

¹وَكَانَ رَجُلٌ مِنْ جَبَلِ أَفْرَايِمَ اسْمُهُ مِيخَا.² فَقَالَ لِأُمِّهِ، إِنَّ
الْأَلْفَ وَالْمِئَةَ سَاقِلِ الْفِصَّةِ الَّتِي أَخَذْتُ مِنْكَ، وَأَنْتِ
لَعَنْتِ وَقُلْتِ أَيْضاً فِي أَدُنِّي. هُوَذَا الْفِصَّةُ مَعِي. أَنَا
أَخَذْتُهَا. فَقَالَتْ أُمُّهُ، مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ مِنَ الرَّبِّ يَا ابْنِي.³ قَرَدَ
الْأَلْفَ وَالْمِئَةَ سَاقِلِ الْفِصَّةِ لِأُمِّهِ. فَقَالَتْ أُمُّهُ، تَقْدِيساً
قَدَّسْتُ الْفِصَّةَ لِلرَّبِّ مِنْ يَدَيَّ لِإِنِّي لَعَمَلِ يَمْتَالِ
مَنْحُوتٍ وَتَمْتَالِ مَسْبُوكٍ. فَلَا أَرُدُّهَا لَكَ.⁴ قَرَدَ الْفِصَّةَ
لِأُمِّهِ فَأَخَذَتْ أُمُّهُ مِئَتِي سَاقِلِ فِصَّةٍ وَأَعْطَتْهَا لِلصَّانِعِ
فَعَمَلَهَا تَمْتَالاً مَنْحُوتاً وَتَمْتَالاً مَسْبُوكاً. وَكَانَا فِي بَيْتِ
مِيخَا.⁵ وَكَانَ لِلرَّجُلِ مِيخَا بَيْتٌ لِلْإِلَهِةِ، فَعَمِلَ أَفُوداً
وَتَرَاظِيمَ وَمَلَأَ يَدَ وَاحِدٍ مِنْ بَنِيهِ قِصَارَ لَهُ كَاهِنًا.⁶ وَفِي تِلْكَ
الْأَيَّامِ لَمْ يَكُنْ مَلِكٌ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ. كَانَ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ يَعْمَلُ
مَا يَحْسُنُ فِي عَيْنَيْهِ.⁷ وَكَانَ غُلَامٌ مِنْ بَيْتِ لَحْمِ يَهُودَا مِنْ
عَشِيرَةِ يَهُودَا، وَهُوَ لَوِيٌّ مُتَعَرِّبٌ هُنَاكَ.⁸ فَذَهَبَ الرَّجُلُ
مِنْ الْمَدِينَةِ مِنْ بَيْتِ لَحْمِ يَهُودَا لِيَتَعَرَّبَ حَيْثُمَا اتَّفَقَ.
فَأَتَى إِلَى جَبَلِ أَفْرَايِمَ إِلَى بَيْتِ مِيخَا وَهُوَ آخِذٌ فِي
طَرِيقِهِ.⁹ فَقَالَ لَهُ مِيخَا، مِنْ أَيْنَ أَتَيْتَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ، أَنَا لَوِيٌّ
مِنْ بَيْتِ لَحْمِ يَهُودَا، وَأَنَا ذَاهِبٌ لَأَتَعَرَّبَ حَيْثُمَا
اتَّفَقَ.¹⁰ فَقَالَ لَهُ مِيخَا، أَفَمِ عِنْدِي وَكُنْ لِي أَباً وَكَاهِنًا،
وَأَنَا أُعْطِيكَ عَشْرَةَ سَاقِلِ فِصَّةٍ فِي السَّنَةِ، وَخُلَّةً
ثِيَابَ، وَفُوتَكَ. فَذَهَبَ مَعَهُ الْلاَوِيُّ.¹¹ قَرَضِيَ الْلاَوِيُّ
بِالْإِقَامَةِ مَعَ الرَّجُلِ، وَكَانَ الْغُلَامُ لَهُ كَأَخِي بَنِيهِ.¹² فَمَلَأَ
مِيخَا يَدَ الْلاَوِيِّ، وَكَانَ الْغُلَامُ لَهُ كَاهِنًا، وَكَانَ فِي بَيْتِ
مِيخَا.¹³ فَقَالَ مِيخَا، الْآنَ عَلِمْتُ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ يُحْسِنُ إِلَيَّ
لأنَّهُ صَارَ لِي الْلاَوِيُّ كَاهِنًا.

¹And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah.²And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou cursedst, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it. And his mother said, Blessed be thou of the LORD, my son.³And when he had restored the eleven hundred shekels of silver to his mother, his mother said, I had wholly dedicated the silver unto the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a graven image and a molten image: now therefore I will restore it unto thee.⁴Yet he restored the money unto his mother; and his mother took two hundred shekels of silver, and gave them to the founder, who made thereof a graven image and a molten image: and they were in the house of Micah.⁵And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and teraphim, and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest.⁶In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.⁷And there was a young man out of Bethlehemjudah of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there.⁸And the man departed out of the city from Bethlehemjudah to sojourn where he could find a place: and he came to mount Ephraim to the house of Micah, as he journeyed.⁹And Micah said unto him, Whence comest thou? And he said unto him, I am a Levite of Bethlehemjudah, and I go to sojourn where I may find a place.¹⁰And Micah said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten shekels of silver by the

Judges 17

year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the Levite went in.¹¹ And the Levite was content to dwell with the man; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons.¹² And Micah consecrated the Levite; and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah.¹³ Then said Micah, Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to my priest.