

THE HOLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUPERVISOR AND SUPERVISEE: A TALE OF DAVID AND NATHAN

1. David, ancestor of the Messiah

Jeremiah 23:5-6, 33:14-15

- ה** הִנֵּה יָמִים בָּאִים נְאֻם-יְהוָה, וְהִקְמֹתִי לְדָוִד צֶמַח צְדִיק; וּמֶלֶךְ מְלֹךְ וְהִשְׁכִּיל, וְעָשָׂה מִשְׁפָּט וּצְדָקָה בְּאֶרֶץ.
- 5 See, days are coming – declares the Lord – when I will raise up a true branch of David’s line. He shall reign as king and shall prosper, and he shall do what is just and right in the land.
- ו** בְּיָמָיו תִּנְשָׁע יְהוּדָה, וְיִשְׂרָאֵל יִשְׁכֵן לְבֵטַח; וְזֶה-שְּׁמוֹ אֲשֶׁר-יִקְרָאוּ, יְהוָה צְדִיקְנוּ.
- 6 In his days Judah shall be delivered, and Israel shall dwell secure. And this is the name by which he shall be called: The Lord is our righteousness.
- יד** הִנֵּה יָמִים בָּאִים, נְאֻם-יְהוָה; וְהִקְמֹתִי אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַטּוֹב, אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתִּי אֶל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל-בֵּית יְהוּדָה.
- 14 See, days are coming – declares the Lord – when I will fulfill the promise that I made concerning the House of Israel and the House of Judah.
- טו** בְּיָמִים הֵהֵם וּבַעַת הַהִיא, אֶצְמִיחַ לְדָוִד צֶמַח צְדָקָה; וְעָשָׂה מִשְׁפָּט וּצְדָקָה, בְּאֶרֶץ.
- 15 In those days, and at that time, I will raise a true branch of David’s line, and he will do what is just and right in the land.

2. Wait – we’ve gotten ahead of ourselves. Who is this David guy, anyway?

I Samuel 15:35-16:13, 18

- ל**ה וְלֹא-יִסֹף שְׂמוּאֵל לִרְאוֹת אֶת-שָׂאוּל עַד-יוֹם מוֹתוֹ, כִּי-הִתְאַבֵּל שְׂמוּאֵל אֶל-שָׂאוּל; וַיְהוֶה נַחֵם כִּי-הִמְלִיךְ אֶת-שָׂאוּל עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל.
- 35 Samuel never saw Saul again to the day of his death. But Samuel grieved over Saul, because the Lord regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.
- א** וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-שְׂמוּאֵל, עַד-מָתַי אֲתֵּה מִתְאַבֵּל אֶל-שָׂאוּל, וְאַנִּי מֵאַסְתִּיו מִמֶּלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; מִלֵּא קַרְנֶךָ שֶׁמֶן, וְלֵךְ אֶשְׁלַחְךָ אֶל-יֹשֵׁי בֵית-הַלְחֶמִי--כִּי-רָאִיתִי בְּבָנָיו לִי מֶלֶךְ.
- 1 And the Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and set out; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have decided on one of his sons to be king.”
- ב** וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂמוּאֵל אֵיךְ אֵלֶּךְ, וְשָׁמַע שָׂאוּל וְהָרְגָנִי; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, עֲגִלְתָּ בְּקֹר תִּקַּח בְּיָדְךָ, וְאָמַרְתָּ, לְזִבְחֹ
- 2 Samuel replied, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” The Lord answered, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to

ליהוה באתי. sacrifice to the Lord.'

ג וְקָרַאתָ לְיֹשֵׁי בֵּתְלֶחֶם ; וְאָנַכְתָּ אֹדְיָעָד אֶת אֲשֶׁר-תַּעֲשֶׂה, וּמִשְׁחַתָּ לִי אֶת אֲשֶׁר-אֹמַר אֵלֶיךָ . **3** Invite Jesse to the sacrificial feast, and then I will make known to you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I point out to you."

ד וַיַּעַשׂ שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה, וַיָּבֹא בֵּית לָחֶם ; וַיִּחְרְדוּ זְקֵנֵי הָעִיר לְקָרְאוֹתוֹ, וַיֹּאמְרוּ, שָׁלֵם בּוֹאָךָ . **4** Samuel did what the Lord commanded. When he came to Bethlehem, the elders of the city went out in alarm to meet him and said, "Do you come on a peaceful errand?"

ה וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁלוֹם, לְזִבְחַ לַיהוָה בְּאֵתִי, הִתְקַדְּשׁוּ וּבְאֵתִים אֵתִי בֵּתְלֶחֶם ; וַיְקַדְּשׁ אֶת-יֹשֵׁי וְאֶת-בָּנָיו, וַיִּקְרָא לָהֶם לְזִבְחַ . **5** "Yes," he replied, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Purify yourselves and join me in the sacrificial feast." He also instructed Jesse and his sons to purify themselves and invited them to the sacrificial feast.

ו וַיְהִי בְּבוֹאֹם, וַיֵּרָא אֶת-אֱלִיאָב; וַיֹּאמֶר, אֵדָךְ נִגַּד יְהוָה מִשִּׁיחוֹ . **6** When they arrived and he saw Eliab, he thought: "Surely the Lord's anointed stands before Him."

ז וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, אַל-תַּבֵּט אֶל-מְרֹאֵהוּ וְאֶל-גְּבוּהַ קוֹמָתוֹ-כִּי מֵאִסְתִּיהוּ: כִּי לֹא אֲשֶׁר יֵרְאֶה הָאָדָם--כִּי הָאָדָם יֵרְאֶה לְעֵינָיו, וַיְהוָה יֵרְאֶה לְלֵבָב . **7** But the Lord said to Samuel, "Pay no attention to his appearance or his stature, for I have rejected him. For not as man sees [does the Lord see]; man sees only what is visible, but the Lord sees into the heart."

ח וַיִּקְרָא יֵשׁוּ אֶל-אַבִּינָדָב, וַיַּעֲבֵרְהוּ לִפְנֵי שְׁמוּאֵל ; וַיֹּאמֶר, גַּם-בְּזֶה לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה . **8** Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass before Samuel; but he said, "The Lord has not chosen this one either."

ט וַיַּעֲבֵר יֵשׁוּ, שָׁמָּה ; וַיֹּאמֶר, גַּם-בְּזֶה לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה . **9** Next Jesse presented Shammah; and again he said, "The Lord has not chosen this one either."

י וַיַּעֲבֵר יֵשׁוּ שִׁבְעַת בָּנָיו, לִפְנֵי שְׁמוּאֵל ; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יֵשׁוּ, לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה בְּאַלֶּהָ . **10** Thus Jesse presented seven of his sons before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these."

יא וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יֵשׁוּ, הֲתַמּוּ הַנְּעָרִים, וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד שָׂאֵר הַקָּטָן, וְהִנֵּה רֹעֶה בְּצֹאן ; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יֵשׁוּ שְׁלַחָה וְקַחְנוּ, כִּי לֹא-נֹסֵב עַד-בָּאוּ פֹה . **11** Then Samuel asked Jesse, "Are these all the boys you have?" He replied, "There is still the youngest; he is tending the flock." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send someone to bring him, for we will not sit down to eat until he gets here."

יב וַיִּשְׁלַח וַיְבִיאֵהוּ וְהוּא אֲדָמוּנִי, עֵם-לִפָּה עֵינָיִם וְטוֹב רֵאִי; {פ} וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה קוּם מִשְׁחָהוּ, כִּי-זֶה הוּא.

12 So they sent and brought him. He was ruddy-cheeked, bright-eyed, and handsome. And the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.”

יג וַיִּקַּח שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-קֶרֶן הַשֶּׁמֶן, וַיִּמָּשַׁח אֹתוֹ בְּקֶרֶב אֶחָיו, וַתִּצְלַח רוּחַ-יְהוָה אֶל-דָּוִד מִהַיּוֹם הַהוּא וּמָעֵלָה; וַיִּקַּם שְׁמוּאֵל וַיֵּלֶךְ הָרְמָתָה.

13 Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord gripped David from that day on. Samuel then set out for Ramah.

יד וַיַּעַן אֶחָד מֵהַנְּעָרִים וַיֹּאמֶר, הִנֵּה רָאִיתִי בֶן לְיִשִׁי בֵּית הַלְּחָמִי, יָדַע נַגֵּן וְגִבּוֹר חַיִל וְאִישׁ מִלְחָמָה וְנָבוֹן דָּבָר, וְאִישׁ תֵּאֵר; וַיְהוֶה עִמּוֹ.

18 One of the attendants spoke up, “I have observed a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skilled in music; he is a stalwart fellow and a warrior, sensible in speech, and handsome in appearance, and the Lord is with him.”

3. God's promise to David about the future

II Samuel 7:8-16

ח וַעֲתָה כֹּה-תֹאמַר לְעַבְדִּי לְדָוִד, כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת, אֲנִי לְקַחְתִּיךָ מִן-הַנֶּוֹה, מֵאַחַר הַצֹּאן—לְהִיּוֹת נָגִיד, עַל-עַמִּי עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל.

8 Say this to My servant David: I took you from the pasture, from following the flock, to be ruler of My people Israel.

ט וְאֶהְיֶה עִמָּךְ, בְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר תֵּלְכֶת, וְאֶכְרַתְּהָ אֶת-כָּל-אִיְבֹיֶיךָ, מִפְּנֵיךָ; וְעָשִׂיתִי לְךָ שֵׁם גָּדוֹל, כְּשֵׁם הַגְּדֹלִים אֲשֶׁר בְּאָרֶץ.

9 And I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut down all your enemies before you. Moreover, I will give you great renown like that of the greatest men on earth.

י וְשִׁמְתִי מְקוֹם לְעַמִּי לְיִשְׂרָאֵל וְנִטְעַתִּיו, וְשָׁכַן תַּחֲתָיו, וְלֹא יִרְגָזוּ, עוֹד; וְלֹא-יִסִּיפוּ בְנֵי-עוֹלָה לְעַנּוֹתוֹ, כַּאֲשֶׁר בְּרָא שׁוֹנֵה.

10 I will establish a home for My people Israel and will plant them firm, so that they shall dwell secure and shall tremble no more. Evil men shall not oppress them any more as in the past,

יא וְלִמֵּן-הַיּוֹם, אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי שְׁפָטִים עַל-עַמִּי יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְהִנִּיחְתִּי לְךָ, מִכָּל-אִיְבֹיֶיךָ;

11 ever since I appointed chieftains over My people Israel, I will give you safety from all your enemies. The Lord declares to you that He, the

וְהָגִיד לְךָ יְהוָה, כִּי-בֵּית יַעֲשֶׂה-
לְךָ יְהוָה. Lord, will establish a house for you.

יב כִּי יִמְלְאוּ יָמֶיךָ, וְשָׁכַבְתָּ אֶת-
אֲבֹתֶיךָ, וְהִקִּימְתִי אֶת-זֶרְעֶךָ;
אֲחֲרֶיךָ, אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא מִמֶּעֶיךָ;
וְהִכִּינְתִי, אֶת-מַמְלַכְתּוֹ. **12** When your days are done and you lie with your
fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, one
of your own issue, and I will establish his kingship.

יג הוּא יִבְנֶה-בַּיִת, לְשִׁמִּי;
וְכִנְנֹתִי אֶת-כִּסֵּא מַמְלַכְתּוֹ, עַד-
עוֹלָם. **13** He shall build a house for My name, and I will
establish his royal throne forever.

יד אֲנִי אֶהְיֶה-לוֹ לְאָב, וְהוּא
יְהִי-לִי לְבֵן—אֲשֶׁר, בְּהַעֲוֹתוֹ,
וְהִכַּחֲתִיו בְּשֵׁבֶט אַנְשִׁים, וּבַנִּגְעֵי
בְּנֵי אָדָם. **14** I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son
to Me. When he does wrong, I will chastise him
with the rod of men and the affliction of mortals;

טו וְחִסְדִּי, לֹא-יִסּוּר מִמֶּנּוּ,
כִּי אֲשֶׁר הִסְרֹתִי מֵעַם שָׂאוּל,
אֲשֶׁר הִסְרֹתִי מִלְּפָנֶיךָ. **15** but I will never withdraw My favor from him as
I withdrew it from Saul, whom I removed to make
room for you.

טז וְנֶאֱמַן בַּיִתְךָ וּמַמְלַכְתְּךָ עַד-
עוֹלָם, לְפָנֶיךָ: כִּסֵּאֲךָ, יְהִיָּה נָכוֹן
עַד-עוֹלָם. **16** Your house and your kingship shall ever be
secure before you, your throne shall be
established forever.

4. The king against which all others are measured

II Kings 22:1-2

א בֶּן-שְׁמֹנֶה שָׁנָה, יָאֲשִׁיחָה
בְּמַלְכוֹ, וְשָׁלֹשִׁים וְאַחַת שָׁנָה,
מָלַךְ בִּירוּשָׁלַם; וְשֵׁם אִמּוֹ,
יְדִידָה בַת-עֲדִיָּה מִבֹּצְקַת. **1** Josiah was eight years old when he became king;
and he reigned 31 years in Jerusalem. His
mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah of
Bozkath.

ב וַיַּעַשׂ הַיָּשָׁר, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה; וַיִּלְךְ,
בְּכָל-דְּרָךְ דָּוִד אָבִיו, וְלֹא-סָר, יָמִין
וְשְׂמֹאל. **2** He did what was pleasing to the Lord and he
followed all the ways of his ancestor David; he did
not deviate to the right or to the left.

דוד מלך ישראל, חי וקיים!

5. Houston, we've got a problem

II Samuel 11:1-12:25

א ויהי לתשובת השנה לעת צאת המלכים, וישלח דוד את-יואב ואת-עבדיו עמו ואת-כל-ישראל וישחתו את-בני עמון, ויצרו על-רבה; ודוד יושב בירושלם. ב ויהי לעת הערב, ויקם דוד מעל משכבו ויתהלך על-גג בית-המלך, וירא אשה רחצת מעל הגג; והאשה טובת מראה מאד. ג וישלח דוד, וידרש לאשה; ויאמר, הלוא זאת בת-שבע בת-אליעם--אשת אוריה החתי. ד וישלח דוד מלכים ויקחה, ותבוא אליו וישכב עמה, והיא מתקדשת מטמאתה; ותשב אל-ביתה. ה ותהר האשה; ותשלח ותגד לדוד, ותאמר הרה אנכי. ו וישלח דוד אל-יואב, שלח אלי את-אוריה החתי; וישלח יואב את-אוריה אל-דוד. ז ויבא אוריה אליו; וישאל דוד לשלום יואב ולשלום העם, ולשלום המלחמה. ח ויאמר דוד לאוריה, רד לביתך ורחץ רגליך; ויצא אוריה מבית המלך, ויצא אחריו משאת המלך. ט וישכב אוריה פתח בית המלך את-כל-עבדי אדניו; ולא ירד אל-ביתו. י ויגדו לדוד לאמר, לא-ירד אוריה אל-ביתו; ויאמר דוד אל-אוריה, הלוא מדרך אתה בא--מדוע, לא-ירדת אל-ביתך. יא ויאמר אוריה אל-דוד, הארון וישראל ויהודה ישבים בסכות ואדני יואב ועבדי אדני על-פני השדה חנים, ואני אבוא אל-ביתי לאכל ולשתות, ולשכב עם-אשתי; חיד וחי נפשך, אם-אעשה את-הדבר הזה. יב ויאמר דוד אל-אוריה, שב בזה גס-היום--ומחר אשלחך; וישב אוריה בירושלם ביום ההוא, וממחרת. יג ויקרא-לו דוד, ויאכל לפניו וישת--וישכרהו; ויצא בערב לשכב במשכבו עם-עבדי אדניו, ואל-ביתו לא ירד. יד ויהי בבקר, ויכתב דוד ספר אל-יואב; וישלח

1 At the turn of the year, the season when kings go out [to battle], David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him, and they devastated Ammon and besieged Rabbah; David remained in Jerusalem. 2 Late one afternoon, David rose from his couch and strolled on the roof of the royal palace; and from the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3 and the king sent someone to make inquiries about the woman. He reported, "She is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam [and] wife of Uriah the Hittite." 4 David sent messengers to fetch her; she came to him and he lay with her—she had just purified herself after her period—and she went back home. 5 The woman conceived, and she sent word to David, "I am pregnant." 6 Thereupon David sent a message to Joab, "Send Uriah the Hittite to me"; and Joab sent Uriah to David.

7 When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab and the troops were faring and how the war was going. 8 Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and bathe your feet." When Uriah left the royal palace, a present from the king followed him. 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance of the royal palace, along with the other officers of his lord, and did not go down to his house.

10 When David was told that Uriah had not gone down to his house, he said to Uriah, "You just came from a journey; why didn't you go down to your house?" 11 Uriah answered David, "The Ark and Israel and Judah are located at Succoth, and my master Joab and Your Majesty's men are camped in the open; how can I go home and eat and drink and sleep with my wife? As you live, by your very life, I will not do this!" 12 David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will send you off." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. The next day, 13 David summoned him, and he ate and drank with him until he got him drunk; but in the evening, [Uriah] went out to sleep in the same place, with his lord's officers; he

בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא כָּתַב דָּוִד אֵת הַיּוֹרֵד וְשִׁלְחָהּ אֶל-יֹאבֵב בְּיַד אֲרִיאֵה הַחִיטִּי. **טו** וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּסֵפֶר לֵאמֹר: הִבּוּ אֶת-אֲרִיאֵה אֶל-מוֹל פְּנֵי הַמְּלַחְמָה הַחֲזָקָה, וְשִׁבְתֶּם מֵאַחֲרָיו, וְנָכְהָ וּמָתָה. **טז** וַיְהִי בְּשִׁמּוֹר יוֹאֵב אֶל-הָעִיר; וַיִּתֵּן, אֶת-אֲרִיאֵה אֶל-הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר יָדַע כִּי אֲנָשִׁי-חַיִל שָׁם. **יז** וַיֵּצְאוּ אֲנָשֵׁי הָעִיר, וַיִּלְחֲמוּ אֶת-יֹאֵב, וַיַּפֵּל מִן-הָעָם מֵעֲבָדֵי דָּוִד; וַיָּמָת גַּם אֲרִיאֵה הַחִיטִּי. **יח** וַיִּשְׁלַח יוֹאֵב; וַיִּגַּד לְדָוִד אֶת-כָּל-דִּבְרֵי הַמְּלַחְמָה. **יט** וַיֵּצֵאוּ אֶת-הַמְּלָאָךְ, לֵאמֹר: כִּכְלוֹתָהּ אֶת כָּל-דִּבְרֵי הַמְּלַחְמָה--לְדַבֵּר אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ. **כ** וְהָיָה אִם-תִּתְעַלֶּה חַמַּת הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאָמַר לְךָ מִדּוּעַ נִגְשַׁתָּם אֶל-הָעִיר לְהִלָּחֵם: הֲלוֹא יָדַעְתֶּם אֶת אֲשֶׁר-יָרוּ מֵעַל הַחוֹמָה. **כא** מִי-הִכָּה אֶת-אַבְיִמֶלֶךְ בֶּן-יִרְבֵּשֶׁת, הַלּוֹא-אִשָּׁה הִשְׁלִיכָה עָלָיו פֶּלַח רֶכֶב מֵעַל הַחוֹמָה וַיָּמָת בְּתַבַּץ, לָמָּה נִגְשַׁתֶּם אֶל-הַחוֹמָה; וְאָמַרְתָּ--גַּם עֲבָדָהּ אֲרִיאֵה הַחִיטִּי מָתָה. **כב** וַיִּלְךְ הַמְּלָאָךְ; וַיָּבֵא וַיִּגַּד לְדָוִד אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר שָׁלַח יוֹאֵב. **כג** וַיֹּאמֶר הַמְּלָאָךְ אֶל-דָּוִד כִּי-גָבְרוּ עָלֵינוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים, וַיֵּצְאוּ אֵלֵינוּ הַשָּׂדֶה; וַנְּהַיָּה עָלֵיהֶם עַד-פְּתַח הַשָּׁעַר. **כד** וַיִּרְאוּ הַמּוֹרָאִים אֶל-עֲבָדָיךָ מֵעַל הַחוֹמָה, וַיָּמוּתוּ מֵעֲבָדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְגַם עֲבָדָהּ אֲרִיאֵה הַחִיטִּי--מָתָה. **כה** וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-הַמְּלָאָךְ, כֹּה-תֹאמַר אֶל-יֹאֵב אֶל-יָרֵעַ בְּעֵינֶיךָ אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה--כִּי-כֹזֵה וְכֹזֵה תֹאכַל הַחֶרֶב; הַחֲזֹק מִלְחַמְתָּךְ אֶל-הָעִיר וְהָרָסָהּ, וְחִזְקָהּ. **כו** וַתִּשְׁמַע אִשְׁתּוֹ אֲרִיאֵה כִּי-מָת אֲרִיאֵה אִשָּׁה; וַתִּסְפַּד, עַל-בְּעֵלָהּ. **כז** וַיַּעֲבֵר הָאֵבֶל, וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד וַיֵּאֲסֹפָהּ אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ וַתְּהִי-לוֹ לְאִשָּׁה, וַתֵּלֶד לוֹ בֵּן; וַיָּרַע הַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה דָּוִד, בְּעֵינֵי יְהוָה.

did not go down to his home.

14 In the morning, David wrote a letter to Joab, which he sent with Uriah. **15** He wrote in the letter as follows: “Place Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest; then fall back so that he may be killed.” **16** So when Joab was besieging the city, he stationed Uriah at the point where he knew that there were able warriors. **17** The men of the city sallied out and attacked Joab, and some of David’s officers among the troops fell; Uriah the Hittite was among those who died.

18 Joab sent a full report of the battle to David.

19 He instructed the messenger as follows: “When you finish reporting to the king all about the battle, **20** the king may get angry and say to you, ‘Why did you come so close to the city to attack it? Didn’t you know that they would shoot from the wall?’ **21** Who struck down Abimelech son of Jerubbesheth? Was it not a woman who dropped an upper millstone on him from the wall at Thebez, from which he died? Why did you come so close to the wall?’ Then say: ‘Your servant Uriah the Hittite was among those killed.’”

22 The messenger set out; he came and told David all that Joab had sent him to say. **23** The messenger said to David, “First the men prevailed against us and sallied out against us into the open; then we drove them back up to the entrance to the gate. **24** But the archers shot at your men from the wall and some of Your Majesty’s men fell; your servant Uriah the Hittite also fell.”

25 Whereupon David said to the messenger, “Give Joab this message: ‘Do not be distressed about the matter. The sword always takes its toll. Press your attack on the city and destroy it!’ Encourage him!”

26 When Uriah’s wife heard that her husband Uriah was dead, she lamented over her husband. **27** After the period of mourning was over, David sent and had her brought into his palace; she became his wife and she bore him a son.

א וישלח יהוה את-נתן אל-דוד ;
 ויבא אליו, ויאמר לו שני אנשים
 היו בעיר אחת, אחד עשיר, ואחד
 ראש . ב לעשיר היה צאן ובקר--
 הרבה מאד . ג ולרש אין-כל, כי
 אם-כבשה אחת קטנה אשר קנה,
 ויחיה, ותגדל עמו ועם-בניו יחדו ;
 מפתו תאכל ומכסו תשתה, ויחיקו
 תשכב, ותהי-לו, כבת . ד ויבא הלך
 לאיש העשיר, ויחמל לקחת מצאנו
 ומבקר לעשות לארם הבא-לו ;
 ויקח את-כבשת האיש הראש,
 ויעשה לאיש הבא אליו . ה ויחר-
 אף דוד באיש מאד ; ויאמר אל-נתן,
 חי-יהוה, כי בן-מות האיש העשה
 זאת . ו ואת-הכבשה ישלם
 ארבעתים : עקב אשר עשה את-
 הדבר הזה, ועל אשר לא-חמל .
 ז ויאמר נתן אל-דוד, אלה האיש ;
 כה-אמר יהוה אלהי ישראל, אנכי
 משחתיך למלך על-ישראל, ואנכי
 הצלתיך מיד שאול . ח ואתנה לך
 את-בית אדניך, ואת-נשי אדניך
 בחיקך, ואתנה לך את-בית ישראל
 ויהודה ; ואם-מעט--ואספה לך,
 כהנה וכהנה . ט מדוע בזית את-
 דבר יהוה, לעשות הרע בעינו
 (בעיני), את אוריה החתי הכית
 בחרב, ואת-אשתו לקחת לך
 לאשה ; ואתו הרגת בחרב בני
 עמון . י ועתה לא-תסור חרב
 מביתך--עד-עולם : עקב כי בזיתני,
 ותקח את-אשת אוריה החתי,
 להיות לך לאשה . יא כה אמר
 יהוה, הנני מקים עליך רעה מביתך,
 ולקחתי את-נשיך לעיניך, ונתתי
 לרעיך ; ושכב עם-נשיך, לעיני השמש
 הזאת . יב כי אתה עשית בסתר ;
 ואני אעשה את-הדבר הזה נגד כל-
 ישראל, ונגד השמש . יג ויאמר
 דוד אל-נתן, חטאתי ליהוה ; ויאמר
 נתן אל-דוד, גם-יהוה העביר
 חטאתך--לא תמות . יד אפס כי-
 נאץ נאצת את-איבי יהוה, בדבר
 הזה ; גם הבן הילוד לך--מות
 ימות . טו וילך נתן אל-ביתו ; ויגף

1 But the Lord was displeased with what David had done, Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said, "There were two men in the same city, one rich and one poor. 2 The rich man had very large flocks and herds, 3 but the poor man had only one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He tended it and it grew up together with him and his children: it used to share his morsel of bread, drink from his cup, and nestle in his bosom; it was like a daughter to him. 4 One day, a traveler came to the rich man, but he was loath to take anything from his own flocks or herds to prepare a meal for the guest who had come to him; so he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him."

5 David flew into a rage against the man, and said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who did this deserves to die! 6 He shall pay for the lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and showed no pity." 7 And Nathan said to David, "That man is you! Thus said the Lord, the God of Israel: 'It was I who anointed you king over Israel and it was I who rescued you from the hand of Saul. 8 I gave you your master's house and possession of your master's wives; and I gave you the House of Israel and Judah; and if that were not enough, I would give you twice as much more. 9 Why then have you flouted the command of the Lord and done what displeases Him? You have put Uriah the Hittite to the sword; you took his wife and made her your wife and had him killed by the sword of the Ammonites. 10 Therefore the sword shall never depart from your House—because you spurned Me by taking the wife of Uriah the Hittite and making her your wife.' 11 Thus said the Lord: 'I will make a calamity rise against you from within your own house; I will take your wives and give them to another man before your very eyes and he shall sleep with your wives under this very sun. 12 You acted in secret, but I will make this happen in the sight of all Israel and in broad daylight.'"

13 David said to Nathan, "I stand guilty before the

יהוה את-הילד אשר ילדה אשת-
אוריה לדוד--ויאנש . טז ויבקש
דוד את-האלהים בעד הנער ; ויצא
דוד צום, ובא ולן ושכב ארצה .
יז ויקמו זקני ביתו עליו להקימו
מן-הארץ ; ולא אבה ולא-ברא אתם
לחם . יח ויהי ביום השביעי, וימת
הילד ; ויראו עבדי דוד להגיד לו כי-
מת הילד, כי אמרו הנה בהיות
הילד חי דברנו אליו ולא-שמע
בקולנו, ואיך נאמר אליו מת הילד,
ועשה רעה . יט וירא דוד כי עבדיו
מתלחשים, ויבן דוד כי מת הילד ;
ויאמר דוד אל-עבדיו המת הילד,
ויאמרו מת . כ ויקם דוד מהארץ
וירחץ ויטף, ויחלף שמלתו, ויבא
בית-יהוה וישתחו ; ויבא אל-ביתו,
וישאל, וישמו לו לחם ויאכל .
כא ויאמרו עבדיו אליו, מה-הדבר
הזה אשר עשיתך ; בעבור הילד חי
צמת ותבד, וכאשר מת הילד, קמת
ותאכל לחם . כב ויאמר--בעוד
הילד חי, צמתתי ואבכה ; כי אמרת
מי יודע, יחנני (וחנני) יהוה וחי
הילד . כג ועתה מת, למה זה אני
צם--האוכל להשיבו עוד : אני הלך
אליו, והוא לא-ישוב אלי .
כד וינחם דוד את בת-שבע אשתו,
ויבא אליה, וישכב עמה ; ותלד בן,
ויקרא (ותקרא) את-שמו שלמה,
ויהוה אהבו . כה וישלח ביד נתן
הנביא, ויקרא את-שמו, ידידיה--
בעבור, יהוה .

Lord!" And Nathan replied to David, "The Lord has remitted your sin; you shall not die. **14** However, since you have spurned the enemies of the Lord by this deed, even the child about to be born to you shall die."

15 Nathan went home, and the Lord afflicted the child that Uriah's wife had borne to David, and it became critically ill. **16** David entreated God for the boy; David fasted, and he went in and spent the night lying on the ground. **17** The senior servants of his household tried to induce him to get up from the ground; but he refused, nor would he partake of food with them. **18** On the seventh day the child died. David's servants were afraid to tell David that the child was dead; for they said, "We spoke to him when the child was alive and he wouldn't listen to us; how can we tell him that the child is dead? He might do something terrible."

19 When David saw his servants talking in whispers, David understood that the child was dead; David asked his servants, "Is the child dead?" "Yes," they replied.

20 Thereupon David rose from the ground; he bathed and anointed himself, and he changed his clothes. He went into the House of the Lord and prostrated himself. Then he went home and asked for food, which they set before him, and he ate. **21** His courtiers asked him, "Why have you acted in this manner? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept; but now that the child is dead, you rise and take food!" **22** He replied, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept because I thought: 'Who knows? The Lord may have pity on me, and the child may live.' **23** But now that he is dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will never come back to me."

24 David consoled his wife Bathsheba; he went to her and lay with her. She bore a son and she named him Solomon. The Lord favored him, **25** and He sent a message through the prophet Nathan; and he was named Jedidiah at the instance of the Lord.

**King David loves Bathsheba,
 hugs her tight, fondles her with the same hands
 that cut off the head of Goliath,
 the very same hands. The same man who rent his clothes
 and scattered ashes on his head when his son died,
 the very same man. When the sun
 rose in the east, he rose up over Bathsheba
 like the lion on the banner of Jerusalem
 and said to her: Thou art the woman.
 And she to him: Thou art the man!
 Before long, he would hear the very same words
 from the prophet: Thou art the man!**

**YEHUDA AMICHAI, OPEN CLOSED OPEN
 "DAVID, KING OF ISRAEL, IS ALIVE: THOU ART THE MAN"**

6. II Samuel 11:13

יג וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-נָתָן, חָטָאתִי לַיהוָה. **13** David said to Nathan: 'I stand guilty before the Lord.'

7. II Samuel 5:14-16

יד וְאֵלֶּה שְׁמוֹת הַיְלָדִים לוֹ בִּירוּשָׁלַם: שָׁמוּעַ וְשׁוֹבָב, וְנָתָן וְשָׁלְמוֹה. **טו** וַיְבַחֵר וְאֶלִישׁוּעַ, וְנֶפֶג וְיָפִיעַ. **טז** וְאֶלִישָׁמַע וְאֶלִיָּדָע, וְאֶלִיפָלֶט. **14** These are the names of the children born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon; **15** Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, and Japhia; **16** Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

8. Genesis 38:26

כו וַיִּכַּר יְהוּדָה, וַיֹּאמֶר צְדָקָה מִמְּנִי... **26** And Judah acknowledged them, and said: 'She is more righteous than I...'

9. Genesis 29:35

לה וַתֵּהָר עוֹד וַתֵּלֶד בֵּן, וַתֹּאמֶר הַפַּעַם אוֹדָה אֶת-יְהוָה--עַל-כֵּן קָרָאתָ שְׁמוֹ, יְהוּדָה... **35** She conceived again, and bore a son; and declared: 'This time will I acknowledge/thank [odeh] the Lord.' Therefore she named him Judah...

י.ד.ה.

**JUDAH JEW YEHUDA YEHUDI
ODEH LEHODOT HODA'AH HODAYAH
CONFESS ACKNOWLEDGE THANK**