

# GENESIS

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## **INTRODUCTION TO GENESIS**

The first eleven chapters of Genesis trace events such as creation, the fall, the flood, and the establishing of the nations. The accounts of four great people complete the book in chapters 12–50: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Genesis comes from the Greek word *geneseos*, meaning “origin, source, generation, or beginning.”

## **AUTHOR**

Although Genesis does not directly name its author, Jesus and the writers of scripture clearly believed that Moses was the author of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible, often referred to in the New Testament as “the law”; see Mark 10:3–5; Luke 24:44).

## **OCCASION**

Genesis spans more time than any other book in the Bible. In fact, it covers more years than all the remaining sixty-five books of the Bible put together (approximately 2,400 years). The total duration is from the time of creation to the time when the Israelites arrive in Egypt and grow into a nation (about 1800 BC). The date of Genesis is sometime after the Exodus, during the fifteenth century BC.

**The Story of Original Creation**

**1** In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. <sup>2</sup> And the earth was without form and void. And darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved on the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw the light, that it was good, and God divided the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters."

<sup>7</sup> And God made the firmament and divided the waters that were under the firmament from the waters that were above the firmament, and it was so. <sup>8</sup> And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, "Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together to one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup> And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb-yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit according to his kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth." And it was so. <sup>12</sup> And the earth brought forth grass and herb-yielding seed according to his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, according to his kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And the evening and the morning were the third day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years. <sup>15</sup> And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light on the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup> And God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. <sup>17</sup> And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, "Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that has life and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven." <sup>21</sup> And God created great whales and every living creature that moves, which the waters brought forth abundantly, according to their kind, and every winged fowl according to his kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth." <sup>23</sup> And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth according to his kind." And it was so. <sup>25</sup> And God made the beast of the earth according to his kind, and cattle according to their kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to his kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> And God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> And God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it. And have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

<sup>29</sup> And God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb-bearing seed that is on the face of all the earth and every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree-yielding seed; to you it shall be for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth in which there is life, I have given every green

herb for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

### **The Sabbath Rest of God**

**2** Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. <sup>2</sup> And on the seventh day God ended His work that He had made, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had made. <sup>3</sup> And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He had rested from all His work that God created and made.

### **The Creation of Man**

<sup>4</sup> These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, at the time when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup> and every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew. For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. <sup>6</sup> But a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

### **The Habitation of Unfallen Man**

<sup>8</sup> And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. <sup>9</sup> And out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. <sup>10</sup> And a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it parted and became four heads. <sup>11</sup> The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that compasses the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. <sup>12</sup> And the gold of that land is good. There is bdellium and the onyx stone. <sup>13</sup> And the name of the second river is Gihon; it is the same one that surrounds the whole land of Ethiopia. <sup>14</sup> And the name of the third river is Hiddekel; it is the one that goes toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup> And the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to take care of it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it, for at the time when you eat of it, you shall surely die.”

<sup>18</sup> And the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a help suitable for him.” <sup>19</sup> And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every fowl of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a help suitable for him.

### **The Creation of Woman**

<sup>21</sup> And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept. And He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh instead of it. <sup>22</sup> And from the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, He made a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> And Adam said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”

<sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall be one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

### **The Temptation of Eve**

**3** Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field that the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Yes, has God said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’”

<sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit from the trees of the garden, <sup>3</sup> but of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”

<sup>4</sup> And the serpent said to the woman, “You shall not surely die, <sup>5</sup> for God knows that in the day you eat from it, then your eyes shall be opened and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

### **The Fall**

<sup>6</sup> And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate, and gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons. <sup>8</sup> And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

<sup>9</sup> And the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “Where are you?”

<sup>10</sup> And he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, and I hid myself.”

<sup>11</sup> And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”

<sup>12</sup> And the man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate.”

<sup>13</sup> And the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?”

And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

### **The Curse of the Fall**

<sup>14</sup> And the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, you are cursed above all cattle and above every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

<sup>16</sup> To the woman He said, “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in sorrow you shall bring forth children, and your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

<sup>17</sup> And to Adam He said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground for your sake; in sorrow you shall eat of it all the days of your life. <sup>18</sup> Thorns and also thistles it shall bring forth to you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. <sup>19</sup> In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

<sup>20</sup> And Adam called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

<sup>21</sup> For Adam and also for his wife the LORD God made coats of skins and clothed them.

<sup>22</sup> And the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil, and now, lest he put forth his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever—” <sup>23</sup> therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden to till the ground from where he was taken. <sup>24</sup> So He drove out the man, and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way, to guard the way of the tree of life.

### **The First Sons of Adam and Eve**

**4** And Adam knew Eve, his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, “I have gotten a man from the LORD.” <sup>2</sup> And again, she bore his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. <sup>3</sup> And in process of time it came to pass that Cain brought from the fruit of the ground an offering to the LORD. <sup>4</sup> And Abel also brought from the firstlings of his flock and from the fat from them. And the LORD had respect for Abel and for his offering, <sup>5</sup> but for Cain and for his offering, He did not have respect. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance

fallen? <sup>7</sup> If you do well, shall you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And his desire shall be for you, and you shall rule over him.”

### **The First Murder**

<sup>8</sup> And Cain talked with Abel his brother, and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and slew him.

<sup>9</sup> And the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?”

And he said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?”

<sup>10</sup> And He said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood cries to Me from the ground.<sup>11</sup> And now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened her mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup> When you till the ground, from now on it shall not yield to you her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond you shall be in the earth.”

<sup>13</sup> And Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear. <sup>14</sup> Behold, You have driven me out this day from the face of the earth, and from Your face I shall be hid, and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth, and it shall come to pass that everyone who finds me shall slay me.”

<sup>15</sup> And the LORD said to him, “Therefore, whoever slays Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him.

### **The History of Cain**

<sup>16</sup> And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelled in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden. <sup>17</sup> And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city and called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch. <sup>18</sup> And to Enoch was born Irad, and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech.

<sup>19</sup> And Lamech took to him two wives. The name of the one was Adah and the name of the other, Zillah. <sup>20</sup> And Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and of those who have cattle. <sup>21</sup> And his brother’s name was Jubal; he was the father of all who handle the harp and organ. <sup>22</sup> And Zillah also bore Tubal-cain, an instructor of every artificer in bronze and iron, and the sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah. <sup>23</sup> And Lamech said to his wives, “Adah and Zillah, hear my voice, you wives of Lamech, listen to my speech, for I have slain a man for my wounding and a young man for my harm. <sup>24</sup> If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.”

<sup>25</sup> And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth. “For God,” she said, “has appointed me another child instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.” <sup>26</sup> And to Seth, to him also there was born a son, and he called his name Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.

### **The Family of Adam to Noah**

**5** This is the book of the generations of Adam. At the time when God created man, in the likeness of God He made him; <sup>2</sup> male and female He created them, and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

<sup>3</sup> And Adam lived a hundred and thirty years and begot a son in his own likeness and according to his image, and called his name Seth. <sup>4</sup> And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years, and he begot sons and daughters. <sup>5</sup> And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years, and he died.

<sup>6</sup> And Seth lived a hundred and five years, and begot Enosh. <sup>7</sup> And Seth lived after he begot Enosh eight hundred and seven years, and begot sons and daughters. <sup>8</sup> And all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years, and he died.

<sup>9</sup> And Enosh lived ninety years and begot Cainan. <sup>10</sup> And Enosh lived after he begot Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years and begot sons and daughters. <sup>11</sup> And all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years, and he died.

<sup>12</sup> And Cainan lived seventy years and begot Mahalalel. <sup>13</sup> And Cainan lived after he begot Mahalalel eight hundred and forty years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>14</sup> And all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years, and he died.

<sup>15</sup> And Mahalalel lived sixty-five years and begot Jared. <sup>16</sup> And Mahalalel lived after he begot Jared eight hundred and thirty years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>17</sup> And all the days of Mahalalel were eight hundred and ninety-five years, and he died.

<sup>18</sup> And Jared lived a hundred and sixty-two years, and he begot Enoch. <sup>19</sup> And Jared lived after he begot Enoch eight hundred years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>20</sup> And all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years, and he died.

<sup>21</sup> And Enoch lived sixty-five years and begot Methuselah. <sup>22</sup> And Enoch walked with God three hundred years after he begot Methuselah and begot sons and daughters. <sup>23</sup> And all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. <sup>24</sup> And Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

<sup>25</sup> And Methuselah lived a hundred and eighty-seven years and begot Lamech.

<sup>26</sup> And Methuselah lived after he begot Lamech seven hundred and eighty-two years and begot sons and daughters. <sup>27</sup> And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years, and he died.

<sup>28</sup> And Lamech lived a hundred and eighty-two years and begot a son. <sup>29</sup> And he called his name Noah, saying, "This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground that the LORD has cursed." <sup>30</sup> And after he begot Noah, Lamech lived five hundred and ninety-five years and begot sons and daughters. <sup>31</sup> And all the days of Lamech were seven hundred and seventy-seven years, and he died.

<sup>32</sup> And Noah was five hundred years old. And Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

### **God Judges the Whole Earth**

**6** And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, <sup>2</sup> that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair, and they took wives for themselves, all whom they chose. <sup>3</sup> And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for he also is flesh, yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years." <sup>4</sup> There were giants in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. The same became mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

<sup>5</sup> And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. <sup>6</sup> And it grieved the LORD that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him in His heart. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, and the creeping thing and the fowls of the air, for it grieves Me that I have made them." <sup>8</sup> But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

### **Noah Finds Favor in God's Sight**

<sup>9</sup> These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God. <sup>10</sup> And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. <sup>11</sup> The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. <sup>12</sup> And God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. <sup>13</sup> And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them. And behold, I will destroy them with the earth."

### **God's Instructions for the Ark**

<sup>14</sup> "Make an ark of gopher wood; you shall make rooms in the ark and shall pitch it inside and outside with pitch. <sup>15</sup> And this is the fashion that you shall make it of: the length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its breadth fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. <sup>16</sup> You shall make a window to the ark, and in a cubit you shall finish it above, and the door of the ark you shall set in its side, with lower, second, and third stories you shall make it.

<sup>17</sup> "And behold, I, even I, am bringing a flood of waters on the earth to destroy all flesh, in which is the breath of life, from under heaven, and everything that is in the

earth shall die. <sup>18</sup>But with you I will establish My covenant, and you shall come into the ark, you, and your sons, and your wife, and your sons' wives with you. <sup>19</sup>And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort you shall bring into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. <sup>20</sup>Of fowls according to their kind, and of cattle according to their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth according to his kind, two of every sort shall come to you, to keep them alive. <sup>21</sup>And take for yourself from all food that is eaten, and you shall gather it for yourself, and it shall be for food for you and for them." <sup>22</sup>Thus Noah did, according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

### The Flood

**7** And the LORD said to Noah, "You and all your house come into the ark, for I have seen you righteous before Me in this generation. <sup>2</sup>Of every clean beast you shall take with you by sevens, the male and his female. And of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female. <sup>3</sup>Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female, to keep offspring alive on the face of all the earth. <sup>4</sup>For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living substance that I have made I will destroy from off the face of the earth." <sup>5</sup>And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him. <sup>6</sup>And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was on the earth.

<sup>7</sup>And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood. <sup>8</sup>Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of everything that creeps on the earth, <sup>9</sup>there went in two and two to Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah. <sup>10</sup>And it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were on the earth.

<sup>11</sup>In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. <sup>12</sup>And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights. <sup>13</sup>On the very same day Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them entered into the ark. <sup>14</sup>They, and every beast according to his kind, and all the cattle according to their kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth according to his kind, and every fowl according to his kind, every bird of every sort.

<sup>15</sup>And they went in to Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, in which is the breath of life. <sup>16</sup>And those who went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him, and the LORD shut him in. <sup>17</sup>And the flood was forty days on the earth, and the waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth. <sup>18</sup>And the waters prevailed and were increased greatly on the earth, and the ark went on the face of the waters. <sup>19</sup>And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills that were under the whole heaven were covered. <sup>20</sup>Fifteen cubits upward the waters prevailed, and the mountains were covered.

<sup>21</sup>And all flesh died that moved on the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man. <sup>22</sup>All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died. <sup>23</sup>And every living substance was destroyed that was on the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven. And they were destroyed from the earth, and Noah only remained alive, and those who were with him in the ark. <sup>24</sup>And the waters prevailed on the earth a hundred and fifty days.

### The Flood Abates

**8** And God remembered Noah and every living thing and all the cattle that were with him in the ark, and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged. <sup>2</sup>The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained. <sup>3</sup>And the waters returned from off the earth continually, and according to the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were

abated. <sup>4</sup> And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat. <sup>5</sup> And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month. In the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen.

<sup>6</sup> And it came to pass at the end of forty days that Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made. <sup>7</sup> And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth. <sup>8</sup> Also he sent forth a dove from him to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground. <sup>9</sup> But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned to him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. Then he put forth his hand and took her, and pulled her in to him into the ark.

<sup>10</sup> And he stayed yet another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. <sup>11</sup> And the dove came in to him in the evening. And behold, in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off, so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth. <sup>12</sup> And he stayed yet another seven days, and sent forth the dove, which did not return again to him anymore.

<sup>13</sup> And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth, and Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. <sup>14</sup> And in the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dried.

<sup>15</sup> And God spoke to Noah, saying, <sup>16</sup> "Go forth from the ark, you, and your wife, and your sons, and your sons' wives with you. <sup>17</sup> Bring forth with you every living thing that is with you, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, that they may breed abundantly in the earth and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." <sup>18</sup> And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him. <sup>19</sup> Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatever creeps on the earth, according to their kinds, went forth out of the ark.

### **Noah's Offering and God's Covenant**

<sup>20</sup> And Noah built an altar to the LORD and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD smelled a sweet savor, and the LORD said in His heart, "I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake, for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I again strike any longer everything living, as I have done. <sup>22</sup> While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

### **God's Covenant Continued**

**9** And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth. <sup>2</sup> And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, and on every fowl of the air, on all that moves on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. <sup>3</sup> Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you, even as the green herb; I have given you all things. <sup>4</sup> But flesh with the life thereof, which is its blood, you shall not eat. <sup>5</sup> And surely your blood of your lives I will require; at the hand of every beast I will require it and at the hand of man. At the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man. <sup>6</sup> Whoever sheds man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed, for in the image of God He made man. <sup>7</sup> And you, be fruitful and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth and multiply in it."

<sup>8</sup> And God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying, <sup>9</sup> "And I, behold, I establish My covenant with you, and with your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup> and with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you, from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. <sup>11</sup> And I will establish My covenant with you: neither shall all flesh be cut off anymore by the waters of a flood; neither shall there anymore be a flood to destroy the earth."

<sup>12</sup> And God said, "This is the token of the covenant that I make between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: <sup>13</sup> I set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between Me and the earth. <sup>14</sup> And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud. <sup>15</sup> And I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall no longer become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup> And the bow shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." <sup>17</sup> And God said to Noah, "This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth."

<sup>18</sup> And the sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth. And Ham is the father of Canaan. <sup>19</sup> These are the three sons of Noah, and from them the whole earth was overspread.

### **The Shame of Noah**

<sup>20</sup> And Noah began to be a farmer, and he planted a vineyard. <sup>21</sup> And he drank of the wine and was drunk, and he was uncovered within his tent. <sup>22</sup> And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. <sup>23</sup> And Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it on both their shoulders and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. And their faces were backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

<sup>24</sup> And Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his younger son had done to him. <sup>25</sup> And he said, "Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants he shall be to his brothers." <sup>26</sup> And he said, "Blessed be the LORD God of Shem, and Canaan shall be his servant. <sup>27</sup> God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem, and Canaan shall be his servant."

<sup>28</sup> And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. <sup>29</sup> And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years, and he died.

### **The Descendants of Noah**

**10** Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And to those were sons born after the flood. <sup>2</sup> The sons of Japheth: Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras. <sup>3</sup> And the sons of Gomer: Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah. <sup>4</sup> And the sons of Javan: Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. <sup>5</sup> By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands, everyone according to his tongue, according to their families, in their nations.

<sup>6</sup> And the sons of Ham: Cush, and Mizraim, and Put, and Canaan. <sup>7</sup> And the sons of Cush: Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtechah. And the sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan. <sup>8</sup> And Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one in the earth. <sup>9</sup> He was a mighty hunter before the LORD. Therefore, it is said, "Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD." <sup>10</sup> And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. <sup>11</sup> Out of that land went forth Asshur and built Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah, <sup>12</sup> and Resen between Nineveh and Calah; the same is a great city. <sup>13</sup> And Mizraim begot Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim, <sup>14</sup> and Pathrusim, and Casluhim (out of whom came the Philistines), and Caphtorim.

<sup>15</sup> And Canaan begot Sidon, his firstborn, and Heth, <sup>16</sup> and the Jebusite, and the Amorite, and the Girgashite, <sup>17</sup> and the Hivite, and the Arkite, and the Sinite, <sup>18</sup> and the Arvadite, and the Zemarite, and the Hamathite. And afterward the families of the Canaanites were spread out. <sup>19</sup> And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon, as you come to Gerar, to Gaza, as you go to Sodom and Gomorrah, and Admah, and Zeboiim, even to Lasha. <sup>20</sup> These are the sons of Ham, according to their families, according to their tongues, in their countries, and in their nations.

<sup>21</sup> To Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were children born. <sup>22</sup> The children of Shem: Elam, and Asshur,

and Arphaxad, and Lud, and Aram. <sup>23</sup> And the children of Aram: Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Mash. <sup>24</sup> And Arphaxad begot Salah, and Salah begot Eber. <sup>25</sup> And to Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided, and his brother's name was Joktan. <sup>26</sup> And Joktan begot Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah, <sup>27</sup> and Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diklah, <sup>28</sup> and Obal, and Abimael, and Sheba, <sup>29</sup> and Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan. <sup>30</sup> And their dwelling was from Mesha, as you go to Sephar, a mountain of the east. <sup>31</sup> These are the sons of Shem, according to their families, according to their tongues, in their lands, according to their nations.

<sup>32</sup> These are the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations, and by these were the nations divided on the earth after the flood.

### **The Failure of Man**

**1 1** And the whole earth was of one language and of one speech. <sup>2</sup> And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelled there. <sup>3</sup> And they said to one another, "Let us go to make bricks and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and they had pitch for mortar. <sup>4</sup> And they said, "Let us go to build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach to heaven, and let us make us a name, lest we are scattered out on the face of the whole earth."

### **The Confusion of Tongues**

<sup>5</sup> And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men built. <sup>6</sup> And the LORD said, "Behold, the people are one, and they have all one language, and they begin to do this. And now nothing that they have imagined to do will be restrained from them. <sup>7</sup> Come, let Us go down and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." <sup>8</sup> So the LORD scattered them out from there on the face of all the earth, and they stopped building the city. <sup>9</sup> Therefore, its name is called Babel, because the LORD there confounded the language of all the earth, and from there the LORD scattered them out on the face of all the earth.

### **The Ancestry of Abram**

<sup>10</sup> These are the generations of Shem: Shem was a hundred years old and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood. <sup>11</sup> And after he begot Arphaxad, Shem lived five hundred years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>12</sup> And Arphaxad lived thirty-five years and begot Salah. <sup>13</sup> And Arphaxad lived four hundred and three years after he begot Salah and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>14</sup> And Salah lived thirty years and begot Eber. <sup>15</sup> And after he begot Eber, Salah lived four hundred and three years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>16</sup> And Eber lived thirty-four years and begot Peleg. <sup>17</sup> And after he begot Peleg, Eber lived four hundred and thirty years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>18</sup> And Peleg lived thirty years and begot Reu. <sup>19</sup> And after he begot Reu, Peleg lived two hundred and nine years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>20</sup> And Reu lived thirty-two years and begot Serug. <sup>21</sup> And after he begot Serug, Reu lived two hundred and seven years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>22</sup> And Serug lived thirty years and begot Nahor. <sup>23</sup> And after he begot Nahor, Serug lived two hundred years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>24</sup> And Nahor lived twenty-nine years and begot Terah. <sup>25</sup> And after he begot Terah, Nahor lived a hundred and nineteen years and begot sons and daughters.

<sup>26</sup> And Terah lived seventy years and begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

<sup>27</sup> Now these are the generations of Terah: Terah begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran, and Haran begot Lot. <sup>28</sup> And Haran died before his father, Terah, in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldeans. <sup>29</sup> And Abram and Nahor took themselves wives. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah, and the father of Iscah. <sup>30</sup> But Sarai was barren; she had no child.

<sup>31</sup> And Terah took Abram, his son, and Lot the son of Haran, his son's son, and Sarai, his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, and they came to Haran and dwelled there. <sup>32</sup> And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran.

### **God's Promise to Abram**

**12** Now the LORD had said to Abram, "Get out of your country, and from your family, and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, and you shall be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> And I will bless those who bless you and curse him who curses you, and in you shall all families of the earth be blessed."

<sup>4</sup> So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed out of Haran. <sup>5</sup> And Abram took Sarai, his wife, and Lot, his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran, and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan, and into the land of Canaan they came.

<sup>6</sup> And Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, to the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the LORD, who appeared to him. <sup>8</sup> And he moved from there to a mountain on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup> And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

### **Abram Forsakes the Place of Promise**

<sup>10</sup> And there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was grievous in the land. <sup>11</sup> And it came to pass, when he came near to enter into Egypt, that he said to Sarai, his wife, "Behold now, I know that you are a fair woman to look on. <sup>12</sup> Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see you, that they shall say, 'This is his wife,' and they will kill me, but they will save you alive. <sup>13</sup> Say, I ask you, you are my sister, that it may be well with me for your sake, and my soul shall live because of you."

<sup>14</sup> And it came to pass that when Abram came into Egypt, the Egyptians saw that the woman was very fair. <sup>15</sup> The princess of Pharaoh also saw her and commended her before Pharaoh, and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. <sup>16</sup> And he treated Abram well for her sake, and he had sheep, and oxen, and male donkeys, and menseservants, and maidservants, and female donkeys, and camels. <sup>17</sup> And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife.

<sup>18</sup> And Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this that you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? <sup>19</sup> Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so I might have taken her to me as a wife? Now, therefore, behold your wife, take her, and go your way." <sup>20</sup> And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him, and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.

### **Abram Returns to the Land and the Altar**

**13** And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south. <sup>2</sup> And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. <sup>3</sup> And he went on his journeys from the south even to Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, <sup>4</sup> to the place of the altar, which he had made there at first, and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> And Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks and herds and tents. <sup>6</sup> And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together, for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together. <sup>7</sup> And there was a strife between the herdsmen of Abram's cattle and the herdsmen of Lot's cattle, and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled in the land then. <sup>8</sup> And Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife,

I ask you, between me and you, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we are brothers. <sup>9</sup> Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself, I ask you, from me; if you will take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.”

<sup>10</sup> And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as you come to Zoar. <sup>11</sup> Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of Jordan, and Lot journeyed east, and they separated themselves the one from the other. <sup>12</sup> Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain and pitched his tent toward Sodom. <sup>13</sup> But the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinners before the LORD.

### **The Land Given; Natural Posterity Promised**

<sup>14</sup> And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot was separated from him, “Lift up now your eyes, and look from the place where you are northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward. <sup>15</sup> For all the land that you see, to you will I give it, and to your descendants forever. <sup>16</sup> And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall your descendants also be numbered. <sup>17</sup> Arise, walk through the land in its length and in its breadth, for I will give it to you.” <sup>18</sup> Then Abram removed his tent and came and dwelled in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar to the LORD.

### **Abram Delivers Lot**

**14** And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of El-lasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations, <sup>2</sup> that these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar. <sup>3</sup> All these were joined together in the Valley of Siddim, which is the Salt Sea. <sup>4</sup> Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

<sup>5</sup> And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings who were with him, and struck the Rephaim in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shaveh Kiriathaim, <sup>6</sup> and the Horites on their Mount Seir, to El-paran, which is by the wilderness. <sup>7</sup> And they returned and came to En-mishpat, which is Kadesh, and struck all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites who dwelled in Hazezon-tamar.

<sup>8</sup> And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same is Zoar). And they joined battle with those in the Valley of Siddim, <sup>9</sup> with Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar, four kings with five. <sup>10</sup> And the Valley of Siddim was full of slime pits, and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled and fell there, and those who remained fled to the mountain. <sup>11</sup> And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. <sup>12</sup> And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelled in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

<sup>13</sup> And there came one who had escaped and told Abram the Hebrew, for he dwelled in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and these were allied with Abram. <sup>14</sup> And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained servants, born in his own house, and pursued them to Dan. <sup>15</sup> And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and struck them, and pursued them to Hobah, which is on the left side of Damascus. <sup>16</sup> And he brought back all the goods and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

### **The Revelation of the Most High God**

<sup>17</sup> And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings who were with him, at the Valley of Shaveh, which is

the king's valley. <sup>18</sup> And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine, and he was the priest of the Most High God. <sup>19</sup> And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, possessor of heaven and earth. <sup>20</sup> And blessed be the Most High God, who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him tithes of all.

<sup>21</sup> And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself."

<sup>22</sup> And Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have lifted up my hand to the LORD, the Most High God, the possessor of heaven and earth, <sup>23</sup> that I will not take from a thread even to a shoe strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich,' <sup>24</sup> save only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre. Let them take their portion."

### **A Spiritual Descendant Promised**

**15** After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram. I am your shield and your exceedingly great reward."

<sup>2</sup> And Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "Behold, You have given no offspring to me, and behold, one born in my house is my heir."

<sup>4</sup> And, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This shall not be your heir, but he who shall come forth out of your own body shall be your heir."

<sup>5</sup> And He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed in the LORD, and He counted it to him for righteousness. <sup>7</sup> And He said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to inherit it."

<sup>8</sup> And he said, "Lord GOD, how shall I know that I shall inherit it?"

<sup>9</sup> And He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, and a three-year-old female goat, and a three-year-old ram, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup> And he took to Him all these and divided them in the middle, and laid each piece one against another, but the birds he did not divide. <sup>11</sup> And when the fowls came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup> And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram, and behold, a horror of great darkness fell on him. <sup>13</sup> And He said to Abram, "Know for certain that your descendants shall be strangers in a land that is not theirs and shall serve them, and they shall afflict them four hundred years, <sup>14</sup> and also that nation, whom they shall serve, I will judge, and afterward they shall come out with great substance. <sup>15</sup> And you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. <sup>16</sup> But in the fourth generation they shall come here again, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full." <sup>17</sup> And it came to pass that when the sun went down and it was dark, behold, a smoking furnace and a burning lamp passed between those pieces. <sup>18</sup> In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates: <sup>19</sup> the Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, <sup>20</sup> and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaim, <sup>21</sup> and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

### **The Birth of Ishmael**

**16** Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no children, and she had a handmaiden, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar. <sup>2</sup> And Sarai said to Abram, "Behold now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing. I ask you, go in to my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. <sup>3</sup> And Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar her maid, the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelled ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband, Abram, to be his wife.

<sup>4</sup>And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived, and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes. <sup>5</sup>And Sarai said to Abram, “My wrong is on you; I have given my maid into your bosom, and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes. The LORD judge between me and you.”

<sup>6</sup>But Abram said to Sarai, “Behold, your maid is in your hand; do to her as it pleases you.” And when Sarai dealt harshly with her, she fled from her face.

<sup>7</sup>And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. <sup>8</sup>And He said, “Hagar, Sarai’s maid, from where do you come? And where will you go?”

And she said, “I am fleeing from the face of my mistress Sarai.”

<sup>9</sup>And the angel of the LORD said to her, “Return to your mistress, and submit yourself under her hands.” <sup>10</sup>And the angel of the LORD said to her, “I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.” <sup>11</sup>And the angel of the LORD said to her, “Behold, you are with child and shall bear a son, and shall call his name Ishmael, because the LORD has heard your affliction. <sup>12</sup>And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man’s hand against him, and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brothers.”

<sup>13</sup>And she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her “You, God, See Me,” for she said, “Have I also here looked after Him who sees me?” <sup>14</sup>For that reason the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.

<sup>15</sup>And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called his son’s name, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. <sup>16</sup>And Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

### **Abram Becomes Abraham**

**17** And when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am the Almighty God; walk before Me and be perfect. <sup>2</sup>And I will make My covenant between Me and you and will multiply you exceedingly.” <sup>3</sup>And Abram fell on his face. And God talked with him, saying, <sup>4</sup>“As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for a father of many nations I have made you. <sup>6</sup>And I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations from you, and kings shall come out of you. <sup>7</sup>And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God to you and to your descendants after you. <sup>8</sup>And I will give to you and to your descendants after you the land in which you are a foreigner, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.”

<sup>9</sup>And God said to Abraham, “You shall keep My covenant, therefore, you and your descendants after you in their generations. <sup>10</sup>This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male child among you shall be circumcised. <sup>11</sup>And you shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be a token of the covenant between Me and you. <sup>12</sup>And he who is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every male child in your generations, he who is born in the house or bought with money from any foreigner, who is not of your descendants. <sup>13</sup>He who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money must be circumcised, and My covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. <sup>14</sup>And the uncircumcised male child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant.”

### **The Promise of Isaac**

<sup>15</sup>And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai, your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. <sup>16</sup>And I will bless her and give you a son from her also. Yes, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations. Kings of people shall be from her.”

<sup>17</sup>Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said in his heart, “Shall a child

be born to him who is a hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear?" <sup>18</sup> And Abraham said to God, "O that Ishmael might live before You!"

<sup>19</sup> And God said, "Sarah, your wife, shall bear you a son indeed, and you shall call his name Isaac, and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant and with his descendants after him. <sup>20</sup> And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and will multiply him exceedingly. Twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. <sup>21</sup> But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time in the next year."

<sup>22</sup> And He stopped talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

<sup>23</sup> And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all who were born in his house, and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the very same day, as God had said to him. <sup>24</sup> And Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. <sup>25</sup> And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. <sup>26</sup> On the very same day Abraham was circumcised and Ishmael his son. <sup>27</sup> And all the men of his house, born in the house and bought with money from the foreigner, were circumcised with him.

### Abraham, "The Friend of God"

**18** And the LORD appeared to him in the plains of Mamre, and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> And he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men stood by him. And when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground, <sup>3</sup> and said, "My Lord, if now I have found favor in Your sight, do not pass away, I ask You, from Your servant. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water, I ask you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup> And I will fetch a morsel of bread and comfort your hearts; after that you shall pass on, for therefore have you come to your servant."

And they said, "So do as you have said."

<sup>6</sup> And Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes on the hearth." <sup>7</sup> And Abraham ran to the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it to a young man, and he hurried to dress it. <sup>8</sup> And he took butter, and milk, and the calf that he had dressed, and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree, and they ate.

<sup>9</sup> And they said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?"

And he said, "Behold, in the tent."

<sup>10</sup> And He said, "I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son."

And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. <sup>11</sup> Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well advanced in age, and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. <sup>12</sup> Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, "After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?"

<sup>13</sup> And the LORD said to Abraham, "For what reason did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I certainly bear a child, when I am old?' <sup>14</sup> Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son."

<sup>15</sup> Then Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid.

And He said, "No, but you did laugh."

<sup>16</sup> And the men rose up from there and looked toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. <sup>17</sup> And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do, <sup>18</sup> seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? <sup>19</sup> For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment, that the LORD may bring on Abraham what He has spoken of him." <sup>20</sup> And the LORD said, "Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous, <sup>21</sup> I will go down now and

see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which has come to Me, and if not, I will know.”<sup>22</sup> And the men turned their faces from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD.

### **Abraham the Intercessor**

<sup>23</sup> And Abraham drew near and said, “Will You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup> Perhaps there are fifty righteous within the city. Will You also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup> Far be it from You to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, and that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You. Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

<sup>26</sup> And the LORD said, “If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.”

<sup>27</sup> And Abraham answered and said, “Behold now, I have taken on myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup> Perhaps there shall lack five of the fifty righteous. Will You destroy all the city for lack of five?”

And He said, “If I find there forty-five, I will not destroy it.”

<sup>29</sup> And he spoke to Him yet again and said, “Perhaps there shall be forty found there?”

And He said, “I will not do it for forty’s sake.”

<sup>30</sup> And he said to Him, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Perhaps there shall thirty be found there?”

And He said, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.”

<sup>31</sup> And he said, “Behold now, I have taken on myself to speak to the Lord. Perhaps there shall be twenty found there?”

And He said, “I will not destroy it for twenty’s sake.”

<sup>32</sup> And he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once. Perhaps ten shall be found there?”

And He said, “I will not destroy it for ten’s sake.”<sup>33</sup> And the LORD went His way, as soon as He had left communing with Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

### **The Destruction of Sodom**

**19** And there came two angels to Sodom at evening, and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom. And Lot, seeing them, rose up to meet them, and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground. <sup>2</sup> And he said, “Behold now, my lords, turn in, I ask you, into your servant’s house. And remain all night and wash your feet, and you shall rise up early and go on your ways.”

And they said, “No, but we will remain in the street all night.”<sup>3</sup> And he pressed on them greatly, and they turned in to him and entered into his house, and he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

<sup>4</sup> But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both old and young, all the people from every quarter. <sup>5</sup> And they called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came in to you this night? Bring them out to us that we may know them.”

<sup>6</sup> And Lot went out at the door to them, and shut the door after him, <sup>7</sup> and said, “I ask you, brothers, do not do so wickedly. <sup>8</sup> Behold now, I have two daughters who have not known a man. Let me, I ask you, bring them out to you, and do to them as is good in your eyes. Only to these men do nothing, for therefore they came under the shadow of my roof.”

<sup>9</sup> And they said, “Stand back.” And they said again, “This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he is acting like a judge. Now we will deal worse with you than with them.” And they pressed greatly on the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door. <sup>10</sup> But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut the door. <sup>11</sup> And they struck the men who were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

<sup>12</sup>And the men said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Son-in-law, and your sons, and your daughters, and whatever you have in the city, bring them out of this place. <sup>13</sup>For we will destroy this place, because the cry against them has grown great before the face of the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it."

<sup>14</sup>And Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who married his daughters, and said, "Get up! You get out of this place, for the LORD will destroy this city." But he seemed as one who mocked to his sons-in-law.

<sup>15</sup>And when the morning arose, the angels hurried Lot, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters, who are here, lest you be consumed in the iniquity of the city." <sup>16</sup>And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, and of the hand of his wife, and of the hand of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him forth and set him outside the city.

<sup>17</sup>And it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life. Do not look behind you or stay in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest you be consumed."

<sup>18</sup>And Lot said to them, "Oh, not so, my Lord. <sup>19</sup>Behold now, your servant has found grace in your sight, and you have magnified your mercy, which you have shown to me in saving my life, and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me and I die. <sup>20</sup>Behold now, this city is near to flee to, and it is a little one. Oh, let me escape there (is it not a little one?), and my soul shall live."

<sup>21</sup>And he said to him, "See, I have accepted you concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city for which you have spoken. <sup>22</sup>Hurry, escape there, for I cannot do anything until you have arrived there." Therefore, the name of the city was called Zoar.

<sup>23</sup>The sun had risen on the earth when Lot entered into Zoar. <sup>24</sup>Then the LORD rained on Sodom and on Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven. <sup>25</sup>And He overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. <sup>26</sup>But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

<sup>27</sup>And Abraham got up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD. <sup>28</sup>And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the plain. And he saw, and behold, the smoke of the country went up like the smoke of a furnace.

<sup>29</sup>And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot dwelled. <sup>30</sup>And Lot went up out of Zoar and dwelled in the mountain, and his two daughters with him, for he feared to dwell in Zoar. And he dwelled in a cave, and he and his two daughters.

### **Lot's Backsliding**

<sup>31</sup>And the firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in to us according to the manner of all the earth. <sup>32</sup>Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him that we may preserve descendants of our father." <sup>33</sup>And they made their father drink wine that night, and the firstborn went in and lay with her father. And he perceived not when she lay down or when she arose.

<sup>34</sup>And it came to pass on the next morning that the firstborn said to the younger, "Behold, I lay last night with my father; let us make him drink wine this night also, and you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve descendants of our father." <sup>35</sup>And they made their father drink wine that night also, and the younger arose and lay with him. And he did not perceive when she lay down or when she arose. <sup>36</sup>Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father. <sup>37</sup>And the firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab; the same is the father of the Moabites to this day. <sup>38</sup>And the younger, she also bore a son and called his name Ben-ammi; the same is the father of the children of Ammon to this day.

### Abraham's Lapse at Gerar

**20** And Abraham journeyed from there toward the south country and dwelled between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar. <sup>2</sup> And Abraham said of Sarah, his wife, "She is my sister." And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah.

<sup>3</sup> But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, "Behold, you are but a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife."

<sup>4</sup> But Abimelech had not come near her, and he said, "Lord, will You slay also a righteous nation? <sup>5</sup> Did he not say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she, even she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and innocence of my hands I have done this."

<sup>6</sup> And God said to him in a dream, "Yes, I know that you did this in the integrity of your heart, for I also withheld you from sinning against Me. Therefore I did not allow you to touch her. <sup>7</sup> Now, therefore, restore the man his wife, for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for you, and you shall live. And if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you, and all who are yours." <sup>8</sup> Therefore Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told all these things in their ears, and the men were greatly afraid.

<sup>9</sup> Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I offended you that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done deeds to me that ought not to be done." <sup>10</sup> And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What did you see that you have done this thing?"

<sup>11</sup> And Abraham said, "Because I thought, 'Surely the fear of God is not in this place and they will slay me for my wife's sake.' <sup>12</sup> And yet indeed she is my sister; she is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. <sup>13</sup> And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said to her, 'This is your kindness, which you shall show to me: at every place where we shall come, say of me, "He is my brother."'"

<sup>14</sup> And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and womenservants and gave them to Abraham and restored to him Sarah his wife. <sup>15</sup> And Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before you. Dwell where it pleases you." <sup>16</sup> And to Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. Behold, he is to you a covering of the eyes, to all who are with you, and with all others." Thus she was reproved.

<sup>17</sup> So Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants, and they bore children. <sup>18</sup> For the LORD had near closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

### The Birth of Isaac

**21** And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as He had spoken. <sup>2</sup> For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the set time of which God had spoken to him. <sup>3</sup> And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac. <sup>4</sup> And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him. <sup>5</sup> And Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

<sup>6</sup> And Sarah said, "God has made me to laugh, so that all who hear will laugh with me." <sup>7</sup> And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah should have nursed children? For I have borne him a son in his old age." <sup>8</sup> And the child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned.

### Hagar and Her Son Cast Out

<sup>9</sup> And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, mocking. <sup>10</sup> For that reason she said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son, for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac."

<sup>11</sup> And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

<sup>12</sup> And God said to Abraham, "Let it not be grievous in your sight because of the boy and because of your bondwoman; in all that Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice, for in Isaac your descendants shall be called. <sup>13</sup> And also of the son of the bondwoman I will make a nation, because he is your offspring."

<sup>14</sup> And Abraham rose up early in the morning and took bread and a bottle of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. <sup>15</sup> And the water was spent in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs.

<sup>16</sup> And she went and sat down on the other side of him a good way off, as it were a bow shot, for she said, "Let me not see the death of the child." And she sat on the other side of him and lifted up her voice and wept. <sup>17</sup> And God heard the voice of the boy, and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said to her, "What ails you, Hagar? Do not fear, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. <sup>18</sup> Arise, lift up the boy, and hold him in your hand, for I will make him a great nation."

<sup>19</sup> And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the bottle with water and gave the boy drink. <sup>20</sup> And God was with the boy, and he grew and dwelled in the wilderness and became an archer. <sup>21</sup> And he dwelled in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother took for him a wife out of the land of Egypt.

### **Abraham's Covenant with Abimelech**

<sup>22</sup> And it came to pass at that time that Abimelech and Phichol, the chief captain of his army, spoke to Abraham, saying, "God is with you in all that you do. <sup>23</sup> Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my son or with my son's son, but according to the kindness that I have done to you, you shall do to me, and to the land in which you have sojourned."

<sup>24</sup> And Abraham said, "I will swear."

<sup>25</sup> And Abraham reproved Abimelech because of a well of water, which Abimelech's servants had violently taken away. <sup>26</sup> And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing. Neither did you tell me; neither had I heard of it until today."

<sup>27</sup> And Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and both of them made a covenant. <sup>28</sup> And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.

<sup>29</sup> And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set by themselves?"

<sup>30</sup> And he said, "For these seven ewe lambs you shall take from my hand, that they may be a witness to me that I have dug this well." <sup>31</sup> Therefore he called that place Beer-sheba, because there both of them swore. <sup>32</sup> Thus they made a covenant at Beer-sheba. Then Abimelech rose up, and Phichol, the chief captain of his army, and they returned into the land of the Philistines.

<sup>33</sup> And Abraham planted a grove in Beer-sheba and there called on the name of the LORD, the everlasting God. <sup>34</sup> And Abraham sojourned in the Philistines' land many days.

### **The Offering of Isaac**

**22** And it came to pass after these things, that God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham."

And he said, "Behold, here I am."

<sup>2</sup> And He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and get into the land of Moriah, and offer him there for a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you."

<sup>3</sup> And Abraham rose up early in the morning and saddled his donkey and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son. And he split the wood for the burnt offering and rose up and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup> Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off. <sup>5</sup> And Abraham said to his young men, "Remain here with the donkey, and I and the boy will go over there and worship and come back to you."

<sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son, and he took the fire in his hand and a knife, and both of them went together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac spoke to Abraham, his father, and said, "My father."

And he said, "Here I am, my son."

And he said, "Behold the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

<sup>8</sup>And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering." So both of them went together.

<sup>9</sup>And they came to the place of which God had told him, and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac, his son, and laid him on the altar on the wood. <sup>10</sup>And Abraham stretched forth his hand and took the knife to slay his son.

<sup>11</sup>And the angel of the LORD called to him out of heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham."

And he said, "Here I am."

<sup>12</sup>And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh. As it is said to this day, "In the mountain of the LORD it shall be seen."

### **The Abrahamic Covenant Confirmed**

<sup>15</sup>And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham out of heaven the second time <sup>16</sup>and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD, for because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>that in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand that is on the seashore, and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. <sup>18</sup>And in your descendants shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." <sup>19</sup>So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beer-sheba, and Abraham dwelled at Beer-sheba.

### **The Family of Nahor**

<sup>20</sup>And it came to pass after these things that it was told Abraham, saying, "Behold, Milcah, she has also borne children to your brother Nahor: <sup>21</sup>Huz his firstborn, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram, <sup>22</sup>and Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel." <sup>23</sup>And Bethuel begot Rebekah. These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother. <sup>24</sup>And his concubine, whose name was Reumah, also bore Tebah, and Gaham, and Thahash, and Maachah.

### **The Death and Burial of Sarah**

**23** And Sarah was a hundred and twenty-seven years old. These were the years of the life of Sarah. <sup>2</sup>And Sarah died in Kiriath-arba, which is Hebron in the land of Canaan, and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.

<sup>3</sup>And Abraham stood up from before his dead and spoke to the sons of Heth, saying, <sup>4</sup>"I am a foreigner and a sojourner with you; give me a possession of a burying place with you that I may bury my dead out of my sight."

<sup>5</sup>And the children of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him, <sup>6</sup>"Hear us, my lord. You are a mighty prince among us. In the choice of our sepulchres, bury your dead; none of us shall withhold from you his sepulchre, but that you may bury your dead."

<sup>7</sup>And Abraham stood up and bowed himself to the people of the land, even to the children of Heth. <sup>8</sup>And he communed with them, saying, "If it is your will that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me and entreat for me to Ephron the son of Zohar, <sup>9</sup>that he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which he has, which is in the end of his field. For as much money as it is worth, he shall give it me for a possession of a burying place among you."

<sup>10</sup> And Ephron dwelled among the children of Heth, and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the audience of the children of Heth, even of all who went in at the gate of his city, saying, <sup>11</sup> “No, my lord, hear me: the field I give you, and the cave that is in it, I give it to you, in the presence of the sons of my people I give it to you. Bury your dead.” <sup>12</sup> And Abraham bowed himself down before the people of the land.

<sup>13</sup> And he spoke to Ephron in the audience of the people of the land, saying, “But if you will give it, I ask you, hear me. I will give you money for the field; take it from me and I will bury my dead there.”

<sup>14</sup> And Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him, <sup>15</sup> “My lord, listen to me: the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver. What is that between me and you? Bury therefore your dead.” <sup>16</sup> And Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed for Ephron the silver, which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant.

<sup>17</sup> And the field of Ephron, which was in Machpelah, which was before Mamre, the field and the cave that was in it, and all the trees that were in the field, that were in all the borders surrounding it, were made sure <sup>18</sup> to Abraham for a possession in the presence of the children of Heth, before all who went in at the gate of his city. <sup>19</sup> And after this, Abraham buried Sarah, his wife, in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre, which is Hebron in the land of Canaan. <sup>20</sup> And the field and the cave that is in it were made sure to Abraham for a possession of a burying place by the sons of Heth.

#### **A Bride for Isaac**

**24** And Abraham was old and well advanced in age, and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. <sup>2</sup> And Abraham said to his eldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, “Put, I ask you, your hand under my thigh, <sup>3</sup> and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell, <sup>4</sup> but you shall go to my country, and to my family, and take a wife for my son Isaac.”

<sup>5</sup> And the servant said to him, “Perhaps the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land. Must I bring your son again to the land from where you came?”

<sup>6</sup> And Abraham said to him, “Beware that you do not bring my son there again. <sup>7</sup> The LORD God of heaven, who took me from my father’s house and from the land of my family, and who spoke to me and who swore to me, saying, ‘To your descendants I will give this land,’ He shall send His angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there. <sup>8</sup> And if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you shall be clear from this my oath; only do not bring my son there again.” <sup>9</sup> And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master and swore to him concerning that matter.

<sup>10</sup> And the servant took ten camels from the camels of his master and departed, for all the goods of his master were in his hand, and he arose and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. <sup>11</sup> And he made his camels to kneel down outside the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water. <sup>12</sup> And he said, “O LORD God of my master Abraham, I ask You, send me success this day, and show kindness to my master, Abraham. <sup>13</sup> Behold, I stand here by the well of water, and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water. <sup>14</sup> And let it come to pass that the young woman to whom I shall say, ‘Let down your pitcher; I ask you that I may drink,’ and she shall say, ‘Drink, and I will also give your camels drink,’ let the same be she whom You have appointed for Your servant Isaac, and by it shall I know that You have shown kindness to my master.”

<sup>15</sup> And it came to pass, before he had finished speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham’s brother, with her pitcher on her shoulder. <sup>16</sup> And the young woman was very fair to look on, a virgin, neither had any man known her, and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up. <sup>17</sup> And the servant ran to meet her and said, “Let me, I ask you, drink a little water from your pitcher.”

<sup>18</sup> And she said, "Drink, my lord." And she hurried and let down her pitcher on her hand and gave him drink.

<sup>19</sup> And when she had finished giving him drink, she said, "I will draw water for your camels also until they have finished drinking." <sup>20</sup> And she hurried, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again to the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels. <sup>21</sup> And the man wondering at her said nothing to know whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not.

<sup>22</sup> And it came to pass, as the camels had finished drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold <sup>23</sup> and said, "Whose daughter are you? Tell me, I ask you, is there room in your father's house for us to lodge in?"

<sup>24</sup> And she said to him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor." <sup>25</sup> She said moreover to him, "We have both straw and feed enough and room to lodge in." <sup>26</sup> And the man bowed down his head and worshipped the LORD.

<sup>27</sup> And he said, "Blessed be the LORD God of my master, Abraham, who has not left my master destitute of His mercy and His truth. As for me, being on the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brothers." <sup>28</sup> And the young woman ran and told those of her mother's house these things.

<sup>29</sup> And Rebekah had a brother and his name was Laban. And Laban ran out to the man, to the well. <sup>30</sup> And it came to pass, when he saw the earring and bracelets on his sister's hands, and when he heard the words of Rebekah, his sister, saying, "This is what the man said to me," that he came to the man. And, behold, he stood by the camels at the well. <sup>31</sup> And he said, "Come in, you blessed by the LORD. For what reason do you stand outside? For I have prepared the house and room for the camels."

<sup>32</sup> And the man came into the house, and he ungirded his camels, and gave straw and feed for the camels, and water to wash his feet and the men's feet who were with him. <sup>33</sup> And food was set before him to eat, but he said, "I will not eat until I have told my errand."

And he said, "Speak on."

<sup>34</sup> And he said, "I am Abraham's servant. <sup>35</sup> And the LORD has blessed my master greatly, and he has become great, and He has given him flocks, and herds, and silver, and gold, and menservants, and maidservants, and camels, and donkeys. <sup>36</sup> And Sarah, my master's wife, bore a son to my master when she was old, and to him he has given all that he has. <sup>37</sup> And my master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I dwell. <sup>38</sup> But you shall go to my father's house, and to my family, and take a wife for my son.' <sup>39</sup> And I said to my master, 'Perhaps the woman will not follow me.' <sup>40</sup> And he said to me, 'The LORD, before whom I walk, will send His angel with you and prosper your way, and you shall take a wife for my son of my family and from my father's house. <sup>41</sup> Then you shall be clear from this my oath when you come to my family, and if they do not give you one, you shall be clear from my oath.'

<sup>42</sup> "And I came this day to the well and said, 'O LORD God of my master, Abraham, if now You do prosper my way in which I go, <sup>43</sup> behold, I stand by the well of water, and it shall come to pass that when the virgin comes forth to draw water, and I say to her, 'Give me, I ask, a little water from your pitcher to drink,' <sup>44</sup> and she says to me both "You drink" and "I will also draw for your camels," let the same be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.' <sup>45</sup> And before I had finished speaking in my heart, behold, Rebekah came forth with her pitcher on her shoulder, and she went down to the well and drew water. And I said to her, 'Let me drink, I ask you.' <sup>46</sup> And she hurried and let down her pitcher from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I will give your camels drink also.' So I drank, and she made the camels drink also. <sup>47</sup> And I asked her and said, 'Whose daughter are you?' And she said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' And I put the earring on her face and the bracelets on her hands. <sup>48</sup> And I bowed down my head and worshipped the LORD

and blessed the LORD God of my master, Abraham, who had led me in the right way to take my master's brother's daughter to his son. <sup>49</sup> And now, if you will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me, and if not, tell me that I may turn to the right hand or to the left."

<sup>50</sup> Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, "The thing proceeds from the LORD; we cannot speak to you bad or good. <sup>51</sup> Behold, Rebekah is before you; take her and go, and let her be your master's son's wife, as the LORD has spoken."

<sup>52</sup> And it came to pass that when Abraham's servant heard their words, he worshipped the LORD, bowing himself to the earth. <sup>53</sup> And the servant brought forth jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and clothing, and gave them to Rebekah. He gave also to her brother and to her mother precious things. <sup>54</sup> And they ate and drank, he and the men who were with him, and remained all night. And they rose up in the morning, and he said, "Send me away to my master."

<sup>55</sup> And her brother and her mother said, "Let the young woman remain with us a few days, at least ten. After that she shall go."

<sup>56</sup> And he said to them, "Do not hinder me, seeing the LORD has prospered my way. Send me away that I may go to my master."

<sup>57</sup> And they said, "We will call the young woman and inquire at her mouth." <sup>58</sup> And they called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?"

And she said, "I will go."

<sup>59</sup> And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men. <sup>60</sup> And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "You are our sister; be the mother of thousands of millions, and let your descendants possess the gate of those who hate them."

<sup>61</sup> And Rebekah arose, and her young women, and they rode on the camels and followed the man, and the servant took Rebekah and went his way.

<sup>62</sup> And Isaac came from the way of the well Lahai-roi, for he dwelled in the south country. <sup>63</sup> And Isaac went out to meditate in the field in the evening, and he lifted up his eyes and saw, and behold, the camels were coming. <sup>64</sup> And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she descended off the camel. <sup>65</sup> For she had said to the servant, "What man is this who walks in the field to meet us?"

And the servant had said, "It is my master." Therefore she took a veil and covered herself. <sup>66</sup> And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. <sup>67</sup> And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent and took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. And Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

### Abraham Remarries

**25** Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah. <sup>2</sup> And she bore him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah. <sup>3</sup> And Jokshan begot Sheba and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Asshurim, and Letushim, and Leummim. <sup>4</sup> And the sons of Midian: Ephah, and Epher, and Hanoch, and Abidah, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah.

<sup>5</sup> And Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac. <sup>6</sup> But to the sons of the concubines who Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, while he still lived, and sent them away from Isaac his son eastward, to the east country.

### The Death of Abraham

<sup>7</sup> And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life that he lived: a hundred and seventy-five years. <sup>8</sup> Then Abraham gave up his spirit and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people. <sup>9</sup> And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which is before Mamre, <sup>10</sup> the field that Abraham purchased from the sons of Heth. Abraham was buried there, and Sarah his wife. <sup>11</sup> And it came to pass after the death of Abraham that God blessed his son Isaac, and Isaac dwelled by the well Lahai-roi.

### **The Generations of Ishmael**

<sup>12</sup> Now these are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's handmaiden, bore to Abraham. <sup>13</sup> And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth, and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam, <sup>14</sup> and Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa, <sup>15</sup> Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah.

<sup>16</sup> These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names, by their towns, and by their castles, twelve princes according to their nations. <sup>17</sup> And these are the years of the life of Ishmael: a hundred and thirty-seven years. And he gave up his spirit and died and was gathered to his people. <sup>18</sup> And they dwelled from Havilah to Shur; that is before Egypt, as you go toward Assyria. And he died in the presence of all his brothers.

### **The Generations of Isaac**

<sup>19</sup> And these are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham begot Isaac. <sup>20</sup> And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah as wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padan-aram, the sister to Laban the Syrian. <sup>21</sup> And Isaac entreated the LORD for his wife because she was barren, and the LORD was entreated by him, and Rebekah his wife conceived. <sup>22</sup> And the children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is so, why am I thus?" And she went to inquire of the LORD.

<sup>23</sup> And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two kinds of people shall be separated from your body, and the one people shall be stronger than the other people, and the elder shall serve the younger."

### **Esau and Jacob: Sale of the Birthright**

<sup>24</sup> And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb. <sup>25</sup> And the first came out red all over like a hairy garment, and they called his name Esau. <sup>26</sup> And after that his brother came out, and his hand took hold of Esau's heel, and his name was called Jacob. And Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. <sup>27</sup> And the boys grew, and Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, and Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents. <sup>28</sup> And Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his venison, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

<sup>29</sup> And Jacob boiled stew, and Esau came from the field and he was without strength. <sup>30</sup> And Esau said to Jacob, "Feed me, I ask you, with that same red stew, for I am without strength." Therefore his name was called Edom.

<sup>31</sup> And Jacob said, "Sell me this day your birthright."

<sup>32</sup> And Esau said, "Behold, I am at the point to die, and what profit shall this birthright do to me?"

<sup>33</sup> And Jacob said, "Swear to me this day." And he swore to him, and he sold his birthright to Jacob. <sup>34</sup> Then Jacob gave Esau bread and stew of lentils, and he ate and drank, and rose up, and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

### **The Abrahamic Covenant Confirmed to Isaac**

**26** And there was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech, king of the Philistines, to Gerar. <sup>2</sup> And the LORD appeared to him and said, "Do not go down into Egypt. Dwell in the land of which I shall tell you. <sup>3</sup> Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you, for to you and to your descendants I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath that I swore to Abraham your father, <sup>4</sup> and I will make your descendants to multiply as the stars of heaven and will give to your descendants all these countries. And in your descendants shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, <sup>5</sup> because Abraham obeyed My voice and observed My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws."

### **The Lapse of Isaac**

<sup>6</sup> And Isaac dwelled in Gerar, <sup>7</sup> and the men of the place asked him about his wife. And he said, "She is my sister." For he feared to say, "She is my wife." He said, "Lest the men

of the place should kill me for Rebekah because she is fair to look upon.”<sup>8</sup> And it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out a window and saw, and behold, Isaac was sporting with Rebekah, his wife.

<sup>9</sup> And Abimelech called Isaac and said, “Behold, certainly she is your wife. And how did you say, ‘She is my sister?’”

And Isaac said to him, “Because I said, ‘Lest I die for her.’”

<sup>10</sup> And Abimelech said, “What is this you have done to us? One of the people might lightly have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guiltiness on us.”<sup>11</sup> And Abimelech charged all his people, saying, “He who touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.”

<sup>12</sup> Then Isaac sowed in that land and received in the same year a hundredfold, and the LORD blessed him.<sup>13</sup> And the man became great and went forward and grew until he became very great,<sup>14</sup> for he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and a great store of servants, and the Philistines envied him.<sup>15</sup> For all the wells that his father’s servants had dug in the days of Abraham, his father, the Philistines had stopped them and filled them with earth.<sup>16</sup> And Abimelech said to Isaac, “Go from us, for you are much mightier than we.”

<sup>17</sup> And Isaac departed there and pitched his tent in the Valley of Gerar and dwelled there.<sup>18</sup> And Isaac dug again the wells of water, which they had dug in the days of Abraham, his father, for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham. And he called their names after the names by which his father had called them.<sup>19</sup> And Isaac’s servants dug in the valley and found there a well of springing water.

<sup>20</sup> And the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac’s herdsmen, saying, “The water is ours.” And he called the name of the well Esek because they quarreled with him.<sup>21</sup> And they dug another well and quarreled for that also, and he called its name Sitnah.

<sup>22</sup> And he moved from there and dug another well, and for that they did not quarrel. And he called its name Rehoboth. And he said, “For now the LORD has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.”

<sup>23</sup> And he went up from there to Beer-sheba.<sup>24</sup> And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, “I am the God of Abraham your father. Do not fear, for I am with you and will bless you and multiply your descendants for My servant Abraham’s sake.”<sup>25</sup> And he built an altar there, and called on the name of the LORD, and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac’s servants dug a well.

<sup>26</sup> Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar, and Ahuzzath, one of his friends, and Phichol, the chief captain of his army.<sup>27</sup> And Isaac said to them, “For what reason did you come to me, seeing you hate me and have sent me away from you?”

<sup>28</sup> And they said, “We certainly saw that the LORD was with you, and we said, ‘Let there be now an oath between us, even between us and you.’ And let us make a covenant with you<sup>29</sup> that you will do us no harm, as we have not touched you, and as we have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed by the LORD.”<sup>30</sup> And he made them a feast, and they ate and drank.

<sup>31</sup> And they rose up early in the morning and swore to one another, and Isaac sent them away. And they departed from him in peace.<sup>32</sup> And it came to pass the same day that Isaac’s servants came and told him concerning the well that they had dug, and said to him, “We have found water.”<sup>33</sup> And he called it Shebah. Therefore, the name of the city is Beer-sheba to this day.

<sup>34</sup> And Esau was forty years old when he took as wives Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite,<sup>35</sup> which were a grief of mind to Isaac and to Rebekah.

### The Stolen Blessing

**27** And it came to pass that when Isaac was old and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see, he called Esau, his eldest son, and said to him, “My son.”

And he said to him, “Behold, here I am.”

<sup>2</sup>And he said, “Behold, now I am old. I do not know the day of my death. <sup>3</sup>Now, therefore, take, I ask, your weapons, your quiver, and your bow, and go out to the field, and bring me some venison. <sup>4</sup>And make me savory meat, such as I love, and bring it to me that I may eat, that my soul may bless you before I die.” <sup>5</sup>And Rebekah heard when Isaac spoke to Esau, his son. And Esau went to the field to hunt for venison and to bring it.

<sup>6</sup>And Rebekah spoke to Jacob, her son, saying, “Behold, I heard your father speak to Esau, your brother, saying, <sup>7</sup>‘Bring me venison and make me savory meat that I may eat and bless you before the LORD before my death.’ <sup>8</sup>Now therefore, my son, obey my voice according to what I command you. <sup>9</sup>Go now to the flock and fetch me from there two good kids of the goats, and I will make them savory meat for your father, such as he loves. <sup>10</sup>And you shall bring it to your father that he may eat and that he may bless you before his death.”

<sup>11</sup>And Jacob said to Rebekah, his mother, “Behold, Esau, my brother, is a hairy man and I am a smooth man. <sup>12</sup>My father perhaps will feel me and I shall seem to him as a deceiver, and I shall bring a curse on me and not a blessing.”

<sup>13</sup>And his mother said to him, “On me be your curse, my son. Only obey my voice and go fetch me them.” <sup>14</sup>And he went and fetched and brought them to his mother. And his mother made savory meat, such as his father loved.

<sup>15</sup>And Rebekah took fine clothing of her eldest son, Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob, her younger son. <sup>16</sup>And she put the skins of the young goats on his hands and on the smooth of his neck. <sup>17</sup>And she gave the savory meat and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob.

<sup>18</sup>And he came to his father and said, “My father.”

And he said, “Here I am. Who are you, my son?”

<sup>19</sup>And Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau, your firstborn. I have done as you asked me. Arise, I ask you, sit and eat of my venison, that your soul may bless me.”

<sup>20</sup>And Isaac said to his son, “How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?” And he said, “Because the LORD your God brought it to me.”

<sup>21</sup>And Isaac said to Jacob, “Come near, I ask you, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are my very son Esau or not.”

<sup>22</sup>And Jacob went near to Isaac, his father. And he felt him and said, “The voice is Jacob’s voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.” <sup>23</sup>And he did not discern him, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau’s hands, so he blessed him. <sup>24</sup>And he said, “Are you my very son Esau?”

And he said, “I am.”

<sup>25</sup>And he said, “Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son’s venison that my soul may bless you.” And he brought it near to him, and he ate. And he brought him wine and he drank.

### **The Blessing of Jacob**

<sup>26</sup>And his father, Isaac, said to him, “Come near now and kiss me, my son.” <sup>27</sup>And he came near and kissed him, and he smelled the smell of his clothing and blessed him, and said, “See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field that the LORD has blessed. <sup>28</sup>Therefore, may God give you from the dew of heaven and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of grain and wine. <sup>29</sup>Let people serve you and nations bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and let your mother’s sons bow down to you. Cursed is everyone who curses you and blessed is he who blesses you.”

<sup>30</sup>And it came to pass, as soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, and Jacob had scarcely gone out from the presence of Isaac, his father, that Esau, his brother, came in from his hunting. <sup>31</sup>And he also had made savory meat and brought it to his father, and said to his father, “Let my father arise and eat of his son’s venison, that your soul may bless me.”

<sup>32</sup>And Isaac, his father, said to him, “Who are you?”

And he said, “I am your son, your firstborn, Esau.”

<sup>33</sup>And Isaac trembled very exceedingly and said, “Who? Where is he who has

taken venison and brought it me? And I have eaten all of it before you came and have blessed him. Yes, and he shall be blessed.”

### **Esau's Unavailing Remorse**

<sup>34</sup> And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceedingly bitter cry and said to his father, “Bless me, even me also, O my father.”

<sup>35</sup> And he said, “Your brother came with deceit and has taken away your blessing.”

<sup>36</sup> And he said, “Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has supplanted me these two times. He took away my birthright. And behold, now he has taken away my blessing.” And he said, “Have you not reserved a blessing for me?”

<sup>37</sup> And Isaac answered and said to Esau, “Behold, I have made him your lord, and all his brothers I have given to him for servants, and with grain and wine I have sustained him. And what shall I do now to you, my son?”

<sup>38</sup> And Esau said to his father, “Have you but one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father.” And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

<sup>39</sup> And Isaac, his father, answered and said to him, “Behold, your dwelling shall be the fatness of the earth and of the dew of heaven from above. <sup>40</sup> And by your sword you shall live and shall serve your brother. And it shall come to pass when you shall have the dominion that you shall break his yoke from off your neck.”

<sup>41</sup> And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing in which his father blessed him. And Esau said in his heart, “The days of mourning for my father are at hand. Then I will slay my brother, Jacob.”

<sup>42</sup> And these words of Esau, her elder son, were told to Rebekah. And she sent and called Jacob, her younger son, and said to him, “Behold, your brother, Esau, concerning you, comforts himself purposing to kill you. <sup>43</sup> Now therefore, my son, obey my voice and arise, flee to Laban, my brother, to Haran. <sup>44</sup> And remain with him a few days until your brother's fury turns away, <sup>45</sup> until your brother's anger turns away from you and he forgets what you have done to him. Then I will send and fetch you from there. Why should I be deprived also of you both in one day?”

<sup>46</sup> And Rebekah said to Isaac, “I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth. If Jacob takes a wife of the daughters of Heth, such as these who are of the daughters of the land, what good shall my life do me?”

### **Jacob at Bethel**

**28** And Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and charged him, and said to him, “You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan. <sup>2</sup> Arise, go to Padan-aram, to the house of Bethuel, your mother's father, and take yourself a wife from there from the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother. <sup>3</sup> And God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may be a multitude of people, <sup>4</sup> and give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to your offspring with you, that you may inherit the land in which you are a foreigner, which God gave to Abraham.” <sup>5</sup> And Isaac sent Jacob away, and he went to Padan-aram to Laban, son of Bethuel the Syrian, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob and Esau's mother.

### **Esau Marries Mahalath**

<sup>6</sup> When Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Padan-aram to take himself a wife from there, and that as he blessed him he gave him a charge, saying, “You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan,” <sup>7</sup> and that Jacob obeyed his father and his mother and had gone to Padan-aram, <sup>8</sup> and Esau seeing that the daughters of Canaan did not please Isaac, his father, <sup>9</sup> then Esau went to Ishmael and took, among the wives that he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife.

### **Jacob's Dream of the Ladder**

<sup>10</sup> And Jacob went out from Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. <sup>11</sup> And he descended on a certain place and remained there all night because the sun had set. And he took

from the stones of that place and put them for his pillows and lay down in that place to sleep. <sup>12</sup> And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. <sup>13</sup> And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD God of Abraham, your father, and the God of Isaac. The land in which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants. <sup>14</sup> And your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south. And in you and in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed. <sup>15</sup> And behold, I am with you and will take care of you wherever you go, and will bring you again into this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken of to you."

<sup>16</sup> And Jacob awoke out of his sleep, and he said, "Surely the LORD is in this place and I did not know it." <sup>17</sup> And he was afraid and said, "How dreadful is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." <sup>18</sup> And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil on the top of it. <sup>19</sup> And he called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of that city was first called Luz.

### **Jacob's Vow**

<sup>20</sup> And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will take care of me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, <sup>21</sup> so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then shall the LORD be my God. <sup>22</sup> And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that You shall give me I will surely give the tenth to You."

### **Jacob's Years at Haran**

**29** Then Jacob went on his journey and came into the land of the people of the east. <sup>2</sup> And he looked, and behold, a well in the field. And behold, there were three flocks of sheep lying by it, for out of that well they watered the flocks. And a great stone was on the well's mouth. <sup>3</sup> And all the flocks were gathered there. And they rolled the stone from the well's mouth and watered the sheep, and put the stone again on the well's mouth in its place. <sup>4</sup> And Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where are you from?"

And they said, "We are from Haran."

<sup>5</sup> And he said to them, "Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?"

And they said, "We know him."

<sup>6</sup> And he said to them, "Is he well?"

And they said, "He is well, and behold, Rachel his daughter comes with the sheep."

<sup>7</sup> And he said, "Behold, it is still high day. It is not the time that the cattle should be gathered together. Water the sheep and go and feed them."

<sup>8</sup> And they said, "We cannot until all the flocks are gathered together and until they roll the stone from the well's mouth. Then we water the sheep."

<sup>9</sup> And while he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she watched over them. <sup>10</sup> And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban, his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban, his mother's brother, that Jacob went near and rolled the stone from the well's mouth and watered the flock of Laban, his mother's brother. <sup>11</sup> And Jacob kissed Rachel and lifted up his voice and wept. <sup>12</sup> And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's brother and that he was Rebekah's son, and she ran and told her father. <sup>13</sup> And it came to pass, when Laban heard the tidings of Jacob, his sister's son, that he ran to meet him and embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. And he told Laban all these things. <sup>14</sup> And Laban said to him, "Surely you are my bone and my flesh." And he remained with him for a month.

### **Jacob Marries Both Leah and Rachel**

<sup>15</sup> And Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my brother, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" <sup>16</sup> And Laban had two daughters:

the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. <sup>17</sup> Leah was tender eyed, but Rachel was beautiful and well-favored.

<sup>18</sup> And Jacob loved Rachel and said, "I will serve you seven years for Rachel, your younger daughter."

<sup>19</sup> And Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to another man. Remain with me." <sup>20</sup> And Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days, for the love he had for her.

<sup>21</sup> And Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in to her." <sup>22</sup> And Laban gathered together all the men of the place and made a feast. <sup>23</sup> And it came to pass in the evening that he took Leah his daughter and brought her to him, and he went in to her. <sup>24</sup> And Laban gave Zilpah, his maid, to his daughter Leah for a handmaiden.

<sup>25</sup> And it came to pass that in the morning, behold, it was Leah. And he said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? For what reason then have you deceived me?"

<sup>26</sup> And Laban said, "It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. <sup>27</sup> Fulfill her week, and we will give you this also for the service that you shall serve with me another seven years." <sup>28</sup> And Jacob did so and fulfilled her week, and he gave him Rachel his daughter as a wife also. <sup>29</sup> And Laban gave Bilhah, his handmaiden, to Rachel his daughter to be her maid. <sup>30</sup> And he also went in to Rachel, and he also loved Rachel more than Leah, and served with him another seven years.

<sup>31</sup> And when the LORD saw that Leah was hated, He opened her womb, but Rachel was barren. <sup>32</sup> And Leah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Reuben, for she said, "Surely the LORD has looked on my affliction. Now, therefore, my husband will love me." <sup>33</sup> And she conceived again and bore a son and said, "Because the LORD has heard that I was hated, He has therefore given me this son also." And she called his name Simeon. <sup>34</sup> And she conceived again and bore a son and said, "Now this time my husband will be joined to me because I have borne him three sons." Therefore his name was called Levi. <sup>35</sup> And she conceived again and bore a son, and she said, "Now I will praise the LORD." Therefore she called his name Judah and stopped bearing.

### The Family of Jacob

**30** And when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister and said to Jacob, "Give me children or else I die."

<sup>2</sup> And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel, and he said, "Am I in God's place, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?"

<sup>3</sup> And she said, "Behold my maid Bilhah. Go in to her, and she shall bear on my knees, that I may also have children by her."

<sup>4</sup> And she gave him Bilhah, her handmaiden, as a wife, and Jacob went in to her. <sup>5</sup> And Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son. <sup>6</sup> And Rachel said, "God has judged me and has also heard my voice and has given me a son." Therefore she called his name Dan. <sup>7</sup> And Bilhah, Rachel's maid, conceived again and bore Jacob a second son. <sup>8</sup> And Rachel said, "With great wrestlings have I wrestled with my sister, and I have prevailed." And she called his name Naphtali.

<sup>9</sup> When Leah saw that she had stopped bearing, she took Zilpah, her maid, and gave her to Jacob as a wife. <sup>10</sup> And Zilpah, Leah's maid, bore Jacob a son. <sup>11</sup> And Leah said, "A troop comes!" And she called his name Gad. <sup>12</sup> And Zilpah, Leah's maid, bore Jacob a second son. <sup>13</sup> And Leah said, "Happy am I, for the daughters will call me blessed." And she called his name Asher.

<sup>14</sup> And Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest and found mandrakes in the field and brought them to his mother, Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, "Give me, I ask you, of your son's mandrakes."

<sup>15</sup> And she said to her, "Is it a small matter that you have taken my husband? And will you take away my son's mandrakes also?"

And Rachel said, "Therefore he shall lie with you tonight for your son's mandrakes."

<sup>16</sup>And Jacob came out of the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him and said, "You must come in to me, for surely I have hired you with my son's mandrakes." And he lay with her that night. <sup>17</sup>And God listened to Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob the fifth son. <sup>18</sup>And Leah said, "God has given me my wages because I have given my maiden to my husband." And she called his name Issachar. <sup>19</sup>And Leah conceived again and bore Jacob the sixth son. <sup>20</sup>And Leah said, "God has endowed me with a good dowry. Now my husband will dwell with me, because I have borne him six sons." And she called his name Zebulun. <sup>21</sup>And afterward she bore a daughter and called her name Dinah.

<sup>22</sup>And God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb. <sup>23</sup>And she conceived and bore a son and said, "God has taken away my reproach." <sup>24</sup>And she called his name Joseph and said, "The LORD shall add to me another son."

### **Jacob Arranges to Leave Laban**

<sup>25</sup>And it came to pass, when Rachel had borne Joseph, that Jacob said to Laban, "Send me away, that I may go to my own place and to my country. <sup>26</sup>Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served you, and let me go, for you know my service that I have done for you."

<sup>27</sup>And Laban said to him, "I ask you, if I have found favor in your eyes, remain. For I have learned by experience that the LORD has blessed me for your sake." <sup>28</sup>And he said, "Appoint me your wages, and I will give it."

<sup>29</sup>And he said to him, "You know how I have served you and how your cattle was with me. <sup>30</sup>For it was little that you had before I came, and it has now increased to a multitude. And the LORD has blessed you since my coming. And now when shall I provide for my own house also?"

<sup>31</sup>And he said, "What shall I give you?"

And Jacob said, "You shall not give me anything. If you will do this thing for me, I will again feed and protect your flock. <sup>32</sup>I will pass through all your flock today, removing from there all the speckled and spotted cattle, and all the brown cattle among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats. And of such shall be my wages. <sup>33</sup>So shall my righteousness answer for me in time to come, when it shall come for my wages before your face. Every one with me that is not speckled and spotted among the goats and brown among the sheep, that shall be counted as stolen."

<sup>34</sup>And Laban said, "Behold, I wish it might be according to your word." <sup>35</sup>And he removed that day the male goats that were striped and spotted, and all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, and every one that had some white in it, and all the brown among the sheep, and gave them into the hand of his sons. <sup>36</sup>And he set three days' journey between himself and Jacob, and Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flocks.

<sup>37</sup>And Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar, and of the hazel and chestnut tree, and peeled white stripes in them, and made the white appear that was in the rods. <sup>38</sup>And he set the rods that he had peeled before the flocks in the gutters in the watering troughs when the flocks came to drink, that they should conceive when they came to drink. <sup>39</sup>And the flocks conceived before the rods and brought forth striped, speckled, and spotted cattle. <sup>40</sup>And Jacob separated the lambs, and set the faces of the flocks toward the striped, and all the brown in the flock of Laban, and he put his own flocks by themselves and did not put them with Laban's cattle.

<sup>41</sup>And it came to pass whenever the stronger cattle conceived, that Jacob laid the rods before the eyes of the cattle in the gutters, that they might conceive among the rods. <sup>42</sup>But when the cattle were feeble, he did not put them in, so the feeble were Laban's and the stronger, Jacob's. <sup>43</sup>And the man increased exceedingly, and had much cattle and maidservants and menservants and camels and donkeys.

### Jacob Flees from Laban's Anger

**31** And he heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, "Jacob has taken away all that was our father's, and of what was our father's, he has gotten all this glory." <sup>2</sup> And Jacob saw the countenance of Laban, and behold, it was not favorable toward him as before.

<sup>3</sup> And the LORD said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your fathers and to your family, and I will be with you."

<sup>4</sup> And Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to the field to his flock <sup>5</sup> and said to them, "I see your father's countenance that it is not favorable toward me as before, but the God of my father has been with me. <sup>6</sup> And you know that with all my power I have served your father. <sup>7</sup> And your father has deceived me and changed my wages ten times, but God permitted him not to hurt me. <sup>8</sup> If he said, 'The speckled shall be your wages,' then all the cattle bore speckled. And if he said, 'The striped shall be your wages,' then all the cattle bore stripes. <sup>9</sup> Thus God has taken away the cattle of your father and given them to me. <sup>10</sup> And it came to pass at the time that the cattle conceived that I lifted up my eyes and saw in a dream, and behold, the rams that leaped on the cattle were striped, speckled, and gray-colored."

### Jacob Tells of His Call Back to Bethel

<sup>11</sup> "And the angel of God spoke to me in a dream, saying, 'Jacob.' And I said, 'Here I am.' <sup>12</sup> And He said, 'Lift up now your eyes and see all the rams that leap on the cattle are striped, speckled, and gray-colored, for I have seen all that Laban does to you. <sup>13</sup> I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed the pillar and where you vowed a vow to Me. Now arise, get out from this land, and return to the land of your family.'"

### The Flight of Jacob

<sup>14</sup> And Rachel and Leah answered and said to him, "Is there still any portion or inheritance for us in our father's house? <sup>15</sup> Are we not counted by him as strangers? For he has sold us and has also quite devoured our money. <sup>16</sup> For all the riches that God has taken from our father, that is ours and our children's. Now then, whatever God has said to you, do."

<sup>17</sup> Then Jacob rose up and set his sons and his wives on camels, <sup>18</sup> and he carried away all his cattle and all his goods that he had gotten, the cattle he had gotten, which he had gotten in Padan-aram, to go to Isaac, his father, in the land of Canaan. <sup>19</sup> And Laban went to shear his sheep, and Rachel had stolen the images that were her father's. <sup>20</sup> And Jacob stole away without Laban the Syrian knowing, in that he did not tell him that he fled. <sup>21</sup> So he fled with all that he had, and he rose up, and passed over the river, and set his face toward the mountains of Gilead.

<sup>22</sup> And it was told Laban on the third day that Jacob had fled. <sup>23</sup> And he took his brothers with him and pursued after him seven days' journey, and they overtook him in the mountains of Gilead. <sup>24</sup> And God came to Laban the Syrian in a dream by night and said to him, "Be careful that you do not speak to Jacob either good or bad."

<sup>25</sup> Then Laban overtook Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the mountains, and Laban with his brothers camped in the mountains of Gilead. <sup>26</sup> And Laban said to Jacob, "What have you done that you have stolen away without telling me and carried away my daughters as captives taken with the sword? <sup>27</sup> For what reason did you flee away secretly and steal away from me and did not tell me, that I might have sent you away with mirth, and with songs, with tabret, and with harp, <sup>28</sup> and have not allowed me to kiss my sons and my daughters? You have now done foolishly in so doing. <sup>29</sup> It is in the power of my hand to do you harm, but the God of your father spoke to me last night, saying, 'Be careful that you do not speak to Jacob either good or bad.' <sup>30</sup> And now, though you wish to be gone because you greatly long after your father's house, yet for what reason have you stolen my gods?"

<sup>31</sup> And Jacob answered and said to Laban, "Because I was afraid, for I said, 'Perhaps you will take your daughters by force from me.' <sup>32</sup> With whomever you find your

gods, let him not live. Before our brothers, discern what is yours with me and take it with you.” For Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them.

<sup>33</sup> And Laban went into Jacob’s tent and into Leah’s tent and into the two maid-servants’ tents, but he did not find them. Then he went out of Leah’s tent and entered into Rachel’s tent. <sup>34</sup> Now Rachel had taken the images and put them in the camel’s furniture and sat on them. And Laban searched all the tent but did not find them.

<sup>35</sup> And she said to her father, “Let it not displease my lord that I cannot rise up before you, for the custom of women is on me.” And he searched but did not find the images.

<sup>36</sup> And Jacob was angry and argued with Laban, and Jacob answered and said to Laban, “What is my trespass? What is my sin that you have so hotly pursued after me? <sup>37</sup> Whereas you have searched all my stuff, what have you found of all your household stuff? Set it here before my brothers and your brothers, that they may judge between us both. <sup>38</sup> These twenty years I have been with you. Your ewes and your female goats have not miscarried, and the rams of your flock I have not eaten. <sup>39</sup> What was torn of beasts I did not bring to you. I bore the loss of it. From my hand you required it, whether stolen by day or stolen by night. <sup>40</sup> Thus I was, in the day the drought consumed me, and the frost by night, and my sleep departed from my eyes. <sup>41</sup> Thus I have been twenty years in your house. I served you fourteen years for your two daughters and six years for your cattle. And you have changed my wages ten times. <sup>42</sup> Unless the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac had been with me, surely you would have sent me away now empty. God has seen my affliction and the labor of my hands and rebuked you last night.”

#### **Laban Makes a Covenant with Jacob**

<sup>43</sup> And Laban answered and said to Jacob, “These daughters are my daughters, and these children are my children, and these cattle are my cattle, and all that you see is mine. And what can I do this day to these my daughters or to their children, which they have borne? <sup>44</sup> Now, therefore, you come. Let us make a covenant, I and you, and let it be for a witness between me and you.”

<sup>45</sup> And Jacob took a stone and set it up for a pillar. <sup>46</sup> And Jacob said to his brothers, “Gather stones.” And they took stones and made a heap, and they ate there on the heap. <sup>47</sup> And Laban called it Jegar-sahadutha, but Jacob called it Galeed.

<sup>48</sup> And Laban said, “This heap is a witness between me and you this day.” Therefore its name was called Galeed, <sup>49</sup> and Mizpah, for he said, “The LORD watch between me and you when we are absent one from another. <sup>50</sup> If you shall afflict my daughters, or if you shall take other wives besides my daughters, no man is with us. See, God is witness between me and you.” <sup>51</sup> And Laban said to Jacob, “Behold this heap and behold this pillar, which I have cast between me and you. <sup>52</sup> This heap be witness, and this pillar be witness, that I will not pass over this heap to you, and that you shall not pass over this heap and this pillar to me for harm. <sup>53</sup> The God of Abraham, and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge between us.” And Jacob swore by the fear of his father, Isaac.

<sup>54</sup> Then Jacob offered sacrifice on the mountain and called his brothers to eat bread, and they ate bread and remained all night on the mountain. <sup>55</sup> And early in the morning Laban rose up and kissed his sons and his daughters and blessed them, and Laban departed and returned to his place.

#### **Jacob Comes across Esau**

**32** And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. <sup>2</sup> And when Jacob saw them, he said, “This is God’s camp.” And he called the name of that place Mahanaim. <sup>3</sup> And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau, his brother, to the land of Seir, the country of Edom. <sup>4</sup> And he commanded them, saying, “This is what you shall say to my lord Esau: ‘Your servant Jacob says: I have sojourned with Laban and stayed there until now. <sup>5</sup> And I have oxen and donkeys, flocks, and menservants and womenservants, and I have sent to tell my lord that I may find grace in your sight.’”

<sup>6</sup>And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, “We came to your brother, Esau, and also he comes to meet you, and four hundred men with him.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed, and he divided the people who were with him, and the flocks and herds and the camels, into two bands <sup>8</sup>and said, “If Esau comes to the one company and strikes it, then the other company that is left shall escape.”

<sup>9</sup>And Jacob said, “O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the LORD who said to me, ‘Return to your country, and to your family, and I will deal well with you,’ <sup>10</sup>I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which You have shown to Your servant, for with my staff I passed over this Jordan, and now I have become two bands. <sup>11</sup>Deliver me, I ask You, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, lest he will come and strike me and the mothers with the children. <sup>12</sup>And You said, ‘I will surely do you good and make your descendants as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.’”

<sup>13</sup>And he lodged there that same night and took of what came to his hand a present for Esau, his brother: <sup>14</sup>two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, <sup>15</sup>thirty milk camels with their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten foals. <sup>16</sup>And he delivered them into the hand of his servants, every drove by themselves, and said to his servants, “Pass over before me, and put a space between drove and drove.” <sup>17</sup>And he commanded the first, saying, “When Esau, my brother, meets you and asks you, saying, ‘Whose are you?’ and ‘Where are you going?’ and ‘Whose are these before you?’ <sup>18</sup>then you shall say, ‘They are your servant Jacob’s. It is a present sent to my lord Esau. And behold, he is also behind us.’”

<sup>19</sup>And so he commanded the second and the third and all who followed the droves, saying, “On this matter shall you speak to Esau when you find him. <sup>20</sup>And say moreover, ‘Behold, your servant Jacob is behind us.’” For he said, “I will appease him with the present that goes before me, and afterward I will see his face. Perhaps he will accept me.” <sup>21</sup>So the present went over before him, and he himself lodged that night in the company. <sup>22</sup>And he rose up that night and took his two wives, and his two womenservants, and his eleven sons and passed over the ford Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>And he took them and sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had.

### **Jacob Wrestles with God**

<sup>24</sup>And Jacob was left alone, and there a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. <sup>25</sup>And when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the hollow of his thigh, and the hollow of Jacob’s thigh was out of joint as He wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>And He said, “Let Me go, for the day breaks.”

And he said, “I will not let You go unless You bless me.”

<sup>27</sup>And He said to him, “What is your name?”

And he said, “Jacob.”

<sup>28</sup>And He said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for as a prince, you have power with God and with men and have prevailed.”

<sup>29</sup>And Jacob asked Him and said, “Tell me, I ask You, Your name.”

And He said, “For what reason is it that you ask after My name?” And He blessed him there.

<sup>30</sup>And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: “For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.” <sup>31</sup>And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose on him, and he halted on his thigh. <sup>32</sup>Therefore the children of Israel do not eat of the sinew that shrank, which is on the hollow of the thigh, to this day, because He touched the hollow of Jacob’s thigh in the sinew that shrank.

### **Jacob Meets Esau**

**33** And Jacob lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, Esau came and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children to Leah and to Rachel and to the two handmaidens. <sup>2</sup>And he put the handmaidens and their children first, and

Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph last. <sup>3</sup> And he passed over before them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. <sup>4</sup> And Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on his neck and kissed him. And they wept.

<sup>5</sup> And he lifted up his eyes and saw the women and the children, and said, "Who are those with you?"

And he said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." <sup>6</sup> Then the handmaidens came near, they and their children, and they bowed themselves. <sup>7</sup> And Leah also with her children came near, and bowed themselves, and after Joseph and Rachel came near, and they bowed themselves.

<sup>8</sup> And he said, "What do you mean by all this drove that I met?"

And he said, "These are to find grace in the sight of my lord."

<sup>9</sup> And Esau said, "I have enough, my brother. Keep what you have for yourself."

<sup>10</sup> And Jacob said, "No, I ask you. If now I have found grace in your sight, then receive my present at my hand. For therefore I have seen your face, as though I had seen the face of God, and you were pleased with me. <sup>11</sup> Take, I ask you, my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me and because I have enough." And he urged him and he took it.

<sup>12</sup> And he said, "Let us take our journey, and let us go, and I will go before you."

<sup>13</sup> And he said to him, "My lord knows that the children are tender, and the flocks and herds with young are with me, and if men should overdrive them one day, all the flock will die. <sup>14</sup> Let my lord, I ask you, cross over before his servant, and I will lead on softly, as the cattle that goes before me and the children are able to endure, until I come to my lord to Seir."

<sup>15</sup> And Esau said, "Let me now leave with you some of the folk who are with me."

And he said, "What need is there? Let me find grace in the sight of my lord." <sup>16</sup> So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. <sup>17</sup> And Jacob journeyed to Succoth and built him a house and made booths for his cattle. Therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.

### **Jacob's Worship in Shechem**

<sup>18</sup> And Jacob came to Shalem, a city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan-aram, and pitched his tent before the city. <sup>19</sup> And he bought a parcel of a field, where he had spread his tent at the hand of the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for a hundred pieces of money. <sup>20</sup> And he erected there an altar and called it El-elohe-Israel.

### **Jacob Reaps the Harvest of His Evil Years**

**34** And Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she bore to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land. <sup>2</sup> And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her and lay with her and defiled her. <sup>3</sup> And his soul clung to Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the young woman and spoke kindly to the young woman. <sup>4</sup> And Shechem spoke to his father, Hamor, saying, "Get me this young woman as a wife." <sup>5</sup> And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter. Now his sons were with his cattle in the field, and Jacob said nothing until they came.

<sup>6</sup> And Hamor the father of Shechem went out to Jacob to commune with him. <sup>7</sup> And the sons of Jacob came out of the field when they heard it, and the men were grieved, and they were very angry, because he had worked folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter, a thing that ought not to be done. <sup>8</sup> And Hamor communed with them, saying, "The soul of my son Shechem longs for your daughter. I ask that you give her to him as a wife. <sup>9</sup> And you make marriages with us, and give your daughters to us and take our daughters to you. <sup>10</sup> And you shall dwell with us, and the land shall be before you. You dwell and trade in it, and get possessions in it for yourselves."

<sup>11</sup> And Shechem said to her father and to her brothers, "Let me find grace in your eyes, and what you shall say to me I will give. <sup>12</sup> Ask me never so much dowry and

gift, and I will give accordingly as you shall say to me, but give me the young woman as a wife.”

<sup>13</sup> And the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor, his father, deceitfully because he had defiled Dinah their sister. <sup>14</sup> And they said to them, “We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one that is uncircumcised, for that would be a reproach to us. <sup>15</sup> But in this will we consent to you: If you will be as we are, that every male of you is circumcised, <sup>16</sup> then we will give our daughters to you and we will take your daughters to us, and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people. <sup>17</sup> But if you will not listen carefully to us, to be circumcised, then we will take our daughter and we will be gone.” <sup>18</sup> And their words pleased Hamor and Shechem, Hamor’s son. <sup>19</sup> And the young man deferred not to do the thing because he had delight in Jacob’s daughter, and he was more honorable than all the house of his father.

<sup>20</sup> And Hamor and Shechem his son came to the gate of their city and communed with the men of their city, saying, <sup>21</sup> “These men are peaceable with us. Therefore, let them dwell in the land and trade in it. For the land, behold, it is large enough for them. Let us take their daughters to us for wives and let us give them our daughters. <sup>22</sup> Only in this will the men consent to us for to dwell with us, to be one people: if every male among us is circumcised, as they are circumcised. <sup>23</sup> Shall not their cattle and their substance and every beast of theirs be ours? Only let us consent to them, and they will dwell with us.” <sup>24</sup> And all who went out from the gate of his city listened to Hamor and to Shechem his son, and every male was circumcised, all who went out from the gate of his city.

<sup>25</sup> And it came to pass on the third day, when they were sore, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah’s brothers, took each man his sword and came on the city boldly and slew all the males. <sup>26</sup> And they slew Hamor and Shechem, his son, with the edge of the sword and took Dinah out of Shechem’s house and went out. <sup>27</sup> The sons of Jacob came on the slain and spoiled the city because they had defiled their sister. <sup>28</sup> They took their sheep, and their oxen, and their donkeys, and what was in the city, and what was in the field, <sup>29</sup> and all their wealth, and all their little ones, and their wives they took captive, and spoiled even all that was in the house.

<sup>30</sup> And Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, “You have troubled me to make me to stink among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites. And I being few in number, they shall gather themselves together against me and slay me, and I shall be destroyed, I and my house.”

<sup>31</sup> And they said, “Should he deal with our sister as with a harlot?”

### **Jacob’s Return to Bethel**

**35** And God said to Jacob, “Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there. And make an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you fled from the face of Esau your brother.”

<sup>2</sup> Then Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Put away the foreign gods that are among you, and be clean and change your garments. <sup>3</sup> And let us arise and go up to Bethel, and I will make an altar there to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and was with me in the way that I went.” <sup>4</sup> And they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that were in their hand and all their earrings that were in their ears, and Jacob hid them under the oak that was by Shechem. <sup>5</sup> And they journeyed, and the terror of God was on the cities that were surrounding them, and they did not pursue after the sons of Jacob.

<sup>6</sup> So Jacob came to Luz, which is in the land of Canaan—that is, Bethel—he and all the people who were with him. <sup>7</sup> And he built an altar there and called the place El-bethel because there God appeared to him when he fled from the face of his brother. <sup>8</sup> But Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse, died, and she was buried beneath Bethel under an oak. And its name was called Allon-bachuth.

<sup>9</sup> And God appeared to Jacob again, when he came out of Padan-aram, and blessed him. <sup>10</sup> And God said to him, “Your name is Jacob. Your name shall not be called Jacob

anymore, but Israel shall be your name.” And He called his name Israel. <sup>11</sup> And God said to him, “I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall be from you, and kings shall come out of your loins. <sup>12</sup> And the land that I gave Abraham and Isaac, to you I will give it, and to your descendants after you I will give the land.” <sup>13</sup> And God went up from him in the place where He talked with him. <sup>14</sup> And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where He talked with him, even a pillar of stone. And he poured a drink offering on it, and he poured oil on it. <sup>15</sup> And Jacob called the name of the place where God spoke with him Bethel.

### **Death of Rachel and Birth of Benjamin**

<sup>16</sup> And they journeyed from Bethel, and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath. And Rachel painfully labored, and she had hard labor. <sup>17</sup> And it came to pass, when she was in hard labor, that the midwife said to her, “Do not fear. You shall have this son also.” <sup>18</sup> And it came to pass, as her soul was departing (for she died), that she called his name Ben-oni, but his father called him Benjamin. <sup>19</sup> And Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem. <sup>20</sup> And Jacob set a pillar on her grave. That is the pillar of Rachel’s grave to this day.

<sup>21</sup> And Israel journeyed and spread his tent beyond the tower of Eder. <sup>22</sup> And it came to pass, when Israel dwelled in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father’s concubine, and Israel heard it.

### **Jacob’s Sons**

Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:

<sup>23</sup> The sons of Leah: Reuben, Jacob’s firstborn, and Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Zebulun.

<sup>24</sup> The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin.

<sup>25</sup> And the sons of Bilhah, Rachel’s handmaiden: Dan and Naphtali.

<sup>26</sup> And the sons of Zilpah, Leah’s handmaiden: Gad and Asher.

These are the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Padan-aram.

### **Death of Isaac**

<sup>27</sup> And Jacob came to Isaac, his father, to Mamre, to the city of Kiriath-arba, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned. <sup>28</sup> And the days of Isaac were a hundred and eighty years. <sup>29</sup> And Isaac gave up his spirit and died and was gathered to his people, being old and full of days. And his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

### **The Generations of Esau (Edom)**

**36** Now these are the generations of Esau, who is Edom. <sup>2</sup> Esau took his wives from the daughters of Canaan: Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite; and Aholibamah the daughter of Anah, the daughter of Zibeon the Hivite; <sup>3</sup> and Basemath, Ishmael’s daughter, sister of Nebajoth. <sup>4</sup> And Adah bore to Esau Eliphaz, and Basemath bore Reuel, <sup>5</sup> and Aholibamah bore Jeush, and Jaalam, and Korah. These are the sons of Esau who were born to him in the land of Canaan.

<sup>6</sup> And Esau took his wives, and his sons, and his daughters, and all the persons of his house, and his cattle, and all his beasts, and all his substance, which he had gotten in the land of Canaan, and went into the country from the face of his brother Jacob. <sup>7</sup> For their riches were more than that they might dwell together, and the land in which they were strangers could not bear them because of their cattle. <sup>8</sup> Thus Esau dwelled on Mount Seir. Esau is Edom.

<sup>9</sup> And these are the generations of Esau, the father of the Edomites on Mount Seir. <sup>10</sup> These are the names of Esau’s sons: Eliphaz the son of Adah, the wife of Esau; Reuel the son of Basemath, the wife of Esau. <sup>11</sup> And the sons of Eliphaz were Teman, Omar, Zepho, and Gatam, and Kenaz. <sup>12</sup> And Timna was concubine to Eliphaz, Esau’s son, and she bore Amalek to Eliphaz. These were the sons of Adah, Esau’s wife. <sup>13</sup> And these are the sons of Reuel: Nahath, and Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah. These were the sons of Basemath, Esau’s wife.

<sup>14</sup>And these were the sons of Esau's wife Aholibamah, the daughter of Anah, the daughter of Zibeon. And she bore to Esau Jeush, and Jaalam, and Korah.

<sup>15</sup>These were dukes of the sons of Esau. The sons of Eliphaz the firstborn son of Esau: duke Teman, duke Omar, duke Zepho, duke Kenaz, <sup>16</sup>duke Korah, duke Gatam, and duke Amalek. These are the dukes that came from Eliphaz in the land of Edom. These were the sons of Adah.

<sup>17</sup>And these are the sons of Reuel, Esau's son: duke Nahath, duke Zerah, duke Shammah, duke Mizzah. These are the dukes that came from Reuel in the land of Edom. These are the sons of Basemath, Esau's wife.

<sup>18</sup>And these are the sons of Aholibamah, Esau's wife: duke Jeush, duke Jaalam, duke Korah. These were the dukes that came from Esau's wife Aholibamah, the daughter of Anah. <sup>19</sup>These are the sons of Esau, who is Edom, and these are their dukes.

<sup>20</sup>These are the sons of Seir the Horite who inhabited the land: Lotan, and Shobal, and Zibeon, and Anah, <sup>21</sup>and Dishon, and Ezer, and Dishan. These are the dukes of the Horites, the children of Seir in the land of Edom.

<sup>22</sup>And the children of Lotan were Hori and Hemam, and Lotan's sister was Timna.

<sup>23</sup>And the children of Shobal were these: Alvan, and Manahath, and Ebal, Shepho, and Onam.

<sup>24</sup>And these are the children of Zibeon: both Ajah and Anah. This was that Anah who found the mules in the wilderness as he fed the donkeys of Zibeon his father.

<sup>25</sup>And the children of Anah were these: Dishon and Aholibamah the daughter of Anah.

<sup>26</sup>And these are the children of Dishon: Hemdan, and Eshban, and Ithran, and Cheran.

<sup>27</sup>The children of Ezer are these: Bilhan and Zaavan and Akan.

<sup>28</sup>The children of Dishan are these: Uz and Aran.

<sup>29</sup>These are the dukes who came from the Horites: duke Lotan, duke Shobal, duke Zibeon, duke Anah, <sup>30</sup>duke Dishon, duke Ezer, duke Dishan. These are the dukes who came from Hori, among their dukes in the land of Seir.

<sup>31</sup>And these are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom, before there reigned any king over the children of Israel. <sup>32</sup>And Bela the son of Beor reigned in Edom. And the name of his city was Dinhabah. <sup>33</sup>And Bela died, and Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in his stead. <sup>34</sup>And Jobab died, and Husham of the land of Temani reigned in his place. <sup>35</sup>And Husham died, and Hadad the son of Bedad, who struck Midian in the field of Moab, reigned in his place. And the name of his city was Avith.

<sup>36</sup>And Hadad died, and Samlah of Masrekah reigned in his place. <sup>37</sup>And Samlah died, and Saul of Rehoboth by the river reigned in his place. <sup>38</sup>And Saul died, and Baal-hanan the son of Achbor reigned in his place. <sup>39</sup>And Baal-hanan the son of Achbor died, and Hadar reigned in his place. And the name of his city was Pau, and his wife's name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab.

<sup>40</sup>And these are the names of the dukes who came from Esau, according to their families, according to their places, by their names: duke Timnah, duke Alvah, duke Jetheth, <sup>41</sup>duke Aholibamah, duke Elah, duke Pinon, <sup>42</sup>duke Kenaz, duke Teman, duke Mibzar, <sup>43</sup>duke Magdiel, duke Iram. These are the dukes of Edom—he is Esau, the father of the Edomites—according to their habitations in the land of their possession.

### Joseph Beloved by His Father

**37** And Jacob dwelled in the land in which his father was a foreigner, in the land of Canaan. <sup>2</sup>These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers, and the boy was with the sons of Bilhah and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives. And Joseph brought to his father their evil report. <sup>3</sup>Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age, and he made him a coat of many colors. <sup>4</sup>And when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

<sup>5</sup> And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his brothers, and they hated him even more. <sup>6</sup> And he said to them, "Hear, I ask you, this dream that I have dreamed. <sup>7</sup> For behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright. And behold, your sheaves stood around and bowed down to my sheaf."

<sup>8</sup> And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?" And they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

<sup>9</sup> And he dreamed yet another dream and told it to his brothers and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream, and behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars bowed down to me."

<sup>10</sup> And he told it to his father and to his brothers. And his father rebuked him and said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers indeed come to bow down ourselves to you to the earth?" <sup>11</sup> And his brothers envied him, but his father observed the saying.

### **Joseph's Brothers Sell Him**

<sup>12</sup> And his brothers went to feed their father's flock in Shechem. <sup>13</sup> And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers feeding the flock in Shechem? Come, and I will send you to them."

And he said to him, "Here I am."

<sup>14</sup> And he said to him, "Go, I ask you. See whether it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring me word again." So he sent him out of the Valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.

<sup>15</sup> And a certain man found him, and behold, he was wandering in the field. And the man asked him, saying, "What do you seek?"

<sup>16</sup> And he said, "I seek my brothers. Tell me, I ask you, where they feed their flocks."

<sup>17</sup> And the man said, "They have departed from here, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" And Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan.

<sup>18</sup> And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near to them, they conspired against him to slay him. <sup>19</sup> And they said to one another, "Behold, this dreamer comes. <sup>20</sup> Come now, therefore, and let us slay him and cast him into some pit. And we will say, 'Some evil beast has devoured him.' And we shall see what will become of his dreams."

<sup>21</sup> And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands and said, "Let us not kill him." <sup>22</sup> And Reuben said to them, "Do not shed blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand on him," that he might rescue him out of their hands to deliver him to his father again.

<sup>23</sup> And it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colors that was on him, <sup>24</sup> and they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it. <sup>25</sup> And they sat down to eat bread, and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and behold, a company of Ishmaelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spices and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt. <sup>26</sup> And Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we slay our brother and conceal his blood? <sup>27</sup> Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be on him, for he is our brother and our flesh." And his brothers were content.

### **Joseph Drawn Up from the Pit**

<sup>28</sup> Then there passed by Midianite merchantmen, and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they brought Joseph into Egypt. <sup>29</sup> And Reuben returned to the pit, and behold, Joseph was not in the pit. And he tore his clothes. <sup>30</sup> And he returned to his brothers and said, "The child is not. And I, where shall I go?"

<sup>31</sup> And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a young goat, and dipped the coat in the blood. <sup>32</sup> And they sent the coat of many colors, and they brought it to their

father and said, "We have found this. We do not know now whether it is your son's coat or not."

<sup>33</sup> And he knew it and said, "It is my son's coat. An evil beast has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn in pieces." <sup>34</sup> And Jacob tore his clothes and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days. <sup>35</sup> And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. And he said, "For I will go down into the grave to my son mourning." Thus his father wept for him. <sup>36</sup> And the Midianites sold him into Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard.

### The Shame of Judah

**38** And it came to pass at that time that Judah went down from his brothers and turned in to a certain Adullamite whose name was Hirah. <sup>2</sup> And Judah saw there a daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name was Shua, and he took her and went in to her. <sup>3</sup> And she conceived and bore a son, and he called his name Er. <sup>4</sup> And she conceived again and bore a son, and she called his name Onan. <sup>5</sup> And she yet again conceived and bore a son and called his name Shelah. And he was at Chezib when she bore him.

<sup>6</sup> And Judah took a wife for Er, his firstborn, whose name was Tamar. <sup>7</sup> And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD slew him. <sup>8</sup> And Judah said to Onan, "Go in to your brother's wife and marry her, and raise up children for your brother." <sup>9</sup> And Onan knew that the children would not be his, and it came to pass when he went in to his brother's wife that he spilled it on the ground, lest he should give children to his brother. <sup>10</sup> And the thing that he did displeased the LORD. Therefore He slew him also. <sup>11</sup> Then Judah said to Tamar his daughter-in-law, "Remain a widow at your father's house until Shelah my son is grown." For he said, "Lest perhaps he dies also, as his brothers did." And Tamar went and dwelled in her father's house.

<sup>12</sup> And in process of time the daughter of Shua, Judah's wife, died, and Judah was comforted and went up to his sheepshearers to Timnah, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite. <sup>13</sup> And it was told Tamar, saying, "Behold, your father-in-law goes up to Timnah to shear his sheep." <sup>14</sup> And she put her widow's garments off from her, and covered her with a veil, and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place, which is by the way to Timnah, for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given to him as a wife.

<sup>15</sup> When Judah saw her, he thought her to be a harlot because she had covered her face. <sup>16</sup> And he turned to her by the way and said, "Come, I ask you, let me come in to you" (for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law).

And she said, "What will you give me that you may come in to me?"

<sup>17</sup> And he said, "I will send you a young goat from the flock."

And she said, "Will you give me a pledge until you send it?"

<sup>18</sup> And he said, "What pledge shall I give you?"

And she said, "Your signet and your bracelets and your staff that is in your hand." And he gave it to her and came in to her, and she conceived by him. <sup>19</sup> And she arose, and went away, and removed her veil from her, and put on the garments of her widowhood.

<sup>20</sup> And Judah sent the young goat by the hand of his friend the Adullamite to receive his pledge from the woman's hand, but he did not find her. <sup>21</sup> Then he asked the men from that place, saying, "Where is the harlot who was openly by the wayside?"

And they said, "There was no harlot in this place."

<sup>22</sup> And he returned to Judah and said, "I cannot find her, and also the men of the place said that there was no harlot in this place."

<sup>23</sup> And Judah said, "Let her take it for herself, lest we be shamed. Behold, I sent this young goat, and you have not found her."

<sup>24</sup> And it came to pass around three months after, that it was told Judah, saying,

“Tamar your daughter-in-law has played the harlot. And also, behold, she is with child by prostitution.”

And Judah said, “Bring her forth and let her be burned.”

<sup>25</sup> When she was brought forth, she sent to her father-in-law, saying, “By the man whose these are I am with child.” And she said, “Discern, I ask you, whose these are: the signet and bracelets and staff.”

<sup>26</sup> And Judah acknowledged them and said, “She has been more righteous than I, because I did not give her to Shelah my son.” And he knew her again no longer.

<sup>27</sup> And it came to pass in the time of her painful labor that, behold, twins were in her womb. <sup>28</sup> And it came to pass, when she painfully labored, that the one put out his hand, and the midwife took and bound on his hand a scarlet thread, saying, “This came out first.” <sup>29</sup> And it came to pass, as he drew back his hand, that, behold, his brother came out. And she said, “How have you broken forth? This breach is on you.” Therefore his name was called Perez. <sup>30</sup> And afterward came out his brother who had the scarlet thread on his hand, and his name was called Zerah.

### Joseph’s Slavery in Egypt

**39** And Joseph was brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the hands of the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. <sup>2</sup> And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man, and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. <sup>3</sup> And his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.

<sup>4</sup> And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him. And he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand. <sup>5</sup> And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian’s house for Joseph’s sake. And the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had in the house and in the field. <sup>6</sup> And he left all that he had in Joseph’s hand, and he knew not anything he had, save the bread that he ate.

And Joseph was a good-looking person and well-favored. <sup>7</sup> And it came to pass after these things that his master’s wife cast her eyes on Joseph. And she said, “Lie with me.”

<sup>8</sup> But he refused and said to his master’s wife, “Behold, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. <sup>9</sup> There is none greater in this house than I. He has not kept back anything from me but you because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?” <sup>10</sup> And it came to pass, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not listen to her, to lie with her or to be with her.

<sup>11</sup> And it came to pass around this time that Joseph went into the house to do his business, and there were none of the men of the house there within. <sup>12</sup> And she caught him by his garment, saying, “Lie with me.” And he left his garment in her hand and fled and got himself out. <sup>13</sup> And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled out, <sup>14</sup> that she called to the men of her house and spoke to them, saying, “See, he has brought in a Hebrew to us to mock us. He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice. <sup>15</sup> And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me and fled and got himself out.” <sup>16</sup> And she placed his garment by her until his lord came home.

<sup>17</sup> And she spoke to him according to these words, saying, “The Hebrew servant, who you have brought to us, came in to me to mock me. <sup>18</sup> And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me and fled out.”

<sup>19</sup> And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spoke to him, saying, “This is what your servant did to me,” that his anger was kindled. <sup>20</sup> And Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king’s prisoners were bound, and he was there in the prison.

<sup>21</sup> But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him mercy and gave him favor in the

sight of the keeper of the prison. <sup>22</sup> And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners who were in the prison, and whatever they did there, he was the doer of it. <sup>23</sup> The keeper of the prison did not look to anything that was under his hand because the LORD was with him. And what he did, the LORD made it to prosper.

### Joseph Interprets the Dreams of the Prisoners

**40** And it came to pass after these things that the butler of the king of Egypt and his baker had offended their lord the king of Egypt. <sup>2</sup> And Pharaoh was angry with two of his officers, with the chief of the butlers and with the chief of the bakers. <sup>3</sup> And he put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound. <sup>4</sup> And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he served them. And they continued a season in custody.

<sup>5</sup> And they dreamed a dream, both of them, each man his dream in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream—the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were bound in the prison. <sup>6</sup> And Joseph came in the morning to them and looked on them, and behold, they were sad. <sup>7</sup> And he asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in the ward of his lord's house, saying, "For what reason do you look so sad today?"

<sup>8</sup> And they said to him, "We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it."

And Joseph said to them, "Do interpretations not belong to God? Tell me them, I ask you."

<sup>9</sup> And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph and said to him, "In my dream, behold, a vine was before me. <sup>10</sup> And in the vine were three branches, and it was as though it budded and her blossoms shot forth, and its clusters brought forth ripe grapes. <sup>11</sup> And Pharaoh's cup was in my hand. And I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand."

<sup>12</sup> And Joseph said to him, "This is the interpretation of it: The three branches are three days. <sup>13</sup> Yet within three days Pharaoh shall lift up your head and restore you to your place. And you shall deliver Pharaoh's cup into his hand, according to the former manner when you were his butler. <sup>14</sup> But think about me when it is well with you, and show kindness, I ask you, to me, and make mention of me to Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house. <sup>15</sup> For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews, and here also I have done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon."

<sup>16</sup> When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said to Joseph, "I also was in my dream, and behold, I had three white baskets on my head. <sup>17</sup> And in the uppermost basket there were all kinds of baked foods for Pharaoh, and the birds ate them out of the basket on my head."

<sup>18</sup> And Joseph answered and said, "This is the interpretation of it: The three baskets are three days. <sup>19</sup> Yet within three days Pharaoh shall lift up your head from off you and shall hang you on a tree, and the birds shall eat your flesh from off you."

<sup>20</sup> And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast to all his servants, and he lifted up the head of the chief butler and of the chief baker among his servants. <sup>21</sup> And he restored the chief butler to his butlership again, and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand. <sup>22</sup> But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. <sup>23</sup> Yet the chief butler did not remember Joseph but forgot him.

### The Dream of Pharaoh

**41** And it came to pass at the end of two full years that Pharaoh dreamed. And behold, he stood by the river. <sup>2</sup> And behold, there came up out of the river seven well-favored and fat cows, and they fed in a meadow. <sup>3</sup> And behold, seven other cows came up after them out of the river, ill-favored and lean, and stood by the other cows on the brink of the river. <sup>4</sup> And the ill-favored and lean cows ate up the seven well-favored and fat cows. So Pharaoh awoke.

<sup>5</sup> And he slept and dreamed a second time. And behold, seven ears of grain came up on one stalk, ripe and good. <sup>6</sup> And behold, seven thin ears blasted with the east wind sprung up after them. <sup>7</sup> And the seven thin ears devoured the seven ripe and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and behold, it was a dream. <sup>8</sup> And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all the wise men thereof. And Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was none who could interpret them to Pharaoh.

<sup>9</sup> Then the chief butler spoke to Pharaoh, saying, "I do remember my faults this day. <sup>10</sup> Pharaoh was angry with his servants and put me in custody in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker. <sup>11</sup> And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he. We dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream. <sup>12</sup> And there was there with us a young man, a Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard. And we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he interpreted. <sup>13</sup> And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was. Me, he restored to my office, and him he hanged."

### **Joseph's Exaltation in Egypt**

<sup>14</sup> Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon. And he shaved himself and changed his clothing and came in to Pharaoh. <sup>15</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have dreamed a dream, and there is none who can interpret it, and I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream to interpret it."

<sup>16</sup> And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, "It is not in me. God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace."

<sup>17</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "In my dream, behold, I stood on the bank of the river. <sup>18</sup> And behold, there came up out of the river seven cows, fat and well-favored, and they fed in a meadow. <sup>19</sup> And behold, seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ill-favored and lean, such badness as I have never seen in all the land of Egypt. <sup>20</sup> And the lean and the ill-favored cows ate up the first seven fat cows. <sup>21</sup> And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them, but they were still ill-favored, as at the beginning. So I awoke. <sup>22</sup> And I saw in my dream, and behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good. <sup>23</sup> And, behold, seven ears, withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind, sprung up after them. <sup>24</sup> And the thin ears devoured the seven good ears. And I told this to the magicians, but there was none who could declare it to me."

<sup>25</sup> And Joseph said to Pharaoh, "The dream of Pharaoh is one. God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do. <sup>26</sup> The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years. The dream is one. <sup>27</sup> And the seven thin and ill-favored cows that came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine. <sup>28</sup> This is the thing that I have spoken to Pharaoh. What God is about to do, He showed to Pharaoh. <sup>29</sup> Behold, there will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt. <sup>30</sup> And there shall arise after them seven years of famine. And all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt, and the famine shall consume the land. <sup>31</sup> And the plenty shall not be known in the land because of that famine following, for it shall be very grievous. <sup>32</sup> And for that the dream was doubled to Pharaoh twice. It is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. <sup>33</sup> Now therefore, let Pharaoh find a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt. <sup>34</sup> Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years. <sup>35</sup> And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up grain under the hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. <sup>36</sup> And that food shall be a supply for the land in preparation for the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt, that the land does not perish through the famine."

<sup>37</sup> And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants. <sup>38</sup> And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom

the Spirit of God is?" <sup>39</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discreet and wise as you are. <sup>40</sup> You shall be over my house, and according to your word shall all my people be ruled. Only in the throne will I be greater than you." <sup>41</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."

<sup>42</sup> And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in garments of fine linen, and put a gold chain around his neck. <sup>43</sup> And he made him to ride in the second chariot that he had, and they cried before him, "Bow your knee." And he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.

<sup>44</sup> And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, and without you shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."

### **Joseph Receives a Gentile Bride**

<sup>45</sup> And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnath-paaneah, and he gave him as a wife Asenath, the daughter of Poti-pherah, priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt.

<sup>46</sup> And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh and went throughout all the land of Egypt. <sup>47</sup> And in the seven plenteous years the earth brought forth by handfuls. <sup>48</sup> And he gathered up all the food of the seven years that were in the land of Egypt and placed the food in the cities. The food of the field, which was surrounding every city, he placed in the same. <sup>49</sup> And Joseph gathered very much grain, as the sand of the sea, until he stopped numbering, for it was without number.

<sup>50</sup> And to Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath, the daughter of Poti-pherah priest of On, bore to him. <sup>51</sup> And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: "For God," he said, "has made me forget all my toil and all my father's house." <sup>52</sup> And the name of the second he called Ephraim: "For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction."

<sup>53</sup> And the seven years of plenty that was in the land of Egypt had ended. <sup>54</sup> And the seven years of famine began to come, as Joseph had said. And the famine was in all lands, but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. <sup>55</sup> And when all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread, and Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph. What he says to you, do." <sup>56</sup> And the famine was over all the face of the earth, and Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians. And the famine grew greatly in the land of Egypt. <sup>57</sup> And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph to buy grain because the famine was so great in all lands.

### **Joseph, Rejected by His Brothers, Preserves Them**

**42** Now when Jacob saw that there was grain in Egypt, Jacob said to his sons, "Why do you look at one another?" <sup>2</sup> And he said, "Behold, I have heard that there is grain in Egypt. You get down there, and buy for us from there, that we may live and not die."

<sup>3</sup> And Joseph's ten brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt. <sup>4</sup> But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph's brother, with his brothers, for he said, "Lest perhaps mischief happens to him." <sup>5</sup> And the sons of Israel came to buy grain among those who came, for the famine was in the land of Canaan.

<sup>6</sup> And Joseph was the governor over the land, and it was he who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth. <sup>7</sup> And Joseph saw his brothers, and he knew them but made himself foreign to them and spoke roughly to them. And he said to them, "From where do you come?"

And they said, "From the land of Canaan to buy food."

<sup>8</sup> And Joseph knew his brothers, but they did not know him. <sup>9</sup> And Joseph remembered the dreams that he dreamed of them and said to them, "You are spies. You have come to see the nakedness of the land."

<sup>10</sup> And they said to him, “No, my lord, but your servants have come to buy food. <sup>11</sup> We are all one man’s sons. We are true men. Your servants are not spies.”

<sup>12</sup> And he said to them, “No, but you have come to see the nakedness of the land.”

<sup>13</sup> And they said, “Your servants are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan. And behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is not.”

<sup>14</sup> And Joseph said to them, “It is what I spoke to you, saying, ‘You are spies.’ <sup>15</sup> By this you shall be tested: by the life of Pharaoh you shall not go forth from here unless your youngest brother comes here. <sup>16</sup> Send one of you, and let him fetch your brother. And you shall be kept in prison, that your words may be tested, whether there is any truth in you, or else by the life of Pharaoh surely you are spies.” <sup>17</sup> And he put them all together into custody three days.

<sup>18</sup> And Joseph said to them the third day, “Do this and live, for I fear God. <sup>19</sup> If you are true men, let one of your brothers be bound in the house of your prison. Go. Carry grain for the famine of your houses. <sup>20</sup> But bring your youngest brother to me so your words shall be verified and you shall not die.” And they did so.

<sup>21</sup> And they said to one another, “We are truly guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul when he begged us and we would not hear. Therefore this distress has come on us.”

<sup>22</sup> And Reuben answered them, saying, “Did I not speak to you, saying, ‘Do not sin against the child,’ and you would not hear? Therefore, behold, also his blood is required.” <sup>23</sup> And they did not know that Joseph understood them, for he spoke to them by an interpreter. <sup>24</sup> And he turned himself around from them and wept, and returned to them again, and communed with them, and took from them Simeon, and bound him before their eyes.

### **Joseph’s Brothers Return to Canaan**

<sup>25</sup> Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with grain, and to restore every man’s money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way. And thus he did for them.

<sup>26</sup> And they loaded their donkeys with the grain and departed there. <sup>27</sup> And as one of them opened his sack to give his donkey feed in the inn, he saw his money, for behold, it was in his sack’s mouth. <sup>28</sup> And he said to his brothers, “My money has been restored, and look, it is even in my sack.”

And their hearts failed them, and they were afraid, saying to one another, “What is this that God has done to us?”

<sup>29</sup> And they came to Jacob, their father, to the land of Canaan, and told him all that happened to them, saying, <sup>30</sup> “The man, who is the lord of the land, spoke roughly to us and took us for spies of the country. <sup>31</sup> And we said to him, ‘We are true men. We are not spies. <sup>32</sup> We are twelve brothers, sons of our father. One is not, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan.’ <sup>33</sup> And the man, the lord of the country, said to us, ‘By this I shall know that you are true men: Leave one of your brothers here with me, and take food for the famine of your households, and be gone. <sup>34</sup> And bring your youngest brother to me. Then I shall know that you are not spies but that you are true men, so I will deliver to you your brother, and you shall trade in the land.’”

<sup>35</sup> And it came to pass as they emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man’s bundle of money was in his sack. And when both they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> And Jacob, their father, said to them, “You have bereaved me of my children. Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and you will take Benjamin away. All these things are against me.”

<sup>37</sup> And Reuben spoke to his father, saying, “Slay my two sons if I do not bring him to you. Deliver him into my hand, and I will bring him to you again.”

<sup>38</sup> And he said, “My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead and he is left alone. If mischief happens to him by the way in which you go, then you shall bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.”

### The Brothers Return with Benjamin

**43** And the famine was great in the land. <sup>2</sup>And it came to pass, when they had eaten up the grain that they had brought out of Egypt, their father said to them, "Go again. Buy us a little food."

<sup>3</sup>And Judah spoke to him, saying, "The man solemnly protested to us, saying, 'You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.' <sup>4</sup>If you will send our brother with us, we will go down and buy you food. <sup>5</sup>But if you will not send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us, 'You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.'"

<sup>6</sup>And Israel said, "For what reason did you deal so ill with me as to tell the man whether you had another brother?"

<sup>7</sup>And he said, "The man asked us strictly of our condition and of our family, saying, 'Is your father still alive? Do you have another brother?' And we told him according to the tenor of these words. Could we certainly know that he would say, 'Bring your brother down?'"

<sup>8</sup>And Judah said to Israel, his father, "Send the boy with me, and we will arise and go, that we may live and not die, both we and you and also our little ones. <sup>9</sup>I will be surety for him. Of my hand you shall require him. If I do not bring him to you and set him before you, then let me bear the blame forever. <sup>10</sup>For if we had not lingered, surely now we would have returned this second time."

<sup>11</sup>And their father, Israel, said to them, "If it must be so now, do this: take of the best fruits in the land in your vessels, and carry down the man a present, a little balm and a little honey, spices, and myrrh, nuts, and almonds. <sup>12</sup>And take double money in your hand. And the money that was brought again in the mouth of your sacks, carry it again in your hand. Perhaps it was an oversight. <sup>13</sup>Take your brother also, and arise, go again to the man. <sup>14</sup>And God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may send away your other brother and Benjamin. If I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved."

<sup>15</sup>And the men took that present, and they took double money in their hand, and Benjamin, and rose up, and went down to Egypt, and stood before Joseph. <sup>16</sup>And when Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the ruler of his house, "Bring these men home, and slay, and make ready, for these men shall dine with me at noon." <sup>17</sup>And the man did as Joseph said, and the man brought the men into Joseph's house.

<sup>18</sup>And the men were afraid because they were brought into Joseph's house, and they said, "We are being brought in because of the money that was returned in our sacks the first time, that he may seek an opportunity against us, and attack us, and take us for bondmen, and our donkeys."

<sup>19</sup>And they came near to the steward of Joseph's house, and they communed with him at the door of the house <sup>20</sup>and said, "O sir, we indeed came down the first time to buy food. <sup>21</sup>And it came to pass, when we came to the inn, that we opened our sacks, and behold, every man's money was in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight. And we have brought it again in our hand. <sup>22</sup>And other money we have brought down in our hands to buy food. We cannot tell who put our money in our sacks."

<sup>23</sup>And he said, "Peace be to you. Do not fear. Your God, and the God of your father, has given you treasure in your sacks. I had your money." And he brought Simeon out to them. <sup>24</sup>And the man brought the men into Joseph's house and gave them water, and they washed their feet, and he gave their donkeys feed. <sup>25</sup>And they made ready the present by the time of Joseph's coming at noon, for they heard that they should eat bread there.

<sup>26</sup>And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present that was in their hand into the house and bowed themselves to him to the earth. <sup>27</sup>And he asked them of their welfare and said, "Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?"

<sup>28</sup> And they answered, "Your servant our father is in good health. He is still alive." And they bowed down their heads and bowed down.

<sup>29</sup> And he lifted up his eyes and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, "Is this your younger brother of whom you spoke to me?" And he said, "God be gracious to you, my son." <sup>30</sup> And Joseph hurried, for his heart yearned for his brother, and he sought where to weep. And he entered into his chamber and wept there. <sup>31</sup> And he washed his face and went out and refrained himself and said, "Serve the bread."

<sup>32</sup> And they served for him by himself, and for them by themselves, and for the Egyptians, who ate with him, by themselves, because the Egyptians should not eat bread with the Hebrews, for that is an abomination to the Egyptians. <sup>33</sup> And they sat before him, the firstborn according to his birthright, and the youngest according to his youth. And the men marveled at one another. <sup>34</sup> And he took and sent portions to them from before him, but Benjamin's portion was five times as much as any of theirs. And they drank and were merry with him.

### Joseph's Test

**44** And he commanded the steward of his house, saying, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put every man's money in his sack's mouth. <sup>2</sup> And put my cup, the silver cup, in the sack's mouth of the youngest, and his grain money." And he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken. <sup>3</sup> As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their donkeys. <sup>4</sup> And when they were gone out of the city, and not yet far off, Joseph said to his steward, "Get up. Follow after the men. And when you overtake them, say to them, 'For what reason have you rewarded evil for good? <sup>5</sup> Is it not this from which my lord drinks and by which indeed he divines? You have done evil in so doing.'"

<sup>6</sup> And he overtook them, and he spoke to them these same words. <sup>7</sup> And they said to him, "For what reason does my lord say these words? God forbid that your servants should do according to this thing. <sup>8</sup> Behold, the money, which we found in our sacks' mouths, we brought again to you out of the land of Canaan. How then should we steal out of your lord's house silver or gold? <sup>9</sup> With whomever of your servants it is found, both let him die and we also will be my lord's bondmen."

<sup>10</sup> And he said, "Now also let it be according to your words. He with whom it is found shall be my servant, and you shall be blameless." <sup>11</sup> Then they speedily took down every man his sack to the ground and opened every man his sack.

<sup>12</sup> And he searched, and began at the eldest and stopped at the youngest, and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack. <sup>13</sup> Then they tore their clothes, and loaded every man his donkey, and returned to the city.

<sup>14</sup> And Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house, for he was still there, and they fell before him on the ground. <sup>15</sup> And Joseph said to them, "What deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that such a man as I can certainly divine?"

<sup>16</sup> And Judah said, "What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how shall we clear ourselves? God has found out the iniquity of your servants. Behold, we are my lord's servants, both we and he also with whom the cup is found."

<sup>17</sup> And he said, "God forbid that I should do so, but the man in whose hand the cup is found, he shall be my servant. And as for you, go in peace to your father."

<sup>18</sup> Then Judah came near to him and said, "Oh my lord, let your servant, I ask you, speak a word in my lord's ears, and let not your anger burn against your servant, for you are even as Pharaoh. <sup>19</sup> My lord asked his servants, saying, 'Have you a father or a brother?' <sup>20</sup> And we said to my lord, 'We have a father, an old man, and a child of his old age, a little one, and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother, and his father loves him.' <sup>21</sup> And you said to your servants, 'Bring him down to me, that I may set my eyes on him.' <sup>22</sup> And we said to my lord, 'The boy cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father will die.' <sup>23</sup> And you said to your servants, 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall see my face no longer.'

<sup>24</sup>“And it came to pass when we came up to your servant my father, we told him the words of my lord. <sup>25</sup>And our father said, ‘Go again and buy us a little food.’ <sup>26</sup>And we said, ‘We cannot go down. If our youngest brother is with us, then we will go down, for we may not see the man’s face unless our youngest brother is with us.’ <sup>27</sup>And your servant my father said to us, ‘You know that my wife bore me two sons. <sup>28</sup>And the one went out from me, and I said, “Surely he is torn in pieces and I have not seen him since.” <sup>29</sup>And if you take this also from me and mischief happens to him, you shall bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.’

<sup>30</sup>“Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father, and the boy is not with us, seeing that his life is bound up in the boy’s life, <sup>31</sup>it shall come to pass, when he sees that the boy is not with us, that he will die. And your servants shall bring down the gray hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to the grave. <sup>32</sup>For your servant became surety for the boy to my father, saying, ‘If I do not bring him to you, then I shall bear the blame to my father forever.’ <sup>33</sup>Now therefore, I ask you, let your servant remain instead of the boy as a bondman to my lord, and let the boy go up with his brothers. <sup>34</sup>For how shall I go up to my father if the boy is not with me, lest perhaps I see the evil that shall come on my father?”

### Joseph Reveals Himself to His Brothers

**45** Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried, “Cause every man to go out from me.” And no man stood there with him while Joseph made himself known to his brothers. <sup>2</sup>And he wept aloud, and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard. <sup>3</sup>And Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Does my father yet live?” And his brothers could not answer him, for they were troubled at his presence.

<sup>4</sup>And Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, I ask you.” And they came near. And he said, “I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, do not be grieved or angry with yourselves that you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For these two years the famine has been in the land, and yet there are five years in which there shall neither be plowing or harvest. <sup>7</sup>And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. <sup>8</sup>So now it was not you who sent me here, but God. And He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

<sup>9</sup>“Hurry, and go up to my father, and say to him, ‘This is what your son Joseph says: “God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me. Do not remain. <sup>10</sup>And you shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near to me, you, and your children, and your children’s children, and your flocks, and your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup>And there I will nourish you, for there are still five years of famine, lest you and your household and all that you have come to poverty.”’

<sup>12</sup>“And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. <sup>13</sup>And you shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt and of all that you have seen. And you shall hurry and bring down my father here.”

<sup>14</sup>And he fell on his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck. <sup>15</sup>Moreover he kissed all his brothers and wept on them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

### Joseph’s Brothers Blessed

<sup>16</sup>And the report of it was heard in Pharaoh’s house, saying, “Joseph’s brothers have come.” And it pleased Pharaoh and his servants well. <sup>17</sup>And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Say to your brothers, ‘Do this: Load your beasts and go. Get to the land of Canaan. <sup>18</sup>And take your father and your households and come to me. And I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and you shall eat the fat of the land. <sup>19</sup>Now you are commanded. Do this: Take wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father, and come. <sup>20</sup>Also do not regard your stuff, for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours.”’

<sup>21</sup> And the children of Israel did so, and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way. <sup>22</sup> To all of them he gave each man changes of clothing, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of clothing. <sup>23</sup> And to his father he sent these things: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt and ten female donkeys loaded with grain and bread and meat for his father by the way. <sup>24</sup> So he sent his brothers away, and they departed. And he said to them, "See that you do not quarrel on the way."

<sup>25</sup> And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan to Jacob their father, <sup>26</sup> and told him, saying, "Joseph is still alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt." And Jacob's heart lost hope, for he did not believe them.

<sup>27</sup> And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said to them. And when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived. <sup>28</sup> And Israel said, "It is enough. Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."

### Jacob Journeys to Egypt

**46** And Israel took his journey with all that he had and came to Beer-sheba and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. <sup>2</sup> And God spoke to Israel in the visions of the night and said, "Jacob, Jacob."

And he said, "Here I am."

<sup>3</sup> And He said, "I am God, the God of your father. Do not fear to go down into Egypt, for I will there make of you a great nation. <sup>4</sup> I will go down with you into Egypt, and I will also surely bring you up again. And Joseph shall put his hand on your eyes."

<sup>5</sup> And Jacob rose up from Beer-sheba, and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father and their little ones and their wives in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him. <sup>6</sup> And they took their cattle and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his offspring with him. <sup>7</sup> His sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters, and all his offspring he brought with him into Egypt.

<sup>8</sup> And these are the names of the children of Israel who came into Egypt, Jacob and his sons: Reuben, Jacob's firstborn. <sup>9</sup> And the sons of Reuben: Hanoch, and Pallu, and Hezron, and Carmi.

<sup>10</sup> And the sons of Simeon: Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul, the son of a Canaanite woman.

<sup>11</sup> And the sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

<sup>12</sup> And the sons of Judah: Er, and Onan, and Shelah, and Perez, and Zerah. But Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. And the sons of Perez were Hezron and Hamul.

<sup>13</sup> And the sons of Issachar: Tola, and Puvah, and Job, and Shimron.

<sup>14</sup> And the sons of Zebulun: Sered and Elon and Jahleel. <sup>15</sup> These are the sons of Leah, whom she bore to Jacob in Padan-aram, with his daughter Dinah. All the souls of his sons and his daughters were thirty-three.

<sup>16</sup> And the sons of Gad: Ziphion, and Haggi, Shuni, and Ezbon, Eri, and Arodi, and Areli.

<sup>17</sup> And the sons of Asher: Jimnah, and Ishuah, and Isui, and Beriah, and Serah their sister. And the sons of Beriah: Heber, and Malchiel. <sup>18</sup> These are the sons of Zilpah, whom Laban gave to Leah his daughter, and these she bore to Jacob, even sixteen souls.

<sup>19</sup> The sons of Rachel, Jacob's wife: Joseph and Benjamin.

<sup>20</sup> And to Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, whom Azenath the daughter of Poti-pherah priest of On bore to him.

<sup>21</sup> And the sons of Benjamin were Belah, and Becher, and Ashbel, Gera, and Naaman, Ehi, and Rosh, Muphim, and Huphim, and Ard. <sup>22</sup> These are the sons of Rachel who were born to Jacob; all the souls were fourteen.

<sup>23</sup> And the sons of Dan: Hushim.

<sup>24</sup> And the sons of Naphtali: Jahzeel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shillem. <sup>25</sup> These

are the sons of Bilhah, whom Laban gave to Rachel his daughter, and she bore these to Jacob. All the souls were seven.

<sup>26</sup> All the souls who came with Jacob into Egypt, who came out of his loins, besides Jacob's sons' wives, all the souls were sixty-six. <sup>27</sup> And the sons of Joseph, who were born to him in Egypt, were two souls. All the souls of the house of Jacob who came into Egypt were seventy.

### **Joseph Meets Jacob Again**

<sup>28</sup> And he sent Judah before him to Joseph to direct his face to Goshen, and they came into the land of Goshen. <sup>29</sup> And Joseph made ready his chariot and went up to meet Israel his father, to Goshen, and presented himself to him. And he fell on his neck and wept on his neck a good while. <sup>30</sup> And Israel said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen your face, because you are still alive."

<sup>31</sup> And Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's house, "I will go up and show Pharaoh and say to him, 'My brothers and my father's house, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me. <sup>32</sup> And the men are shepherds, for their trade has been to feed cattle. And they have brought their flocks and their herds and all that they have.' <sup>33</sup> And it shall come to pass, when Pharaoh shall call you and shall say, 'What is your occupation?' <sup>34</sup> that you shall say, 'Your servants' trade has been about cattle from our youth even until now, both we and also our fathers,' that you may dwell in the land of Goshen, for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians."

### **Jacob and His Descendants Exalted**

**47** Then Joseph came and told Pharaoh and said, "My father and my brothers, and their flocks, and their herds, and all that they have, have come out of the land of Canaan. And behold, they are in the land of Goshen." <sup>2</sup> And he took some of his brothers, even five men, and presented them to Pharaoh.

<sup>3</sup> And Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is your occupation?"

And they said to Pharaoh, "Your servants are shepherds, both we and also our fathers." <sup>4</sup> They said moreover to Pharaoh, "For to sojourn in the land we have come, for your servants have no pasture for their flocks, for the famine is great in the land of Canaan. Now therefore, we ask you, let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen."

<sup>5</sup> And Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, "Your father and your brothers have come to you. <sup>6</sup> The land of Egypt is before you. Make your father and brothers to dwell in the best of the land. In the land of Goshen let them dwell, and if you know any men of ability among them, then make them rulers over my cattle." <sup>7</sup> And Joseph brought in Jacob his father and set him before Pharaoh, and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

<sup>8</sup> And Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How old are you?"

<sup>9</sup> And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty years. Few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage." <sup>10</sup> And Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out from before Pharaoh.

<sup>11</sup> And Joseph placed his father and his brothers and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded. <sup>12</sup> And Joseph nourished his father and his brothers and all his father's household with bread, according to their families.

### **The Famine**

<sup>13</sup> And there was no bread in all the land, for the famine was very great, so that the land of Egypt and all the land of Canaan lost hope because of the famine. <sup>14</sup> And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan for the grain that they bought, and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house. <sup>15</sup> And when money failed in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us bread, for why should we die in your presence? For the money fails."

<sup>16</sup> And Joseph said, "Give your cattle, and I will give you for your cattle, if money is lacking." <sup>17</sup> And they brought their cattle to Joseph, and Joseph gave them bread in exchange for horses, and for the flocks, and for the cattle of the herds, and for the donkeys. And he fed them with bread for all their cattle for that year.

<sup>18</sup> When that year was ended, they came to him the second year and said to him, "We will not hide it from my lord that our money is spent. My lord also has our herds of cattle. There is not anything left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our lands. <sup>19</sup> For what reason shall we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants to Pharaoh. And give us seed, that we may live and not die, that the land may not be desolate."

<sup>20</sup> And Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh, for the Egyptians sold every man his field because the famine prevailed over them. So the land became Pharaoh's. <sup>21</sup> And as for the people, he moved them to cities from one end of the borders of Egypt even to the other end of it. <sup>22</sup> Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for the priests had a portion assigned them from Pharaoh and ate their portion that Pharaoh gave them. For that reason they did not sell their lands. <sup>23</sup> Then Joseph said to the people, "Behold, I have bought you this day and your land for Pharaoh. Behold, here is seed for you, and you shall sow the land. <sup>24</sup> And it shall come to pass in the increase that you shall give the fifth part to Pharaoh, and four parts shall be your own for seed of the field, and for your food, and for those of your households, and for food for your little ones."

<sup>25</sup> And they said, "You have saved our lives! Let us find grace in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants." <sup>26</sup> And Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt to this day that Pharaoh should have the fifth part, except the land of the priests only, which did not become Pharaoh's.

### **The Last Days of Jacob**

<sup>27</sup> And Israel dwelled in the land of Egypt, in the country of Goshen, and they had possessions in it and grew and multiplied exceedingly. <sup>28</sup> And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years, so the whole age of Jacob was a hundred and forty-seven years. <sup>29</sup> And the time drew near that Israel must die, and he called his son Joseph and said to him, "If now I have found grace in your sight, put, I ask you, your hand under my thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me. Do not bury me, I ask you, in Egypt. <sup>30</sup> But I will lie with my fathers, and you shall carry me out of Egypt and bury me in their burying place."

And he said, "I will do as you have said."

<sup>31</sup> And he said, "Swear to me." And he swore to him. And Israel bowed himself on the bed's head.

### **Jacob's Blessing to the Sons of Joseph**

**48** And it came to pass after these things that one told Joseph, "Behold, your father is sick." And he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.

<sup>2</sup> And one told Jacob and said, "Behold, your son Joseph comes to you." And Israel strengthened himself and sat on the bed.

<sup>3</sup> And Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me <sup>4</sup> and said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make from you a multitude of people and will give this land to your descendants after you for an everlasting possession.' <sup>5</sup> And now your two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you into Egypt, are mine. As Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine. <sup>6</sup> And your offspring, which you begot after them, shall be yours and shall be called according to the name of their brothers in their inheritance. <sup>7</sup> And as for me, when I came from Padan, Rachel died beside me in the land of Canaan on the way, when there was still a little way to come to Ephrath. And I buried her there on the way to Ephrath; the same is Bethlehem."

<sup>8</sup> And Israel saw Joseph's sons and said, "Who are these?"

<sup>9</sup>And Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me in this place."

And he said, "Bring them to me, I ask you, and I will bless them."

<sup>10</sup>Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, so that he could not see. And he brought them near to him, and he kissed them and embraced them. <sup>11</sup>And Israel said to Joseph, "I had not thought to see your face, and behold, God has shown me also your children."

<sup>12</sup>And Joseph brought them out from between his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth. <sup>13</sup>And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near to him. <sup>14</sup>And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand on Manasseh's head, guiding his hands wittingly, for Manasseh was the firstborn. <sup>15</sup>And he blessed Joseph and said, "God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who fed me all my life long to this day, <sup>16</sup>the Angel who redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys. And let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac. And let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth."

<sup>17</sup>And when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he held up his father's hand to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head. <sup>18</sup>And Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my father, for this is the firstborn. Put your right hand on his head."

<sup>19</sup>And his father refused and said, "I know it, my son. I know it. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great, but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a multitude of nations." <sup>20</sup>And he blessed them that day, saying, "In you shall Israel bless, saying, 'God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.'"

And he set Ephraim before Manasseh. <sup>21</sup>And Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I die, but God shall be with you and bring you again to the land of your fathers. <sup>22</sup>Moreover I have given to you one portion above your brothers, which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow."

### **Jacob's Dying Blessing**

**49** And Jacob called to his sons and said, "Gather one another, that I may tell you what shall happen to you in the last days. <sup>2</sup>Gather one another and hear, you sons of Jacob, and listen to Israel your father.

<sup>3</sup>"Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity and the excellency of power. <sup>4</sup>Unstable as water, you shall not excel because you went up to your father's bed, then you defiled it; he went up to my couch.

<sup>5</sup>"Simeon and Levi are brothers. Instruments of cruelty are in their habitations. <sup>6</sup>O my soul, do not come into their secret, to their assembly. My honor, do not be united, for in their anger they slew a man and in their self-will they dug down a wall. <sup>7</sup>Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce, and their wrath, for it was cruel. I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.

<sup>8</sup>"Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise. Your hand shall be in the neck of your enemies. Your father's children shall bow down before you. <sup>9</sup>Judah is a lion's cub. From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion, and as an old lion, who shall rouse him up? <sup>10</sup>The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to Him shall the gathering of the people be. <sup>11</sup>Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he washed his garments in wine and his clothes in the blood of grapes. <sup>12</sup>His eyes shall be red with wine and his teeth white with milk.

<sup>13</sup>"Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea. And he shall be a haven for ships, and his border shall be to Sidon.

<sup>14</sup>"Issachar is a strong donkey crouching down between two burdens. <sup>15</sup>And he saw that rest was good, and the land that it was pleasant, and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant to tribute.

<sup>16</sup>“Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. <sup>17</sup>Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that bites the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward. <sup>18</sup>I have waited for your salvation, O LORD.

<sup>19</sup>“Gad, a troop shall overcome him, but he shall overcome at last.

<sup>20</sup>“Bread out of Asher shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties.

<sup>21</sup>“Naphtali is a deer let loose. He gives fine words.

<sup>22</sup>“Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well, whose branches run over the wall. <sup>23</sup>The archers have greatly grieved him and shot at him and hated him, <sup>24</sup>but his bow remained in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob (from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel), <sup>25</sup>even by the God of your father, who shall help you, and by the Almighty, who shall bless you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lies under, blessings of the breasts and of the womb. <sup>26</sup>The blessings of your father have prevailed above the blessings of my ancestors to the farthest bound of the everlasting hills. They shall be on the head of Joseph and on the crown of the head of him who was separate from his brothers.

<sup>27</sup>“Benjamin shall greedily devour as a wolf. In the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.”

<sup>28</sup>All these are the twelve tribes of Israel. And this is what their father spoke to them and blessed them; everyone according to his blessing he blessed them. <sup>29</sup>And he charged them and said to them, “I am to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, <sup>30</sup>in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a burying place. <sup>31</sup>There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife. And there I buried Leah. <sup>32</sup>The purchase of the field and of the cave that is in it was from the children of Heth.” <sup>33</sup>And when Jacob had finished commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed and yielded up his spirit and was gathered to his people.

### **The Burial of Jacob**

**50** And Joseph fell on his father's face and wept on him and kissed him. <sup>2</sup>And Joseph commanded his servants, the physicians, to embalm his father, and the physicians embalmed Israel. <sup>3</sup>And forty days were fulfilled for him, for so are fulfilled the days of those who are embalmed. And the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days.

<sup>4</sup>And when the days of his mourning were past, Joseph spoke to the house of Pharaoh, saying, “If now I have found grace in your eyes, speak, I ask you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying, <sup>5</sup>‘My father made me swear, saying, “Behold, I die. In my grave that I have dug for me in the land of Canaan, there you shall bury me.” Now therefore, let me go up, I ask, and bury my father, and I will come again.”

<sup>6</sup>And Pharaoh said, “Go up and bury your father, according to what he made you swear.”

<sup>7</sup>And Joseph went up to bury his father, and with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt, <sup>8</sup>and all the house of Joseph, and his brothers, and his father's house. Only their little ones and their flocks and their herds they left in the land of Goshen. <sup>9</sup>And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen, and it was a very great company.

<sup>10</sup>And they came to the threshing floor of Atad, which is beyond Jordan, and there they mourned with a great and very great lamentation. And he made a mourning for his father seven days. <sup>11</sup>And when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning at the floor of Atad, they said, “This is a grievous mourning to the Egyptians.” Therefore its name was called Abel-mizraim, which is beyond Jordan.

<sup>12</sup>And his sons did to him as he commanded them, <sup>13</sup>for his sons carried him into the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah, before

Mamre, which Abraham bought with the field for a possession of a burying place from Ephron the Hittite.

<sup>14</sup> And Joseph returned into Egypt, he and his brothers and all who went up with him to bury his father, after he had buried his father.

### **The Fear of Joseph's Brothers**

<sup>15</sup> And when Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "Joseph will perhaps hate us and will certainly repay us for all the evil that we did to him."

<sup>16</sup> And they sent a messenger to Joseph, saying, "Your father commanded before he died, saying, <sup>17</sup> 'So shall you say to Joseph, "Forgive, I ask you now, the trespass of your brothers and their sin, for they did evil to you.'" And now, we ask you, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of your father." And Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

<sup>18</sup> And his brothers also went and fell down before his face, and they said, "Behold, we are your servants."

<sup>19</sup> And Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> But as for you, you thought evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save many people alive. <sup>21</sup> Now therefore, do not fear. I will nourish you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

### **The Death and Burial of Joseph**

<sup>22</sup> And Joseph dwelled in Egypt, he and his father's house, and Joseph lived a hundred and ten years. <sup>23</sup> And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation. The children also of Machir, the son of Manasseh, were brought up on Joseph's knees. <sup>24</sup> And Joseph said to his brothers, "I will die, and God will surely visit you and bring you out of this land to the land that He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." <sup>25</sup> And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." <sup>26</sup> So Joseph died, being a hundred and ten years old, and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.