

## Story of Elijah

(I Kings 16:29-34, 17-22; II Kings 1, 2:1-15)

### I Kings 16:29-34

29) And in the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab the son of Omri began to reign over Israel; and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. (30) And Ahab the son of Omri did that which was evil in the sight of Hashem beyond all that were before him. (31) And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as a wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. (32) And he set up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. (33) And Ahab made the Asherah; and Ahab did yet more to provoke Hashem, the God of Israel, than all the kings of Israel that were before him. (34) In his days Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho; with Abiram his firstborn he laid its foundation, and with his youngest son Segub he set up its gates, according to the word of Hashem which He spoke by the hand of Joshua the son of Nun.

### I Kings 17:1-24

(1) And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the settlers of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As Hashem, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew or rain these years, except according to my word." (2) And the word of Hashem came to him, saying, (3) "Go from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, that is before the Jordan. (4) And it shall be, that you shall drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." (5) So he went and did according to the word of Hashem; for he went and dwelled by the brook Cherith that is before the Jordan. (6) And the ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank of the brook. (7) And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up because there was no rain in the land. (8) And the word of Hashem came to him, saying, (9) "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Zidon, and dwell there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to sustain you." (10) So he arose and went to Zarephath; and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her, and said, "Fetch me, please, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." (11) And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her and said, "Bring me,

please, a morsel of bread in your hand." (12) And she said, "As Hashem your God lives, I have not a cake, only a handful of meal in the jar, and a little oil in the cruse; and, behold, I am gathering two sticks that I may go in and prepare it for me and my son, that we may eat it and die." (13) And Elijah said to her, "Fear not; go and do as you have said, but make for me a little cake from it first, and bring it forth to me, and afterwards make for you and for your son. (14) For thus says Hashem, the God of Israel, 'The jar of meal shall not run out, and the cruse of oil shall not lack, until the day that Hashem sends rain upon the land.'" (15) And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah; and she, and he, and her house ate many days. (16) The jar of meal did not run out and the cruse of oil did not lack, according to the word of Hashem which He spoke by Elijah. (17) And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. (18) And she said to Elijah, "What have I to do with you, O you man of God? Have you come to me to make my sin be remembered and to slay my son?" (19) And he said to her, "Give me your son." And he took him out of her bosom and carried him up into the upper chamber, where he dwelled, and laid him upon his own bed. (20) And he cried to Hashem and said, "O Lord my God, have You also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?" (21) And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and he cried to Hashem and said, "O Lord my God, please, let this child's soul come back into him." (22) And Hashem listened to the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back into him, and he revived. (23) And Elijah took the child, and he brought him down out of the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother; and Elijah said, "See, your son lives." (24) And the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of Hashem in your mouth is true."

### I Kings 18:1-46

(1) And it came to pass after many days, that the word of Hashem came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain upon the land." (2) And Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. And the famine was severe in Samaria. (3) And Ahab called Obadiah, who was in charge of the household. — Now Obadiah feared Hashem greatly. (4) For it was, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of Hashem, that Obadiah took one hundred prophets and hid them, fifty to a cave, and fed them with bread and water. — (5) And Ahab said to Obadiah, "Go through the land, to all the

springs of water, and to all the brooks; perhaps we may find grass and keep the horses and mules alive, that we not lose all the beasts." (6) So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it; Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself. (7) And as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him; and he knew him, and he fell on his face and said, "Is it you, my lord Elijah?" (8) And he answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here.'" (9) And he said, "Where have I sinned, that you would deliver your servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me? (10) As Hashem your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my lord has not sent to seek you; and when they said, 'He is not here', he made the kingdom and nation swear that they did not find you. (11) And now you say, 'Go, tell your lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here.' (12) And it will come to pass, as soon as I have gone from you, that the spirit of Hashem will carry you where I do not know; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he will slay me. But I, your servant, fear Hashem from my youth. (13) Was it not told to my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of Hashem, how I hid one hundred men of Hashem's prophets, fifty to a cave, and fed them with bread and water? (14) And now you say, 'Go, tell your lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here'; and he will slay me." (15) And Elijah said, "As Hashem of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today." (16) So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah. (17) And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is it you, you troubler of Israel?" (18) And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel; but you and your father's house, in that you have forsaken the commandments of Hashem, and you have followed the Baalim. (19) Now therefore send and gather to me all of Israel to Mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal, four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the Asherah, four hundred, that eat at Jezebel's table." (20) And Ahab sent to all the Children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together to Mount Carmel. (21) And Elijah came near to all the people, and said, "How long shall you waver between two opinions? If Hashem is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." And the people did not answer him a word. (22) Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone have remained a prophet of Hashem; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. (23) Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, and put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other bullock, and lay it on the wood, and put no fire under it. (24) And you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of Hashem; and the God that answers by fire, He is God." And all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken." (25) And Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one

bullock for yourselves, and prepare it first; for you are many. And call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it." (26) And they took the bullock which was given to them, and they prepared it, and they called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, "O Baal, answer us." But there was no voice and no one to answer. And they leaped about the altar which was made. (27) And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, "Cry aloud; for he is a god; for he is conversing or he has gone aside, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he sleeps and must be awakened." (28) And they cried aloud and cut themselves after their manner with swords and lances, until the blood gushed out upon them. (29) And it was so, when midday was past, that they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening offering; but there was no voice, no one to answer, and no one that regarded. (30) And Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me"; and all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of Hashem that was thrown down. (31) And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of Hashem came, saying, "Israel shall be your name." (32) And with the stones he built (repaired) an altar in the name of Hashem; and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed. (33) And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid it on the wood. (34) And he said, "Fill four jars with water, and pour it on the burnt-offering, and on the wood." And he said, "Do it a second time"; and they did it a second time. And he said, "Do it a third time"; and they did it a third time. (35) And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water. (36) And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening offering, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, "O Lord, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel, and that I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. (37) Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You, Lord, are God, for You turned their heart backward." (38) Then the fire of Hashem fell and consumed the burnt-offering, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. (39) And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "Hashem, He is God. Hashem, He is God." (40) And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape." And they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon and slew them there. (41) And Elijah said to Ahab, "Get up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain." (42) So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he bowed himself down upon the earth and put his face between his knees. (43) And he said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." And he

went up, and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And he said, "Go again" seven times. (44) And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, "Behold, there arises a cloud out of the sea, as small as a man's hand." And he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'prepare your chariot, and go down, that the rain not stop you.'" (45) And it came to pass in the meantime, that the heaven grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel. (46) And the hand of Hashem was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and he ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

### I Kings 19:1-21

(1) And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and all how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. (2) Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do, and more also, if by tomorrow at this time I do not make your life as the life of one of them." (3) And when he saw that, he arose and went for his life, and he came to Beer-sheba which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. (4) But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom-tree; and he requested for himself that he might die. He said, "It is enough. Now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers." (5) And he lay down and slept under a broom-tree; and, behold, an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." (6) And he looked, and, behold, there was at his head a cake baked on the hot stones and a cruse of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. (7) And the angel of Hashem came again a second time, and he touched him and said, "Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you." (8) And he arose, and ate and drank, and he went with the strength of that meal forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mountain of God. (9) And he came there to a cave and lodged there; and, behold, the word of Hashem came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" (10) And he said, "I have been very jealous for Hashem, the God of hosts, for the Children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, thrown down Your altars, and slain Your prophets with the sword; and I alone have remained; and they seek my life, to take it away." (11) And He said, "Go forth, and stand upon the mountain before Hashem." And, behold, Hashem passed by, and a great and strong wind tearing mountains and breaking rocks before Hashem; but Hashem was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake; but Hashem was not in the earthquake; (12) and after the earthquake a fire; but Hashem was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. (13) And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and he went out and stood at the

entrance of the cave. And, behold, a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" (14) And he said, "I have been very jealous for Hashem, the God of hosts; for the Children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, thrown down Your altars, and slain Your prophets with the sword; and I alone have remained; and they seek my life, to take it away." (15) And Hashem said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; and when you come, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Aram. (16) And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel; and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your stead. (17) And it shall come to pass, that he that escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall slay; and he that escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall slay. (18) But I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth which has not kissed him." (19) So he departed from there, and he found Elisha the son of Shaphat, and he was plowing. There were twelve pairs of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth; and Elijah passed over to him, and cast his mantle upon him. (20) And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah, and he said, "Let me, please, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back; for what have I done to you?" (21) And he turned back from him, and he took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them, and he boiled their flesh with the equipment of the oxen and gave to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and served him.

### I Kings 20:1-43

(1) And Ben-hadad the king of Aram gathered all of his army together; and there were thirty-two kings with him, and horses and chariots. And he went up and besieged Samaria, and fought against it. (2) And he sent messengers to Ahab king of Israel, into the city, (3) and he said to him, "Thus says Ben-hadad, 'Your silver and your gold is mine; your wives also and the best of your children are mine.'" (4) And the king of Israel answered and said, "It is as you say, my lord, O king. I am yours, and all that I have." (5) And the messengers came again, and said, "Thus speaks Ben-hadad, saying, 'I sent indeed to you, saying, 'You shall deliver to me your silver, and your gold, and your wives, and your children; (6) for at this time tomorrow, I will send my servants to you and they shall search your house and the houses of your servants; and it shall be, that whatever is pleasant/precious in your eyes, they shall put it in their hand, and take it away.'" (7) Then the king of Israel called all the elders of the land, and said, "Note, please, and see how this man seeks evil; for he sent to

me for my wives, and for my children, and for my silver, and for my gold; and I did not deny him." (8) And all the elders and all the people said to him, "Do not listen and do not consent." (9) Therefore he said to the messengers of Ben-hadad, "Tell my lord the king, 'All that you sent for to your servant at first I will do; but this thing I may not do.'" And the messengers departed and brought him back word. (10) And Ben-hadad sent to him, and said, "The gods shall do so to me, and more also, if the dust of Samaria shall suffice for the handfuls of all the people that follow me." (11) And the king of Israel answered and said, "Tell him, 'Let not he that girds on his armor boast as he that takes it off.'" (12) And it came to pass, when he heard this message, and he was drinking, he and the kings, in the booths, that he said to his servants, "Set for battle." And they set themselves for battle against the city. (13) And, behold, a prophet came near to Ahab king of Israel, and said, "Thus says Hashem, 'Have you seen all this great multitude? Behold, I will deliver it into your hand this day; and you shall know that I am Hashem.'" (14) And Ahab said, "By whom?" And he said, "Thus says Hashem, 'By the young men of the officers of the provinces.'" Then he said, "Who shall begin the battle?" And he answered, "You." (15) Then he counted the young men of the officers of the provinces, and they were two hundred and thirty-two; and after them he counted all the people, all the Children of Israel, seven thousand. (16) And they went out at noon. And Ben-hadad was drinking himself drunk in the booths, he and the kings, the thirty-two kings that helped him. (17) And the young men of the officers of the provinces went out first; and Ben-hadad sent, and they told him, saying, "Men have come out from Samaria." (18) And he said, "If they have come out in peace, take them alive; and if they have come out for war, take them alive." (19) So these went out of the city, the young men of the officers of the provinces, and the army which followed them. (20) And each one slew his man; and the Arameans fled, and Israel pursued them; and Ben-hadad the king of Aram escaped on a horse with horsemen. (21) And the king of Israel went out and smote the horses and chariots, and slew the Arameans with a great slaughter. (22) And the prophet came near to the king of Israel, and said to him, "Go, strengthen yourself, and mark, and see what you shall do; for at the turn of the year the king of Aram will come up against you." (23) And the servants of the king of Aram said to him, "Their God is a God of the hills; therefore they were stronger than us. But let us fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than them. (24) And do this thing: take the kings away, every man from his place, and put governors in their stead. (25) And count for yourself an army like the army that you have lost, horse for horse, and chariot for chariot; and we will fight against them in

the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they." And he listened to their voice, and did so. (26) And it came to pass at the turn of the year, that Ben-hadad mustered the Arameans, and went up to Aphek to fight against Israel. (27) And the Children of Israel were mustered and provisioned, and they went to meet them. And the Children of Israel encamped before them like two little flocks of kids; but the Arameans filled the country. (28) And a man of God came near and spoke to the king of Israel, and said, "Thus says Hashem, 'Because the Arameans have said, 'The Lord is a God of the hills, but he is not a God of the valleys'; therefore I will deliver all this great multitude into your hand, and you shall know that I am Hashem.'" (29) And they encamped, these facing those, for seven days. And so it was, that on the seventh day they approached to battle, and the Children of Israel slew of the Arameans one hundred thousand footmen in one day. (30) And the rest fled to Aphek, into the city; and the wall fell upon the twenty-seven thousand men that were left. And Ben-hadad fled, and came into the city, into an inner chamber. (31) And his servants said to him, "Behold now, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful kings. Let us, please, put sackcloth on our loins, and ropes upon our heads, and go out to the king of Israel; perhaps he will spare your life." (32) So they girded sackcloth on their loins, and put ropes on their heads, and came to the king of Israel, and said, "Your servant Ben-hadad says, 'Please, spare my life.'" And he said, "Is he yet alive? He is my brother." (33) Now the men took it for a sign, and quickly took his word, and they said, "Your brother Ben-hadad." Then he said, "Go, bring him." Then Ben-hadad came forth to him; and he brought him up into his chariot. (34) And he said to him, "The cities which my father took from your father I will restore; and you shall make markets for yourself in Damascus, as my father made in Samaria." "And I will let you go with this treaty." So he made a treaty with him, and let him go. (35) And a certain man of the sons of the prophets said to his fellow by the word of Hashem, "Smite me, please." And the man refused to smite him. (36) Then he said to him, "Because you have not listened to the voice of Hashem, behold, as soon as you have departed from me, a lion shall slay you." And as soon as he departed from him, a lion found him and slew him. (37) Then he found another man, and said, "Smite me, please." And the man smote him, smiting and wounding him. (38) So the prophet departed, and waited for the king by the way, and disguised himself with a covering over his eyes. (39) And as the king passed by, he cried to the king; and he said, "Your servant went out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man turned aside, and brought a man to me, and said, 'Keep this man; if by any means he is missing, then your life shall be for his life, or else you shall pay a talent of silver.'" (40)

And as your servant was busy here and there, he was gone." And the king of Israel said to him, "So shall your judgment be; you have decided it." (41) And he hastened, and took the covering away from his eyes; and the king of Israel recognized that he was of the prophets. (42) And he said to him, "Thus says Hashem, 'Because you have let go out of your hand the man whom I had devoted to destruction, therefore your life shall go for his life, and your people for his people.'" (43) And the king of Israel went to his house sullen and enraged, and he came to Samaria.

### I Kings 21:1-29

(1) And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard which was in Jezreel, by the palace of Ahab, king of Samaria. (2) And Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, "Give me your vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs because it is near to my house. And I will give you for it a better vineyard than it, or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its worth in money." (3) And Naboth said to Ahab, "Far be it from me, from Hashem, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you." (4) And Ahab came into his house sullen and enraged because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him, that he had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." And he lay down upon his bed, and turned his face away and would not eat bread. (5) But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said to him, "Why is your spirit so sullen, that you eat no bread?" (6) And he said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or if it pleases you, I will give you another vineyard for it' and he answered, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'" (7) And Jezebel his wife said to him, "Do you now govern the kingdom of Israel? Arise and eat bread, and let your heart be merry; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite." (8) So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal, and she sent the letters to the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, who dwelled with Naboth. (9) And she wrote in the letters, saying, "Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth at the head of the people. (10) And set two men, base fellows, before him, and let them bear witness against him, saying, 'You cursed God and the king.' And then carry him out and stone him, that he die." (11) And the men of his city, the elders and the nobles who dwelled in his city, did as Jezebel had sent to them, as it was written in the letters which she had sent to them. (12) They proclaimed a fast and set Naboth at the head of the people. (13) And the two men, the base fellows, came in and sat before him; and the base fellows bore witness against him, against Naboth, in the presence of the

people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the king." Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died. (14) Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned and is dead." (15) And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, "Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money, for Naboth is not alive, but dead." (16) And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it. (17) And the word of Hashem came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, (18) "Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who dwells in Samaria; behold, he is at the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone down to take possession of it. (19) And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says Hashem, 'Have you killed and also taken possessions?' And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says Hashem, 'In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, dogs shall lick your blood, also yours.'" (20) And Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, my enemy?" And he answered, "I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do that which is evil in the sight of Hashem. (21) Behold, I will bring evil upon you, and I will utterly sweep you away, and I will cut off from Ahab every male, both he who is shut up and he who is left at large in Israel. (22) And I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and like the house of Baasa the son of Ahijah, for the provocation with which you have provoked Me and have caused Israel to sin." (23) And Hashem also spoke of Jezebel, saying, "The dogs shall eat Jezebel at the ramparts of Jezreel. (24) The dogs shall eat he that dies of Ahab in the city; and the fowls of the air shall eat he that dies in the field." (25) Indeed, there was none like Ahab who sold himself to do that which was evil in the sight of Hashem, whom Jezebel his wife incited. (26) And he acted abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done, whom Hashem cast out before the Children of Israel. (27) And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he tore his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went slowly. (28) And the word of Hashem came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, (29) "See how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? Because he has humbled himself before Me, I will not bring the evil in his days; but in his son's days I will bring the evil upon his house."

I Kings 22:1-54

(1) And they continued three years without war between Aram and Israel. (2) And it came to pass in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came

down to the king of Israel. (3) And the king of Israel said to his servants, "Do you know that Ramoth-gilead is ours? And yet we are still, and have not taken it out of the hand of the king of Aram." (4) And he said to Jehoshaphat, "Will you go with me to battle, to Ramoth-gilead?" And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses." (5) And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Inquire, please, the word of Hashem today." (6) Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said to them, "Shall I go against Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I desist?" And they said, "Go up; for Hashem will deliver it into the hand of the king." (7) But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not here also a prophet of Hashem, that we might inquire of him?" (8) And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of Hashem, Micaiah the son of Imlah; but I hate him; for he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil." And Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say so." (9) Then the king of Israel called an officer, and said, "Fetch quickly Micaiah the son of Imlah." (10) Now the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah sat each on his throne, arrayed in their robes, in a threshing-floor, at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them. (11) And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made horns of iron, and said, "Thus says Hashem, 'With these shall you gore the Arameans, until they are consumed.'" (12) And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, "Go up to Ramoth-gilead and prosper; for Hashem will deliver it into the hand of the king." (13) And the messenger that went to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, "Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good to the king with one mouth, let your word, please, be like the word of one of them, and speak good." (14) And Micaiah said, "As Hashem lives, what Hashem says to me, that I will speak." (15) And when he came to the king, the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall we desist?" And he answered him, "Go up and prosper; and Hashem will deliver it into the hand of the king." (16) And the king said to him, "How many times shall I adjure you that you speak to me nothing but the truth in the name of Hashem?" (17) And he said, "I saw all of Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd; and Hashem said, 'These have no master; let them return every man to his house in peace.'" (18) And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?" (19) And he said, "Therefore hear the word of Hashem. I saw Hashem sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by Him on His right hand and on His left. (20) And Hashem said, 'Who shall entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead.' And one said this and another said that. (21)

And the spirit came forth and stood before Hashem, and said, 'I will entice him.' (22) And Hashem said to him, 'With what?' And he said, 'I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And He said, 'You shall entice him and you shall prevail also; go forth, and do so.' (23) Now therefore, behold, Hashem has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours; but Hashem has spoken evil concerning you." (24) Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near, and smote Micaiah on the cheek, and said, "Which way did the spirit of Hashem pass from me to speak to you?" (25) And Micaiah said, "Behold, you shall see on that day, when you shall go into an inner chamber to hide yourself." (26) And the king of Israel said, "Take Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son, (27) and say, 'Thus says the king, 'Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with scant bread and with scant water, until I come in peace.'" (28) And Micaiah said, "If you return at all in peace, Hashem has not spoken by me." And he said, "Hear, you peoples, all of you." (29) So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead. (30) And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into the battle; but you, put on your robes." And the king of Israel disguised himself and went into the battle. (31) Now the king of Aram had commanded the thirty-two captains of his chariots, saying, "Fight neither with small nor great, but only with the king of Israel." (32) And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, "Surely it is the king of Israel"; and they turned aside to fight against him; and Jehoshaphat cried out. (33) And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him. (34) And a certain man drew his bow innocently, and smote the king of Israel between the lower armor and the breastplate. Therefore he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn your hand, and carry me out of the camp; for I am severely wounded." (35) And the battle raged that day; and the king was propped up in his chariot against the Arameans and died at evening, and the blood ran out of the wound into the bottom of the chariot. (36) And there went a cry throughout the army when the sun went down, saying, "Every man to his city, and every man to his country." (37) So the king died, and he was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria. (38) And they washed the chariot by the pool of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his blood; the harlots also washed themselves there, according to the word of Hashem which He spoke. (39) Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, and the ivory house which he built, and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? (40) So Ahab slept with his fathers; and Ahaziah his son

reigned in his stead. (41) And Jehoshaphat the son of Asa began to reign over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel. (42) Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi. (43) And he walked in all the way of Asa his father; he did not turn aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of Hashem. (44) However, the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and offered in the high places. (45) And Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel. (46) Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, and his might that he showed, and how he battled, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? (47) And the remnant of the cultic prostitutes that remained in the days of his father Asa, he rid from the land. (48) And there was no king in Edom; a deputy was king. (49) Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish to go to Ophir for gold; but they did not go for the ships were broken at Ezion-geber. (50) Then Ahaziah the son of Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, "Let my servants go with your servants in the ships." But Jehoshaphat did not consent. (51) And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Jehoram his son reigned in his stead. (52) Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned two years over Israel. (53) And he did that which was evil in the sight of Hashem, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother, and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin. (54) And he served Baal, and worshipped him, and provoked Hashem, the God of Israel, according to all that his father had done.

## II Kings 1:1-18

(1) And Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab. (2) And Ahaziah fell down through the lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria and was sick; and he sent messengers, and he said to them, "Go, inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover from this sickness." (3) But an angel of Hashem said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say to them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you go to inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron?' (4) Now therefore thus says Hashem: You shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but you shall surely die.'" And Elijah departed. (5) And the messengers returned to him, and he said to them, "Why is it that you have returned?" (6) And they said to him, "A man came up to meet us, and he said

to us, 'Go, return to the king that sent you, and say to him, 'Thus says Hashem: Is it because there is no God in Israel that you send to inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed upon which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.' (7) And he said to them, "What was the manner of the man that came up to meet you and told you these words?" (8) And they answered him, "He was a hairy man and girded with a leather belt about his hips." And he said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite." (9) Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him; and, behold, he sat on the top of the hill. And he spoke to him, "O man of God, the king has said, 'Come down.'" (10) And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." And fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty. (11) And again he sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said to him, "O man of God, thus the king has said, 'Come down quickly.'" (12) And Elijah answered and said to them, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." And the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty. (13) And again he sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said to him, "O man of God, please, may my life and the life of these fifty your servants be precious in your sight. (14) Behold, fire came down from heaven and consumed the first two captains of fifty with their fifties; but now let my life be precious in your sight". (15) And the angel of Hashem said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him." And he arose and went down with him to the king. (16) And he said to him, "Thus says Hashem, 'Since you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron, – is there is no God in Israel to inquire of His word? – therefore you shall not come down from the bed upon which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.'" (17) So he died according to the word of Hashem which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram began to reign in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son. (18) Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

## II Kings 2:1-15

(1) And it came to pass, when Hashem was to take Elijah up by a whirlwind into heaven, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. (2) And Elijah said to Elisha, "Please stay here, for Hashem has sent me as far as Beth-el." And Elisha

said, "As Hashem lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went down to Beth-el. (3) And the sons of the prophets that were at Beth-el came forth to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that Hashem will take away your master from your head today?" And he said, "Yea, I know it; be still." (4) And Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please stay here, for Hashem has sent me to Jericho." And he said, "As Hashem lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. (5) And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that Hashem will take away your master from your head today?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; be still." (6) And Elijah said to him, "Please, stay here, for Hashem has sent me to the Jordan." And he said, "As Hashem lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." And the two of them went on. (7) And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood opposite them, at a distance, and the two of them stood by the Jordan. (8) And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided here and there, so that they two went over on dry ground. (9) And it came to pass when they had gone over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." (10) And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so." (11) And it came to pass, as they were going and talking, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire, which separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. (12) And Elisha saw it, and he cried, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more; and he took hold of his clothes and tore them in two pieces. (13) He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and he went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. (14) And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, "Where is Hashem, the God of Elijah?" And when he also had smitten the waters, they were divided here and there; and Elisha went over. (15) And when the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho some way off saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him and bowed down to the ground before him.