinsmen, trained singers of the LORD, they brought the total number of skilled musicians up to two hundred and eighty-eight. ⁸They cast lots for their duties, young and old, master-singer and apprentice side by side.

⁹The first lot fell [*prob. rdg, Heb adds to Asaph*] to Joseph: he and his brothers and his sons, twelve [*he ... twelve: prob. rdg, Heb omitted*]. The second to Gedaliah: he and his brothers and his sons, twelve. ¹⁰The third to Zaccur: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹¹The fourth to Izri: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹²The fifth to Nethaniah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹³The sixth to Bukkiah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹⁴The seventh to Asarelah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹⁵The eighth to Isaiah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹⁶The ninth to Mattaniah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹⁷The tenth to Shimei: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹⁸The eleventh to Azareel: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ¹⁹The twelfth to Hashabiah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²⁰The thirteenth to Shubael: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²¹The fourteenth to Mattithiah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²²The fifteenth to Jeremoth: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²³The sixteenth to Hananiah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²⁴The seventeenth to Joshbekashah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²⁵The eighteenth to Hanani: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²⁶The nineteenth to Mallothi: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²⁷The twentieth to Eliathah: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²⁸The twenty-first to Hothir: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ²⁹The twenty-second to Giddalti: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ³⁰The twenty-third to Mahazioth: his sons and his brothers, twelve. ³¹The twenty-fourth to Romamti-ezer: his sons and his brothers, twelve.

26¹The divisions of the door-keepers: Korahites: Meshelemiah son of Kore, son of Ebiasaph [*son of Ebiasaph: prob. rdg, Heb from the sons of Asaph*]. ²Sons of Meshelemiah: Zechariah the eldest, Jediael the second, Zebediah the third, Jathniel the fourth, ³Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, Elioenai the seventh. ⁴Sons of Obed-edom: Shemaiah the eldest, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, Sacar the fourth, Nethaneel the fifth, ⁵Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peulthai the eighth (for God had blessed him). ⁶Shemaiah, his son, was the father of sons who had authority in their

family, for they were men of great ability. ⁷Sons of Shemaiah: Othni, Rephael, Obed, Elzabad and his brothers Elihu and Semachiah, men of ability. ⁸All these belonged to the family of Obed-edom; they, their sons and brothers, were men of ability, fit for service in the temple; total: sixty-two. ⁹Sons and brothers of Meshelemiah, all men of ability, eighteen. ¹⁰Sons of Hosah, a Merarite: Shimri the chief (he was not the eldest, but his father had made him chief), ¹¹Hilkiah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth. Total of Hosah's sons and brothers: thirteen.

¹²The male heads of families constituted the divisions of the door-keepers; their duty was to serve in the house of the LORD side by side with their kinsmen. ¹³Young and old, family by family, they cast lots for the gates. ¹⁴The lot for the east gate fell to Shelemiah; then lots were cast for his son Zechariah, a prudent counsellor, and he was allotted the north gate. ¹⁵To Obed-edom was allotted the south gate, and the gatehouse to his sons. ¹⁶Hosah [*Hosah: prob. rdg, Heb Shuppim and Hosah*] was allotted the west gate, together with the Shallecheth gate on the ascending causeway. Guard corresponded to guard. ¹⁷Six Levites were on duty daily on the east side, four on the north and four on the south, and two at each gatehouse; ¹⁸at the western colonnade there were four at the causeway and two at the colonnade itself. ¹⁹These were the divisions of the door-keepers, Korahites and Merarites.

²⁰Fellow-Levites were in charge of the stores of the house of God and of the stores of sacred gifts. ²¹Of the children of Laadan, descendants of the Gershonite line through Laadan, heads of families in the group of Laadan the Gershonite, ²²Jehiel and [*Jehiel and: prob. rdg, Heb Jehieli. The sons of Jehieli*] his brothers Zetham and Joel were in charge of the stores of the house of the LORD. ²³Of the families of Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel, ²⁴Shubael son of Gershom, son of Moses, was overseer of the stores. ²⁵The line of Eliezer his brother: his son Rehabiah, his son Isaiah, his son Joram, his son Zichri, and his son Shelomoth. ²⁶This Shelomoth and his kinsmen were in charge of all the stores of the sacred gifts dedicated by David the king, the heads of families, the officers over units of a thousand and a hundred, and other officers of the army. ²⁷They had dedicated some of the spoils taken in the wars for the upkeep of the house of the LORD. ²⁸Everything which Samuel the seer, Saul son of Kish, Abner son of Ner, and Joab son of Zeruah had dedicated, in short every sacred gift, was under the charge of Shelomoth and his kinsmen. ²⁹Of the family of Izhar, Kenaniah and his sons acted as clerks and magistrates in the secular affairs of Israel. ³⁰Of the family of Hebron, Hashabiah and his kinsmen, men of ability to the number of seventeen hundred, had the oversight of Israel west of the Jordan, both in the work of the LORD and in the service of the king. ³¹Also of the family of Hebron, Jeriah was the chief. (In the fortieth year of David's reign search was made in the family histories of the Hebronites, and men of great ability were found among them at Jazer in Gilead.) ³²His kinsmen, all men of ability, two thousand seven hundred of them, heads of families, were charged by King David with the oversight of the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, in religious and civil affairs alike.

27¹THE NUMBER OF THE ISRAELITES – that is to say, of the heads of families, the officers over units of a thousand and a hundred, and the clerks who had their share in

the king's service in the various divisions which took monthly turns of duty throughout the year – was twenty-four thousand in each division.

²First, Jashobeam son of Zabdiel commanded the division for the first month with twenty-four thousand in his division; ³a member of the house of Perez, he was chief officer of the temple staff for the first month. ⁴Eleazar son of [Eleazar son of: *prob. rdg, cp 11.12; Heb omitted*] Dodai the Ahohite commanded the division for the second month with twenty-four thousand in his division. ⁵Third, Benaiah son of Jehoiada the chief priest, commander of the army, was the officer for the third month with twenty-four thousand in his division ⁶(he was the Benaiah who was one of the thirty warriors and was a chief among the thirty); but his son Ammizabad commanded his division. ⁷Fourth, Asahel, the brother of Joab, was the officer commanding for the fourth month with twenty-four thousand in his division; and his successor was Zebediah his son. ⁸Fifth, Shamhuth the Zerahite [*the Zerahite: prob. rdg, Heb the Izrah*] was the officer commanding for the fifth month with twenty-four thousand in his division. ⁹Sixth, Ira son of Ikkesh, a man of Tekoa, was the officer commanding for the sixth month with twenty-four thousand in his division. ¹⁰Seventh, Helez an Ephraimite, from a place unknown, was the officer commanding for the seventh month with twenty-four thousand in his division. ¹¹Eighth, Sibbecai the Hushathite, of the family of Zerah, was the officer commanding for the eighth month with twenty-four thousand in his division. ¹²Ninth, Abiezer, from Anathoth in Benjamin, was the officer commanding for the ninth month with twenty-four thousand in his division. ¹³Tenth, Maharai the Netophathite, of the family of Zerah, was the officer commanding for the tenth month with twenty-four thousand in his division. ¹⁴Eleventh, Benaiah the Pirathonite, from Ephraim, was the officer commanding for the eleventh month with twenty-four thousand in his division. ¹⁵Twelfth, Heldai the Netophathite, of the family of Othniel, was the officer commanding for the twelfth month with twenty-four thousand in his division.

¹⁶The following were the principal officers in charge of the tribes of Israel: of Reuben, Eliezer son of Zichri; of Simeon, Shephatiah son of Maacah; ¹⁷of Levi, Hashabiah son of Kemuel; of Aaron, Zadok; ¹⁸of Judah, Elihu a kinsman of David; of Issachar, Omri son of Michael; ¹⁹of Zebulun, Ishmaiah son of Obadiah; of Naphtali, Jerimoth son of Azriel; ²⁰of Ephraim, Hoshea son of Azaziah; of the half tribe of Manasseh, Joel son of Pedaiah; ²¹of the half of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo son of Zechariah; of Benjamin, Jaasiel son of Abner; ²²of Dan, Azareel son of Jeroham. These were the officers in charge of the tribes of Israel.

²³David took no census of those under twenty years of age, for the LORD had promised to make the Israelites as many as the stars in the heavens. ²⁴Joab son of Zeruiah did begin to take a census but he did not finish it; this brought harm upon Israel, and the census was not entered in the chronicle of King David's reign.

²⁵Azmoth son of Adiel was in charge of the king's stores; Jonathan son of Uziah was in charge of the stores in the country, in the cities, in the villages and in the fortresses. ²⁶Ezri son of Kelub had oversight of the workers on the land; ²⁷Shimei of Ramah was in charge of the vine-dressers, while Zabdi of Shephem had charge of the produce of the vineyards for the wine-cellars. ²⁸Baal-hanan the Gederite supervised the wild olives and

the sycomore-figs in the Shephelah; Joash was in charge of the oil-stores. ²⁹Shitrai of Sharon was in charge of the herds grazing in Sharon, Shaphat son of Adlai of the herds in the vales. ³⁰Obil the Ishmaelite was in charge of the camels, Jehdeiah the Meronothite of the asses. ³¹Jaziz the Hagerite was in charge of the flocks. All these were the officers in charge of King David's possessions. ³²David's favourite nephew Jonathan, a counsellor, a discreet and learned man, and Jehiel the Hachmonite, were tutors to the king's sons. ³³Ahithophel was a king's counsellor; Hushai the Archite was the King's Friend. ³⁴Ahithophel was succeeded by Jehoiada son of Benaiah, and Abiathar. Joab was commander of the army.

28¹DAVID ASSEMBLED AT JERUSALEM all the officers of Israel, the officers over the tribes, over the divisions engaged in the king's service, over the units of a thousand and a hundred, and those in charge of all the property and the cattle of the king and of his sons, as well as the eunuchs, the heroes and all the men of ability. ²Then King David rose to his feet and said, 'Hear me, kinsmen and people. I had in mind to build a house as a resting-place for the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD which might serve as a footstool for the feet of our God, and I made preparations to build it. ³But God said to me, "You shall not build a house in honour of my name, for you have been a fighting man and you have shed blood." ⁴Nevertheless, the LORD the God of Israel chose me out of all my father's family to be king over Israel in perpetuity; for it was Judah that he chose as ruling tribe, and, out of the house of Judah, my father's family; and among my father's sons it was I whom he was pleased to make king over all Israel. ⁵And out of all my sons – for the LORD gave me many sons – he chose Solomon to sit upon the throne of the LORD's sovereignty over Israel; ⁶and he said to me, "It is Solomon your son who shall build my house and my courts, for I have chosen him to be a son to me and I will be a father to him. ⁷I will establish his sovereignty in perpetuity, if only he steadfastly obeys my commandments and my laws as they are now obeyed." ⁸Now therefore, in the presence of all Israel, the assembly of the LORD, and within the hearing of our God, I bid you all study carefully the commandments of the LORD your God, that you may possess this good land and hand it down as an inheritance for all time to your children after you. ⁹And you, Solomon my son, acknowledge your father's God and serve him with whole heart and willing mind, for the LORD searches all hearts and discerns every invention of men's thoughts. If you search for him, he will let you find him, but if you forsake him, he will cast you off for ever. ¹⁰Remember, then, that the LORD has chosen you to build a house for a sanctuary: be steadfast and do it.'

¹¹David gave Solomon his son the plan of the porch of the temple [of the temple: *prob. rdg, Heb omitted*] and its buildings, strong-rooms, roof-chambers and inner courts, and the shrine of expiation [the shrine ... expiation: *or the place for the Ark with its cover*]; ¹²also the plans of all he had in mind for the courts of the house of the LORD and for all the rooms around it, for the stores of God's house and for the stores of the sacred gifts, ¹³for the divisions of the priests and the Levites, for all the work connected with the service of the house of the LORD and for all the vessels used in its service. ¹⁴He prescribed the weight of gold for all the gold vessels [for ... vessels: *prob. rdg, Heb for gold*] used in the various services, and the weight of silver [of silver: *prob. rdg, Heb omitted*] for all the silver vessels used in the various services; ¹⁵and the weight of gold for the gold lamp-stands and their lamps; and the weight of silver for the silver lamp-

stands, the weight required for each lamp-stand and its lamps according to the use of each; ¹⁶and the weight of gold for each of the tables for the rows of the Bread of the Presence, and of silver for the silver tables. ¹⁷He prescribed also the weight of pure gold for the forks, tossing-bowls and cups, the weight of gold for each of the golden dishes and of silver [of silver: *prob. rdg, Heb omitted*] for each of the silver dishes; ¹⁸the weight also of refined gold for the altar of incense, and of gold for the model of the chariot, that is the cherubim with their wings outspread to screen the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD. ¹⁹'All this was drafted by the LORD's own hand,' said David; 'my part was to consider the detailed working out of the plan.'

²⁰Then David said to Solomon his son, 'Be steadfast and resolute and do it; be neither faint-hearted nor dismayed, for the LORD God, my God, will be with you; he will neither fail you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work needed for the service of the house of the LORD. ²¹Here are the divisions of the priests and the Levites, ready for all the service of the house of God. In all the work you will have the help of every willing craftsman for any task; and the officers and all the people will be entirely at your command.'

29¹King David then said to the whole assembly, 'My son Solomon is the one chosen by God, Solomon alone, a boy of tender years; and this is a great work, for it is a palace not for man but for the LORD God. ²Now to the best of my strength I have made ready for the house of my God gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron, and wood for the woodwork, together with cornelian and other gems for setting, stones for mosaic work, precious stones of every sort, and marble in plenty. ³Further, because I delight in the house of my God, I give my own private store of gold and silver for the house of my God – over and above all the store which I have collected for the sanctuary – ⁴namely three thousand talents of gold, gold from Ophir, and seven thousand talents of fine silver for overlaying the walls of the buildings, ⁵for providing gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, and for any work to be done by skilled craftsmen. Now who is willing to give with open hand to the LORD today?'

⁶Then the heads of families, the officers administering the tribes of Israel, the officers over units of a thousand and a hundred, and the officers in charge of the king's service, responded willingly ⁷and gave for the work of the house of God five thousand talents of gold, ten thousand darics, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze, and a hundred thousand talents of iron. ⁸Further, those who possessed precious stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the LORD, into the charge of Jehiel the Gershonite. ⁹The people rejoiced at this willing response, because in the loyalty of their hearts they had given willingly to the LORD; King David also was full of joy, ¹⁰and he blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly and said, 'Blessed art thou, LORD God of our father Israel, from of old and for ever. ¹¹Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is thine [*is thine: prob. rdg, Heb omitted*], thine, O LORD, is the sovereignty, and thou art exalted over all as head. ¹²Wealth and honour come from thee; thou rulest over all; might and power are of thy disposing; thine it is to give power and strength to all. ¹³And now, we give thee thanks, our God, and praise thy glorious name.

¹⁴But what am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to give willingly like

this? For everything comes from thee, and it is only of thy gifts that we give to thee. ¹⁵We are aliens before thee and settlers, as were all our fathers; our days on earth are like a shadow, we have no abiding place. ¹⁶O LORD our God, from thee comes all this wealth that we have laid up to build a house in honour of thy holy name, and everything is thine. ¹⁷I know, O my God, that thou dost test the heart and that plain honesty pleases thee; with an honest heart I have given all these gifts willingly, and have rejoiced now to see thy people here present give willingly to thee. ¹⁸O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel our fathers, maintain this purpose for ever in thy people's thoughts and direct their hearts toward thyself. ¹⁹Grant that Solomon my son may loyally keep thy commandments, thy solemn charge, and thy statutes, that he may fulfil them all and build the palace for which I have prepared.'

²⁰Then, turning to the whole assembly, David said, 'Now bless the LORD your God.' So all the assembly blessed the LORD the God of their fathers, bowing low and prostrating themselves before the LORD and the king. ²¹The next day they sacrificed to the LORD and offered whole-offerings to him, a thousand oxen, a thousand rams, a thousand lambs, with the prescribed drink-offerings, and abundant sacrifices for all Israel. ²²So they ate and drank before the LORD that day with great rejoicing. They then appointed Solomon, David's son, king a second time and anointed him as the LORD's prince, and Zadok as priest. ²³So Solomon sat on the LORD's throne as king in place of his father David, and he prospered and all Israel obeyed him. ²⁴All the officers and the warriors, as well as all the sons of King David, swore fealty to King Solomon. ²⁵The LORD made Solomon stand very high in the eyes of all Israel, and bestowed upon him sovereignty such as no king in Israel had had before him.

²⁶David son of Jesse had ruled over the whole of Israel, ²⁷and the length of his reign over Israel was forty years; he ruled for seven years in Hebron, and for thirty-three in Jerusalem. ²⁸He died in ripe old age, full of years, wealth, and honour; and Solomon his son ruled in his place. ²⁹The events of King David's reign from first to last are recorded in the books of Samuel the seer, of Nathan the prophet, and of Gad the seer, ³⁰with a full account of his reign, his prowess, and of the times through which he and Israel and all the kingdoms of the world had passed.