

¹وَكَانَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ أَنَّ تَاخَاشَ مَلِكَ بَنِي عَمُّونَ مَاتَ، فَمَلَكَ ابْنُهُ عَوْصَا عَنْهُ.² فَقَالَ دَاوُدُ، أَصْنَعُ مَعْرُوفًا مَعَ خَانُونِ بْنِ تَاخَاشَ، لِأَنَّ أَبَاهُ صَنَعَ مَعِيَ مَعْرُوفًا. فَأَرْسَلَ دَاوُدُ رُسُلًا لِيُعِزِّبَهُ بِأَبِيهِ. فَجَاءَ عَبِيدُ دَاوُدَ إِلَى أَرْضِ بَنِي عَمُّونَ إِلَى خَانُونٍ لِيُعِزُّوهُ.³ فَقَالَ رُؤَسَاءُ بَنِي عَمُّونَ لِحَانُونِ، هَلْ يُكْرِمُ دَاوُدُ أَبَاكَ فِي عَيْبِكَ حَتَّى أَرْسَلَ إِلَيْكَ مُعِزِّينَ. أَلَيْسَ لِأَجْلِ الْقَحْصِ وَالْقَلْبِ وَتَجَسُّسِ الْأَرْضِ جَاءَ عَبِيدُ إِلَيْكَ.⁴ فَأَخَذَ خَانُونُ عَبِيدَ دَاوُدَ وَخَلَقَ لِحَانُونِ وَقَصَّ نِيَابَهُمْ مِنَ الْوَسْطِ عِنْدَ السَّوَةِ ثُمَّ أَطْلَقَهُمْ.⁵ فَذَهَبَ أَنَاثُ وَأَخْبَرُوا دَاوُدَ عَنِ الرِّجَالِ. فَأَرْسَلَ لِلْقَانِئِمِ لِأَنَّ الرِّجَالَ كَانُوا حَاجِلِينَ جِدًّا. وَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ، أَقِيمُوا فِي أَرِيخَا حَتَّى تَنْتَ لِحَاكِمُ ثُمَّ ارْجِعُوا.⁶ وَلَمَّا رَأَى بَنُو عَمُّونَ أَنَّهُمْ قَدْ أُبْنُوا عِنْدَ دَاوُدَ، أَرْسَلَ خَانُونُ وَبَنُو عَمُّونَ أَلْفَ وَرَثَةٍ مِنَ الْفِصَّةِ لِيَسْتَأْجِرُوا لَأَنْفُسِهِمْ مِنْ أَرَامِ التَّهْرِينِ وَمِنْ أَرَامِ مَعَكَةَ وَمِنْ صَوَةِ مَرْكَبَاتٍ وَفُرْسَانًا.⁷ فَاسْتَأْجَرُوا لَأَنْفُسِهِمْ اثْنَيْنِ وَتَلَاثِينَ أَلْفَ مَرْكَبَةٍ، وَمَلَكَ مَعَكَةَ وَسَعْبَهُ. فَجَاءُوا وَتَرَلُوا مُقَابِلَ مِيدَبَا. وَاجْتَمَعَ بَنُو عَمُّونَ مِنْ مُدُنِهِمْ وَأَتُوا لِلْحَرْبِ.⁸ وَلَمَّا سَمِعَ دَاوُدُ أَرْسَلَ يُوَابَ وَكُلَّ جَيْشِ الْجَبَايِرَةِ.⁹ فَخَرَجَ بَنُو عَمُّونَ وَاصْطَفُوا لِلْحَرْبِ عِنْدَ بَابِ الْمَدِينَةِ، وَالْمُلُوكُ الَّذِينَ جَاءُوا كَانُوا وَخَذَهُمْ فِي الْحِفْلِ.¹⁰ وَلَمَّا رَأَى يُوَابُ أَنَّ مَقْدَمَةَ الْحَرْبِ كَانَتْ تَحُوهُ مِنْ قُدَّامِ وَمِنْ وَرَاءِ، اخْتَارَ مِنْ جَمِيعِ مَسْحَبِ إِسْرَائِيلَ وَصَفَّهُمْ لِلِقَاءِ أَرَامَ.¹¹ وَسَلَّمَ بَقِيَّةَ الشَّعْبِ لِيَدِ أَبْشَايَ أَخِيهِ، فَاصْطَفُوا لِلِقَاءِ بَنِي عَمُّونَ.¹² وَقَالَ، إِنَّ قَوِيَّ أَرَامَ عَلَيَّ تَكُونُ لِي تَجَدَّةً، وَإِنْ قَوِيَّ بَنُو عَمُّونَ عَلَيَّ أَتَجَدَّنَّ.¹³ تَجَلَّدَ، وَلَتَسَدَّدَ لِأَجْلِ شَعْبِنَا وَلِأَجْلِ مَدُنِ إِلَهَاتِنَا، وَمَا يَحْسُنُ فِي عَيْنِي الرَّبِّ يَفْعَلْ.¹⁴ وَتَقَدَّمَ يُوَابُ وَالشَّعْبُ الَّذِينَ مَعَهُ تَحُوَ أَرَامَ لِلْمُحَارَبَةِ، فَهَرَبُوا مِنْ أَمَامِهِ.¹⁵ وَلَمَّا رَأَى بَنُو عَمُّونَ أَنَّهُ قَدْ هَرَبَ أَرَامَ هَرَبُوا هُمْ أَيْضًا مِنْ أَمَامِ أَبْشَايَ أَخِيهِ وَدَخَلُوا إِلَى الْمَدِينَةِ. وَجَاءَ يُوَابُ إِلَى أَوْشَلِيمَ.¹⁶ وَلَمَّا رَأَى أَرَامُ أَنَّهُمْ قَدْ انْكَسَرُوا أَمَامَ إِسْرَائِيلَ أَرْسَلُوا رُسُلًا، وَأَبْتَرُوا أَرَامَ الَّذِينَ فِي غَيْرِ التَّهْرِ، وَأَمَامَهُمْ شُوبَكَ رَئِيسُ جَيْشِ هَدَدَ عَزَرَ.¹⁷ وَلَمَّا أَحْبَرَ دَاوُدَ جَمَعَ كُلَّ إِسْرَائِيلَ وَغَبَرَ الْأُرْدُنَّ وَجَاءَ إِلَيْهِمْ وَاصْطَفَى صِدْهَهُمْ. إِصْطَفَى دَاوُدُ لِلِقَاءِ أَرَامَ فِي الْحَرْبِ فَخَارَبُوهُ.¹⁸ وَهَرَبَ أَرَامُ مِنْ أَمَامِ إِسْرَائِيلَ، وَقَتَلَ دَاوُدُ مِنْ أَرَامَ سَبْعَةَ آلَافِ مَرْكَبَةٍ وَأَرْبَعِينَ أَلْفَ رَاغِلٍ، وَقَتَلَ شُوبَكَ رَئِيسَ الْجَيْشِ.¹⁹ وَلَمَّا رَأَى عَبِيدُ هَدَدَ عَزَرَ أَنَّهُمْ قَدْ

¹Now it came to pass after this, that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon died, and his son reigned in his stead.² And David said, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, because his father shewed kindness to me. And David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father. So the servants of David came into the land of the children of Ammon to Hanun, to comfort him.³ But the princes of the children of Ammon said to Hanun, Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? are not his servants come unto thee for to search, and to overthrow, and to spy out the land?⁴ Wherefore Hanun took David's servants, and shaved them, and cut off their garments in the midst hard by their buttocks, and sent them away.⁵ Then there went certain, and told David how the men were served. And he sent to meet them: for the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said, Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and then return.⁶ And when the children of Ammon saw that they had made themselves odious to David, Hanun and the children of Ammon sent a thousand talents of silver to hire them chariots and horsemen out of Mesopotamia, and out of Syriamaachah, and out of Zobah.⁷ So they hired thirty and two thousand chariots, and the king of Maachah and his people; who came and pitched before Medeba. And the children of Ammon gathered themselves together from their cities, and came to battle.⁸ And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men.⁹ And the

اَنْكَسَرُوا اَمَامَ إِسْرَائِيلَ صَالِحُوا دَاوُدَ وَخَدَمُوهُ. وَلَمْ يَسْأَلْ
أَرَامُ أَنْ يُنْجِدُوا بَنِي عَمُّونَ بَعْدُ.

children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array before the gate of the city: and the kings that were come were by themselves in the field.¹⁰ Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him before and behind, he chose out of all the choice of Israel, and put them in array against the Syrians.¹¹ And the rest of the people he delivered unto the hand of Abishai his brother, and they set themselves in array against the children of Ammon.¹² And he said, If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will help thee.¹³ Be of good courage, and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God: and let the LORD do that which is good in his sight.¹⁴ So Joab and the people that were with him drew nigh before the Syrians unto the battle; and they fled before him.¹⁵ And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, they likewise fled before Abishai his brother, and entered into the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem.¹⁶ And when the Syrians saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they sent messengers, and drew forth the Syrians that were beyond the river: and Shophach the captain of the host of Hadarezer went before them.¹⁷ And it was told David; and he gathered all Israel, and passed over Jordan, and came upon them, and set the battle in array against them. So when David had put the battle in array against the Syrians, they fought with him.¹⁸ But the Syrians fled before Israel; and David slew of the Syrians seven thousand men which

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fought in chariots, and forty thousand footmen, and killed Shophach the captain of the host.¹⁹ And when the servants of Hadarezer saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they made peace with David, and became his servants: neither would the Syrians help the children of Ammon any more.