

¹ وَأَخْصَى دَاوُدُ الشَّعْبَ الَّذِي مَعَهُ، وَجَعَلَ عَلَيْهِمْ رُؤُسَاءَ
 الْوُفَى وَرُؤُسَاءَ مِئَاتٍ. ² وَأَرْسَلَ دَاوُدُ الشَّعْبَ ثُلثًا بِيَدِ يُوَابَ
 وَثُلثًا بِيَدِ أَبِيشَايَ ابْنِ صَرُويَةَ أَخِي يُوَابَ وَثُلثًا بِيَدِ إِيَّتَائِ
 الْجِثِّيِّ. وَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ لِلشَّعْبِ، إِنِّي أَنَا أَيْضًا أَخْرَجُ
 مَعَكُمْ. ³ فَقَالَ الشَّعْبُ، لَا تَخْرُجْ، لَأَنَّا إِذَا هَرَبْنَا لَا يُبَالُونَ
 بِنَا، وَإِذَا مَاتَ نِصْفُنَا لَا يُبَالُونَ بِنَا. وَالآنَ أَنْتَ كَعَشْرَةِ
 آلَافٍ مِنَّا. وَالآنَ الْأَصْلَحُ أَنْ تَكُونَ لَنَا تَجْدَةً مِنَ
 الْمَدِينَةِ. ⁴ فَقَالَ لَهُمُ الْمَلِكُ، مَا يَحْسُنُ فِي أَعْيُنِكُمْ أَفْعَلُهُ.
 فَوَقَفَ الْمَلِكُ بِجَانِبِ الْبَابِ وَخَرَجَ جَمِيعُ الشَّعْبِ مِئَاتٍ
 وَأَلُوفًا. ⁵ وَأَوْصَى الْمَلِكُ يُوَابَ وَأَبِيشَايَ وَإِيَّتَائِ، تَرَفَّقُوا لِي
 بِالْقَتْلِ أَبْشَالُومَ. وَسَمِعَ جَمِيعُ الشَّعْبِ حِينَ أَوْصَى
 الْمَلِكُ جَمِيعَ الرُّؤُسَاءِ بِأَبْشَالُومَ. ⁶ وَخَرَجَ الشَّعْبُ إِلَى
 الْحَقْلِ لِلِقَاءِ إِسْرَائِيلَ. وَكَانَ الْقِتَالُ فِي وَغْرِ
 أَفْرَايِمَ، ⁷ فَانْكَسَرَ هُنَاكَ شَعْبُ إِسْرَائِيلَ أَمَامَ عَبِيدِ دَاوُدَ،
 وَكَانَتْ هُنَاكَ مَقْتَلَةٌ عَظِيمَةٌ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ. فُيِّلَ
 عِشْرُونَ أَلْفًا. ⁸ وَكَانَ الْقِتَالُ هُنَاكَ مُنْشِيرًا عَلَى وَجْهِ كُلِّ
 الْأَرْضِ، وَرَدَّ الَّذِينَ أَكَلَهُمُ الْوُغْرُ مِنَ الشَّعْبِ عَلَى الَّذِينَ
 أَكَلَهُمُ السَّيْفُ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ. ⁹ وَصَادَفَ أَبْشَالُومُ عَبِيدَ
 دَاوُدَ، وَكَانَ أَبْشَالُومُ رَاكِبًا عَلَى بَعْلٍ، فَدَخَلَ الْبَعْلُ تَحْتَ
 أَغْصَانِ الْبُطْمَةِ الْعَظِيمَةِ الْمُلْتَفَّةِ، فَتَعَلَّقَ رَأْسُهُ بِالْبُطْمَةِ
 وَعُلِقَ بَيْنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ، وَابْتَعَلَ الَّذِي تَحْتَهُ
 مَرًّا. ¹⁰ قَرَأَهُ رَجُلٌ وَأَحْبَرَ يُوَابَ، إِنِّي قَدْ رَأَيْتُ أَبْشَالُومَ
 مُعْلَفًا بِالْبُطْمَةِ. ¹¹ فَقَالَ يُوَابُ لِلرَّجُلِ الَّذِي أَحْبَرَهُ، إِنَّكَ
 قَدْ رَأَيْتَهُ، فَلِمَاذَا لَمْ تَضْرِبْهُ هُنَاكَ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ، وَعَلَى أَنْ
 أُعْطِيكَ عَشْرَةَ مِنَ الْفِصَّةِ وَمِنْطَقَةٍ. ¹² فَقَالَ الرَّجُلُ
 لِيُوَابَ، قَلَوُ وَزِرِّي فِي يَدَيَّ أَلْفٌ مِنَ الْفِصَّةِ لِمَا كُنْتُ أُمِدُّ
 يَدِي إِلَى ابْنِ الْمَلِكِ، لَأَنَّ الْمَلِكَ أَوْصَاكَ فِي آدَانَا أَنْتَ
 وَأَبِيشَايَ وَإِيَّتَائِ قَائِلًا، احْبَرُوا أَبَاكَ كَانَ مِنْكُمْ عَلَى الْقَتْلِ
 أَبْشَالُومَ. ¹³ وَإِلَّا فَكُنْتُ قَعْلَتٌ يَنْفِسي زُورًا، إِذْ لَا يَخْفَى
 عَنِ الْمَلِكِ شَيْءٌ، وَأَنْتَ كُنْتَ وَقَفْتَ ضِدِّي. ¹⁴ فَقَالَ
 يُوَابُ، إِنِّي لَا أَصِيرُ هَكَذَا أَمَامَكَ. فَأَخَذَ ثَلَاثَةَ سِهَامٍ بِيَدِهِ
 وَنَسَبَهَا فِي قَلْبِ أَبْشَالُومَ وَهُوَ بَعْدُ حَيٌّ فِي قَلْبِ
 الْبُطْمَةِ، ¹⁵ وَأَخَاطَ بِهَا عَشْرَةَ غِلْمَانٍ خَامِلُو سِلَاحِ يُوَابَ
 وَضَرَبُوا أَبْشَالُومَ وَأَمَاتُوهُ. ¹⁶ وَضَرَبَ يُوَابُ بِالْيُوقِ فَرَجَعَ
 الشَّعْبُ عَنْ اتِّبَاعِ إِسْرَائِيلَ، لَأَنَّ يُوَابَ مَنَعَ
 الشَّعْبَ. ¹⁷ وَأَخَذُوا أَبْشَالُومَ وَطَرَحُوهُ فِي الْوُغْرِ فِي
 الْجَبِّ الْعَظِيمِ وَأَقَامُوا عَلَيْهِ رُجْمَةً عَظِيمَةً جَدًّا مِنَ
 الْحَجَارَةِ. وَهَرَبَ كُلُّ إِسْرَائِيلَ، كُلٌّ وَاحِدٌ إِلَى

¹ And David numbered the people that were with him, and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them. ² And David sent forth a third part of the people under the hand of Joab, and a third part under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and a third part under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said unto the people, I will surely go forth with you myself also. ³ But the people answered, Thou shalt not go forth: for if we flee away, they will not care for us; neither if half of us die, will they care for us: but now thou art worth ten thousand of us: therefore now it is better that thou succour us out of the city. ⁴ And the king said unto them, What seemeth you best I will do. And the king stood by the gate side, and all the people came out by hundreds and by thousands. ⁵ And the king commanded Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with Absalom. And all the people heard when the king gave all the captains charge concerning Absalom. ⁶ So the people went out into the field against Israel: and the battle was in the wood of Ephraim; ⁷ Where the people of Israel were slain before the servants of David, and there was there a great slaughter that day of twenty thousand men. ⁸ For the battle was there scattered over the face of all the country: and the wood devoured more people that day than the sword devoured. ⁹ And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the

¹⁸ وَكَانَ أَبْشَالُومُ قَدْ أَخَذَ وَأَقَامَ لِنَفْسِهِ وَهُوَ حَيٌّ
 النَّصَبَ الَّذِي فِي وَادِي الْمَلِكِ، لِأَنَّهُ قَالَ، لَيْسَ لِي ابْنٌ
 لِأَجْلِ تَذْكِيرِ اسْمِي. وَدَعَا النَّصَبَ بِاسْمِهِ، وَهُوَ يُدْعَى بِدَ
 أَبْشَالُومَ إِلَى هَذَا الْيَوْمِ. ¹⁹ وَقَالَ أَحِيَمَعُصُ بْنُ صَادُوقَ،
 دَعْنِي أَجْرُ فَأُبَشِّرَ الْمَلِكَ، لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ انْتَقَمَ لَهُ مِنْ
 أَعْدَائِهِ. ²⁰ فَقَالَ لَهُ يُوأَبُ، مَا أَنْتَ صَاحِبُ بَشَارَةٍ فِي هَذَا
 الْيَوْمِ. فِي يَوْمٍ آخَرَ تُبَشِّرُ، وَهَذَا الْيَوْمَ لَا تُبَشِّرُ مِنْ أَجْلِ
 أَنَّ ابْنَ الْمَلِكِ قَدْ مَاتَ. ²¹ وَقَالَ يُوأَبُ لِكُوشِي، اذْهَبْ
 وَأُخْبِرِ الْمَلِكَ بِمَا رَأَيْتَ. فَسَجَدَ كُوشِي لِيُوأَبَ
 وَرَكَضَ. ²² وَعَادَ أَيْضاً أَحِيَمَعُصُ بْنُ صَادُوقَ فَقَالَ لِيُوأَبَ،
 مَهْمَا كَانَ قَدْ عَنِي أَجْرُ أَتَا أَيْضاً وَرَاءَ كُوشِي. فَقَالَ
 يُوأَبُ، لِمَاذَا تَجْرِي أَنْتَ يَا ابْنِي وَلَيْسَ لَكَ بَشَارَةٌ
 تُجَارَى. ²³ قَالَ، مَهْمَا كَانَ أَجْرِي. فَقَالَ لَهُ، أَجْرِي
 أَحِيَمَعُصُ فِي طَرِيقِ الْعُورِ وَسَبَقَ كُوشِي. ²⁴ وَكَانَ دَاوُدُ
 جَالِساً بَيْنَ الْبَايِنِ، وَطَلَعَ الرَّقِيبُ إِلَى سَطْحِ الْبَابِ إِلَى
 السُّورِ وَرَفَعَ عَيْنَيْهِ وَنَظَرَ وَإِذَا بِرَجُلٍ يَجْرِي
 وَخَذَهُ. ²⁵ فَتَادَى الرَّقِيبُ وَأُخْبِرَ الْمَلِكَ. فَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ، إِنْ
 كَانَ وَخَذَهُ فَيَ فِيهِ بَشَارَةٌ. وَكَانَ يَسْعَى وَيَقْرُبُ. ²⁶ ثُمَّ
 رَأَى الرَّقِيبُ رَجُلًا آخَرَ يَجْرِي، فَتَادَى الرَّقِيبُ الْبُيُوتَ
 وَقَالَ، هُوَذَا رَجُلٌ يَجْرِي وَخَذَهُ. فَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ، وَهَذَا أَيْضاً
 مُبَشِّرٌ. ²⁷ وَقَالَ الرَّقِيبُ، إِنِّي أَرَى جَرِي الْأَوَّلِ كَجَرِي
 أَحِيَمَعُصُ بْنُ صَادُوقَ. فَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ، هَذَا رَجُلٌ صَالِحٌ
 وَيَأْتِي بِبَشَارَةٍ صَالِحَةٍ. ²⁸ فَتَادَى أَحِيَمَعُصُ وَقَالَ لِلْمَلِكِ،
 السَّلَامُ. وَسَجَدَ لِلْمَلِكِ عَلَى وَجْهِهِ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ. وَقَالَ،
 مُبَارَكُ الرَّبِّ إِلَهَكَ الَّذِي دَفَعَ الْقَوْمَ الَّذِينَ رَفَعُوا أَيْدِيَهُمْ
 عَلَيَّ سَيِّدِي الْمَلِكِ. ²⁹ فَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ، أَسْلَامٌ لِقَتْنِي
 أَبْشَالُومَ. فَقَالَ أَحِيَمَعُصُ، قَدْ رَأَيْتُ جُمْهُورًا عَظِيمًا عِنْدَ
 إِرسَالِ يُوأَبَ عَبْدَ الْمَلِكِ وَعِنْدَكَ، وَلَمْ أَعْلَمْ مَاذَا. ³⁰ فَقَالَ
 الْمَلِكُ، ذُرْ وَقِفْ هَهُنَا. فَدَارَ وَوَقَفَ. ³¹ وَإِذَا بِكُوشِي قَدْ
 أَتَى، وَقَالَ كُوشِي، لِيُبَشِّرَ سَيِّدِي الْمَلِكَ لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ قَدْ
 انْتَقَمَ لَكَ الْيَوْمَ مِنْ جَمِيعِ الْفَاقِئِينَ عَلَيْكَ. ³² فَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ
 لِكُوشِي، أَسْلَامٌ لِقَتْنِي أَبْشَالُومَ. فَقَالَ كُوشِي، لِيَكُنْ
 كَالْقَتْنِ أَعْدَاءُ سَيِّدِي الْمَلِكِ وَجَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ قَامُوا عَلَيْكَ
 لِلشَّرِّ. ³³ فَانْرَعْجَ الْمَلِكُ وَصَعِدَ إِلَى عُثْبَةِ الْبَابِ وَكَانَ
 يَبْكِي وَيَقُولُ وَهُوَ يَتَمَشَّى، يَا ابْنِي أَبْشَالُومُ، يَا ابْنِي يَا
 ابْنِي. أَبْشَالُومُ، يَا لَيْتَنِي مِتُّ عَوَصاً عَنْكَ. يَا أَبْشَالُومُ
 ابْنِي يَا ابْنِي.

heaven and the earth; and the mule that
 was under him went away. ¹⁰ And a certain
 man saw it , and told Joab, and said,
 Behold, I saw Absalom hanged in an
 oak. ¹¹ And Joab said unto the man that told
 him, And, behold, thou sawest him , and
 why didst thou not smite him there to the
 ground? and I would have given thee ten
 shekels of silver, and a girdle. ¹² And the
 man said unto Joab, Though I should
 receive a thousand shekels of silver in
 mine hand, yet would I not put forth mine
 hand against the king's son: for in our
 hearing the king charged thee and Abishai
 and Ittai, saying, Beware that none touch
 the young man Absalom. ¹³ Otherwise I
 should have wrought falsehood against
 mine own life: for there is no matter hid
 from the king, and thou thyself wouldest
 have set thyself against me . ¹⁴ Then said
 Joab, I may not tarry thus with thee. And
 he took three darts in his hand, and thrust
 them through the heart of Absalom, while
 he was yet alive in the midst of the
 oak. ¹⁵ And ten young men that bare Joab's
 armour compassed about and smote
 Absalom, and slew him. ¹⁶ And Joab blew the
 trumpet, and the people returned from
 pursuing after Israel: for Joab held back
 the people. ¹⁷ And they took Absalom, and
 cast him into a great pit in the wood, and
 laid a very great heap of stones upon him:
 and all Israel fled every one to his
 tent. ¹⁸ Now Absalom in his lifetime had
 taken and reared up for himself a pillar,
 which is in the king's dale: for he said, I
 have no son to keep my name in
 remembrance: and he called the pillar
 after his own name: and it is called unto

this day, Absalom's place.¹⁹ Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok, Let me now run, and bear the king tidings, how that the LORD hath avenged him of his enemies.²⁰ And Joab said unto him, Thou shalt not bear tidings this day, but thou shalt bear tidings another day: but this day thou shalt bear no tidings, because the king's son is dead.²¹ Then said Joab to Cush, Go tell the king what thou hast seen. And Cush bowed himself unto Joab, and ran.²² Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok yet again to Joab, But howsoever, let me, I pray thee, also run after Cush. And Joab said, Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no tidings ready?²³ But howsoever, said he, let me run. And he said unto him, Run. Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and overran Cush.²⁴ And David sat between the two gates: and the watchman went up to the roof over the gate unto the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone.²⁵ And the watchman cried, and told the king. And the king said, If he be alone, there is tidings in his mouth. And he came apace, and drew near.²⁶ And the watchman saw another man running: and the watchman called unto the porter, and said, Behold another man running alone. And the king said, He also bringeth tidings.²⁷ And the watchman said, Me thinketh the running of the foremost is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok. And the king said, He is a good man, and cometh with good tidings.²⁸ And Ahimaaz called, and said unto the king, All is well. And he fell down to the earth upon his face before the king, and said, Blessed

be the LORD thy God, which hath delivered up the men that lifted up their hand against my lord the king.²⁹ And the king said, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Ahimaaz answered, When Joab sent the king's servant, and me thy servant, I saw a great tumult, but I knew not what it was.³⁰ And the king said unto him, Turn aside, and stand here. And he turned aside, and stood still.³¹ And, behold, Cushie came; and Cushie said, Tidings, my lord the king: for the LORD hath avenged thee this day of all them that rose up against thee.³² And the king said unto Cushie, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Cushie answered, The enemies of my lord the king, and all that rise against thee to do thee hurt, be as that young man is.³³ And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!