

¹When the LORD thy God hath cut off the nations, whose land the LORD thy God giveth thee, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their cities, and in their houses;²Thou shalt separate three cities for thee in the midst of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it.³Thou shalt prepare thee a way, and divide the coasts of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to inherit, into three parts, that every slayer may flee thither.⁴And this is the case of the slayer, which shall flee thither, that he may live: Whoso killeth his neighbour ignorantly, whom he hated not in time past;⁵As when a man goeth into the wood with his neighbour to hew wood, and his hand fetcheth a stroke with the axe to cut down the tree, and the head slippeth from the helve, and lighteth upon his neighbour, that he die; he shall flee unto one of those cities, and live:⁶Lest the avenger of the blood pursue the slayer, while his heart is hot, and overtake him, because the way is long, and slay him; whereas he was not worthy of death, inasmuch as he hated him not in time past.⁷Wherefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt separate three cities for thee.⁸And if the LORD thy God enlarge thy coast, as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, and give thee all the land which he promised to give unto thy fathers;⁹If thou shalt keep all these commandments to do them, which I command thee this day, to love the LORD thy God, and to walk ever in his ways; then shalt thou add three cities more for thee, beside these three:¹⁰That innocent blood be not shed in thy land, which the LORD

¹مَتَى قَرَضَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ الْأُمَمَ الَّذِينَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ يُعْطِيكَ أَرْضَهُمْ، وَوَرِثَتَهُمْ وَسَكَنَتِ مُدُنُهُمْ وَبُيُوتَهُمْ،²تَفَرَّرْ لِتَقْسِكَ ثَلَاثَ مُدُنٍ فِي وَسْطِ أَرْضِكَ الَّتِي يُعْطِيكَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ لِمَتْلِكِهَا.³تُصَلِّحُ الطَّرِيقَ وَتُثَلِّثُ نُحُومَ أَرْضِكَ الَّتِي يَفْسِمُ لَكَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ، فَتَكُونُ مَهْرَبًا لِكُلِّ قَاتِلٍ.⁴وَهَذَا هُوَ حُكْمُ الْقَاتِلِ الَّذِي يَهْرُبُ إِلَى هُنَاكَ قَيْحًا، مَنْ صَرَبَ صَاحِبَهُ بِعَبْرٍ عِلْمٍ وَهُوَ عَبْرٌ مُنْعِيصٌ لَهُ مُنْذُ أَمْسٍ وَمَا قَبْلَهُ.⁵وَمَنْ ذَهَبَ مَعَ صَاحِبِهِ فِي الْوَعْرِ لِيَخْتَطِبَ حَطْبًا، فَانْدَفَعَتْ يَدُهُ بِالْقَاسِ لِيَقْطَعَ الْحَطَبَ وَأَقْلَتِ الْحَدِيدُ مِنَ الْخَشَبِ وَأَصَابَ صَاحِبَهُ قِمَاتٍ، فَهُوَ يَهْرُبُ إِلَيَّ إِحْدَى تِلْكَ الْمُدُنِ قَيْحًا.⁶بَلَا يَسْعَى وَلِيَّ الدِّمِّ وَرَاءَ الْقَاتِلِ حِينَ يَحْمِي قَلْبُهُ، وَيُذْرِكُهُ إِذَا طَالَ الطَّرِيقُ وَيَقْتُلُهُ، وَلَيْسَ عَلَيْهِ حُكْمُ الْمَوْتِ، لِأَنَّهُ عَبْرٌ مُنْعِيصٌ لَهُ مُنْذُ أَمْسٍ وَمَا قَبْلَهُ.⁷لِأَجْلِ ذَلِكَ أَنَا أَمُرُّكَ، ثَلَاثَ مُدُنٍ تَفَرَّرْ لِتَقْسِكَ.⁸وَإِنْ وَسَّعَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ نُحُومَكَ كَمَا خَلَفَ لَأَبَائِكَ، وَأَعْطَاكَ جَمِيعَ الْأَرْضِ الَّتِي قَالَ إِنَّهُ يُعْطِي لَأَبَائِكَ،⁹إِذْ حَفِطْتَ كُلَّ هَذِهِ الْوَصَايَا لَتَعْمَلَهَا، كَمَا أَنَا أَوْصِيكَ الْيَوْمَ لِتُحِبَّ الرَّبَّ إِلَهُكَ وَتَسْلُكَ فِي طَرْقِهِ كُلَّ الْأَيَّامِ، فَزِدْ لِتَقْسِكَ أَيْضًا ثَلَاثَ مُدُنٍ عَلَى هَذِهِ الثَّلَاثِ،¹⁰حَتَّى لَا يَسْفِكَ دَمٌ بَرِيٍّ فِي وَسْطِ أَرْضِكَ الَّتِي يُعْطِيكَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ تَصِيًّا، فَيَكُونُ عَلَيْكَ دَمٌ. وَلَكِنْ إِذَا كَانَ إِنْسَانٌ مُنْعِيصًا لِصَاحِبِهِ فَكَمَنْ لَهُ وَقَامَ عَلَيْهِ وَصَرَبَتْهُ صَرْبَةً قَاتِلَةً قِمَاتٍ، ثُمَّ هَرَبَ إِلَى إِحْدَى تِلْكَ الْمُدُنِ،¹²بُرْسِلُ شُبُوحِ مَدِينَتِهِ وَتَأْخُذُونَهُ مِنْ هُنَاكَ وَيَذْفَعُونَهُ إِلَى يَدِ وَلِيِّ الدِّمِّ فَيَمُوتُ.¹³لَا تُسْفِكُ عَيْنُكَ عَلَيْهِ. فَتَنْزِعَ دَمَ التَّرِيءِ مِنْ إِسْرَائِيلَ، فَيَكُونُ لَكَ حَيْرٌ.¹⁴لَا تُثَقِّلُ نُحْمَ صَاحِبِكَ الَّذِي تَصَبَّهَ الْأَوَّلُونَ فِي تَصْيِيكَ الَّذِي تَتَّالُهُ فِي الْأَرْضِ الَّتِي يُعْطِيكَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُكَ لِمَتْلِكِهَا.¹⁵لَا يَقُومُ شَاهِدٌ وَاجِدٌ عَلَى إِنْسَانٍ فِي ذَنْبٍ مَا أَوْ خَطِيئَةٍ مَا مِنْ جَمِيعِ الْخَطَايَا الَّتِي يُخْطِئُ بِهَا. عَلَى قِمِّ شَاهِدَيْنِ أَوْ عَلَى قِمِّ ثَلَاثَةِ شُهَدَاءٍ يَقُومُ الْأَمْرُ.¹⁶إِذَا قَامَ شَاهِدٌ زُورٌ عَلَى إِنْسَانٍ لِيَشْهَدَ عَلَيْهِ بِرَبْعٍ¹⁷يَقِفُ الرَّجُلَانِ اللَّذَانِ بَيْنَهُمَا الْخُصُومَةُ أَمَامَ الرَّبِّ، أَمَامَ الْكَهَنَةِ وَالْقُضَاةِ الَّذِينَ يَكُونُونَ فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ.¹⁸إِنْ فَحَصَ الْقُضَاةُ جَيِّدًا، وَإِذَا الشَّاهِدُ شَاهِدٌ كَاذِبٌ. قَدْ شَهِدَ بِالْكَذِبِ عَلَى أَحِيهِ،¹⁹فَأَفْعَلُوا بِهِ كَمَا تَوَى أَنْ يَفْعَلَ بِأَخِيهِ. فَتَنْزِعُونَ الشَّرَّ مِنْ وَسْطِكُمْ.²⁰وَيَسْمَعُ الْبَاقُونَ قَيْحًا فَوُونَ، وَلَا يَعُودُونَ يَفْعَلُونَ مِثْلَ ذَلِكَ الْأَمْرِ الْخَسِيفِ فِي وَسْطِكَ.²¹لَا تُسْفِكُ عَيْنُكَ. تَفْسُ بِنَفْسٍ عَيْنٌ يَعِينُ.

thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and so blood be upon thee.¹¹ But if any man hate his neighbour, and lie in wait for him, and rise up against him, and smite him mortally that he die, and fleeth into one of these cities:¹² Then the elders of his city shall send and fetch him thence, and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die.¹³ Thine eye shall not pity him, but thou shalt put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with thee.¹⁴ Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it.¹⁵ One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.¹⁶ If a false witness rise up against any man to testify against him that which is wrong;¹⁷ Then both the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days;¹⁸ And the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and, behold, if the witness be a false witness, and hath testified falsely against his brother;¹⁹ Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you.²⁰ And those which remain shall hear, and fear, and shall henceforth commit no more any such evil among you.²¹ And thine eye shall not pity; but life shall go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.