

14[1] And it was the day, and Jonathan, son of Saul, said to his young man who was carrying his equipment¹ “Come, and let's go over to Philistines' garrison that is across this.” And to his father he did not declare. [2] And Saul was sitting at the end of the Hill under the pomegranate tree which is in Migron,² and the people that were with him were about six hundred men. [3] And Ahijah,³ son of Ahitub,⁴ brother of Ichabod son of Phinehas, son of Eli, priest of Yehvah in Shiloh, was bearing an ephod. And the people did not know that Jonathan had gone.

[4] And between the passes that Jonathan was seeking to cross over to Philistines' garrison was the tooth of the rock on this side and the tooth of the rock on this side. And the name of the one was Bozez,⁵ and the name of the one Seneh.⁶ [5] The one tooth fixture was on the north and in front of Michmas, and the one tooth was on the south in front of Geba.⁷

[6] And Jonathan said to his young man carrying his equipment, “Come, and let's cross over to the garrison of these foreskinned. Perhaps, Yehvah will do for us, for there is no restraint to Yehvah to save in much or in little.” [7] And his equipment bearer said to him, “Do all that is in your heart inclined to you. Behold, I am with you as your heart.” [8] And Jonathan said, “Behold, we are crossing over to the men, and we will reveal ourselves to them. [9] And if thus they say to us, 'Be still until we reach you,' so we will stand in our place and not go up to them. [10] And if thus they say, 'Come up to us,' so we will go up; for Yehvah has given them in our hand. And this will be for us the sign.”

[11] And the two of them revealed themselves to Philistines' garrison, and Philistines said, “Look, Hebrews are coming out from the holes where they were hiding.” [12] And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his equipment bearer and said, “Come up to us, and we will make known to you something.” And Jonathan said to his equipment bearer, “Come up after me, for Yehvah has given them in Israel's hand.” [13] And Jonathan went up upon his hands and upon his feet and his equipment bearer after him, and they fell before Jonathan; and his equipment bearer was killing after him. [14] And the first slaughter that Jonathan and his equipment bearer struck was about twenty men in about half a furrow⁸ of a

1 כֵּלָיו (kêlâyv) “his equipment”; YLT “his weapons”; NKJV “his armor” - plural noun, very general term, not specific. “armor” (NAS) e.g. is שִׁירְיוֹן (shiryon).

2 מִגְרֹן (migron) “Migron”; LXX Μαγδων (Magdôn) – found also in Isaiah 10:28 (LXX Μαγεδω [Magedô]).

3 אַחִיָּה (‘achiyyâh) “Ahijah” = “brother of Yah” or “my brother is Yah” - for this man also found in 1 Samuel 14:18.

Others by this name, a scribe 1 Kings 4:3; a prophet 1 Kings 11:29-30; 12:15; 14:2, 4 (both אַחִיָּה [‘achiyyâh] & אַחִיָּהוּ [‘achiyyâhu]), 5-6 אַחִיָּהוּ [‘achiyyâhu]), 18 אַחִיָּהוּ [‘achiyyâhu]); 2 Chronicles 9:29; 10:15 (אַחִיָּהוּ [‘achiyyâhu]); a father, 1 Kings 15:27, 29, 33; 21:22; 2 Kings 9:9; in list of sons, 1 Chronicles 2:25; son of Ehud, 1 Chronicles 8:7; one of David's mighty men, 1 Chronicles 11:36; a Levite, 1 Chronicles 26:20; a leader, Nehemiah 10:26.

4 אַחִיטוּב (‘achituv) “Ahitub” = my brother is goodness or brother of goodness – this name also found in 1 Samuel 22:9, 11-12, 20; 2 Samuel 8:17; 1 Chronicles 6:7-8, 11-12, 52; 9:11; 18:16; Ezra 7:2; Nehemiah 11:11.

5 בּוּצֵץ (botsêts) “Bozez” - only here

6 סֵנֶה (senneh) “Senneh”; CEV “Thornbush”; BDB “(= thorny)” - only here – same root word as “bush” in Exodus 3:2.

7 גִּבְעָה (gâvâ) “Geba” NAS; “Gibeah” YLT, NKJV, KJV – see footnote for 1 Samuel 13:16.

8 מַעְנָה (ma`anâh) “furrow” YLT, NAS – only also found in Psalm 129:3 in the plural “furrows” (NKJV).

pair of a field.

[15] And there was a trembling in the camp, in the field, and among all the people. The garrison and the destroyer,⁹ they also trembled. And the earth quaked, and it was to a trembling of Gods.¹⁰ [16] And the watchers to Saul at Hill of Benjamin saw, and behold, the multitude was melting away and went here and there.¹¹ [17] And Saul said to the people who were with him, “Number, please, and see who has gone from with us.” And they numbered, and behold, Jonathan and his equipment bearer were not there. [18] And Saul said to Ahijah, “Bring near the ark of the Gods.” For the ark of the Gods was on that day with sons of Israel.

[19] And it was, while Saul was speaking to the priest, so the noise that was in Philistines' camp, so it went going and becoming great. And Saul said to the priest, “Withdraw your hand.” [20] And Saul and all the people who were with him assembled and came unto the battle. And behold, each man's sword was against his neighbor, very great confusion. [21] And the Hebrews, who were for the Philistines before that time, who went up with them in the camp roundabout, so also they became with Israel who were with Saul and Jonathan. [22] And all the men of Israel who were hiding in mount Ephraim heard that Philistines fled, and they joined, they also, after them in the battle. [23] And Yehvah saved Israel on that day, and the battle passed over to House of Iniquity.

[24] And men of Israel were hard-pressed on that day. And Saul put the people under an oath, saying, “Cursed is the man who eats bread until the evening, and I avenge myself from my enemy.” And all the people did not taste bread. [25] And all the land came in the forest, and there was honey upon the face of the field. [26] And the people came into the forest, and behold honey was flowing, and no one reached his hand to his mouth; for the people feared the oath.

[27] And Jonathan had not heard about the oath of his father with the people. And he sent out the end of the staff that was in his hand and dipped her in the comb of the honey and brought his hand to his mouth, and his eyes saw.¹² [28] And a man from the people answered and said, “Your father surely put the people under an oath saying, 'Cursed is the man who eats bread today.'” And the people were faint. [29] And Jonathan said, “My father has troubled the land. See, please, my eyes have brightened, because I tasted a little of this honey. [30] How much more if the people really ate today from the spoil of their enemies that were found? For now, there will be no great slaughter among the Philistines.”

[31] And they struck on that day among the Philistines from Michmas to Aijalon, and the people were very faint. [32] And the people made to spoil and took sheep and cattle and sons of cattle and slaughtered on the earth, and the people ate upon the blood. [33] And they declared to Saul, saying, “Behold, the people are sinning to Yehvah to eat upon the blood.” And he said, “You have acted treacherously. Roll to me today a great stone.” [34] And Saul said, “Scatter in the

9 See footnote for 1 Samuel 13:17.

10 אֱלֹהִים (elohiym) “Gods”; YLT, etc. “God”; NKJV, KJV “very great”

11 וַיֵּלְכוּ וְהָלְמוּ (vayyêlech vahalom) “and went here and there” - more literally, “and went and here”; LXX ἔνθεν καὶ ἐνθεν (enthen kai enthen) “from here and from here”; KJV “and they went on beating down one another,” apparently taking הָלַם (halom) to be חָלַם (châlom) to “beat” or “strike” down (e.g. Judges 5:26 “She pounded” Sisera, NKJV).

12 written: תָּרְאָנָה (târ'onâh) “saw”; YLT “see”; read: תִּאֲרָנָה (tâ'ornâh) “brightened” NKJV

people and say to them, 'Bring near to me each his ox and each his sheep and slaughter on this, and do not sin to Yehvah to eat to the blood.' And all the people brought near each his ox in his hand that night, and they slaughtered there. [35] And Saul built an altar to Yehvah. With it he began to build an altar to Yehvah.¹³

13 See e.g. Green, "With it he began to build an altar to Jehovah." This is how it reads.