

~JUDAH 2 (1326)

(Ju'dah) [Lauded, Object of Laudation]

- Early Evidence Of His Leadership
- Judah's Inheritance
- From The Judges To Saul
- Fulfillment Of Jacob's Blessing In David

- The **tribe** that sprang from **Judah**. About 216 years after Judah came to Egypt with Jacob's household, the tribes able-bodied men from 20 years old upward had increased to 74,600, a number greater than that of any other of the 12 tribes.

- Of the sons of **Judah**, their births according to their families in the house of their fathers by the number of names from twenty years old upward, everyone going out to the army. (**Numbers 1:26**)

- Those registered of them of the tribe of **Judah** were seventy-four thousand six hundred. (**Numbers 1:27**)

- At the end of the 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, **Judah's** registered males had increased by 1,900

- These were the families of **Judah**, of their registered ones: seventy-six thousand five hundred. (**Numbers 26:22**)

- It was under the direction of **Judean** Bezalel and his Danite assistant Oholiab that the tabernacle and its furnishings and utensils were constructed.

- Then Moses said to the sons of Israel; See, Yehowah has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri the son of Hur of the tribe of **Judah**. (**Exodus 35:30**)

- And he proceeded to fill him with the spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding and in knowledge and in every sort of craftsmanship (**Exodus 35:31**)

- And for designing devices, for working in gold and silver and copper. (**Exodus 35:32**)

- And in working of stones to set them and in working of wood to

make ingenious products of every sort. (**Exodus 35:33**)

- And he has put it into his heart that he should teach, he and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan. (**Exodus 35:34**)
- He has filled them with wisdom of heart to do all the work of a craftsman and an embroiderer and of a weaver in blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple, in coccus scarlet material and fine linen, and of a loom worker, men doing every sort of work and designing devices. (**Exodus 35:35**)
- After its erection, **Judah**, along with the tribes of Issachar and Zebulun, encamped on the East side of the sanctuary.
- And those camping eastward toward the sunrising will be the three-tribe division of the camp of **Judah** in their armies, and the chieftain for the sons of Judah is Nahshon the son of Amminadab. (**Numbers 2:3**)
- And his army and the ones registered of them are seventy-four thousand six hundred. (**Numbers 2:4**)
- And those camping alongside him will be the tribe of Issachar, and the chieftain for the sons of Issachar is Nethanel the son of Zuar. (**Numbers 2:5**)
- And his army and his registered ones are fifty-four thousand four hundred. (**Numbers 2:6**)
- And the tribe of Zebulun, and the chieftain for the sons of Zebulun is Eliab the son of Helon. (**Numbers 2:7**)
- And his army and his registered ones are fifty-seven thousand four hundred. (**Numbers 2:8**)

•• Early Evidence Of His Leadership

- Jacob's prophetic blessing had assigned a leading role to **Judah**
- As for you, **Judah**, your brothers will laud you. Your hand will be on the back of the neck of your enemies. The sons of your father will prostrate themselves to you. (**Genesis 49:8**)
- For Judah himself proved to be superior among his brothers, and

the one for leader was from him, but the right as firstborn was Joseph's. ([1 Chronicles 5:2](#))

- And its fulfillment is confirmed even by the early history of the tribe. Under the leadership of its chieftain Nahshon, **Judah** led the march through the wilderness.
- And those camping eastward toward the sunrising will be the three-tribe division of the camp of **Judah** in their armies, and the chieftain for the sons of Judah is Nahshon the son of Amminadab. ([Numbers 2:3](#))
- And his army and the ones registered of them are seventy-four thousand six hundred. ([Numbers 2:4](#))
- And those camping alongside him will be the tribe of Issachar, and the chieftain for the sons of Issachar is Nethanel the son of Zuar. ([Numbers 2:5](#))
- And his army and his registered ones are fifty-four thousand four hundred. ([Numbers 2:6](#))
- And the tribe of Zebulun, and the chieftain for the sons of Zebulun is Eliab the son of Helon. ([Numbers 2:7](#))
- And his army and his registered ones are fifty-seven thousand four hundred. ([Numbers 2:8](#))
- All the registered ones of the camp of **Judah** are one hundred eighty-six thousand four hundred in their armies. They should set out first. ([Numbers 2:9](#))
- And the sons of Israel began to pull away in the manner of their departures from the wilderness of Sinai, and the cloud proceeded to reside in the wilderness of Paran. ([Numbers 10:12](#))
- And they began pulling away for the first time, according to the order of Yehowah by means of Moses. ([Numbers 10:13](#))
- So the three-tribe division of the camp of the sons of **Judah** pulled away first of all in their armies, and Nahshon the son of Amminadab was over its army. ([Numbers 10:14](#))

- Also, this tribe produced Caleb, one of the two faithful spies who were privileged to reenter the Promised Land.
- Though advanced in years, Caleb had an active share in conquering the land allotted to **Judah**. The tribe itself was divinely designated to take the lead in the fight against the Canaanites, and it did so in association with the Simeonites.
- Of the tribe of **Judah**, Caleb the son of Jephunneh. (**Numbers 13:6**)
- Then Caleb tried to still the people toward Moses and went on to say; Let us go up directly, and we are bound to take possession of it, because we can surely prevail over it. (**Numbers 13:30**)
- And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were of those who spied out the land, ripped their garments apart. (**Numbers 14:6**)
- And they proceeded to say this to all the assembly of the sons of Israel; The land that we passed through to spy it out is a very, very good land. (**Numbers 14:7**)
- If Yehowah has found delight in us, then he will certainly bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that is flowing with milk and honey. (**Numbers 14:8**)
- Only against Yehowah do not rebel, and you, do not you fear the people of the land, for they are bread to us. Their shelter has turned away from over them, and Yehowah is with us. Do not fear them. (**Numbers 14:9**)
- However, all the assembly talked of pelting them with stones. And Yehowah's glory appeared on the tent of meeting to all the sons of Israel. (**Numbers 14:10**)
- But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh will certainly live on, of those men who went to spy out the land. (**Numbers 14:38**)
- Then the sons of **Judah** approached Joshua in Gilgal, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him; You yourself well know the word that Yehowah spoke to Moses the man of the true God with regard to me and with regard to you at Kadesh-

barnea. (**Joshua 14:6**)

- **Forty years old I was when Moses the servant of Yehowah sent me out of Kadesh-barnea to spy out the land, and I came bringing him back word just as it was in my heart. (**Joshua 14:7**)**
- **And my brothers who went up with me caused the heart of the people to melt, but as for me, I followed Yehowah my God fully. (**Joshua 14:8**)**
- **Consequently Moses swore on that day, saying; The land upon which your foot has trod will become yours and your sons as an inheritance to time indefinite, because you have followed Yehowah my God fully. (**Joshua 14:9**)**
- **And now here Yehowah has preserved me alive, just as he promised, these forty-five years since Yehowah made this promise to Moses when Israel walked in the wilderness, and now here I am today eighty-five years old. (**Joshua 14:10**)**
- **Yet I am today as strong as on the day of Moses sending me out. As my power was then, so my power is now for the war, both to go out and to come in. (**Joshua 14:11**)**
- **And now do give me this mountainous region that Yehowah promised on that day, for you yourself heard on that day that there were Anakim there and great fortified cities. Likely Yehowah will be with me, and I shall certainly dispossess them, just as Yehowah promised. (**Joshua 14:12**)**
- **At that Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. (**Joshua 14:13**)**
- **That is why Hebron has come to belong to Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite as an inheritance down to this day, for the reason that he followed Yehowah the God of Israel fully. (**Joshua 14:14**)**
- **And to Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a share in the midst of the sons of **Judah** at the order of Yehowah to Joshua, namely, Kiriath-arba, said Arba being the father of Anak, that is to say; Hebron. (**Joshua 15:13**)**
- **So Caleb drove away from there the three sons of Anak, namely,**

Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai, those born of Anak. (Joshua 15:14)

- **Then he went up from there to the inhabitants of Debir. Now the name of Debir before that was Kiriath-sepher. (Joshua 15:15)**
- **And Caleb proceeded to say; Whoever strikes Kiriath-sepher and does capture it, I shall certainly give him Achsah my daughter as a wife. (Joshua 15:16)**
- **At that Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's brother, captured it. Accordingly he gave him Achsah his daughter as a wife. (Joshua 15:17)**
- **And it came about that when she was going home, she kept inciting him to ask a field from her father. Then she clapped her hands while upon the ass. At this Caleb said to her; What do you want? (Joshua 15:18)**
- **So she said; Do give me a blessing, for it is a piece of land to the south you have given me, and you must give me Gulloth-maim. Accordingly he gave her Upper Gulloth and Lower Gulloth. (Joshua 15:19)**
- **This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Judah by their families. (Joshua 15:20)**
- **And after the death of Joshua it came about that the sons of Israel proceeded to inquire of Yehowah, saying; Who of us will go up first to the Canaanites to fight against them? (Judges 1:1)**
- **To this Yehowah said; Judah will go up. Look! I shall certainly give the land into his hand. (Judges 1:2)**
- **Then Judah said to Simeon his brother; Come up with me into my lot and let us fight against the Canaanites, and I myself in turn will go with you into your lot. Accordingly Simeon went with him. (Judges 1:3)**
- **With that Judah went on up and Yehowah gave the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hands, so that they defeated them in Bezek, ten thousand men. (Judges 1:4)**
- **When they found Adoni-bezek in Bezek, then they fought against**

him and defeated the Canaanites and the Perizzites. (Judges 1:5)

- When Adoni-bezek took to flight, then they went chasing after him and got hold of him and cut off the thumbs of his hands and the great toes of his feet. (Judges 1:6)
- At this Adoni-bezek said; There have been seventy kings with the thumbs of their hands and the great toes of their feet cut off picking up food under my table. Just the way I have done, so God has repaid me. After that they brought him to Jerusalem and he died there. (Judges 1:7)
- Furthermore, the sons of **Judah** carried on war against Jerusalem and got to capture it, and they went striking it with the edge of the sword, and the city they consigned to the fire. (Judges 1:8)
- And afterward the sons of **Judah** went down to fight against the Canaanites inhabiting the mountainous region and the Negeb and the Shephelah. (Judges 1:9)
- So **Judah** marched against the Canaanites who were dwelling in Hebron, now the name of Hebron before that was Kiriath-arba, and they went striking down Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai. (Judges 1:10)
- And they marched on from there against the inhabitants of Debir. Now the name of Debir before that was Kiriath-sepher. (Judges 1:11)
- Then Caleb said; Whoever strikes Kiriath-sepher and does capture it, why, I will give him Achsah my daughter as a wife. (Judges 1:12)
- And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, got to capture it. For that he gave him Achsah his daughter as a wife. (Judges 1:13)
- And it came about that while she was going home, she kept inciting him to ask a field from her father. Then she clapped her hands while upon the ass. At this Caleb said to her; What do you want? (Judges 1:14)
- So she said to him; Do grant me a blessing, for it is a southern piece of land you have given me, and you must give me Gulloth-

maim. Accordingly Caleb gave her Upper Gulloth and Lower Gulloth. (**Judges 1:15**)

- And the sons of the Kenite, whose son-in-law Moses was, came up out of the city of palm trees with the sons of **Judah** to the wilderness of Judah, which is to the south of Arad. Then they went and took up dwelling with the people. (**Judges 1:16**)
- But **Judah** marched on with Simeon his brother, and they proceeded to strike the Canaanites inhabiting Zephath and to devote it to destruction. Hence the name of the city was called Hormah. (**Judges 1:17**)
- After that **Judah** captured Gaza and its territory and Ashkelon and its territory and Ekron and its territory. (**Judges 1:18**)
- And Yehowah continued with **Judah**, so that he took possession of the mountainous region, but he could not dispossess the inhabitants of the low plain, because they had war chariots with iron scythes. (**Judges 1:19**)
- When they gave Caleb Hebron, just as Moses had promised, then he drove out from there the three sons of Anak. (**Judges 1:20**)
- And this was **Judah's** blessing, as he went on to say; Hear, O Yehowah, the voice of Judah, and may you bring him to his people. His arms have contended for what is his. And may you prove yourself a helper from his adversaries. (**Deuteronomy 33:7**)
- Later, **Judah**, again on the basis of divine authorization, led the punitive military action against Benjamin.
- And they proceeded to rise up and go on up to Bethel and to inquire of God. Then the sons of Israel said; Who of us should go up in the lead to the battle against the sons of Benjamin? To this Yehowah said; **Judah** in the lead. (**Judges 20:18**)

.. Judah's Inheritance

- The territory allotted to the tribe of **Judah** was bounded by Benjamite territory on the North.
- And they proceeded to rise up and go on up to Bethel and to

inquire of God. Then the sons of Israel said; Who of us should go up in the lead to the battle against the sons of Benjamin? To this Yehowah said; **Judah** in the lead. (**Judges 20:18**)

- **The Salt Sea or Dead Sea, on the East.**
- **And the eastern boundary was the Salt Sea up to the end of the Jordan, and the boundary at the northern corner was at the bay of the sea, at the end of the Jordan. (**Joshua 15:5**)**
- **And the Great Sea, Mediterranean, on the West.**
- **And the western boundary was at the Great Sea and its shoreland. This was the boundary all around, of the sons of **Judah** by their families. (**Joshua 15:12**)**
- **The South boundary appears to have extended in a southwesterly direction from the southernmost point of the Dead Sea to the ascent of Akrabbim, proceeding from there, it continued over to Zin, ran northward near Kadesh-barnea, and finally crossed over to the Mediterranean by way of Hezron, Addar, Karka, Azmon, and the torrent valley of Egypt.**
- **And the lot of the tribe of the sons of **Judah** by their families came to be to the boundary of Edom, the wilderness of Zin, to the Negeb at its southern end. (**Joshua 15:1**)**
- **And their southern boundary came to be from the extremity of the Salt Sea, from the bay that faces southward. (**Joshua 15:2**)**
- **And it went out southward to the ascent of Akrabbim and passed over to Zin and went up from the south to Kadesh-barnea and passed over to Hezron and went up to Addar and went around to Karka. (**Joshua 15:3**)**
- **And it passed on to Azmon and went out to the torrent valley of Egypt, and the boundary's termination proved to be at the sea. This came to be their southern boundary. (**Joshua 15:4**)**
- **The portion of this territory centering primarily around Beer-sheba was assigned to the Simeonites.**
- **Then the second lot came out for Simeon, for the tribe of the sons of Simeon by their families. And their inheritance came to**

be in the midst of the inheritance of the sons of **Judah**. (**Joshua 19:1**)

- And they came to have in their inheritance Beer-sheba with Sheba, and Moladah. (**Joshua 19:2**)
- And Hazar-shual and Balah and Ezem. (**Joshua 19:3**)
- And Eltolad and Bethul and Hormah. (**Joshua 19:4**)
- And Ziklag and Beth-marcaboth and Hazar-susah. (**Joshua 19:5**)
- And Beth-lebaoth and Sharuhem, thirteen cities and their settlements. (**Joshua 19:6**)
- Ain, Rimmon and Ether and Ashan, four cities and their settlements. (**Joshua 19:7**)
- And all the settlements that were all around these cities as far as Baalath-beer, Ramah of the south. This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Simeon by their families. (**Joshua 19:8**)
- The inheritance of the sons of Simeon was out of the allotment of the sons of **Judah**, because the share of the sons of Judah proved to be too large for them. So the sons of Simeon got a possession in the midst of their inheritance. (**Joshua 19:9**)
- The Kenites, a non-Israelite family related to Moses by marriage, also began residing in **Judean** territory.
- And the sons of the Kenite, whose son-in-law Moses was, came up out of the city of palm trees with the sons of **Judah** to the wilderness of Judah, which is to the south of Arad. Then they went and took up dwelling with the people. (**Judges 1:16**)
- Several distinct natural regions were within the assigned boundaries of ancient **Judah**. The Negeb, much of which is a plateau between 450 and 600 meters (1,500 and 2,000 feet) above sea level, lies to the South.
- Along the Mediterranean stretches the Plain of Philistia, with its sand dunes that sometimes penetrate the shore for as much as 6 kilometers (3.5 miles). In early times this rolling plain was a region of vineyards, olive groves, and grainfields.

- With that he set fire to the torches and sent them out into the fields of standing grain of the Philistines. Thus he set on fire everything from sheaf to standing grain and the vineyards and the olive groves. (**Judges 15:5**)
- Just east of it rises a hilly area, cleft by numerous valleys, that attains an altitude of about 450 meters (1,500 feet) above sea level in the South. This is the Shephelah, meaning **Lowland**, a region anciently covered with sycamore trees.
- And the king came to make the silver in Jerusalem like the stones, and cedarwood he made like the sycamore trees that are in the Shephelah for great quantity. (**1 Kings 10:27**)
- It is a lowland when compared with the mountainous region of **Judah**, which lies farther to the East and has elevations varying from about 600 to more than 1,000 meters (2,000 to 3,300 feet) above sea level. The barren hills occupying the eastern slope of the Judean mountains constitute the Wilderness of Judah.
- Under the leadership of Joshua, the power of the Canaanites had apparently been broken in the territory given to **Judah**. However, since evidently no garrisons were established, the original inhabitants appear to have returned to such cities as Hebron and Debir, probably while the Israelites were warring elsewhere. Therefore, these places had to be recaptured.
- And these are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the sons of Israel defeated on the side of the Jordan toward the west, from Baal-gad in the valley plain of Lebanon and as far as Mount Halak, which goes up to Seir, after which Joshua gave it to the tribes of Israel as a holding by their shares. (**Joshua 12:7**)
- The king of Jerusalem, one, the king of Hebron, one. (**Joshua 12:10**)
- The king of Debir, one. The king of Geder, one. (**Joshua 12:13**)
- So **Judah** marched against the Canaanites who were dwelling in Hebron, now the name of Hebron before that was Kiriath-arba, and they went striking down Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmi. (**Judges 1:10**)

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- So she said to him; Do grant me a blessing, for it is a southern piece of land you have given me, and you must give me Gulloth-maim. Accordingly Caleb gave her Upper Gulloth and Lower Gulloth. (**Judges 1:15**)
- But the inhabitants of the low plain, with their well-equipped chariotry, were not dispossessed. This doubtless included the Philistines of Gath and Ashdod.
- This is the land yet remaining, all the regions of the Philistines and all the Geshurites (**Joshua 13:2**)
- From the branch of the Nile that is in front of Egypt and up to the border of Ekron to the north, it used to be reckoned as belonging to the Canaanites, five axis lords of the Philistines, the Gazites and the Ashdodites, the Ashkelonites, the Gittites and the Ekronites, and the Avvim. (**Joshua 13:3**)
- After that **Judah** captured Gaza and its territory and Ashkelon and its territory and Ekron and its territory. (**Judges 1:18**)
- And Yehowah continued with **Judah**, so that he took possession of the mountainous region, but he could not dispossess the inhabitants of the low plain, because they had war chariots with iron scythes. (**Judges 1:19**)

.. From The Judges To Saul

- During the turbulent period of the Judges, **Judah**, like the other tribes, repeatedly fell victim to idolatry. Therefore, Yehowah allowed surrounding nations, particularly the Ammonites and the Philistines, to make inroads on the territory of **Judah**.
- And the sons of Israel again proceeded to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, and they began to serve the Baals and the Ashtoreth images and the gods of Syria and the gods of Sidon and the gods of Moab and the gods of the sons of Ammon and the gods of the Philistines. So they left Yehowah and did not serve him. (**Judges 10:6**)
- At this Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel, so that he sold them into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the sons of Ammon. (**Judges 10:7**)
- Hence they shattered and heavily oppressed the sons of Israel in that year, for eighteen years all the sons of Israel that were on the side of the Jordan in the land of the Amorites that was in Gilead. (**Judges 10:8**)
- And the sons of Ammon would cross the Jordan to fight even against **Judah** and Benjamin and the house of Ephraim, and Israel was greatly distressed. (**Judges 10:9**)
- In Samson's day, not only had the **Judeans** lost all control over the Philistine cities of Gaza, Ekron, and Ashkelon but the Philistines had actually become their overlords.
- Later the Philistines came up and camped in **Judah** and went tramping about in Lehi. (**Judges 15:9**)
- Then the men of **Judah** said; Why have you come up against us? To which they said; It is to tie Samson that we have come up, to do to him just as he has done to us. (**Judges 15:10**)
- So three thousand men of **Judah** went down to the cleft of the crag Etam and said to Samson; Do you not know that the Philistines are ruling over us? So what does this mean that you have done to us? Then he said to them; Just as they did to me is the way I have done to them. (**Judges 15:11**)
- But they said to him; It is to tie you that we have come down, to

give you into the hand of the Philistines. At that Samson said to them; Swear to me that you yourselves will not assault me. (Judges 15:12)

- **Apparently not until Samuel's time was Judean territory recovered from the Philistines.**
- **And it came about that while Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines themselves drew near for battle against Israel. And Yehowah now caused it to thunder with a loud noise on that day against the Philistines, that he might throw them into confusion, and they got defeated before Israel. (1 Samuel 7:10)**
- **At that the men of Israel sallied forth from Mizpah and went in pursuit of the Philistines and kept striking them down as far as south of Beth-car. (1 Samuel 7:11)**
- **Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Jeshanah and began to call its name Ebenezer. Accordingly he said; Till now Yehowah has helped us. (1 Samuel 7:12)**
- **Thus the Philistines were subdued, and they did not come anymore into the territory of Israel, and the hand of Yehowah continued to be against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. (1 Samuel 7:13)**
- **And the cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel kept coming back to Israel from Ekron to Gath, and the territory of them Israel delivered from the hand of the Philistines. And there came to be peace between Israel and the Amorites. (1 Samuel 7:14)**
- **After Saul of the tribe of Benjamin was anointed by Samuel as Israel's first king, the Judeans fought loyally under his leadership.**
- **But here is Saul coming after the herd from the field, and Saul proceeded to say; What is the matter with the people, that they should weep? And they began relating to him the words of the men of Jabesh. (1 Samuel 11:5)**
- **And the spirit of God became operative upon Saul on his hearing these words, and his anger got very hot. (1 Samuel 11:6)**

- So he took a pair of bulls and cut them in pieces and sent these into all the territory of Israel by the hand of the messengers, saying; Whoever of us is not going out as a follower of Saul and of Samuel, this is the way it will be done to his cattle! And the dread of Yehowah began to fall upon the people so that they came out as one man. (1 Samuel 11:7)
- Then he took the sum of them in Bezek, and the sons of Israel amounted to three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand. (1 Samuel 11:8)
- They now said to the messengers that had come; This is what you will say to the men of Jabesh in Gilead, Tomorrow salvation will take place for you when the sun gets hot. With that the messengers came and told the men of Jabesh, and they gave way to rejoicing. (1 Samuel 11:9)
- Accordingly the men of Jabesh said; Tomorrow we shall come out to you people, and you must do to us in harmony with all that is good in your eyes. (1 Samuel 11:10)
- And it came about on the next day that Saul proceeded to put the people into three bands, and they made their way into the middle of the camp during the morning watch and went striking down the Ammonites till the day grew hot. When there proved to be some that were left over, then they were sent scattering and there were not left over among them two together. (1 Samuel 11:11)
- Now go, and you must strike down Amalek and devote him to destruction with all that he has, and you must not have compassion upon him, and you must put them to death, man as well as woman, child as well as suckling, bull as well as sheep, camel as well as ass. (1 Samuel 15:3)
- Accordingly Saul summoned the people and took the count of them in Telaim, two hundred thousand men on foot and ten thousand men of Judah. (1 Samuel 15:4)
- Most frequent were the battles against the Philistines
- And the warfare continued heavy against the Philistines all the days of Saul. When Saul saw any mighty man or any valiant person, he would gather him to himself. (1 Samuel 14:52)

- **Who again seem to have got the upper hand over the Israelites.**
- **Now there was not a smith to be found in all the land of Israel, because the Philistines had said; That the Hebrews may not make a sword or a spear. (1 Samuel 13:19)**
- **And all the Israelites would go down to the Philistines to get each one his plowshare or his mattock or his ax or his sickle sharpened. (1 Samuel 13:20)**
- **And the price for sharpening proved to be a pim for the plowshares and for the mattocks and for the three-toothed instruments and for the axes and for fixing fast the oxgoad. (1 Samuel 13:21)**
- **And it happened on the day of battle that not a sword or a spear was found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan, but there could be found one belonging to Saul and to Jonathan his son. (1 Samuel 13:22)**
- **But gradually their power was reduced. With Yehowah's help, Saul and his son Jonathan gained victories over them in the area extending from Michmash to Aijalon.**
- **Now an outpost of the Philistines would sally forth to the ravine pass of Michmash. (1 Samuel 13:23)**
- **And Yehowah proceeded on that day to save Israel, and the battle itself passed over to Beth-aven. (1 Samuel 14:23)**
- **And on that day they kept striking down the Philistines from Michmash to Aijalon, and the people got to be very tired. (1 Samuel 14:31)**
- **When the Philistines later invaded **Judah**, they again suffered defeat after the young Judean shepherd David killed their champion Goliath.**
- **And a champion began to go out from the camps of the Philistines, his name being Goliath, from Gath, his height being six cubits and a span. (1 Samuel 17:4)**
- **And it occurred that the Philistine rose and kept coming and**

drawing nearer to meet David, and David began hurrying and running toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. (**1 Samuel 17:48**)

- Then David thrust his hand into his bag and took a stone from there and slung it, so that he struck the Philistine in his forehead and the stone sank into his forehead, and he went falling upon his face to the earth. (**1 Samuel 17:49**)
- So David, with a sling and a stone, proved stronger than the Philistine and struck the Philistine down and put him to death, and there was no sword in David's hand. (**1 Samuel 17:50**)
- And David continued running and got to stand over the Philistine. Then he took his sword and pulled it out of its sheath and definitely put him to death when he cut his head off with it. And the Philistines got to see that their mighty one had died, and they took to flight. (**1 Samuel 17:51**)
- At that the men of Israel and of **Judah** rose and broke into shouting and went in pursuit of the Philistines clear to the valley and as far as the gates of Ekron, and the fatally wounded of the Philistines kept falling on the way from Shaaraim, both as far as Gath and as far as Ekron. (**1 Samuel 17:52**)
- Afterward the sons of Israel returned from hotly pursuing the Philistines and went pillaging their camps. (**1 Samuel 17:53**)
- Subsequently King Saul placed David, who had earlier been anointed as Israel's future king, over the Israelite warriors. In this capacity David loyally supported Saul and gained further victories over the Philistines.
- And David began going out. Wherever Saul would send him he would act prudently, so that Saul placed him over the men of war, and it seemed good in the eyes of all the people and also in the eyes of the servants of Saul. (**1 Samuel 18:5**)
- And it came about that at their coming in, when David returned from striking the Philistines down, the women began coming out from all the cities of Israel with song and dances to meet Saul the king, with tambourines, with rejoicing and with lutes. (**1 Samuel 18:6**)

- And the women that were celebrating kept responding and saying; Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his tens of thousands. (1 Samuel 18:7)
- At this time the tribe of **Judah** was like a lion cub, not yet having attained regal power in the person of David.
- A lion cub **Judah** is. From the prey, my son, you will certainly go up. He bowed down, he stretched himself out like a lion and, like a lion, who dares rouse him? (Genesis 49:9)
- When Saul came to view David as a threat to his kingship and outlawed him, David still remained loyal to Saul as Yehowah's anointed. Never did he side with the enemies of Israel nor did he personally harm Saul or allow others to do so.
- Then Saul's anger grew hot against Jonathan and he said to him; You son of a rebellious maid, do I not well know that you are choosing the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of the secret parts of your mother? (1 Samuel 20:30)
- For all the days that the son of Jesse is alive on the ground, you and your kingship will not be firmly established. So now send and fetch him to me, for he is destined for death. (1 Samuel 20:31)
- And David's men began to say to him; Here is the day on which Yehowah does say to you, Look! I am giving your enemy into your hand, and you must do to him just as it may seem good in your eyes. So David rose up and quietly cut off the skirt of the sleeveless coat that belonged to Saul. (1 Samuel 24:4)
- But it came about afterward that David's heart kept striking him for the reason that he had cut off the skirt of the sleeveless coat that belonged to Saul. (1 Samuel 24:5)
- Hence he said to his men; It is unthinkable, on my part, from Yehowah's standpoint, that I should do this thing to my lord, the anointed of Yehowah, by thrusting out my hand against him, for he is the anointed of Yehowah. (1 Samuel 24:6)
- Accordingly David dispersed his men with these words, and he did not allow them to rise up against Saul. As for Saul, he rose up from the cave and kept going on his way. (1 Samuel 24:7)

- **So David rose up afterward and went out from the cave and called out after Saul, saying; My lord the king! At this Saul looked behind him, and David proceeded to bow low with his face to the earth and prostrate himself. (1 Samuel 24:8)**
- **And David went on to say to Saul; Why do you listen to the words of man, saying; Look! David is seeking your hurt? (1 Samuel 24:9)**
- **Here this day your eyes have seen how Yehowah gave you today into my hand in the cave, and someone said to kill you, but I felt sorry for you and said; I shall not thrust out my hand against my lord, for he is the anointed of Yehowah. (1 Samuel 24:10)**
- **And, my father, see, yes, see the skirt of your sleeveless coat in my hand, for when I cut off the skirt of your sleeveless coat I did not kill you. Know and see that there is no badness or revolt in my hand, and I have not sinned against you, while you are lying in wait for my soul to take it away. (1 Samuel 24:11)**
- **May Yehowah judge between me and you, and Yehowah must take vengeance for me from you, but my own hand will not come to be upon you. (1 Samuel 24:12)**
- **Just as the proverb of the ancients says; From the wicked ones wickedness will go forth, but my own hand will not come to be upon you. (1 Samuel 24:13)**
- **After whom has the king of Israel gone out? After whom are you chasing? After a dead dog? After a single flea? (1 Samuel 24:14)**
- **And Yehowah must become judge, and he must judge between me and you, and he will see and he will conduct the legal case for me and judge me to free me from your hand. (1 Samuel 24:15)**
- **And it came about that, at the moment that David finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul proceeded to say; Is this your voice, my son David? And Saul began to raise his own voice and weep. (1 Samuel 24:16)**
- **And he went on to say to David; You are more righteous than I am, for it is you who have rendered me good, and it is I who have rendered you evil. (1 Samuel 24:17)**

- **And you, you have told today what good you have done in connection with me in that Yehowah surrendered me into your hand and you did not kill me. (1 Samuel 24:18)**
- **Now in the case where a man finds his enemy, will he send him away on a good road? So Yehowah himself will reward you with good, due to the fact that this day you have done it to me. (1 Samuel 24:19)**
- **And now, look! I well know that you will, without fail, rule as king, and that in your hand the kingdom of Israel will certainly endure. (1 Samuel 24:20)**
- **So now do swear to me by Yehowah that you will not cut off my seed after me and that you will not annihilate my name out of the house of my father. (1 Samuel 24:21)**
- **Accordingly David swore to Saul, after which Saul went to his home. As for David and his men, they went up to the place difficult to approach. (1 Samuel 24:22)**
- **Abishai now said to David; God has today surrendered your enemy into your hand. And now let me, please, pin him to the earth with the spear just once, and I shall not do it to him twice. (1 Samuel 26:8)**
- **However, David said to Abishai; Do not bring him to ruin, for who is it that has thrust his hand out against the anointed of Yehowah and has remained innocent? (1 Samuel 26:9)**
- **And David went on to say; As Yehowah is living, Yehowah himself will deal him a blow, or his day will come and he will have to die, or down into battle he will go, and he will certainly be swept away. (1 Samuel 26:10)**
- **It is unthinkable, on my part, from Yehowah's standpoint, to thrust my hand out against the anointed of Yehowah! So now take, please, the spear that is at his head and the water jug, and let us get on our way. (1 Samuel 26:11)**
- **And David proceeded to go up with his men that they might raid the Geshurites and the Girzites and the Amalekites, for they were inhabiting the land that extended from Telam as far as Shur and**

down to the land of Egypt. (1 Samuel 27:8)

- And David struck the land, but he preserved neither man nor woman alive, and he took flocks and herds and asses and camels and garments, after which he returned and came to Achish. (1 Samuel 27:9)
- Then Achish said; Where did you men make a raid today? To this David said; Upon the south of Judah and upon the south of the Jerahmeelites and upon the south of the Kenites. (1 Samuel 27:10)
- As for man and woman, David was not preserving any alive to bring them to Gath, saying; That they may not tell on us, saying; This is the way David did. And this way has been his procedure all the days that he dwelt in the countryside of the Philistines. (1 Samuel 27:11)
- When David came to Ziklag he proceeded to send some of the spoil to the older men of Judah, his friends, saying; Here is a gift blessing for you from the spoil of Yehowah's enemies. (1 Samuel 30:26)
- To those who were in Bethel, and to those in Ramoth of the south, and to those in Jattir. (1 Samuel 30:27)
- And to those in Aroer, and to those in Siphmoth, and to those in Eshtemoa. (1 Samuel 30:28)
- And to those in Racal, and to those in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to those in the cities of the Kenites. (1 Samuel 30:29)
- And to those in Hormah, and to those in Borashan, and to those in Athach. (1 Samuel 30:30)
- And to those in Hebron, and to all the places where David had walked about, he and his men. (1 Samuel 30:31)
- Instead, David fought against Israel's enemies. On one occasion David saved the Judean city of Keilah from the Philistines.
- And David proceeded to inquire of Yehowah, saying; Shall I go, and must I strike down these Philistines? In turn Yehowah said

to David; Go, and you must strike down the Philistines and save Keilah. (1 Samuel 23:2)

- At this the men of David said to him; Look! We are afraid while here in **Judah**, and how much more so in case we should go to Keilah against the battle lines of the Philistines! (1 Samuel 23:3)
- So David inquired yet again of Yehowah. Yehowah now answered him and said; Rise up, go down to Keilah, because I am giving the Philistines into your hand. (1 Samuel 23:4)
- Accordingly David went with his men to Keilah and fought against the Philistines and drove off with their livestock, but struck them down with a great slaughter, and David came to be the savior of the inhabitants of Keilah. (1 Samuel 23:5)

•• Fulfillment Of Jacob's Blessing In David

- Finally God's due time came for the transfer of royal power from the tribe of Benjamin to the tribe of **Judah**. At Hebron, after Saul's death, the men of **Judah** anointed David as king.
- But the other tribes stuck with the house of Saul and made his son Ish-bosheth king over them. Repeated clashes occurred between these two kingdoms until the strongest supporter of Ish-bosheth, Abner, defected to David. Not long thereafter Ish-bosheth was murdered.
- And it came about afterward that David proceeded to inquire of Yehowah, saying; Shall I go up into one of the cities of **Judah**? At this Yehowah said to him; Go up. And David went on to say; Where shall I go up? Then he said; To Hebron. (2 Samuel 2:1)
- Accordingly David went up there and also his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. (2 Samuel 2:2)
- And the men that were with him David brought up, each with his household, and they took up dwelling in the cities of Hebron territory. (2 Samuel 2:3)
- Then the men of **Judah** came and anointed David there as king over the house of Judah. And they came telling David, saying; The men of Jabesh-gilead were the ones that buried Saul. (2

Samuel 2:4)

- **As for Abner the son of Ner the chief of the army that had belonged to Saul, he took Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, and proceeded to bring him across to Mahanaim. (2 Samuel 2:8)**
- **And to make him king over Gilead and the Ashurites and Jezreel and over Ephraim and Benjamin and over Israel, all of it. (2 Samuel 2:9)**
- **And the war between the house of Saul and the house of David came to be long drawn out, and David kept getting stronger, and the house of Saul kept declining more and more. (2 Samuel 3:1)**
- **With that David commanded the young men and they killed them and cut off their hands and their feet and hanged them by the pool in Hebron, and the head of Ish-bosheth they took and then buried in the burial place of Abner in Hebron. (2 Samuel 4:12)**
- **When David subsequently gained the kingship over all Israel, the sons of Jacob, that is, all the tribes of Israel, lauded **Judah** and prostrated themselves to his representative as ruler. Therefore, David was also able to move against Jerusalem though it was basically in Benjamite territory and, after capturing the stronghold of Zion, to make it his capital.**
- **For the most part David conducted himself in a commendable way. So through him, the tribe of **Judah** was lauded for such qualities as justice and righteousness, and also for its services to the nation, including the maintenance of national security, as Jacob had foretold in his deathbed blessing.**
- **The hand of **Judah** was truly on the back of his enemies as David subdued the Philistines, who had twice sought to overthrow him as king in Zion, as well as the Moabites, Syrians, Edomites, Amalekites, and Ammonites. Thus, under David, Israel's boundaries were at last extended to their God-ordained limits.**
- **As for you, **Judah**, your brothers will laud you. Your hand will be on the back of the neck of your enemies. The sons of your father will prostrate themselves to you. (Genesis 49:8)**
- **A lion cub **Judah** is. From the prey, my son, you will certainly go up. He bowed down, he stretched himself out like a lion and, like**

a lion, who dares rouse him? ([Genesis 49:9](#))

- The scepter will not turn aside from **Judah**, neither the commander's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him the obedience of the peoples will belong. ([Genesis 49:10](#))
- Tying his full-grown ass to a vine and the descendant of his own she-ass to a choice vine, he will certainly wash his clothing in wine and his garment in the blood of grapes. ([Genesis 49:11](#))
- Dark red are his eyes from wine, and the whiteness of his teeth is from milk. ([Genesis 49:12](#))
- In time all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said; Look! We ourselves are your bone and your flesh. ([2 Samuel 5:1](#))
- Both yesterday and previously while Saul happened to be king over us, you yourself became the one leading Israel out and bringing it in. And Yehowah proceeded to say to you; You yourself will shepherd my people Israel, and you yourself will become leader over Israel. ([2 Samuel 5:2](#))
- So all the older men of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David concluded a covenant with them in Hebron before Yehowah, after which they anointed David as king over Israel. ([2 Samuel 5:3](#))
- Thirty years old was David when he became king. For forty years he ruled as king. ([2 Samuel 5:4](#))
- In Hebron he ruled as king over **Judah** for seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he ruled as king for thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah. ([2 Samuel 5:5](#))
- Consequently the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites inhabiting the land, and they began to say to David; You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame ones will certainly turn you away, they thinking; David will not come in here. ([2 Samuel 5:6](#))
- Just the same, David proceeded to capture the stronghold of Zion, that is, the City of David. ([2 Samuel 5:7](#))
- So David said on that day; Anyone striking the Jebusites, let him,

by means of the water tunnel, make contact with both the lame and the blind, hateful to the soul of David! That is why they say; The blind one and the lame one will not come into the house. (**2 Samuel 5:8**)

- And David took up dwelling in the stronghold, and it came to be called the City of David, and David began to build all around from the Mound and inward. (**2 Samuel 5:9**)
- Thus David went on getting greater and greater, and Yehowah the God of armies was with him. (**2 Samuel 5:10**)
- And the Philistines got to hear that they had anointed David as king over Israel. At that all the Philistines came up to look for David. When David heard of it, then he went down to the place hard to approach. (**2 Samuel 5:17**)
- And the Philistines, for their part, came in and kept tramping about in the low plain of Rephaim. (**2 Samuel 5:18**)
- And David began to inquire of Yehowah, saying; Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand? At this Yehowah said to David; Go up, for I shall without fail give the Philistines into your hands. (**2 Samuel 5:19**)
- So David came to Baal-perazim, and David got to strike them down there. At that he said; Yehowah has broken through my enemies ahead of me, like a gap made by waters. That is why he called the name of that place Baal-perazim. (**2 Samuel 5:20**)
- Consequently they left their idols there, and so David and his men took them away. (**2 Samuel 5:21**)
- Later the Philistines came up once again and tramped about in the low plain of Rephaim. (**2 Samuel 5:22**)
- At that David inquired of Yehowah, but he said; You must not go up. Go around to the rear of them, and you must come against them in front of the baca bushes. (**2 Samuel 5:23**)
- And let it occur that, when you hear the sound of a marching in the tops of the baca bushes, at that time you act with decision, because at that time Yehowah will have gone out ahead of you to strike down the camp of the Philistines. (**2 Samuel 5:24**)

- **Accordingly David did that way, just as Yehowah had commanded him, and he went striking down the Philistines from Geba to as far as Gezer. (2 Samuel 5:25)**
- **And it came about afterward that David proceeded to strike the Philistines down and subdue them, and David got to take Metheg-ammah out of the hand of the Philistines. (2 Samuel 8:1)**
- **And he went on to strike down the Moabites and measure them with a line, making them lie down on the earth, that he might measure two lines to put them to death, and a full line to preserve them alive, and the Moabites came to be David's servants to carry tribute. (2 Samuel 8:2)**
- **And David went on to strike down Hadadezer the son of Rehob the king of Zobah as he was going his way to put his control back again at the river Euphrates. (2 Samuel 8:3)**
- **And David got to capture from him one thousand seven hundred horsemen and twenty thousand men on foot, and David proceeded to hamstring all the chariot horses, but he let a hundred chariot horses of them remain. (2 Samuel 8:4)**
- **When Syria of Damascus came to help Hadadezer the king of Zobah, David then struck down among the Syrians twenty-two thousand men. (2 Samuel 8:5)**
- **Further, David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus, and the Syrians came to be David's servants to carry tribute. And Yehowah continued to save David wherever he went. (2 Samuel 8:6)**
- **Moreover, David took the circular shields of gold that happened to be on the servants of Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem. (2 Samuel 8:7)**
- **And from Betah and Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, King David took copper in very great quantity. (2 Samuel 8:8)**
- **Now Toi the king of Hamath got to hear that David had struck down all the military force of Hadadezer. (2 Samuel 8:9)**
- **So he sent Joram his son to King David to ask him about his**

welfare and congratulate him over the fact that he had fought against Hadadezer so that he struck him down, for Hadadezer had become trained in warfare against Toi, and in his hand there proved to be articles of silver and articles of gold and articles of copper. (2 Samuel 8:10)

- These also King David sanctified to Yehowah, together with the silver and the gold that he had sanctified from all the nations that he had subdued. (2 Samuel 8:11)
- From Syria and from Moab and from the sons of Ammon and from the Philistines and from Amalek and from the spoil of Hadadezer the son of Rehob the king of Zobah. (2 Samuel 8:12)
- And David proceeded to make a name when he came back from striking down the Edomites in the Valley of Salt, eighteen thousand. (2 Samuel 8:13)
- And he kept garrisons placed in Edom. In all Edom he placed garrisons, and all the Edomites came to be servants of David, and Yehowah kept saving David wherever he went. (2 Samuel 8:14)
- And David kept reigning over all Israel, and David was continually rendering judicial decision and righteousness for all his people. (2 Samuel 8:15)
- Accordingly David gathered all the people and went to Rabbah and fought against it and captured it. (2 Samuel 12:29)
- And he got to take the crown of Malcam off its head, the weight of which was a talent of gold, along with precious stones, and it came to be upon David's head. And the spoil of the city that he brought out was very much. (2 Samuel 12:30)
- And the people that were in it, he brought out that he might put them at sawing stones and at sharp instruments of iron and at axes of iron, and he made them serve at brickmaking. And that was the way he proceeded to do to all the cities of the sons of Ammon. Finally David and all the people returned to Jerusalem. (2 Samuel 12:31)
- By reason of the everlasting covenant for a Kingdom made with David, the tribe of **Judah** possessed the scepter and the commander's staff for 470 years.

- The scepter will not turn aside from **Judah**, neither the commander's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him the obedience of the peoples will belong. (**Genesis 49:10**)
- And your house and your kingdom will certainly be steadfast to time indefinite before you, your very throne will become one firmly established to time indefinite. (**2 Samuel 7:16**)
- But only during the reigns of David and Solomon was there a united kingdom, with all the tribes of Israel prostrating themselves before **Judah**. On account of Solomon's apostatizing toward the close of his reign, Yehowah ripped ten tribes away from the next Judean king, Rehoboam, and gave these to Jeroboam.
- And he went on to say to Jeroboam; Take for yourself ten pieces, for this is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Here I am ripping the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and I shall certainly give you ten tribes. (**1 Kings 11:31**)
- And the one tribe is what will continue his for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel. (**1 Kings 11:32**)
- The reason why is that they have left me and begun to bow down to Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, to Chemosh the god of Moab and to Milcom the god of the sons of Ammon, and they have not walked in my ways by doing what is right in my eyes and my statutes and my judicial decisions like David his father. (**1 Kings 11:33**)
- But I shall not take the entire kingdom out of his hand, because a chieftain I shall set him for all the days of his life, for the sake of David my servant whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes. (**1 Kings 11:34**)
- And I shall certainly take the kingship out of the hand of his son and give it to you, even ten tribes. (**1 Kings 11:35**)
- And the king did not listen to the people, because the turn of affairs took place at the instance of Yehowah, in order, that he might indeed carry out his word that Yehowah had spoken by means of Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat. (**1 Kings 12:15**)

- **When all Israel got to see that the king had not listened to them, then the people replied to the king, saying; What share do we have in David? And there is no inheritance in the son of Jesse. To your gods, O Israel. Now see to your own house, O David! With that Israel began to go to their tents. (1 Kings 12:16)**
- **As for the sons of Israel that were dwelling in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam continued to reign over them. (1 Kings 12:17)**
- **Subsequently King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over those conscripted for forced labor, but all Israel pelted him with stones, so that he died. And King Rehoboam himself managed to get up into the chariot to flee to Jerusalem. (1 Kings 12:18)**
- **And the Israelites kept up their revolt against the house of David down to this day. (1 Kings 12:19)**
- **And it came about that as soon as all Israel heard that Jeroboam had returned, they at once sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. None became a follower of the house of David except the tribe of Judah by itself. (1 Kings 12:20)**
- **Only the Levites and the tribes of Benjamin and Judah remained loyal to the house of David.**
- **When Rehoboam arrived at Jerusalem, he immediately congregated all the house of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin, a hundred and eighty thousand choice men able-bodied for war, to fight against the house of Israel, so as to bring the kingship back to Rehoboam the son of Solomon. (1 Kings 12:21)**
- **Have you not driven out Yehowah's priests, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and do you not keep making priests for yourselves like the peoples of the lands? As for anyone that came and filled his hand with power by means of a young bull and seven rams, he became a priest of what are no gods. (2 Chronicles 13:9)**
- **As for us, Yehowah is our God, and we have not left him, but priests are ministering to Yehowah, the sons of Aaron, and also the Levites in the work. (2 Chronicles 13:10)**

