

ALSO CALLED 3 EZRA
ALSO KNOWN AS 1 ESDRAS

1 AND Yo'shiyahu held the Feast of Pecach⁵³⁰ in Yerushalayim unto his ADONAI, and offered the Pecach the fourteenth day of the first month; **2** Having set the priests according to their daily courses, being arrayed in long garments, in the Temple of YAHUAH. **3** And he spoke unto the Leviyim, the holy ministers of Yashar'el, that they should hallow themselves unto YAHUAH, to set the holy Ark of YAHUAH in the house that king Shalomah the son of David had built: **4** And said, Ye shall no more bear the Ark upon your shoulders: now therefore serve YAHUAH ELOHAYKEM, and minister unto his people Yashar'el, and prepare you after your families and kindreds, **5** According as David the king of Yashar'el prescribed, and according to the magnificence of Shalomah his son: and standing in the Temple according to the several dignity of the families of you the Leviyim, who minister in the presence of your brethren the children of Yashar'el, **6** Offer the Pecach in order, and make ready the sacrifices for your brethren, and keep the Pecach according to the commandment of YAHUAH, which was given unto Mosheh. **7** And unto the people that was found there Yo'shiyahu gave thirty thousand lambs and kids, and three thousand calves: these things were given of the king's allowance, according as he promised, to the people, to the priests, and to the Leviyim. **8** And Chilqiyahu,²⁵⁷⁴ Zakaryahu, and Ye'iy'el,²⁵⁷⁵ the governors of the Temple, gave to the priests for the Pecach offerings two thousand and six hundred sheep, and three hundred calves. **9** And Yekonyahu,²⁵⁷⁶ and Shema'yahu, and Nathan'el his brother, and Chashavyahu,²⁵⁷⁷ and Ye'iy'el,²⁵⁷⁸ and Yoram, captains over thousands, gave to the Leviyim for the Pecach offerings five thousand sheep, and seven hundred calves. **10** And when these things were done, the priests and Leviyim, having the matstsah,⁵³¹ stood in very comely order according to the kindreds, **11** And according to the several dignities of the fathers, before the people, to offer to YAHUAH, as it is written in the

cepher of Mosheh; and thus did they in the morning. **12** And they roasted the Pecach with fire, as appertains: as for the sacrifices, they sod them in brass pots and pans with a good savour, **13** And set them before all the people: and afterward they prepared for themselves, and for the priests their brethren, the sons of Aharon. **14** For the priests offered the fat until night; and the Leviyim prepared for themselves, and the priests their brethren, the sons of Aharon. **15** The holy singers also, the sons of Acaph, were in their order, according to the appointment of David, to wit, Acaph, Zakaryahu, and Yeduthun, who was of the king's retinue. **16** Moreover the porters were at every gate; it was against the Torah for any to go from his ordinary service: for their brethren the Leviyim prepared for them. **17** Thus were the things that belonged to the sacrifices of YAHUAH accomplished in that day, that they might hold the Pecach, **18** And offer sacrifices upon the altar of YAHUAH, according to the commandment of king Yo'shiyahu. **19** So the children of Yashar'el which were present held the Pecach at that time, and the feast of sweet bread seven days. **20** And such a Pecach was not kept in Yashar'el since the time of the prophet Shemu'el. **21** Yea, all the kings of Yashar'el held not such a Pecach as Yo'shiyahu, and the priests, and the Leviyim, and the Yahudiyim, held with all Yashar'el that were found dwelling at Yerushalayim. **22** In the eighteenth year of the reign of Yo'shiyahu was this Pecach kept. **23** And the works of Yo'shiyahu were upright before his ADONAI with a heart full of holiness. **24** As for the things that came to pass in his time, they were written in former times, concerning those that sinned, and did wickedly against YAHUAH above all people and kingdoms, and how they grieved him exceedingly, so that the words of YAHUAH rose up against Yashar'el.

25 Now after all these acts of Yo'shiyahu it came to pass, that Phar'oh the king of Mitsrayim came to raise war at Carchamis upon Perath: and Yo'shiyahu went out against him. **26** But the king of Mitsrayim sent to him, saying, What have I to do

with you, O king of Yahudah? 27 I am not sent out from YAHUAH ELOHIYM against you; for my war is upon Perath: and now YAHUAH is with me, yea, YAHUAH is with me hasting me forward: depart from me, and be not against YAHUAH. 28 Howbeit Yo'shiyahu did not turn back his chariot from him, but undertook to fight with him, not regarding the words of the prophet Yirmeyahu spoken by the mouth of YAHUAH: 29 But joined battle with him in the plain of Megiddo, and the princes came against king Yo'shiyahu. 30 Then said the king unto his servants, Carry me away out of the battle; for I am very weak. And immediately his servants took him away out of the battle. 31 Then got he up upon his second chariot; and being brought back to Yerushalayim died, and was buried in his father's sepulchre. 32 And in all Yahudah they mourned for Yo'shiyahu, yea, Yirmeyahu the prophet lamented for Yo'shiyahu, and the chief men with the women made lamentation for him unto this day: and this was given out for an ordinance to be done continually in all the nation of Yashar'el. 33 These things are written in the cepher of the stories of the kings of Yahudah, and every one of the acts that Yo'shiyahu did, and his glory, and his understanding in the Torah of YAHUAH, and the things that he had done before, and the things now recited, are reported in the cepher of the kings of Yashar'el and Yahudah. 34 And the people took Yahu'achaz²⁵⁷⁹ the son of Yo'shiyahu, and made him king instead of Yo'shiyahu his father, when he was twenty and three years old. 35 And he reigned in Yahudah and in Yerushalayim three months: and then the king of Mitsrayim deposed him from reigning in Yerushalayim. 36 And he set a tax upon the land of a hundred talents of silver and one talent of gold. 37 The king of Mitsrayim also made king Yahuyaqiyim his brother king of Yahudah and Yerushalayim. 38 And he bound Yahuyaqiyim and the nobles: but Zaraces his brother he apprehended, and brought him out of Mitsrayim. 39 Five and twenty years old was Yahuyaqiyim when he was made king in the land of Yahudah and Yerushalayim; and he did evil before YAHUAH. 40 Wherefore against him Nevukadne'tsarsar the king of Babel came up, and bound him with a chain of brass, and carried him into Babel. 41 Nevukadne'tsarsar also took of the holy vessels of YAHUAH, and carried them away, and set them in his own temple at Babel. 42 But those things that are recorded of him, and of his

uncleanness and impiety, are written in the chronicles of the kings. 43 And Yahuyaqiyim his son reigned in his stead: he was made king being eighteen years old; 44 And reigned but three months and ten days in Yerushalayim; and did evil before YAHUAH.

45 So after a year Nevukadne'tsarsar sent and caused him to be brought into Babel with the holy vessels of YAHUAH; 46 And made Tsidqiyahu²⁵⁸⁰ king of Yahudah and Yerushalayim, when he was one and twenty years old; and he reigned eleven years: 47 And he did evil also in the sight of YAHUAH, and cared not for the words that were spoken unto him by the prophet Yirmeyahu from the mouth of YAHUAH. 48 And after that king Nevukadne'tsarsar had made him to swear by the name of YAHUAH, he forswore himself, and rebelled; and hardening his neck, his heart, he transgressed the Torah of YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el. 49 The governors also of the people and of the priests did many things against the Torah, and passed all the pollutions of all nations, and defiled the Temple of YAHUAH, which was sanctified in Yerushalayim. 50 Nevertheless the ELOHIYM of their fathers sent by his messenger to call them back, because he spared them and his Tabernacle also. 51 But they had his messengers in derision; and, look, when YAHUAH spoke unto them, they made a sport of his prophets: 52 So far forth, that he, being wroth with his people for their great wickedness, commanded the kings of the Kasdiym to come up against them; 53 Who slew their young men with the sword, yea, even within the compass of their holy Temple, and spared neither young man nor maid, old man nor child, among them; for he delivered all into their hands. 54 And they took all the holy vessels of YAHUAH, both great and small, with the vessels of the Ark of ELOHIYM, and the king's treasures, and carried them away into Babel. 55 As for the house of YAHUAH, they burnt it, and broke down the walls of Yerushalayim, and set fire upon her towers: 56 And as for her glorious things, they never ceased till they had consumed and brought them all to nought: and the people that were not slain with the sword he carried unto Babel: 57 Who became servants to him and his children, till the Persians reigned, to fulfil the Word of YAHUAH spoken by the mouth of Yirmeyahu: 58 Until the land had enjoyed her

Shabbathoth,⁵³² the whole time of her desolation shall she rest, until the full term of seventy years.

2 IN the first year of Koresh king of the Persians, that the Word of YAHUAH might be accomplished, that he had promised by the mouth of Yirmeyahu; **2** YAHUAH raised up the ruach⁵³³ of Koresh the king of the Persians, and he made proclamation through all his kingdom, and also by writing, **3** Saying, Thus says Koresh king of the Persians; YAHUAH of Yashar'el, EL ELYON YAHUAH, has made me king of the whole world, **4** And commanded me to build him a house at Yerushalayim in Yahudah. **5** If therefore there be any of you that are of his people, let YAHUAH, even his ADONAI, be with him, and let him go up to Yerushalayim that is in Yahudah, and build the house of YAHUAH of Yashar'el: for he is YAHUAH that dwells in Yerushalayim. **6** Whosoever then dwell in the places about, let them help him, those, I say, that are his neighbours, with gold, and with silver, **7** With gifts, with horses, and with cattle, and other things, which have been set forth by vow, for the Temple of YAHUAH at Yerushalayim.

8 Then the chief of the families of Yahudah and of the tribe of Binyamiyn stood up; the priests also, and the Levivim, and all they whose mind YAHUAH had moved to go up, and to build a house for YAHUAH at Yerushalayim, **9** And they that dwelt round about them, and helped them in all things with silver and gold, with horses and cattle, and with very many free gifts of a great number whose minds were stirred up thereto. **10** King Koresh also brought forth the holy vessels, which Nevukadne'tsars had carried away from Yerushalayim, and had set up in his temple of idols. **11** Now when Koresh king of the Persians had brought them forth, he delivered them to Mithredath²⁵⁸¹ his treasurer: **12** And by him they were delivered to Sheshbatstsar²⁵⁸² the governor of Yahudah. **13** And this was the number of them; A thousand golden cups, and a thousand of silver, censers of silver twenty nine, vials of gold thirty, and of silver two thousand four hundred and ten, and a thousand other vessels. **14** So all the vessels of gold and of silver, which were carried away, were five thousand four hundred threescore and nine. **15** These were brought back by Sheshbatstsar, together with them of the captivity, from Babel to Yerushalayim.

16 But in the time of Artachshashta²⁵⁸³ king of the Persians, Bishlam,²⁵⁸⁴ and Mithredath,

and Tave'el,²⁵⁸⁵ and Rechum,²⁵⁸⁶ and Be'elte'em,²⁵⁸⁷ and Shimshai²⁵⁸⁸ the secretary, with others that were in commission with them, dwelling in Shomeron and other places, wrote unto him against them that dwelt in Yahudah and Yerushalayim these cepheriym following; **17** To king Artachshashta our lord, Your servants, Rechum the storywriter, and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their council, and the judges that are in Celo Aram and Phoenicia. **18** Be it now known to the lord king, that the Yahudiym that are up from you to us, being come into Yerushalayim, that rebellious and wicked city, do build the marketplaces, and repair the walls of it and do lay the foundation of the Temple. **19** Now if this city and the walls thereof be made up again, they will not only refuse to give tribute, but also rebel against kings. **20** And forasmuch as the things pertaining to the Temple are now in hand, we think it meet not to neglect such a matter, **21** But to speak unto our lord the king, to the intent that, if it be your pleasure it may be sought out in the cepheriym of your fathers: **22** And you shall find in the chronicles what is written concerning these things, and shall understand that that city was rebellious, troubling both kings and cities: **23** And that the Yahudiym were rebellious, and raised always wars therein; for the which cause even this city was made desolate. **24** Wherefore now we do declare unto you, O lord the king, that if this city be built again, and the walls thereof set up anew, you shall from henceforth have no passage into Celo Aram and Phoenicia.

25 Then the king wrote back again to Rechum the storywriter, to Be'elte'em, to Shimshai the scribe, and to the rest that were in commission, and dwellers in Shomeron and Aram and Phoenicia, after this manner; **26** I have read the cepher which ye have sent unto me: therefore I commanded to make diligent search, and it has been found that that city was from the beginning practicing against kings; **27** And the men therein were given to rebellion and war: and that mighty kings and fierce were in Yerushalayim, who reigned and exacted tributes in Celo Aram and Phoenicia. **28** Now therefore I have commanded to hinder those men from building the city, and heed to be taken that there be no more done in it. **29** And that those wicked workers proceed no further to the annoyance of kings, **30** Then king Artachshashta his cepheriym being read, Rechum

and himself the scribe, and the rest that were in submission with them, removing in haste toward Jerusalem with a troop of horsemen and a multitude of people in battle array. 31 And began to build the wall; and the building of the Temple in Jerusalem ceased until the second year of the reign of Dareyavesh king of the Persians.

3 NOW when Dareyavesh reigned, he made a great feast unto all his subjects, and unto all his household, and unto all princes of Media and Persia, 2 And to all the governors and captains and lieutenants that were under him, from India unto Kush, of a hundred twenty and seven provinces. 3 And when they had eaten and drunken, and being satisfied were gone home, then Dareyavesh the king went into his bedchamber, and slept, and soon after awoke.

4 Then three young men, that were of the guard that kept the king's body, spoke one to another: 5 Let everyone of us speak a sentence: he that shall overcome, and whose sentence shall seem wiser than the others, unto him shall the king Dareyavesh give great gifts, and great things spoken of victory: 6 As, to be clothed in purple, to drink in gold, and to sleep upon gold, and a chariot with bridles of gold, and a headtire of fine linen, and a chain about his neck: 7 And he shall sit next to Dareyavesh because of his wisdom, and shall be called Dareyavesh his cousin. 8 And then every one wrote his sentence, sealed it, and put it under the pillow of king Dareyavesh; 9 And said that, when the king is risen, some will give him the writing, and of whose side the king and the three princes of Persia shall judge that his sentence is the wisest, to him shall the victory be given, as was appointed. 10 The first wrote, Wine is the strongest. 11 The second wrote, The king is strongest. 12 The third wrote, Women are strongest: but above all things Truth bears away the victory.

13 Now when the king was risen up, they took their writings, and delivered them unto him, and so he read them: 14 And sending forth he called all the princes of Persia and Madai, and the governors, and the captains, and the lieutenants, and the chief officers; 15 And sat him down in the royal seat of judgment; and the writings were read before them. 16 And he said, Call the young men, and they shall declare their own sentences. So they were called, and came in. 17 And he said unto them, Declare unto us your mind concerning the writings. Then began the first, who had spoken of the strength of wine; 18 And he said thus, O ye men, how exceeding strong is wine! it causes all

men to err that drink it: 19 It makes the mind of the king and of the fatherless child to be all one; of the bondman and of the freeman, of the poor man and of the rich: 20 It turns also every thought into jollity and mirth, so that a man remembers neither sorrow nor debt: 21 And it makes every heart rich, so that a man remembers neither king nor governor; and it makes to speak all things by talents: 22 And when they are in their cups, they forget their love both to friends and brethren, and a little after draw out swords: 23 But when they are from the wine, they remember not what they have done. 24 O ye men, is not wine the strongest, that enforces to do thus? And when he had so spoken, he held his peace.

4 THEN the second, that had spoken of the strength of the king, began to say, 2 O ye men, do not men excel in strength that bear rule over sea and land and all things in them? 3 But yet the king is more mighty: for he is lord of all these things, and has dominion over them; and whatsoever he commands them they do. 4 If he bid them make war the one against the other, they do it: if he send them out against the enemies, they go, and break down mountains walls and towers. 5 They slay and are slain, and transgress not the king's commandment: if they get the victory, they bring all to the king, as well the spoil, as all things else. 6 Likewise for those that are no soldiers, and have not to do with wars, but use husbandry, when they have reaped again that which they had sown, they bring it to the king, and compel one another to pay tribute unto the king. 7 And yet he is but one man: if he command to kill, they kill; if he command to spare, they spare; 8 If he command to smite, they smite; if he command to make desolate, they make desolate; if he command to build, they build; 9 If he command to cut down, they cut down; if he command to plant, they plant. 10 So all his people and his armies obey him: furthermore he lies down, he eats and drinks, and takes his rest: 11 And these keep watch round about him, neither may anyone depart, and do his own business, neither disobey they him in anything. 12 O ye men, how should not the king be mightiest, when in such sort he is obeyed? And he held his tongue.

13 Then the third, who had spoken of women, and of the Truth, (this was Zerubbabel) began to speak. 14 O ye men, it is not the great king, nor the multitude of men, neither is it wine, that excels; who is it then that rules them, or has the lordship over them? are they not women? 15 Women have borne the king and all the people

that bear rule by sea and land. 16 Even of them came they: and they nourished them up that planted the vineyards, from whence the wine comes. 17 These also make garments for men; these bring glory unto men; and without women cannot men be. 18 Yea, and if men have gathered together gold and silver, or any other goodly thing, do they not love a woman which is comely in favour and beauty? 19 And letting all those things go, do they not gape, and even with open mouth fix their eyes fast on her; and have not all men more desire unto her than unto silver or gold, or any goodly thing whatsoever? 20 A man leaves his own father that brought him up, and his own country, and cleaves unto his woman. 21 He sticks not to spend his life with his woman and remembers neither father, nor mother, nor country. 22 By this also ye must know that women have dominion over you: do ye not labour and toil, and give and bring all to the woman? 23 Yea, a man takes his sword, and goes his way to rob and to steal, to sail upon the sea and upon rivers; 24 And looks upon a lion, and goes in the darkness; and when he has stolen, spoiled, and robbed, he brings it to his love. 25 Wherefore a man loves his woman better than father or mother. 26 Yea, many there be that have run out of their wits for women, and become servants for their sakes. 27 Many also have perished, have erred, and sinned, for women. 28 And now do ye not believe me? is not the king great in his power? do not all regions fear to touch him? 29 Yet did I see him and Apame the king's concubine, the daughter of the admirable Bartacus, sitting at the right hand of the king. 30 And taking the crown from the king's head, and setting it upon her own head; she also struck the king with her left hand. 31 And yet for all this the king gaped and gazed upon her with open mouth: if she laughed upon him, he laughed also: but if she took any displeasure at him, the king was fain to flatter, that she might be reconciled to him again. 32 O ye men, how can it be but women should be strong, seeing they do thus?

33 Then the king and the princes looked one upon another: so he began to speak of the Truth. 34 O ye men, are not women strong? great is the earth, high is the heaven, swift is the sun in his course, for he compasses the heavens round about, and fetches his course again to his own place in one day. 35 Is he not great that makes these things? therefore great is the Truth, and stronger than all things. 36 All the earth cries upon the Truth, and the heaven blesses it: all

works shake and tremble at it, and with it is no unrighteous thing. 37 Wine is wicked, the king is wicked, women are wicked, all the children of men are wicked, and such are all their wicked works; and there is no truth in them; in their unrighteousness also they shall perish. 38 As for the Truth, it endures, and is always strong; it lives and conquers forevermore. 39 With her there is no accepting of persons or rewards; but she does the things that are just, and refrains from all unjust and wicked things; and all men do well like of her works. 40 Neither in her judgment is any unrighteousness; and she is the strength, kingdom, power, and majesty, of all ages. Blessed be the ELOHIYM of Truth. 41 And with that he held his peace. And all the people then shouted, and said, great is truth, and mighty above all things. 42 Then said the king unto him, Ask what you will more than is appointed in the writing, and we will give it you, because you are found wisest; and you shall sit next to me, and shall be called my cousin.

43 Then said he unto the king, Remember your vow, which you have vowed to build Yerushalayim, in the day when you came to your kingdom, 44 And to send away all the vessels that were taken away out of Yerushalayim, which Koresh set apart, when he vowed to destroy Babel, and to send them again thither. 45 You also have vowed to build up the Temple, which the Edomiym burned when Yahudah was made desolate by the Kasdiym. 46 And now, O lord the king, this is that which I require, and which I desire of you, and this is the princely liberality proceeding from yourself: I desire therefore that you make good the vow, the performance whereof with your own mouth you have vowed to the King of heaven.

47 Then Dareyavesh the king stood up, and kissed him, and wrote cepheriym for him unto all the treasurers and lieutenants and captains and governors, that they should safely convey on their way both him, and all those that go up with him to build Yerushalayim. 48 He wrote cepheriym also unto the lieutenants that were in Celo Aram and Phoenicia, and unto them in Lebanon,²⁵⁸⁹ that they should bring cedar wood from Lebanon unto Yerushalayim, and that they should build the city with him. 49 Moreover he wrote for all the Yahudiym that went out of his realm up into Yahudah, concerning their freedom, that no officer, no ruler, no lieutenant, nor treasurer, should forcibly enter into their doors; 50 And that all the country which they hold should be free without tribute.

and that the Edomiyim should give over the villages of the Yahudiym which then they held: 51 Yea, that there should be yearly given twenty talents to the building of the Temple, until the time that it were built; 52 And other ten talents yearly, to maintain the burnt offerings upon the altar every day, as they had a commandment to offer seventeen: 53 And that all they that went from Babel to build the city should have free liberty, as well they as their posterity, and all the priests that went away. 54 He wrote also concerning the charges, and the priests' vestments wherein they minister; 55 And likewise for the charges of the Leviyim, to be given them until the day that the house was finished, and Yerushalayim built up. 56 And he commanded to give to all that kept the city pensions and wages. 57 He sent away also all the vessels from Babel, that Koresh had set apart; and all that Koresh had given in commandment, the same charged he also to be done, and sent unto Yerushalayim. 58 Now when this young man was gone forth, he lifted up his face to heaven toward Yerushalayim, and praised the King of heaven, 59 And said, From you comes victory, from you comes wisdom, and yours is the glory, and I am your servant. 60 Blessed are you, who have given me wisdom: for to you I give thanks, O YAHUAH of our fathers.

61 And so he took the cepheriym, and went out, and came unto Babel, and told it all his brethren. 62 And they praised the ELOHIYM of their fathers, because he had given them freedom and liberty. 63 To go up, and to build Yerushalayim, and the Temple which is called by his name: and they feasted with instruments of music and gladness seven days.

5 AFTER this were the principal men of the families chosen according to their tribes, to go up with their women and sons and daughters, with their menservants and maidservants, and their cattle. 2 And Dareyavesh sent with them a thousand horsemen, till they had brought them back to Yerushalayim safely, and with musical instruments tabrets and flutes. 3 And all their brethren played, and he made them go up together with them.

4 And these are the names of the men which went up, according to their families among their tribes, after their several heads. 5 The priests, the sons of Piynechac²⁵⁹⁰ the son of Aharon: Yahusha the son of Yahutsadaq²⁵⁹¹ the son of Serayahu²⁵⁹² and Yahuyaqiym the son of Zerubbavel, the son of She'altiy'el, of the house of

David, out of the kindred of Perets, of the tribe of Yahudah; 6 Who spoke wise sentences before Dareyavesh the king of Persia in the second year of his reign, in the month Niycan, which is the first month.

7 And these are they of Yahudah that came up from the captivity, where they dwelt as strangers, whom Nevukadne'ttsar the king of Babel had carried away unto Babel. 8 And they returned unto Yerushalayim, and to the other parts of Yahudah, every man to his own city, who came with Zerubbavel, with Yeshua, Nechemyah²⁵⁹³ and Zakaryahu, and Re'elayah²⁵⁹⁴ Nachamaniy²⁵⁹⁵ Mordekai. Bilshan²⁵⁹⁶ Micpar²⁵⁹⁷ Re'elayah²⁵⁹⁸ Rechum²⁵⁹⁹ and Ba'ana, their guides. 9 The number of them of the nation, and their governors, sons of Par'osh²⁶⁰⁰ two thousand a hundred seventy and two; the sons of Shephatyahu²⁶⁰¹ four hundred seventy and two: 10 The sons of Arach²⁶⁰² seven hundred fifty and six: 11 The sons of Pachath Mo'av²⁶⁰³ two thousand eight hundred and twelve: 12 The sons of Eylam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four: the sons of Zathul, nine hundred forty and five: the sons of Zakkai²⁶⁰⁴ seven hundred and five: the sons of Baniy, six hundred forty and eight: 13 The sons of Bevai, six hundred twenty and three: the sons of Shallum²⁶⁰⁵ three thousand two hundred twenty and two: 14 The sons of Adoniyqam, six hundred sixty and seven: the sons of Bigvai²⁶⁰⁶ two thousand sixty and six: the sons of Adiyin, four hundred fifty and four: 15 The sons of Ater of Yechizqiyahu²⁶⁰⁷ ninety and two: the sons of Kilan²⁶⁰⁸ and Azephurith²⁶⁰⁹ threescore and seven: the sons of Azzur²⁶¹⁰ four hundred thirty and two: 16 The sons of Chananyahu, a hundred and one: the sons of Arom, thirty two: and the sons of Betsai²⁶¹¹ three hundred twenty and three: the sons of Azephurith, a hundred and two: 17 The sons of Meterus, three thousand and five: the sons of Beyt Lechem²⁶¹² a hundred twenty and three: 18 They of Netophah, fifty and five: they of Anathoth, a hundred fifty and eight: they of Beyt Tsayad²⁶¹³ forty and two: 19 They of Qiryat Ye'ariym²⁶¹⁴ twenty and five: they of Kephthyrah²⁶¹⁵ and Be'eroth²⁶¹⁶ seven hundred forty and three: they of Pira, seven hundred: 20 They of Qedesh²⁶¹⁷ and Ammidoy²⁶¹⁸ four hundred twenty and two: they of Ramah²⁶¹⁹ and Geva²⁶²⁰ six hundred twenty and one: 21 They of Mikmash²⁶²¹ a hundred twenty and two: they of Beyt-EL²⁶²² fifty and two: the sons of Magvish²⁶²³ a hundred fifty and six: 22 The sons of Lod,

Hadid²⁶²⁴ and Ono²⁶²⁵ seven hundred twenty and five: the sons of Yeriych²⁶²⁶ two hundred forty and five: **23** The sons of Chananyahu, three thousand three hundred and thirty. **24** The priests: the sons of Yeda'yah²⁶²⁷ the son of Yeshua among the sons of Elyashiyv²⁶²⁸ nine hundred seventy and two: the sons of Immer²⁶²⁹ a thousand fifty and two: **25** The sons of Phassaron, a thousand forty and seven: the sons of Karmel²⁶³⁰ a thousand and seventeen.

26 The Leviyim: the sons of Yeshua²⁶³¹ and Qadmiy'el²⁶³² and Banuas, and Hudavyah²⁶³³ seventy and four.

27 The holy singers: the sons of Acaph, a hundred twenty and eight.

28 The porters: the sons of Shallum²⁶³⁴ the sons of Ater²⁶³⁵ the sons of Talmon, the sons of Akkuv²⁶³⁶ the sons of Chatiyta²⁶³⁷ the sons of Shovai²⁶³⁸ in all a hundred thirty and nine. **29** The servants of the Temple: the sons of Esau, the sons of Chasupha²⁶³⁹ the sons of Tabbath²⁶⁴⁰ the sons of Kepha²⁶⁴¹ the sons of Cud, the sons of Padon²⁶⁴² the sons of Livnah²⁶⁴³ the sons of Chagava²⁶⁴⁴ **30** The sons of Akkuv²⁶⁴⁵ the sons of Uta, the sons of Ketav²⁶⁴⁶ the sons of Chagav²⁶⁴⁷ the sons of Shamlai²⁶⁴⁸ the sons of Anan, the sons of Giddel²⁶⁴⁹ the sons of Gahar²⁶⁵⁰ **31** The sons of Re'ayah²⁶⁵¹ the sons of Retsiyn²⁶⁵² the sons of Neqoda²⁶⁵³ the sons of Chaseva²⁶⁵⁴ the sons of Gazzam²⁶⁵⁵ the sons of Uzza²⁶⁵⁶ the sons of Piynchac, the sons of Azare, the sons of Becai²⁶⁵⁷ the sons of Acnah²⁶⁵⁸ the sons of Ma'uniy²⁶⁵⁹ the sons of Nephusheciym²⁶⁶⁰ the sons of Baqbuq²⁶⁶¹ the sons of Chaqupha²⁶⁶² the sons of Ashshur, the sons of Pharakim, the sons of Batsluth²⁶⁶³ **32** The sons of Mechiyda²⁶⁶⁴ the sons of Kuthah²⁶⁶⁵ the sons of Charsha²⁶⁶⁶ the sons of Charcus, the sons of Ciycera²⁶⁶⁷ the sons of Temach²⁶⁶⁸ the sons of Netsiyach²⁶⁶⁹ the sons of Chatiypha²⁶⁷⁰ **33** The sons of the servants of Shalomah: the sons of Azanyah²⁶⁷¹ the sons of Peruda²⁶⁷² the sons of Ya'ala²⁶⁷³ the sons of Darqon²⁶⁷⁴ the sons of Giddel²⁶⁷⁵ the sons of Shephatyahu²⁶⁷⁶ **34** The sons of Chattiyl²⁶⁷⁷ the sons of Pokereth Tse-vayim²⁶⁷⁸ the sons of Shovai²⁶⁷⁹ the sons of Sarothie, the sons of Masyahu²⁶⁸⁰ the sons of Gar, the sons of Barzillai²⁶⁸¹ the sons of Subah, the sons of Apherra, the sons of Barodis, the sons of Shephatyahu²⁶⁸² the sons of Allom. **35** All the ministers of the Temple, and the sons of the servants of Shalomah, were three hundred seventy and two. **36** These came up from Tel Melach²⁶⁸³ and Tel Charsha²⁶⁸⁴ Keruv and Addan²⁶⁸⁵ leading

them, and Immer²⁶⁸⁶ **37** Neither could they show their families, nor their stock, how they were of Yashar'el: the sons of La'dan, the son of Ban, the sons of Neqoda²⁶⁸⁷ six hundred fifty and two. **38** And of the priests that usurped the office of the priesthood, and were not found: the sons of Ova-dyahu²⁶⁸⁸ the sons of Qots²⁶⁸⁹ the sons of Barzillai, who married Augia one of the daughters of Barzillai²⁶⁹⁰ and was named after his name.

39 And when the description of the kindred of these men was sought in the register, and was not found, they were removed from executing the office of the priesthood: **40** For unto them said Nechemyah and Tirshatha²⁶⁹¹ that they should not be partakers of the holy things, till there arose up a high priest clothed with doctrine and truth. **41** So of Yashar'el, from them of twelve years old and upward, they were all in number forty thousand, beside menservants and womenservants two thousand three hundred and sixty. **42** Their menservants and handmaids were seven thousand three hundred forty and seven: the singing men and singing women, two hundred forty and five: **43** Four hundred thirty and five camels, seven thousand thirty and six horses, two hundred forty and five mules, five thousand five hundred twenty and five beasts used to the yoke. **44** And certain of the chief of their families, when they came to the Temple of ELOHIYM that is in Yerushalayim, vowed to set up the house again in his own place according to their ability, **45** And to give into the holy treasury of the works a thousand pounds of gold, five thousand of silver, and a hundred priestly vestments. **46** And so dwelt the priests and the Leviyim and the people in Yerushalayim, and in the country, the singers also and the porters; and all Yashar'el in their villages. **47** But when the seventh month was at hand, and when the children of Yashar'el were every man in his own place, they came all together with one consent into the open place of the first gate which is toward the east. **48** Then stood up Yahusha the son of Yahutsadaq, and his brethren the priests and Zerubbavel the son of She'altiy'el, and his brethren, and made ready the altar of the ELOHIYM of Yashar'el, **49** To offer burnt sacrifices upon it, according as it is expressly commanded in the cepher of Mosheh the man of ELOHIYM. **50** And there were gathered unto them out of the other nations of the land, and they erected the altar upon his own place, because all the nations of the land were at enmity with them, and oppressed them; and they offered sacrifices according to the

time, and burnt offerings to YAHUAH both morning and evening. 51 Also they held the Feast of Cukkoth,⁵³⁴ as it is commanded in the Torah, and offered sacrifices daily, as was meet: 52 And after that, the continual oblations, and the sacrifice of the Shabbathoht,⁵³⁵ and of the New Moons, and of all holy feasts.

53 And all they that had made any vow to ELOHIYM began to offer sacrifices to ELOHIYM from the first day of the seventh month, although the Temple of YAHUAH was not yet built. 54 And they gave unto the masons and carpenters money, meat, and drink, with cheerfulness. 55 Unto them of Tsiydun also and Tsor they gave carts, that they should bring cedar trees from Lebanon, which should be brought by floats to the haven of Yapho, according as it was commanded them by Koresh king of the Persians. 56 And in the second year and second month after his coming to the Temple of ELOHIYM at Yerushalayim began Zerubbavel the son of She'altiy'el, and Yahusha the son of Yahutsadaq, and their brethren, and the priests, and the Leviyim, and all they that were come unto Yerushalayim out of the captivity: 57 And they laid the foundation of the house of ELOHIYM in the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come to Yahudah and Yerushalayim. 58 And they appointed the Leviyim from twenty years old over the works of YAHUAH. Then stood up Yeshua, and his sons and brethren, and Qadmiy'el his brother, and the sons of Madiabun, with the sons of Yahudah²⁶⁹² the son of Eliadun, with their sons and brethren, all Leviyim, with one accord set forward of the business, labouring to advance the works in the house of ELOHIYM. So the workmen built the Temple of YAHUAH. 59 And the priests stood arrayed in their vestments with musical instruments and trumpets; and the Leviyim the sons of Acaph had cymbals, 60 Singing songs of thanksgiving, and praising YAHUAH, according as David the king of Yashar'el had ordained. 61 And they sung with loud voices songs to the praise of YAHUAH, because his mercy and glory is forever in all Yashar'el. 62 And all the people sounded shofars, and shouted with a loud voice, singing songs of thanksgiving unto YAHUAH for the rearing up of the house of YAHUAH. 63 Also of the priests and Leviyim, and of the chief of their families, the ancients who had seen the former house came to the building of this with weeping and great crying.

64 But many with shofars and joy shouted with loud voice, 65 So much so that the shofars might not be heard for the weeping of the people: yet the multitude sounded marvellously, so that it was heard afar off.

66 Wherefore when the enemies of the tribe of Yahudah and Binyamiyn heard it, they came to know what that noise of shofars should mean. 67 And they perceived that they that were of the captivity did build the Temple unto YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el. 68 So they went to Zerubbavel and Yeshua, and to the chief of the families, and said unto them, We will build together with you. 69 For we likewise, as ye, do obey your ADONAI, and do sacrifice unto him from the days of Azbazareth the king of Ashshur, who brought us hither. 70 Then Zerubbavel and Yeshua and the chief of the families of Yashar'el said unto them, It is not for us and you to build together a house unto YAHUAH ELOHAYNU. 71 We ourselves alone will build unto YAHUAH of Yashar'el, according as Koresh the king of the Persians has commanded us. 72 But the heathen of the land lying heavy upon the inhabitants of Yahudah, and holding them strait, hindered their building; 73 And by their secret plots, and popular persuasions and commotions, they hindered the finishing of the building all the time that king Koresh lived: so they were hindered from building for the space of two years, until the reign of Dareyavesh.

6 NOW in the second year of the reign of Dareyavesh, Chaggai²⁶⁹³ and Zakaryahu the son of Iddo,²⁶⁹⁴ the prophets, prophesied unto the Yahudiym in Yahudah and Yerushalayim in the name of YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el, which was upon them. 2 Then stood up Zerubbavel the son of She'altiy'el,²⁶⁹⁵ and Yahusha the son of Yahutsadaq, and began to build the house of YAHUAH at Yerushalayim, the prophets of YAHUAH being with them, and helping them.

3 At the same time came unto them Tattenai²⁶⁹⁶ the governor of Aram and Phoenicia, with Shethar Bozenai²⁶⁹⁷ and his companions, and said unto them, 4 By whose appointment do ye build this house and this roof, and perform all the other things? and who are the workmen that perform these things? 5 Nevertheless the elders of the Yahudiym obtained favour, because YAHUAH had visited the captivity; 6 And they were not hin-

dered from building, until such time as signification was given unto Dareyavesh concerning them, and an answer received.

7 The copy of the cepheriym which Tattenai, governor of Aram and Phoenicia, and Shethar Bozenai, with their companions, rulers in Aram and Phoenicia, wrote and sent unto Dareyavesh; To king Dareyavesh, greeting: 8 Let all things be known unto our lord the king, that being come into the country of Yahudah, and entered into the city of Yerushalayim we found in the city of Yerushalayim the ancients of the Yahudiym that were of the captivity 9 Building a house unto YAHUAH, great and new, of hewn and costly stones, and the timber already laid upon the walls. 10 And those works are done with great speed, and the work goes on prosperously in their hands, and with all glory and diligence is it made. 11 Then asked we these elders, saying, By whose commandment build ye this house, and lay the foundations of these works? 12 Therefore to the intent that we might give knowledge unto you by writing, we demanded of them who were the chief doers, and we required of them the names in writing of their principal men. 13 So they gave us this answer, We are the servants of YAHUAH which made heaven and earth. 14 And as for this house, it was built many years ago by a king of Yashar'el great and strong, and was finished. 15 But when our fathers provoked ELOHIYM unto wrath, and sinned against YAHUAH of Yashar'el which is in heaven, he gave them over into the power of Nevukadne'tsars king of Babel, of the Kasdiym; 16 Who pulled down the house, and burned it, and carried away the people captives unto Babel. 17 But in the first year that king Koresh reigned over the country of Babel, Koresh the king wrote to build up this house. 18 And the holy vessels of gold and of silver, that Nevukadne'tsars had carried away out of the house at Yerushalayim, and had set them in his own temple those Koresh the king brought forth again out of the temple at Babel, and they were delivered to Zerubbavel and to Sheshbatstsar²⁶⁹⁸ the ruler, 19 With commandment that he should carry away the same vessels, and put them in the Temple at Yerushalayim; and that the Temple of YAHUAH should be built in his place. 20 Then the same Sheshbatstsar, being come hither, laid the foundations of the house of YAHUAH at Yerushalayim; and from that time to this being still a building, it is not yet fully ended. 21 Now therefore, if it seem good unto the king, let search be made among the records of king Koresh:

22 And if it be found that the building of the house of YAHUAH at Yerushalayim has been done with the consent of king Koresh, and if our lord the king be so minded, let him signify unto us thereof. 23 Then commanded king Dareyavesh to seek among the records at Babel: and so at Ecbatane the palace, which is in the country of Madaï, there was found a roll wherein these things were recorded. 24 In the first year of the reign of Koresh king Koresh commanded that the house of YAHUAH at Yerushalayim should be built again, where they do sacrifice with continual fire: 25 Whose height shall be sixty cubits and the breadth sixty cubits, with three rows of hewn stones, and one row of new wood of that country; and the expences thereof to be given out of the house of king Koresh: 26 And that the holy vessels of the house of YAHUAH, both of gold and silver, that Nevukadne'tsars took out of the house at Yerushalayim, and brought to Babel, should be restored to the house at Yerushalayim, and be set in the place where they were before. 27 And also he commanded that Tattenai the governor of Aram and Phoenicia, and Shethar Bozenai, and their companions, and those which were appointed rulers in Aram and Phoenicia, should be careful not to meddle with the place, but suffer Zerubbavel, the servant of YAHUAH, and governor of Yahudah, and the elders of the Yahudiym, to build the house of YAHUAH in that place. 28 I have commanded also to have it built up whole again; and that they look diligently to help those that be of the captivity of the Yahudiym, till the house of YAHUAH be finished: 29 And out of the tribute of Celo Aram and Phoenicia a portion carefully to be given these men for the sacrifices of YAHUAH, that is, to Zerubbavel the governor, for bullocks, and rams, and lambs; 30 And also grain, salt, wine, and oil, and that continually every year without further question, according as the priests that be in Yerushalayim shall signify to be daily spent: 31 That offerings may be made to EL ELYON for the king and for his children, and that they may pray for their lives. 32 And he commanded that whosoever should transgress, yea, or make light of anything afore spoken or written, out of his own house should a tree be taken, and he thereon be hanged, and all his goods seized for the king. 33 YAHUAH therefore, whose name is there called upon, utterly destroy every king and nation, that stretches out his hand to hinder or endamage that

house of YAHUAH in Yerushalayim. 34 I Dareyavesh the king have ordained that according unto these things it be done with diligence.

7 THEN Tattenai the governor of Celo Aram and Phoenicia, and Shethar Bozenai, with their companions following the commandments of king Dareyavesh, 2 Did very carefully oversee the holy works, assisting the ancients of the Yahudiym and governors of the Temple. 3 And so the holy works prospered, when Chaggai and Zakaryahu the prophets prophesied. 4 And they finished these things by the commandment of YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el, and with the consent of Koresh, Dareyavesh, and Artachshashta, kings of Persia. 5 And thus was the holy house finished in the three and twentieth day of the month Adar, in the sixth year of Dareyavesh king of the Persians

6 And the children of Yashar'el, the priests, and the Leviyim, and others that were of the captivity, that were added unto them, did according to the things written in the ceph of Mosheh. 7 And to the dedication of the Temple of YAHUAH they offered a hundred bullocks two hundred rams, four hundred lambs; 8 And twelve goats for the sin of all Yashar'el, according to the number of the chief of the tribes of Yashar'el. 9 The priests also and the Leviyim stood arrayed in their vestments, according to their kindreds, in the service of YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el, according to the ceph of Mosheh: and the porters at every gate. 10 And the children of Yashar'el that were of the captivity held the Pecach⁵³⁶ the fourteenth day of the first month, after that the priests and the Leviyim were sanctified. 11 They that were of the captivity were not all sanctified together: but the Leviyim were all sanctified together. 12 And so they offered the Pecach for all them of the captivity, and for their brethren the priests, and for themselves. 13 And the children of Yashar'el that came out of the captivity did eat, even all they that had separated themselves from the abominations of the people of the land, and sought YAHUAH. 14 And they kept the Feast of Matstsah⁵³⁷ seven days, making merry before YAHUAH, 15 For that he had turned the counsel of the king of Ashshur toward them, to strengthen their hands in the works of YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el.

8 AND after these things, when Artachshashta the king of the Persians reigned came Ezra the son of Serayahu, the son of Azaryahu,²⁶⁹⁹ the son of Chilqiyahu,²⁷⁰⁰ the son of Shallum, 2 The son of Tsadoq,²⁷⁰¹ the son of Achiy-tuv,²⁷⁰² the son of Amaryahu,²⁷⁰³ the son of Azaryahu,²⁷⁰⁴ the son of Merayoth,²⁷⁰⁵ the son of Zerachyah,²⁷⁰⁶ the son of Uzziy,²⁷⁰⁷ the son of Buqqiy,²⁷⁰⁸ the son of Aviyshua²⁷⁰⁹, the son of Piynchac, the son of El'azar, the son of Aharon the chief priest. 3 This Ezra went up from Babel, as a scribe, being very ready in the Torah of Mosheh, that was given by the ELOHIYM of Yashar'el. 4 And the king did him honour: for he found grace in his sight in all his requests. 5 There went up with him also certain of the children of Yashar'el, of the priest of the Leviyim, of the holy singers, porters, and ministers of the Temple, unto Yerushalayim, 6 In the seventh year of the reign of Artachshashta, in the fifth month, this was the king's seventh year; for they went from Babel in the first day of the first month, and came to Yerushalayim, according to the prosperous journey which YAHUAH gave them. 7 For Ezra had very great skill, so that he omitted nothing of the Torah and commandments of YAHUAH, but taught all Yashar'el the ordinances and judgments. 8 Now the copy of the commission, which was written from Artachshashta the king, and came to Ezra the priest and reader of the Torah of YAHUAH, is this that follows; 9 King Artachshashta unto Ezra the priest and reader of the Torah of YAHUAH sends greeting: 10 Having determined to deal graciously, I have given order, that such of the nation of the Yahudiym, and of the priests and Leviyim being within our realm, as are willing and desirous should go with you unto Yerushalayim. 11 As many therefore as have a mind thereunto, let them depart with you, as it has seemed good both to me and my seven friends the counsellors; 12 That they may look unto the affairs of Yahudah and Yerushalayim, agreeably to that which is in the Torah of YAHUAH; 13 And carry the gifts unto YAHUAH of Yashar'el to Yerushalayim, which I and my friends have vowed, and all the gold and silver that in the country of Babel can be found, to YAHUAH in Yerushalayim, 14 With that also which is given of the people for the Temple of YAHUAH ELOHAYHEM at Yerushalayim: and that silver and gold may be collected for bullocks, rams, and lambs, and things thereunto appertaining; 15 To

the end that they may offer sacrifices unto YAHUAH upon the altar of YAHUAH ELOHAYHEM, which is in Yerushalayim. 16 And whatsoever you and your brethren will do with the silver and gold, that do, according to the will of your ELOHIYM. 17 And the holy vessels of YAHUAH, which are given you for the use of the Temple of your ELOHIYM, which is in Yerushalayim, you shall set before your ELOHIYM in Yerushalayim. 18 And whatsoever thing else you shall remember for the use of the Temple of your ELOHIYM, you shall give it out of the king's treasury. 19 And I king Artachshashta have also commanded the keepers of the treasures in Aram and Phoenicia, that whatsoever Ezra the priest and the reader of the Torah of EL ELYON shall send for, they should give it him with speed, 20 To the sum of a hundred talents of silver, likewise also of wheat even to a hundred cors, and a hundred pieces of wine, and other things in abundance. 21 Let all things be performed after the Torah of ELOHIYM diligently unto EL ELYON, that wrath come not upon the kingdom of the king and his sons. 22 I command you also, that ye require no tax, nor any other imposition, of any of the priests, or Leviyim, or holy singers, or porters, or ministers of the Temple, or of any that have doings in this Temple, and that no man have authority to impose anything upon them. 23 And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom of ELOHIYM ordain judges and justices, that they may judge in all Aram and Phoenicia all those that know the Torah of your ELOHIYM; and those that know it not you shall teach. 24 And whosoever shall transgress the Torah of your ELOHIYM, and of the king, shall be punished diligently, whether it be by death, or other punishment, by penalty of money, or by imprisonment.

25 Then said Ezra the scribe, Blessed be the only YAHUAH ELOHIYM of my fathers, who has put these things into the heart of the king, to glorify his house that is in Yerushalayim: 26 And has honoured me in the sight of the king, and his counsellors, and all his friends and nobles.

27 Therefore was I encouraged by the help of YAHUAH ELOHAI, and gathered together men of Yashar'el to go up with me. 28 And these are the chief according to their families and several dignities, that went up with me from Babel in the reign of king Artachshashta: 29 Of the sons of Piynchac, Gershom:²⁷¹⁰ of the sons of Iythamar, Daniy'el:²⁷¹¹ of the sons of David, Chattush:²⁷¹² the son of Shekanyahu:²⁷¹³ 30 Of the sons of Perets, Zakaryahu; and with him were counted a hundred

and fifty men: 31 Of the sons of Pahath Mo'av, El-yahu'aynai,²⁷¹⁴ the son of Zerachyah, and with him two hundred men: 32 Of the sons of Zattu,²⁷¹⁵ Shekanyahu the son of Yachaziy'el,²⁷¹⁶ and with him three hundred men: of the sons of Adiyn, Eved:²⁷¹⁷ the son of Yonathan, and with him two hundred and fifty men: 33 Of the sons of Eylam, Yo'shiyahu son of Athalyahu,²⁷¹⁸ and with him seventy men: 34 Of the sons of Shephatyahu,²⁷¹⁹ Zerachyah son of Miyka'el, and with him threescore and ten men: 35 Of the sons of Yo'av, Ovd-yahu:²⁷²⁰ son of Yachaziy'el, and with him two hundred and twelve men: 36 Of the sons of Baniy,²⁷²¹ Shelomiyth:²⁷²² son of Yociphyah,²⁷²³ and with him a hundred and threescore men: 37 Of the sons of Bevai,²⁷²⁴ Zakaryahu son of Bevai, and with him twenty and eight men: 38 Of the sons of Azgad,²⁷²⁵ Yahuchanon:²⁷²⁶ son of Haqatan,²⁷²⁷ and with him a hundred and ten men: 39 Of the sons of Adoniyqam the last, and these are the names of them, Eliyphellet, Ye'iy'el,²⁷²⁸ and Shema'yahu, and with them seventy men: 40 Of the sons of Bigvai,²⁷²⁹ Uthai:²⁷³⁰ the son of Zab-bud,²⁷³¹ and with him seventy men.

41 And these I gathered together to the river called Ahava,²⁷³² where we pitched our tents three days: and then I surveyed them. 42 But when I had found there none of the priests and Leviyim, 43 Then sent I unto El'azar, and Ari'el,²⁷³³ and Shema'yahu,²⁷³⁴ 44 And Elnathan,²⁷³⁵ and Shema'yahu,²⁷³⁶ and Yariyv,²⁷³⁷ and Nathan, Eunatan, Zakaryahu, and Meshullam,²⁷³⁸ principal men and learned. 45 And I bade them that they should go unto Iddo:²⁷³⁹ the captain, who was in the place of the treasury: 46 And commanded them that they should speak unto Iddo,²⁷⁴⁰ and to his brethren, and to the treasurers in that place, to send us such men as might execute the priests' office in the house of YAHUAH. 47 And by the mighty hand of our ADONAI they brought unto us skilful men of the sons of Machliy:²⁷⁴¹ the son of Levi, the son of Yashar'el, Sherevyah,²⁷⁴² and his sons, and his brethren, who were eighteen. 48 And Chashavyahu,²⁷⁴³ and Baniy,²⁷⁴⁴ and Ye-sha'yahu:²⁷⁴⁵ his brother, of the sons of Merariy,²⁷⁴⁶ and their sons, were twenty men.

49 And of the servants of the Temple whom David had ordained, and the principal men for the service of the Leviyim to wit, the servants of the Temple two hundred and twenty, the catalogue of whose names were showed. 50 And there I vowed a fast unto the young men before our ADONAI, to desire of him a prosperous journey both

for us and them that were with us, for our children, and for the cattle: 51 For I was ashamed to ask the king footmen, and horsemen, and conduct for safeguard against our adversaries. 52 For we had said unto the king, that the power of YAHUAH ELOHAYNU should be with them that seek him, to support them in all ways. 53 And again we besought our ADONAI as touching these things, and found him favourable unto us. 54 Then I separated twelve of the chief of the priests, Sherevyah,²⁷⁴⁷ and Chashavyahu,²⁷⁴⁸ and ten men of their brethren with them: 55 And I weighed them the gold, and the silver, and the holy vessels of the house of our ADONAI, which the king, and his council, and the princes, and all Yashar'el, had given. 56 And when I had weighed it, I delivered unto them six hundred and fifty talents of silver, and silver vessels of a hundred talents, and a hundred talents of gold, 57 And twenty golden vessels, and twelve vessels of brass, even of fine brass, glittering like gold. 58 And I said unto them, Both ye are holy unto YAHUAH, and the vessels are holy, and the gold and the silver is a vow unto YAHUAH, YAHUAH of our fathers. 59 Watch ye, and keep them till ye deliver them to the chief of the priests and Leviyim, and to the principal men of the families of Yashar'el, in Yerushalayim, into the chambers of the house of our ELOHIYM. 60 So the priests and the Leviyim, who had received the silver and the gold and the vessels, brought them unto Yerushalayim, into the Temple of YAHUAH. 61 And from the river Ahava we departed the twelfth day of the first month, and came to Yerushalayim by the mighty hand of our ADONAI, which was with us: and from the beginning of our journey YAHUAH delivered us from every enemy, and so we came to Yerushalayim. 62 And when we had been there three days, the gold and silver that was weighed was delivered in the house of our ADONAI on the fourth day unto Meremoth²⁷⁴⁹ the priest the son of Uriyahu.²⁷⁵⁰ 63 And with him was El'azar the son of Pinyechac, and with them were Yozavad²⁷⁵¹ the son of Yahusha²⁷⁵² and No'adyah²⁷⁵³ the son of Binnuy,²⁷⁵⁴ Leviyim: all was delivered them by number and weight. 64 And all the weight of them was written up the same hour. 65 Moreover they that were come out of the captivity offered sacrifice unto YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el, even twelve bullocks for all Yashar'el, fourscore and sixteen rams, 66 Threescore and twelve lambs, goats for a peace offering, twelve; all of them a sacrifice to YAHUAH. 67 And they delivered the king's commandments unto the

king's stewards' and to the governors of Celo Aram and Phoenicia; and they honoured the people and the Temple of ELOHIYM.

68 Now when these things were done, the rulers came unto me, and said, 69 The nation of Yashar'el, the princes, the priests and Leviyim, have not put away from them the strange people of the land, nor the pollutions of the other nations to wit, of the Kena'anym, Chittiyim, Perizziym,²⁷⁵⁵ Yevuciyim, and the Mo'aviym, Mitsriym, and Edomiyim. 70 For both they and their sons have married with their daughters, and the holy seed is mixed with the strange people of the land; and from the beginning of this matter the rulers and the great men have been partakers of this iniquity. 71 And as soon as I had heard these things, I rent my clothes, and the holy garment, and pulled off the hair from off my head and beard, and sat me down sad and very heavy. 72 So all they that were then moved at the Word of YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el assembled unto me, while I mourned for the iniquity: but I sat still full of heaviness until the evening sacrifice. 73 Then rising up from the fast with my clothes and the holy garment rent, and bowing my knees, and stretching forth my hands unto YAHUAH, 74 I said, O YAHUAH, I am confounded and ashamed before your face; 75 For our sins are multiplied above our heads, and our ignorances have reached up unto heaven. 76 For ever since the time of our fathers we have been and are in great sin, even unto this day. 77 And for our sins and our fathers' we with our brethren and our kings and our priests were given up unto the kings of the earth, to the sword, and to captivity, and for a prey with shame, unto this day. 78 And now in some measure has mercy been showed unto us from you, O YAHUAH, that there should be left us a root and a name in the place of your sanctuary; 79 And to discover unto us a light in the house of YAHUAH ELOHAYNU, and to give us food in the time of our servitude. 80 Yea, when we were in bondage, we were not forsaken of our ADONAI; but he made us gracious before the kings of Persia, so that they gave us food; 81 Yea, and honoured the Temple of our ADONAI, and raised up the desolate Tsiyon, that they have given us a sure abiding in Yahudah and Yerushalayim. 82 And now, O YAHUAH, what shall we say, having these things? for we have transgressed your commandments, which you gave by the hand of your servants the prophets, saying, 83 That the land, which ye enter into to possess as a heritage, is a land polluted with the pollutions of the strangers of the land,

and they have filled it with their uncleanness. **84** Therefore now shall ye not join your daughters unto their sons, neither shall ye take their daughters unto your sons. **85** Moreover ye shall never seek to have peace with them, that ye may be strong, and eat the good things of the land, and that ye may leave the inheritance of the land unto your children forevermore. **86** And all that is befallen is done unto us for our wicked works and great sins; for you, O YAHUAH, did make our sins light, **87** And did give unto us such a root: but we have turned back again to transgress your Torah, and to mingle ourselves with the uncleanness of the nations of the land. **88** Might not you be angry with us to destroy us, till you had left us neither root, seed, nor name? **89** O YAHUAH of Yashar'el, you are true: for we are left a root this day. **90** Behold, now are we before you in our iniquities, for we cannot stand any longer by reason of these things before you.

91 And as Ezra in his prayer made his confession, weeping, and lying flat upon the ground before the Temple, there gathered unto him from Yerushalayim a very great multitude of men and women and children: for there was great weeping among the multitude. **92** Then Yekonyahu the son of Ye'iy'el,²⁷⁵⁶ one of the sons of Yashar'el, called out, and said, O Ezra, we have sinned against YAHUAH ELOHIYM, we have married strange women of the nations of the land, and now is all Yashar'el aloft. **93** Let us make an oath to YAHUAH, that we will put away all our women, which we have taken of the heathen, with their children, **94** Like as you have decreed, and as many as do obey the Torah of YAHUAH. **95** Arise and put in execution: for to you does this matter appertain, and we will be with you: do valiantly. **96** So Ezra arose, and took an oath of the chief of the priests and Leviyim of all Yashar'el to do after these things; and so they swore.

9 THEN Ezra rising from the court of the Temple went to the chamber of Yahuchanon²⁷⁵⁷ the son of Elyashiyv,²⁷⁵⁸ **2** And remained there, and did eat no meat nor drink water, mourning for the great iniquities of the multitude. **3** And there was a proclamation in all Yahudah and Yerushalayim to all them that were of the captivity, that they should be gathered together at Yerushalayim: **4** And that whosoever met not there within two or three days according as the elders that bore rule appointed, their cattle should be seized to the use of the Temple, and

himself cast out from them that were of the captivity. **5** And in three days were all they of the tribe of Yahudah and Binyamiyn gathered together at Yerushalayim the twentieth day of the ninth month. **6** And all the multitude sat trembling in the broad court of the Temple because of the present foul weather. **7** So Ezra arose up, and said unto them, Ye have transgressed the Torah in marrying strange women, thereby to increase the sins of Yashar'el. **8** And now by confessing give glory unto YAHUAH ELOHIYM of our fathers, **9** And do his will, and separate yourselves from the heathen of the land, and from the strange women. **10** Then cried the whole multitude, and said with a loud voice, Like as you have spoken, so will we do. **11** But forasmuch as the people are many, and it is foul weather, so that we cannot stand without, and this is not a work of a day or two, seeing our sin in these things is spread far: **12** Therefore let the rulers of the multitude stay, and let all them of our habitations that have strange women come at the time appointed, **13** And with them the rulers and judges of every place, till we turn away the wrath of YAHUAH from us for this matter. **14** Then Yonathan the son of Asah'el²⁷⁵⁹ and Yachzeyah²⁷⁶⁰ the son of Tiqvah²⁷⁶¹ accordingly took this matter upon them: and Meshullam²⁷⁶² and Shabbathai²⁷⁶³ the Leviyim²⁷⁶⁴ helped them. **15** And they that were of the captivity did according to all these things. **16** And Ezra the priest chose unto him the principal men of their families, all by name: and in the first day of the tenth month they sat together to examine the matter. **17** So their cause that held strange women was brought to an end in the first day of the first month. **18** And of the priests that were come together, and had strange women, there were found: **19** Of the sons of Yahusha the son of Yahutsadaq, and his brethren; Ma'aseyahu²⁷⁶⁵ and El'azar, and Yariyv²⁷⁶⁶ and Gedalyahu,²⁷⁶⁷ **20** And they gave their hands to put away their women and to offer rams to make reconciliation for their errors. **21** And of the sons of Immer,²⁷⁶⁸ Chananyahu, and Zevadyahu,²⁷⁶⁹ and Ma'aseyahu,²⁷⁷⁰ and Shema'yahu,²⁷⁷¹ and Yechiy'el,²⁷⁷² and Azaryahu. **22** And of the sons of Pashchur;²⁷⁷³ Elyahu'aynai,²⁷⁷⁴ Ma'aseyahu,²⁷⁷⁵ Yishma'el, and Nethan'el, and Yozavad²⁷⁷⁶ and El'asah.²⁷⁷⁷ **23** And of the Leviyim; Yozavad, and Shim'iy,²⁷⁷⁸ and Qelayah,²⁷⁷⁹ who was called Qeliyta,²⁷⁸⁰ and Pethachyah,²⁷⁸¹ and Yahudah, and Yonah. **24** Of the holy singers; Elyashiyv,²⁷⁸² Bacchur. **25** Of the porters; Shallum,²⁷⁸³ and Telem,²⁷⁸⁴ **26** Of them of Yashar'el, of the sons of

Par'osh; Ramyah,²⁷⁸⁵ and Yizziyah,²⁷⁸⁶ and Malkiyahu,²⁷⁸⁷ and Miyamiyn,²⁷⁸⁸ and El'azar, and Malkiyahu,²⁷⁸⁹ and Benayahu.²⁷⁹⁰ **27** Of the sons of Eylam;²⁷⁹¹ Mattanyahu,²⁷⁹² Zakaryahu, and Yechiy'el,²⁷⁹³ and Yerimoth,²⁷⁹⁴ and Eliyahu.²⁷⁹⁵ **28** And of the sons of Zattu;²⁷⁹⁶ Elyahu'aynai,²⁷⁹⁷ Elyashiyv,²⁷⁹⁸ Mattanyahu,²⁷⁹⁹ Yerimoth,²⁸⁰⁰ and Zavad,²⁸⁰¹ and Aziyza.²⁸⁰² **29** Of the sons of Bavai;²⁸⁰³ Yahuchanon, and Chananyahu and Yozavad, and Athlai.²⁸⁰⁴ **30** Of the sons of Baniy;²⁸⁰⁵ Meshullam,²⁸⁰⁶ Malluk,²⁸⁰⁷ Adayahu,²⁸⁰⁸ Yashov,²⁸⁰⁹ She'al,²⁸¹⁰ and Yerimoth. **31** And of the sons of Addiy; Adna,²⁸¹¹ and Ma'aseyahu,²⁸¹² Lakun,²⁸¹³ and Benayahu,²⁸¹⁴ and Mattanyahu,²⁸¹⁵ and Betsal'el,²⁸¹⁶ Binnuy,²⁸¹⁷ and Menashsheh.²⁸¹⁸ **32** And of the sons of Chananyahu; Elyahu'aynai and Yishshiyahu,²⁸¹⁹ and Malkiyahu, and Shema'yahu,²⁸²⁰ and Shim'on Chosameus. **33** And of the sons of Chashum;²⁸²¹ Mattenai,²⁸²² and Mattithyahu, and Zavad,²⁸²³ Eliyphellet, and Menashsheh, and Shim'iy. **34** And of the sons of Me'uniy;²⁸²⁴ Yirmeyahu, Ma'adai,²⁸²⁵ Amram,²⁸²⁶ U'el,²⁸²⁷ Benayahu,²⁸²⁸ and Bedeyah,²⁸²⁹ and Van-yah,²⁸³⁰ Meremoth,²⁸³¹ and Elyashiyv,²⁸³² and Mattanyahu, and Mattenai,²⁸³³ Ya'asu,²⁸³⁴ Baniy,²⁸³⁵ Binnuy,²⁸³⁶ Shim'iy,²⁸³⁷ Shelemyahu,²⁸³⁸ Nathan;²⁸³⁹ and of the sons of Maknadbai;²⁸⁴⁰ Shashai,²⁸⁴¹ Sharai,²⁸⁴² Azar'el,²⁸⁴³ Shallum,²⁸⁴⁴ Amaryahu,²⁸⁴⁵ Yoceph.²⁸⁴⁶ **35** And of the sons of Nevu;²⁸⁴⁷ Mattithyahu,²⁸⁴⁸ Zavad,²⁸⁴⁹ Yiddo,²⁸⁵⁰ Yo'el, Benayahu,²⁸⁵¹ **36** All these had taken strange women, and they put them away with their children. **37** And the priests and Leviyim, and they that were of Yashar'el, dwelt in Yerushalayim, and in the country, in the first day of the seventh month: so the children of Yashar'el were in their habitations.

38 And the whole multitude came together with one accord into the broad place of the holy porch toward the east: **39** And they spoke unto Ezra the priest and reader, that he would bring the Torah of Mosheh, that was given of YAHUAH ELOHIYM of Yashar'el. **40** So Ezra the chief

priest brought the Torah unto the whole multitude from man to woman, and to all the priests, to hear Torah in the first day of the seventh month. **41** And he read in the broad court before the holy porch from morning unto midday, before both men and women; and the multitude gave heed unto the Torah. **42** And Ezra the priest and reader of the Torah stood up upon a pulpit of wood, which was made for that purpose. **43** And there stood up by him Mattithyahu, Shema,²⁸⁵² Chananyahu, Azaryahu, Uriyahu, Chilqiyahu,²⁸⁵³ Ma'aseyahu,²⁸⁵⁴ upon the right hand: **44** And upon his left hand stood Padon,²⁸⁵⁵ Miysha'el,²⁸⁵⁶ Malkiyahu, Chashum,²⁸⁵⁷ and Chashvaddanah.²⁸⁵⁸ **45** Then took Ezra the Cephher of the Torah before the multitude: for he sat honourably in the first place in the sight of them all. **46** And when he opened the Torah, they stood all straight up. So Ezra blessed YAHUAH EL ELYON, the ELOHIYM TSEVA'OTH, EL SHADDAI. **47** And all the people answered, Amein; and lifting up their hands they fell to the ground, and worshipped YAHUAH. **48** Also Yahusha, Baniy,²⁸⁵⁹ Sherevyah,²⁸⁶⁰ Yamiyn,²⁸⁶¹ Akquv,²⁸⁶² Shabbathai,²⁸⁶³ Hodi-yah,²⁸⁶⁴ Ma'aseyahu,²⁸⁶⁵ and Qeliyta, Azaryahu,²⁸⁶⁶ and Yozavad,²⁸⁶⁷ and Chananyahu, Pelayah,²⁸⁶⁸ the Leviyim, taught the Torah of YAHUAH, making them withal to understand it. **49** Then spoke Tirshatha²⁸⁶⁹ unto Ezra the chief priest and reader, and to the Leviyim that taught the multitude, even to all, saying, **50** This day is holy unto YAHUAH; (for they all wept when they heard the Torah:) **51** Go then, and eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send part to them that have nothing; **52** For this day is holy unto YAHUAH: and be not sorrowful; for YAHUAH will bring you to honour. **53** So the Leviyim published all things to the people, saying, This day is holy to YAHUAH; be not sorrowful. **54** Then went they their way, everyone to eat and drink, and make merry, and to give part to them that had nothing, and to make great cheer; **55** Because they understood the words wherein they were instructed, and for the which they had been assembled.