

21[1] And there was a famine in David's days, three years, year after year. And David sought Yehvah's face. And Yehvah said, "For Saul and for the house of blood by which he killed the Gibeonites." [2] And the king called for the Gibeonites and spoke to the them. And the Gibeonites were not from Israel's sons. But, they were the remnant of the Amorites, and Israel's sons had sworn to them; and Saul sought to strike them in his zeal for Israel's and Judah's sons.

[3] And David said to the Gibeonites, "What should I do for you and in what might I atone? So, bless Yehvah's inheritance." [4] And the Gibeonites said to him, "No silver or gold for me¹ with Saul and with his house, and no man is to be put to death for us in Israel."² And he said, "What are you saying I should do for you?"³ [5] And they said to the king, "The man who finished us and who thought for us we might be exterminated from standing in all Israel's border, [6] let seven men be given to us from his sons and we will hang them to Yehvah on Saul's hill, chosen of Yehvah." And the king said, "I will give."

[7] And the king spared Mephibosheth, son of Jonathan, son of Saul, upon Yehvah's oath which he swore between them, between David and Jonathan, Saul's son. [8] And the king took two sons of Rizpah,⁴ daughter of Ajah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni⁵ and Mephibosheth, and five sons of Michal, daughter of Saul, whom she bore⁶ to Adriel, son of Barzillai the Meholathite. [9] And he gave them into the hand of the Gibeonites, and they hung them on the hill before Yehvah. And the seven fell together, and they were put to death in the days of the first harvest, beginning⁷ of barley harvest.

[10] And Rizpah, daughter of Ajah, took the sackcloth and stretched it out for herself to the rock from harvest's beginning until water was poured upon them from the heavens. And she did not allow the birds of the heavens to rest upon them by day nor the beast of the field by night. [11] And it was told to David what Rizpah, daughter of Ajah, Saul's concubine, did. [12] And David went and took Saul's bones and his son Jonathan's bones from Jabesh Gilead's lords who stole them from House of Tooth's open square where the Philistines had hung them there on the day Philistines struck Saul at the Gilboa. [13] And he brought up from there Saul's bones and Jonathan his son's bones and gathered the bones of those hung, and they buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in Benjamin's land in Zelah in the grave of Kish his father. And they did all that the king had commanded. And

1 Written לִי (liy) "for me"; read לָנוּ (lānu) "for us"

2 "no man put to death"? Yet, see verse 6.

3 Both "you" in this sentence are plural.

4 Rizpah was Saul's concubine (2 Samuel 3:7)..

5 אַרְמוֹנִי ('armoniy) "Armoni" - only here.

6 Qal יָלְדָה (yāleâh) "bore" Green, CJB, DRA, ESV, OJB, RSV, TLV, WEB; "born" NAS, MEV, NET, NLV; "borne" CSB, DARBY, GNT, ISV, LEB, NIV; "brought up" KJV, NKJV, BRG – same exact word where Rizpah "bore" (NKJV) to Saul in this same verse. In a different form, the Piel form, this verb is used for a "midwife," i.e. help give birth, e.g. Genesis 35:17; Exodus 1:15-21. See also footnote for Genesis 50:23. Bringing up children is worded differently, e.g. in Isaiah 1:2 "nourished and brought up" (NKJV) וְרוֹמַמְתִּי וְגִדְלֹתִי (giddaltiy veromamtiy); 51:18 "brought up" (NKJV) גִּדְלָה (giddêlâh); Job 31:18 "reared" (NKJV) גִּדְלָנִי (gedêlaniy); 2 Kings 10:1, 5 "reared" אֲמָנִים ('omniym), same root verb for the participle "a nurse" in Ruth 4:16 אֲמֵנֶת ('omenet). See also footnote for 1 Samuel 18:19 for Adriel.

7 Written תְּחִלָּת (techillat) "beginning"; read בְּתִחִלָּת (bitechillat) "at beginning"

after this, Gods, he heeded prayer for the land.

[15] And there was war again against the Philistines with Israel. And David, and his servants with him, went down and they fought with Philistines; and David became weary. [16] And Ishbo-Benob⁸ who was among those born of the giant,⁹ and the weight of his spear was three hundred by weight of bronze, and he was girded with a new one. And he spoke of striking David. [17] And Abishai, son of Zeruiah, helped him and struck the Philistine and killed him. Then, David's men swore to him saying, "You are not going out again with us to the battle, so you do not extinguish Israel's lamp."

[18] And it was after this, there was the war again in Gob¹⁰ with Philistines. Then, Shibbechai¹¹ the Hushathite¹² struck Saph¹³ who was among those born of the giant.¹⁴ [19] And there was the war again in Gob with Philistines, and Elhanan,¹⁵ son of Jaare-Oregim¹⁶ the Bethlehemite, struck Goliath the Gittite,¹⁷ and the wood of his spear was like a weavers' beam. [20] And there was again war in Wine Press, and there was a tall man. And the fingers of his hands and the toes of his feet were six and six, twenty four in number. And he also was born to the giant.¹⁸ [21] And he reproached Israel. And Jonathan, son of Shimei,¹⁹ David's brother,²⁰ struck him. [22] These four were born to the giant²¹ in Wine Press, and they fell by David's hand and by his servants' hand.

8 Written יִשְׁבוּ בְנוֹב (yishbo benob) "Ishbo-Benob"; read יִשְׁבִּי בְנוֹב (yishbiy benob) "Ishbi benob"

9 רָפָה (râphâh) "giant" NKJV, etc.; LXX "Ραφα" (Rapha) – found also in 2 Samuel 21:18, 20, 22. See also footnote for "Rephaim" in Genesis 14:5.

10 גֹּב (gov) "Gob"; LXX Γεθ (geth) "Gath" - found also in vs 19. See 1 Chronicles 20:4 "Gezer."

11 סִבְכִּי (sibbechay) "Shibbechai"; LXX Σεβοχα (Sebocha) - found also in 1 Chronicles 11:29; 20:4; 27:11.

12 חֻשָּׁתִּי (hushâtîy) "Hushathite" - found also in 2 Samuel 23:27; 1 Chronicles 11:29; 20:4; 27:11.

13 סָף (saph) "Saph" - only here. See also 1 Chronicles 20:4 "Sippai" סִפִּי (sippay).

14 רָפָה (râphâh) "giant" - see footnote for vs 16.

15 אֶלְחָנָן (elchânân) "Elhanan" (God has been gracious) - found also in 2 Samuel 23:24; 1 Chronicles 11:26; 20:5.

16 יַעֲרִי אֹרְגִים (ya'rêy 'orgiym) "Jaare-Oregim" - only here. "Oregim" = "weavers" later in this vs.

17 = from Gath (Wine Press), same place the other Goliath was from (1 Samuel 17:4).

18 רָפָה (râphâh) "giant" - see footnote for vs 16.

19 Written שִׁמְעִי (shim'iy) "Shimei" (same name as in 2 Samuel 16:5; see also footnote for Exodus 6:17); read שִׁמְעָה (shim'âh) "Shimah." Parallel passage 1 Chronicles 20:7 has שִׁמְעָא (shimâ) "Shimea" which matches 1 Chronicles 2:13 for David's brother.

20 "David's brother" refers to Shimei (Shimea). Thus, this Jonathan was David's nephew.

21 רָפָה (râphâh) "giant" - see footnote for vs 16.