

[36] And Saul said, "Let's go down after Philistines at night and plunder them until the morning light, and we shall not leave among them a man." And they said, "Do all the good in your eyes." And the priest said, "Let's draw near here to the Gods." [37] And Saul asked in Gods, "Shall I go down after Philistines? Will you give them in Israel's hand?" And he did not answer him on that day.

[38] And Saul said, "Draw near here, all the corners¹ of the people, and know and see. In what was this sin today? [39] For Yehvah lives, who saves Israel, for if it is in Jonathan my son, so dying he shall die." And no one answered him from all the people. [40] And he said to all Israel, "You be to one side, and I and Jonathan my son shall be to one side. And the people said to Saul, "Do the good in your eyes." [41] And Saul said to Yehvah, Gods of Israel, "Give perfection." And Jonathan and Saul were captured, and the people went out.

[42] And Saul said, "Cast between me and Jonathan my son." And Jonathan was captured. [43] And Saul said to Jonathan, "Declare to me what you have done." And Jonathan declared to him and said, "Tasting I tasted with the end of the staff in my hand a little honey. Behold, I shall die." [44] And Saul said, "Thus, Gods, shall he do and thus do again, for dying you shall die, Jonathan."

[45] And the people said to Saul, "Shall Jonathan die who has done this great salvation in Israel? Far be it, Yehvah lives, if from a hair of his head falls to earth, for he worked with Gods this day." And the people redeemed Jonathan, and he did not die.

[46] And Saul went up from after Philistines, and Philistines went to their place. [47] And Saul captured the kingship over Israel and waged war roundabout against all his enemies, against Moab, and against sons of Ammon, and against Edom, and against kings of Zobah,² and against Philistines. And wherever he turned, he condemned.³ [48] And he made an army and struck Amalek, and delivered Israel from his plunderer's hand.

[49] And sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Jishui, and Melchi-Shua,⁴ and the name of his two daughters, the name of his firstborn Merab,⁵ and the name of the younger Michal.⁶ [50] And the name of Saul's woman was Ahinoam,⁷ daughter of

1 פּנוֹת (pinnot) "corners" - see footnote for Judges 20:2.

2 צוֹבָה (tsovâh) "Zobah" - found also in 2 Samuel 8:3, 5, 12; 10:6 & 8 "Zoba" (צוֹבָא [tsovâ]); 23:36; 1 Kings 11:23; 1 Chronicles 18:3; 5, 9; 19:6; 2 Chronicles 8:3; Psalm 60:1.

3 יָרֵשׁ (yarshiy'a) "he condemned" VOICE; "vex" YLT; "harassed" NKJV; "inflicted punishment" NAS – same word as in e.g. Proverbs 12:2 "condemn," can also be translated "do wickedly" (e.g. Job 34:12) depending on context.

4 מַלְכֵי-שׁוּעַ (malkiy-shu'a) "Melchi-Shua" YLT; "Malchishua" NKJV = "my king is opulence" ("great wealth or luxuriousness" Oxford) – found also in 1 Samuel 31:2; 1 Chronicles 8:33; 9:39; 10:2.

5 מֶרַב (mêrav) "Merab" - found also in 1 Samuel 18:17, 19.

6 מִיכָל (mikhal) "Michal" (same word for "brook" in 2 Samuel 17:20) – found also in 1 Samuel 18:20, 27-28; 19:11-13, 17; 25:44; 2 Samuel 3:13-14; 6:16, 20-21, 23; 21:8; 1 Chronicles 15:29.

7 אַחִינוֹעַם (achinyo'am) "Ahinoam" (= "my brother is pleasant" e.g. Proverbs 3:17 "pleasant" NAS נֹעַם [no'am]) – found also for another woman, David's wife, in 1 Samuel 25:43; 27:3; 30:5; 2 Samuel 2:2; 3:2; 1 Chronicles 3:1.

Ahimaaz.⁸ And the name of the leader of his army was Abiner,⁹ son of Lamp,¹⁰ Saul's uncle. [51] And Kish was Saul's father, and Lamp, Abner's father, was Abiel's son.

[52] And the war was severe against Philistines all of Saul's days. And Saul saw every mighty man and every son of valor, and he gathered him to himself.

8 אַחִימָעַץ ('achiyâm`ats) "Ahimaaz" - found also for a son of Zadok in 2 Samuel 15:27, 36; 17:17, 20; 18:19, 22-23, 27-29; 1 Chronicles 6:8-9, 53, and a "governor" (NKJV) of Solomon's, in 1 Kings 4:15 (if not the same man).

9 אַבִּינֵר ('aviynêr) "Abiner" (= "my father is lamp") only here; elsewhere אַבְנֵר ('avnêr) "Abner" - found about 63 times.

10 נֵר (nêr) "Lamp" (e.g. Exodus 27:20); "Ner" NKJV, etc. - found also in 1 Samuel 14:51; 26:5, 14; 2 Samuel 2:8, 12; 3:23, 25, 28, 37; 1 Kings 2:5, 32; 1 Chronicles 26:28; also for Saul's grandfather, father of Kish, 1 Chronicles 8:33; 9:36, 39.