

¹And the men of Ephraim said unto him, Why hast thou served us thus, that thou calledst us not, when thou wentest to fight with the Midianites? And they did chide with him sharply.²And he said unto them, What have I done now in comparison of you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abiezer?³God hath delivered into your hands the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb: and what was I able to do in comparison of you? Then their anger was abated toward him, when he had said that.⁴And Gideon came to Jordan, and passed over, he, and the three hundred men that were with him, faint, yet pursuing them.⁵And he said unto the men of Succoth, Give, I pray you, loaves of bread unto the people that follow me; for they be faint, and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, kings of Midian.⁶And the princes of Succoth said, Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thine army?⁷And Gideon said, Therefore when the LORD hath delivered Zebah and Zalmunna into mine hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.⁸And he went up thence to Penuel, and spake unto them likewise: and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered him.⁹And he spake also unto the men of Penuel, saying, When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.¹⁰Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their hosts with them, about fifteen thousand men, all that were left of all the hosts of the children of the east: for there

¹وَقَالَ لَهُ رَجَالُ أَفْرَايِمَ، مَا هَذَا الْأَمْرُ الَّذِي فَعَلْتَ بِنَا، إِذْ لَمْ نَدْعُنَا عِنْدَ ذَهَابِكَ لِمُحَارَبَةِ الْمِذْيَانِيِّينَ. وَخَاصُمُوهُ بِشِدَّةٍ.²فَقَالَ لَهُمْ، مَاذَا فَعَلْتَ الْآنَ تَطْيِرُكُمْ. أَلَيْسَ خُصَاصَةُ أَفْرَايِمَ خَيْرًا مِنْ قِطَافِ أَبِيعَزَرَ. لِيَدِكُمْ دَفْعُ اللَّهِ أَمِيرِي الْمِذْيَانِيِّينَ غُرَابًا وَذَنْبًا. وَمَاذَا قَدِرْتُ أَنْ أَعْمَلَ تَطْيِرُكُمْ.. جَيِّدٌ ارْتَحْتُ زَوْجَهُمْ عَنْهُ عِنْدَمَا تَكَلَّمْتُ بِهِذَا الْكَلَامَ.⁴وَجَاءَ جِدْعُونُ إِلَى الْأَزْدُودِ وَغَبَرَ هُوَ وَالثَّلَاثُ مِئَةَ الرِّجُلِ الَّذِينَ مَعَهُ مُعْيِينَ وَمُطَارِدِينَ.⁵فَقَالَ لِأَهْلِ سُكُوتَ، أَعْطُوا أَرْغَفَةَ خُبْزٍ لِلْقَوْمِ الَّذِينَ مَعِيَ لِأَنَّهُمْ مُعْيُونَ، وَأَنَا سَاعٍ وَرَاءَ رَجَبٍ وَصَلْمُنَّاعَ مَلِكِي مِذْيَانَ. فَقَالَ رُؤَسَاءُ سُكُوتَ، هَلْ أَيْدِي رَجَبٍ وَصَلْمُنَّاعَ يَبِيدُكَ الْآنَ حَتَّى تُعْطِيَ جُنْدَكَ خُبْرًا.⁷فَقَالَ جِدْعُونُ، لِذَلِكَ عِنْدَمَا يَدْفَعُ الرَّبُّ رَجَبَ وَصَلْمُنَّاعَ بِيَدِي أَدْرُسُ لِحْمَكُمْ مَعَ أَشْوَكَ الْبَرَّةِ بِالنَّوَارِجِ.⁸وَصَعِدَ مِنْ هُنَاكَ إِلَى قُنُوتَيْلَ وَكَلَّمَهُمْ هَكَذَا. فَأَجَابَهُ أَهْلُ قُنُوتَيْلَ كَمَا أَجَابَ أَهْلُ سُكُوتَ، فَقَالَ أَيْضًا لِأَهْلِ قُنُوتَيْلَ، عِنْدَ رُجُوعِي بِسَلَامٍ أَهْدِمُ هَذَا الْبُرْجَ.¹⁰وَكَانَ رَجَبُ وَصَلْمُنَّاعُ فِي قَرْقَرٍ وَجَيْشُهُمَا مَعَهُمَا تَحُوْ جَمْسَةَ عَشْرِ أَلْفًا، كُلُّ الْبَاقِينَ مِنْ جَمِيعِ جَيْشِ بَنِي الْمَشْرِقِ. وَالَّذِينَ سَقَطُوا مِئَةَ وَعِشْرُونَ أَلْفَ رَجُلٍ مُحْتَطِطِي السَّيْفِ.¹¹وَصَعِدَ جِدْعُونُ فِي طَرِيقِ سَاكِنِي الْخِيَامِ شَرْقِيَّ ثُوبَجَ وَبُجْبَهَةَ، وَصَرَبَ الْجَيْشَ وَكَانَ الْجَيْشُ مُطْمَئِنًّا.¹²فَهَرَبَ رَجَبُ وَصَلْمُنَّاعُ، فَتَبِعَهُمَا وَأَمْسَكَ مَلِكِي مِذْيَانَ رَجَبَ وَصَلْمُنَّاعَ وَأَرْعَجَ كُلَّ الْجَيْشِ.¹³وَرَجَعَ جِدْعُونُ بْنُ يُوَاشَ مِنْ الْحَرْبِ مِنْ عِنْدِ عَقْبَةِ حَارَسَ.¹⁴وَأَمْسَكَ غُلَامًا مِنْ أَهْلِ سُكُوتَ وَسَأَلَهُ، فَكَتَبَ لَهُ رُؤَسَاءُ سُكُوتَ وَثُبُوحَهَا، سَبْعَةَ وَسَبْعِينَ رَجُلًا.¹⁵وَدَخَلَ إِلَى أَهْلِ سُكُوتَ وَقَالَ، هُوَذَا رَجَبُ وَصَلْمُنَّاعُ اللَّذَانِ غَبَرْتُمُونِي بِهِمَا قَائِلِينَ، هَلْ أَيْدِي رَجَبٍ وَصَلْمُنَّاعَ يَبِيدُكَ الْآنَ حَتَّى تُعْطِيَ رَجَالَكَ الْمُعْيِينَ خُبْرًا.¹⁶وَأَخَذَ سُيُوحَ الْمَدِينَةِ وَأَشْوَكَ الْبَرَّةِ وَالنَّوَارِجَ وَعَلَّمَ بِهَا أَهْلَ سُكُوتَ.¹⁷وَهَدَمَ بُرْجَ قُنُوتَيْلَ وَقَتَلَ رَجَالَ الْمَدِينَةِ.¹⁸وَقَالَ لِرَجَبٍ وَصَلْمُنَّاعَ، كَيْفَ الرِّجَالُ الَّذِينَ قَتَلْتُمَاهُمْ فِي تَابُورٍ. فَقَالَا، مِثْلَهُمْ مِثْلَكَ. كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ كَصُورَةِ أَوْلَادِ مَلِكٍ.¹⁹فَقَالَ، هُمْ إِخْوَتِي بَنُو أُمِّي. حَتَّى هُوَ الرَّبُّ لَوْ اسْتَحْيَيْتُمَاهُمْ لَمَا قَتَلْتُمَا..²⁰وَقَالَ لِيَتَرَّ بِكَرِهِ، فَمِ افْتُلَّهْمَا. فَلَمْ يَخْطِرِ الْعُلَامُ سَبْعَةً، لِأَنَّهُ خَافَ، بِمَا أَنَّهُ قَتَلَ بَعْدَ.²¹فَقَالَ رَجَبُ وَصَلْمُنَّاعُ، فَمِ أَنْتَ وَقَعَ عَلَيْنَا، لِأَنَّهُ مِثْلُ الرَّجُلِ بَطْشُهُ. فَقَامَ جِدْعُونُ وَقَتَلَ رَجَبَ وَصَلْمُنَّاعَ،

fell an hundred and twenty thousand men that drew sword.¹¹ And Gideon went up by the way of them that dwelt in tents on the east of Nobah and Jogbehah, and smote the host: for the host was secure.¹² And when Zebah and Zalmunna fled, he pursued after them, and took the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and discomfited all the host.¹³ And Gideon the son of Joash returned from battle before the sun was up,¹⁴ And caught a young man of the men of Succoth, and enquired of him: and he described unto him the princes of Succoth, and the elders thereof, even threescore and seventeen men.¹⁵ And he came unto the men of Succoth, and said, Behold Zebah and Zalmunna, with whom ye did upbraid me, saying, Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in thine hand, that we should give bread unto thy men that are weary?¹⁶ And he took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taught the men of Succoth.¹⁷ And he beat down the tower of Penuel, and slew the men of the city.¹⁸ Then said he unto Zebah and Zalmunna, What manner of men were they whom ye slew at Tabor? And they answered, As thou art, so were they; each one resembled the children of a king.¹⁹ And he said, They were my brethren, even the sons of my mother: as the LORD liveth, if ye had saved them alive, I would not slay you.²⁰ And he said unto Jether his firstborn, Up, and slay them. But the youth drew not his sword: for he feared, because he was yet a youth.²¹ Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, Rise thou, and fall upon us: for as the man is, so is his strength. And Gideon

وَأَخَذَ الْأَهْلَةَ الَّتِي فِي أَعْتَاقِ جَمَالِهِمَا.²² وَقَالَ رَجُلٌ إِسْرَائِيلَ لِيَجْدُعُونَ، تَسْلُطُ عَلَيْنَا أَنْتَ وَابْنُكَ وَابْنُ ابْنِكَ، لَأَنَّكَ قَدْ خَلَصْتَنَا مِنْ يَدِ مِذْيَانَ.²³ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ جِدْعُونَ، لَا أَتَسْلُطُ أَنَا عَلَيْكُمْ وَلَا يَتَسْلُطُ ابْنِي عَلَيْكُمْ. أَلَرَّبُّ يَتَسْلُطُ عَلَيْكُمْ.²⁴ ثُمَّ قَالَ لَهُمْ جِدْعُونَ، أَطَلَبُ مِنْكُمْ طَلِبَةً، أَنْ تُعْطُونِي كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ أَفْرَاطَ غَنِيمَتِهِ. لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ لَهُمْ أَفْرَاطٌ دَهَبٌ لَأَنَّهُمْ إِسْمَاعِيلِيُّونَ.²⁵ فَقَالُوا، إِنَّا نُعْطِي. وَقَرَّشُوا رِذَاءً وَطَرَحُوا عَلَيْهِ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ أَفْرَاطَ غَنِيمَتِهِ.²⁶ وَكَانَ وَزْنُ أَفْرَاطِ الذَّهَبِ الَّتِي طَلَبَ أَلْفًا وَسِتِّ مِئَةٍ شَاقِلٍ دَهَبًا، مَا عَدَا الْأَهْلَةَ وَالْخَلْقَ وَأَنْتَوَابَ الْأَرْجَوَانِ الَّتِي عَلَى مُلُوكِ مِذْيَانَ، وَمَا عَدَا الْقِلَادِ الَّتِي فِي أَعْتَاقِ جَمَالِهِمْ.²⁷ فَصَنَعَ جِدْعُونَ مِنْهَا أَفُودًا وَجَعَلَهُ فِي مِذْيَتِهِ فِي عَفْرَةٍ. وَرَزَى كُلُّ إِسْرَائِيلَ وَرَأَاهُ هُنَاكَ، فَكَانَ ذَلِكَ لِيَجْدُعُونَ وَبَنِيهِ قَحًا.²⁸ وَذَلَّ مِذْيَانُ أَمَامَ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَلَمْ يَعُودُوا يَرْفَعُونَ رُؤُوسَهُمْ. وَاسْتَرَاحَتِ الْأَرْضُ أَرْبَعِينَ سَنَةً فِي أَيَّامِ جِدْعُونَ.²⁹ وَدَهَبَ يَرْبَعُلُ بْنُ يُوَاشَ وَأَقَامَ فِي بَنِيهِ.³⁰ وَكَانَ لِيَجْدُعُونَ سَبْعُونَ وَلَدًا خَارِجُونَ مِنْ ضُلُوبِهِ، لِأَنَّهُ كَانَتْ لَهُ نِسَاءٌ كَثِيرَاتٌ.³¹ وَسَرَّبَتْهُ الَّتِي فِي سَكِيمَ وَلَدَتْ لَهُ هِيَ أَيْضًا ابْنًا فَسَمَّاهُ أَيْمَالَكَ.³² وَمَاتَ جِدْعُونَ بْنُ يُوَاشَ بِسَبْيَةٍ صَالِحَةٍ، وَدُفِنَ فِي قَبْرِ يُوَاشَ أَبِيهِ فِي عَفْرَةٍ أَبْيَعَزَّرَ.³³ وَكَانَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِ جِدْعُونَ أَنَّ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ رَجَعُوا وَرَزَوْا وَرَاءَ الْبَغْلِيمِ، وَجَعَلُوا لَهُمْ يَغْلَ بَرِيَّتَ إِلَهًا.³⁴ وَلَمْ يَذْكُرْ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ الرَّبَّ إِلَهُهُمْ الَّذِي أَنْقَذَهُمْ مِنْ يَدِ جَمِيعِ أَعْدَائِهِمْ مِنْ حَوْلِهِمْ.³⁵ وَلَمْ يَعْمَلُوا مَعْرُوفًا مَعَ بَيْتِ يَرْبَعُلَ جِدْعُونَ تَطْيِيرَ كُلِّ الْخَيْرِ الَّذِي عَمِلَ مَعَ إِسْرَائِيلَ.

arose, and slew Zebah and Zalmunna, and took away the ornaments that were on their camels' necks.²² Then the men of Israel said unto Gideon, Rule thou over us, both thou, and thy son, and thy son's son also: for thou hast delivered us from the hand of Midian.²³ And Gideon said unto them, I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you: the LORD shall rule over you.²⁴ And Gideon said unto them, I would desire a request of you, that ye would give me every man the earrings of his prey. (For they had golden earrings, because they were Ishmaelites.)²⁵ And they answered, We will willingly give them. And they spread a garment, and did cast therein every man the earrings of his prey.²⁶ And the weight of the golden earrings that he requested was a thousand and seven hundred shekels of gold; beside ornaments, and collars, and purple raiment that was on the kings of Midian, and beside the chains that were about their camels' necks.²⁷ And Gideon made an ephod thereof, and put it in his city, even in Ophrah: and all Israel went thither a whoring after it: which thing became a snare unto Gideon, and to his house.²⁸ Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.²⁹ And Jerubbaal the son of Joash went and dwelt in his own house.³⁰ And Gideon had threescore and ten sons of his body begotten: for he had many wives.³¹ And his concubine that was in Shechem, she also bare him a son, whose name he called Abimelech.³² And Gideon the son of Joash

died in a good old age, and was buried in the sepulchre of Joash his father, in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.³³ And it came to pass, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the children of Israel turned again, and went a whoring after Baalim, and made Baalberith their god.³⁴ And the children of Israel remembered not the LORD their God, who had delivered them out of the hands of all their enemies on every side:³⁵ Neither shewed they kindness to the house of Jerubbaal, namely , Gideon, according to all the goodness which he had shewed unto Israel.