

# NEHEMIYA

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## ISAHLUKO 1

**A**mazwi kaNehemiya indodana kaHakaliya. Kwathi ngenyanga kaKhisilevi, ngomnyaka wamashumi amabili ngisendlini yenkosi yaseShushani,

<sup>2</sup> kwafika uHanani omunye wabafowethu, yena nabantu bakwaJuda; ngababuza ngabaJuda ababesele besindile ekuthunjweni nangeJerusalema.

<sup>3</sup> Bathi kimi: “Insali eseleyo ekuthunjweni lapho ezweni isekuhluphekeni okukhulu nasehlazweni; ugange lwaseJerusalema lubhidliziwe, namasango alo ashisiwe ngomlilo.”

<sup>4</sup> Kwathi lapho ngizwa lawo mazwi, ngahlala phansi, ngakhala izinyembezi, ngalila izinsuku ezithile, ngazila ukudla, ngakhuleka phambi kukaNkulunkulu wezulu,

<sup>5</sup> ngathi: “Ngiyanxusa, Jehova Nkulunkulu wezulu, wena Nkulunkulu omkhulu nowesabekayo, ogcina isivumelwano nomusa nabakuthandayo nabagcina imiyalo yakho,

<sup>6</sup> ukuba indlebe yakho ilalele, namehlo akho avuleke, ukuze uzwe umkhuleko wenceku yakho engiwukhuleka phambi kwakho ngalesi sikhathi imini nobusuku ngenxa yabantwana bakwa-Israyeli izinceku zakho, lapho ngivuma izono zabantwana bakwa-Israyeli esone ngazo kuwe; yebo, nami nendlu kababa sonile.

<sup>7</sup> Senzile kabi kakhulu kuwe, asigcinanga imiyalo, nezimiso, nezahlulelo owayala ngakho inceku yakho uMose.

<sup>8</sup> “Ake ulikhumbule izwi owayala ngalo inceku yakho uMose ngokuthi: ‘Uma niphambuka, mina ngiyakunihlakazela phakathi kwezizwe;

<sup>9</sup> kepha uma nibuyela kimi, nigcine imiyalo yami, niyenze, noma abaxoshiweyo benu bebe semajukujukwini ezulu, ngiyakubabutha lapho nokho, ngibayise endaweni engiyikhethe ukubeka igama lami kuyo.’

<sup>10</sup> “Bayizinceku zakho nabantu bakho obahlengile ngamandla akho amakhulu nangesandla sakho esiqinileyo.

<sup>11</sup> Ngicela, Nkosi, ukuba indlebe yakho izwe umkhuleko wenceku yakho nomkhuleko wezinceku zakho ezithokoza ngokwesaba igama lakho, uhlahlamelise inceku yakho namuhla, uyinike umusa emehlweni alo muntu.” Bheka, ngangingumphathisitsha wenkosi.

## ISAHLUKO 2

**K**wathi ngenyanga kaNisani ngomnyaka wamashumi amabili ka-Aritahishashita inkosi, iwayini liphambi kwakhe, ngaliphakamisa iwayini, ngalinika inkosi. Ngangingazange ngibiphe phambi kwayo.

<sup>2</sup> Inkosi yathi kimi: “Ubuso bakho bubipheleni, lokhu ungaguli, na? Lokhu kungukudabuka kwenhliziyo kuphela.” Ngase ngesaba kakhulu.

- <sup>3</sup> Ngathi enkosini: “Mayime njalo inkosi; ubuso bami bungebiphe ngani, laphe umuzi, indawo yamathuna awobaba, uchithekile namasango awo eshiswe ngomlilo, na?”
- <sup>4</sup> Yayisithi inkosi kimi: “Ukhala ngani?” Ngase ngikhuleka kuNkulunkulu wezulu.
- <sup>5</sup> Ngathi enkosini: “Uma kukuhle enkosini, uma inceku yakho ifumene umusa emehlweni akho, ungivumele ukuba ngiye kwaJuda emzini wamathuna awobaba ukuba ngiwuvuse.”
- <sup>6</sup> Inkosi yathi kimi, inkosikazi ihlezi eceleni kwayo: “Uhambo lwakho luyakuba yisikhathi esingakanani, nokubuya kuyakuba nini na?” Kwaba kuhle-ke enkosini ukuvuma ukuba ngihambe; ngayitshela isikhathi esithile.
- <sup>7</sup> Futhi ngathi enkosini: “Uma kukuhle enkosini, manginikwe izincwadi kubabusi phesheya koMfula, ukuze bavume ukuba ngidlule ngize ngifike kwaJuda,
- <sup>8</sup> kanye nencwadi ku-Asafa umlindihlathi lenkosi ukuba anginike imithi yemishayo yamasango enqaba ehlangene nethempeli, neyongange lomuzi, neyendlu engiyakungena kuyo.” Inkosi yanginika lokhu ngokwesandla esihle sikaNkulunkulu wami esasiphezu kwami.
- <sup>9</sup> Ngase ngifika kubabusi phesheya koMfula, ngabanika izincwadi zenkosi. Inkosi yayithume nami izinduna zempi nabamahhashi.
- <sup>10</sup> Kepha laphe umHaroni, uSanibalati, noThobiya inceku yakwa-Amoni sebezwele lokho, kwaba kubi kakhulu kubo ukuthi kufike umuntu ukufuna inhlalakahle ka-Israyeli.
- <sup>11</sup> Ngase ngifika eJerusalema, ngahlala khona izinsuku ezintathu.
- <sup>12</sup> Ngavuka ebusuku, mina nabantu abathile abayingcosana; angitshelanga muntu lokho uNkulunkulu akubeke enhliziyweni yami ukuba ngikwenzele iJerusalema; futhi kwakungekho silwane nami ngaphandle kwesilwane engangikhwele kuso.
- <sup>13</sup> Ngaphuma ngeSango Lesigodi ebusuku, ngaya eMthonjeni kaDrako naseSangweni Lomquba, ngabuka izingange zaseJerusalema ezazibhidliziwe namasango alo ayeshiswe ngomlilo.
- <sup>14</sup> Ngase ngikhuphukela eSangweni Lomthombo naseChibini Lenkosi, kepha kwakungekho ndawo yokuba kudlule isilwane engangiphezu kwaso.
- <sup>15</sup> Ngangikhuphula umfudlana ebusuku, ngabuka ugange, ngaphenduka, ngangena ngeSango Lesigodi, ngaphindela emuva.
- <sup>16</sup> Ababusi babengazi laphe ngangiyiye khona nengikwenzileyo; futhi ngangingakabatsheli abaJuda, nabapristi, nabakhulu, nababusi, nabanye ababewenza umsebenzi.
- <sup>17</sup> Kepha ngase ngithi kubo: “Niyayibona inhlupheko esikuyona, lokhu iJerusalema lichithekile namasango alo eshiswe ngomlilo; wozani sivuse ugange lwaseJerusalema ukuba singabe sisaba yihlazo.”
- <sup>18</sup> Ngabatshela ngesandla sikaNkulunkulu wami esasisihle phezu kwami, nangamazwi enkosi eyayiwakhulume kimi. Bathi: “Masisuke sakhe,” beginisela izandla zabo lowo msebenzi.
- <sup>19</sup> Kepha laphe uSanibalati, umHaroni, noThobiya inceku yakwa-Amoni, noGeshemi wase-Arabiya bezwa lokho, basihleka usulu, basidelela, bathi: “Yini lokhu enikwenzayo na? Niyakuyihlubuka inkosi na?”
- <sup>20</sup> Ngase ngibabuyisela amazwi, ngathi kubo: “UNkulunkulu wezulu uyakusiphumelelisa; ngalokho thina zinceku zakhe siyakusuka sakhe, kepha nina aninasabelo, nalungelo, nasikhumbuzo eJerusalema.”

## ISAPHELA 3

**K**wasuka u-Eliyashibi umpristi omkhulu nabafowabo abapristi, balakha iSango Lezimvu, balingcwelisa, bamisa izivalo zalo, yebo, kwaze kwaba naseMbhoshongweni KaHameya ababewungcwelisa, kwaze kwaba naseMbhoshongweni KaHananeli.

<sup>2</sup> Eceleni kwakhe kwakha abantu baseJeriko, naseceleni kwabo kwakha uZakuri indodana ka-Imri.

<sup>3</sup> ISango Lezinhlanzi lakhiwa ngamadodana kaHasenawa; abeka imishayo yalo, bamisa izivalo zalo nezihluthulelo zalo nemigoqo yalo.

<sup>4</sup> Eceleni kwabo kwalungisa uMeremoti, indodana ka-Uriya kaHakhosi. Eceleni kwabo kwalungisa uMeshulamu indodana kaBerekiya kaMeshezabeli. Eceleni kwabo kwalungisa uSadoki indodana kaBahana.

<sup>5</sup> Eceleni kwabo kwalungisa abaseThekhowa, kepha abakhulu babo abafakanga izintamo zabo emsebenzini wenkosi yabo.

<sup>6</sup> ISango Elidala lalungiswa nguJoyada indodana kaPhaseya nanguMeshulamu indodana kaBesodeya, babeka imishayo yalo, bamisa izivalo zalo nezihluthulelo zalo nemigoqo yalo.

<sup>7</sup> Eceleni kwabo kwalungisa uMelathiya waseGibeyoni, noJadoni waseMeronoti, amadoda aseGibeyoni naseMispa, phansi kwesihlalo sombusi phesheya koMfula.

<sup>8</sup> Eceleni kwabo kwalungisa u-Uziyeli indodana kaHarihaya wabakhandi begolide. Eceleni kwakhe kwalungisa uHananiya wabathaki. Baliyeka iJerusalema kwaze kwaba soGangeni Olubanzi.

<sup>9</sup> Eceleni kwabo kwalungisa uRefaya indodana kaHure, umbusi wenxenywe yesifunda saseJerusalema.

<sup>10</sup> Eceleni kwakhe kwalungisa uJedaya indodana kaHarumafi malungana nendlu yakhe. Eceleni kwakhe kwalungisa uHathushi indodana kaHashabineya.

<sup>11</sup> UMalikhiya, indodana kaHarimi, noHashubi, indodana kaPhahati Mowabi, balungisa elinye ibanga noMbhoshong Wamaziko.

<sup>12</sup> Eceleni kwabo kwalungisa uShalumi indodana kaHalohehi, umbusi wenxenywe yesifunda saseJerusalema, yena namadodakazi akhe.

<sup>13</sup> ISango Lesigodi lalungiswa nguHanuni nabakhe eZanowa; balakha, bamisa izivalo zalo nezihluthulelo zalo nemigoqo yalo, nezingalo eziyinkulungwane zogange kwaze kwaba seSangweni Lomquba.

<sup>14</sup> ISango Lomquba lalungiswa nguMalikhiya, indodana kaRekabi, umbusi wesifunda saseBeti Hakeremi; walakha, wamisa izivalo zalo nezihluthulelo zalo nemigoqo yalo.

<sup>15</sup> ISango Lomthombo lalungiswa nguShaluni, indodana kaKholi Hoze, umbusi wesifunda saseMispa; walakha, walifulela, wamisa izivalo zalo nezihluthulelo zalo nemigoqo yalo, nogange lwaseChibini laseShela ngasensimini yenkosi, kwaze kwaba sezikhwelweni ezezela emzini kaDavide.

<sup>16</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa uNehemiya indodana ka-Azibuki, umbusi wenxenywe yesifunda saseBeti Suri, kwaze kwaba sendaweni malungana namathuna kaDavide, nasechibini elimbiweyo, naseNdlini Yamaqhawe.

<sup>17</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa amaLevi, uRehumi indodana kaBani. Eceleni kwakhe kwalungisa uHashabiya, umbusi wenxenywe yesifunda saseKeyila esifundeni sakhe.

<sup>18</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa abafowabo, uBavayi indodana kaHenadadi, umbusi wenxenywe yesifunda saseKeyila.

<sup>19</sup> Eceleni kwakhe kwalungisa u-Ezeri indodana kaJeshuwa, umbusi waseMispa, elinye ibanga malungana nommango oya endlini yezikhali eNqutshini.

- <sup>20</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa nokulungisa uBaruki indodana kaZabayi elinye ibanga, kusukela eNqutshini kuze kube semnyango wendlu ka-Eliyashibi umpristi omkhulu.
- <sup>21</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa uMeremoti, indodana ka-Uriya kaHakhosi, elinye ibanga, kusukela emnyango wendlu ka-Eliyashibi kuze kube sekugcineni kwendlu ka-Eliyashibi.
- <sup>22</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa abapristi, abantu basethafeni.
- <sup>23</sup> Emva kwabo kwalungisa oBenjamini noHashubi malungana nendlu yabo. Emva kwabo kwalungisa u-Azariya indodana kaMahaseya ka-Ananiya eceleni kwendlu yakhe.
- <sup>24</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa uBinuwi indodana kaHenadadi elinye ibanga, kusukela endlini ka-Azariya kuze kube seNqutshini, kuze kube naseGumbini.
- <sup>25</sup> UPhalali, indodana ka-Uzayi, wayemalungana neNqubu nombhoshongo ophumeleleyo endlini yenkosi engasenhla ngasegcekeni letilongo. Emva kwakhe nguPhedaya indodana kaPharoshi.
- <sup>26</sup> AmaNethini ayehlezi e-Ofeli kwaze kwaba sendaweni malungana neSango Lamanzi ngasempumalanga nombhoshongo ophumeleleyo.
- <sup>27</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa abaseThekhowa elinye ibanga malungana nombhoshongo omkhulu ophumeleleyo kwaze kwaba sogangeni lwase-Ofeli.
- <sup>28</sup> Phezu kweSango Lehhashi kwalungisa abapristi, kwaba yilowo nalowo malungana nendlu yakhe.
- <sup>29</sup> Emva kwabo kwalungisa uSadoki indodana ka-Imeri malungana nendlu yakhe. Emva kwakhe kwalungisa uShemaya indodana kaShekaniya, umlindi weSango langaseMpumalanga.
- <sup>30</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa uHananiya, indodana kaShelemiya, noHanuni, indodana yesithupha kaSalfi, elinye ibanga. Emva kwakhe kwalungisa uMeshulamu indodana kaBerekiya malungana nekamelo lakhe.
- <sup>31</sup> Emva kwakhe kwalungisa uMalikhiya, omunye wabakhandi begolide, kwaze kwaba sendlini yamaNethini neyabathengi malungana neSango Lokubala, kwaze kwaba nasekamelweni eliphezulu laseGumbini.
- <sup>32</sup> Phakathi kwekamelo eliphezulu laseGumbini neSango Lezimvu kwalungisa abakhandi begolide nabathengi.

## ISAHLUKO 4

**K**epha kwathi lapho uSanibalati esezwile ukuthi sabe siluvusa ugange, wathukuthela, wavutha ulaka, waklolodela abaJuda.

<sup>2</sup> Wakhuluma phambi kwabafowabo nempi yaseSamariya, wathi: “Benzani laba baJuda abangenamandla na? Bayekwe bebodwa na? Bahlabe yini? Bakuqede ngosuku na? Bavuse amatshe emfuthumfuthwini yamabibi lokhu eshisiwe na?”

<sup>3</sup> UThobiya wakwa-Amoni wayengakuye, wathi: “Yebo, nalokho abakwakhayo, uma kukhuphuka impungushe, iyakulubhidliza ugange lwamatshe abo.”

<sup>4</sup> Ngase ngikhuleka ngathi: “Yizwa, Nkulunkulu wethu, ngokuba sidelelekile, ubuyisele inhamba yabo phezu kwamakhanda abo, ubanikele ukuba baphangwe ezweni lokuthunjwa;

<sup>5</sup> ungalisibekeli icala labo, masingesulwa isono sabo phambi kwakho, ngokuba bakucunulile ngaphambi kwabakhi.”

<sup>6</sup> Sase sivusa-ke ugange; lonke ugange lwahlanganiswa kwaze kwagamanxa, ngokuba abantu babenenhliziyo yokusebenza.

- <sup>7</sup> Kepha kwathi oSanibalati, noThobiya, nabase-Arabiya, nabakwa-Amoni, nabase-Ashidodi sebezwa ukuthi ukulungiswa kwezingange zaseJerusalema kuyaqhubeka, nokuthi izimfa seziqale ukuvalwa, bathukuthela kakhulu,
- <sup>8</sup> benza ugobe ukuba baye ukulwa neJerusalema, balilimaze.
- <sup>9</sup> Kepha sakhuleka kuNkulunkulu wethu, sabamisela abalindi imini nobusuku ngenxa yabo.
- <sup>10</sup> UJuda wathi: “Amandla abathwalayo aphelile; amabibi maningi; asisenakuluvusa ugange.”
- <sup>11</sup> Abamelene nathi bathi: “Abayikwazi, abayikubona size sifike phakathi kwabo, sibabulale, sivimbe umsebenzi.”
- <sup>12</sup> Kwathi lapho abaJuda ababehlala eceleni kwabo sebefika, bathi kithi kayishumi, bevela ezindaweni zonke: “Buyelani kithi.”
- <sup>13</sup> Ngase ngimisa ngenzansi ezindaweni ezisemva kogange nakwezisobala abantu ngemindeni yabo, benezinkemba zabo, nemikhonto yabo, neminsalo yabo.
- <sup>14</sup> Lapho sengibhekile, ngasuka ngathi kwabakhulu nakubabusi nakwabanye abantu: “Ningabesabi; khumbulani iNkosi enkulu neyesabekayo, nilwele abafowenu, namadodana enu, namadodakazi enu, nawomkenu, nezindlu zenu.”
- <sup>15</sup> Kwathi izitha zethu sezizwile ukuthi kwazeke kithi nokuthi uNkulunkulu wayeshafisile icebo labo, sabuyela sonke ogangeni, kwaba yilowo nalowo emsebenzini wakhe.
- <sup>16</sup> Kusukela kulolo suku inxenywe yezinceku zami yasebenza emisebenzini, nenxenywe yazo yaphatha imikhonto, nezihlangu, neminsalo, namabhantshi ensimbi; ababusi babe semva kwendlu yonke yakwaJuda.
- <sup>17</sup> Abavusayo ugange nabathwalayo imithwalo bazithwesa benza umsebenzi ngesinye isandla, nangesinye baphatha izikhali zabo;
- <sup>18</sup> nabakhi bonke babe nenkemba ibhincwe ezinkalweni zabo, bakha kanjalo. Owabetha icilongo wayengaseceleni kwami.
- <sup>19</sup> Ngokuba ngangithe kwabakhulu nakubabusi nakwabanye abantu: “Umsebenzi mkhulu, ubanzi, sahlukene ogangeni, omunye ukude nomunye.
- <sup>20</sup> Noma kuyiphi indawo lapho nizwa khona ukubethwa kwecilongo, buthanani khona, nize kithi; uNkulunkulu wethu uyakusilwela.”
- <sup>21</sup> Sase senza nathi umsebenzi wethu, inxenywe iphethe imikhonto, kusukela ekuqaleni kokusa kuze kuphume izinkanyezi.
- <sup>22</sup> Kanjalo ngaleso sikhathi ngathi kubantu: “Yilowo nalowo kahlale nenceku yakhe phakathi kweJerusalema ukuba zibe ngabalindi bethu ebusuku, zisebenze emini.”
- <sup>23</sup> Mina nabafowethu, nezinceku zami, nabalindi abangilandelayo, kwakungekho kithi owakhumula izingubo zakhe; yilowo nalowo wayenesikhali esandleni sakhe.

## ISAHLUKO 5

**K**waba khona ukukhala okukhulu kwabantu nawomkabo ngabafowabo abaJuda.

<sup>2</sup> Ngokuba babekhona abathi: “Thina namadodana ethu namadodakazi ethu sibaningi; masithole amabele ukuba sidle, siphile.”

<sup>3</sup> Babe khona nabathi: “Sibambisile ngamasimu ethu, nangezivini zethu, nangezindlu zethu; masithole amabele ngenxa yendlala.”

<sup>4</sup> Babe khona nabathi: “Sitshelekile imali yokuthela enkosini ngamasimu ethu nangezivini zethu.

- <sup>5</sup> Nokho inyama yethu injengenyama yabafowethu, abantwana bethu banjengabantwana babo; bheka, sithobisa amadodana ethu namadodakazi ethu, abe yizigqila; amanye amadodakazi ethu asethotshisiwe; futhi awakho amandla ezandleni zethu, ngokuba amasimu ethu nezivini zethu sekungokwabanye.”
- <sup>6</sup> Ngathukuthela kakhulu lapho ngizwa ukukhala kwabo nalawo mazwi.
- <sup>7</sup> Inhliziyo yami isicabangile, ngathethisana nabakhulu nababusi, ngathi kubo: “Nina nonke nibiza inzalo omunye komunye.” Ngase ngibiza ibandla elikhulu ngabo.
- <sup>8</sup> Ngathi kubo: “Thina njengamandla esinawo sihlengile abafowethu abaNtshona ababethengiselwe abezizwe; seniyakuthengisa ngabafowenu, bathengiselwe kithi, na?” Bathula, abafumananga zwi.
- <sup>9</sup> Ngathi futhi: “Akukuhle enikwenzayo; beningehambe yini ngokwesaba uNkulunkulu wethu ngenxa yokuthukwa kwethu ngabezizwe, izitha zethu, na?”
- <sup>10</sup> Nami nabafowethu nezinceku zethu sibatsheleke imali namabele. Ake siyeke ukubiza le nzalo.
- <sup>11</sup> Ake nibuyisele namhlanje amasimu abo, nezivini zabo, neminqumo yabo, nezindlu zabo, nenxenye yekhulu yemali, neyamabele, neyewayini, neyamafutha enikubiza kubo kube yinzalo.”
- <sup>12</sup> Base bethi: “Sizakubuyisela kubo, singabizi lutho kubo; sizakwenza njengokusho kwakho.” Ngase ngibiza abapristi, ngabafungisa ukuba benze njengalelo zwi.
- <sup>13</sup> Ngavuthulula ingubo yami, ngathi: “UNkulunkulu makavuthulule kanjalo bonke abantu abangagcini leli zwi ezindlini zabo nasemfuyweni yabo; mabavuthululwe kanjalo, babe yize.” Lonke ibandla lathi: “Amen,” ladumisa uJehova. Abantu base benza njengalelo zwi.
- <sup>14</sup> Futhi kusukela osukwini engamiswa ngalo ukuba ngibe ngumbusi wabo ezweni lakwaNtshona, kwasemnyakeni wamashumi amabili kuze kube semnyakeni wamashumi amathathu nambili ka-Aritahishashita inkosi, iminyaka eyishumi nabili, mina nabafowethu asidlanga isinkwa sombusi.
- <sup>15</sup> Kepha ababusi bokuqala ababe phambi kwami babebathwesile abantu, bathatha kubo isinkwa newayini kanye namashekeli angamashumi amane esiliva; nezinceku zachachaza phezu kwabantu; kepha mina angenzanga kanjalo ngenxa yokumesaba uNkulunkulu.
- <sup>16</sup> Phezu kwalokho ngabambelela emsebenzini wogange, asithenganga zwe; zonke izinceku zami zabuthana khona emsebenzini.
- <sup>17</sup> AbaNtshona nababusi, abantu abayikhulu namashumi ayisihlanu, badla etafuleni lami, kanye nabafika kithi bevela kwabezizwe abasizungezayo.
- <sup>18</sup> Okwalungiselwa usuku lwaba lunye nje kwakuyinkabi nezimvu eziyisithupha ezikhethekileyo; ngalungiselwa nezinyoni newayini eliningi lezinhlalo zonke kanye ngezinsuku eziyishumi; nokho angicelanga isinkwa sombusi, ngokuba ubugqila babusinda phezu kwalaba bantu.
- <sup>19</sup> Ngikhumbulele, Nkulunkulu wami, ngenxa yakho konke engikwenzele laba bantu, kube kuhle kimi.

## ISIAHLUKO 6

**K**wathi lapho oSanibalati, noThobiya, noGeshemi wase-Arabiya, nezinye izitha sebezile ukuthi ngivusile ugange nokuthi akusasele sikhala, noma ngaleso sikhathi ngangingakamisi izivalo emasangweni,

- <sup>2</sup> oSanibalati noGeshemi bathumela kimi, bathi: “Woza sihlengane komunye wemizana yasethafeni lase-Ono.” Babehlose ukwenza okubi kimi.

- <sup>3</sup> Ngathuma izithunywa kubo, ngathi: “Ngisebenza umsebenzi omkhulu, anginakwehla; umsebenzi ubuyakumelani, ngiwuyeke, ngehlele kini, na?”
- <sup>4</sup> Bathumela kane kimi ngaleyo ndlela; ngabaphendula ngokunjalo.
- <sup>5</sup> USanibalati wayesethuma inceku yakhe kimi kanjalo ngokwesihlanu, iphethe incwadi evulekileyo esandleni sayo.
- <sup>6</sup> Kwakulotshwe kuyo ukuthi: “Kuzwakele ezizweni, naye uGashimu uthi wena nabaJuda nihlose ukuhlubuka, okungalokho uvusa ugange, ube yinkosi yabo; yebo, anjalo amazwi.
- <sup>7</sup> Futhi ubekile abaprofethi ukuba bashumayeke ngawe eJerusalema ukuthi uyinkosi kwaJuda. Njengokuba lawo mazwi eyakuzwakala enkosini, mawuze, silulekane.”
- <sup>8</sup> Ngase ngithumela kuye, ngathi: “Azikho izinto ezinjengalezo ozishoyo; ziqanjwe nguwe enhliziyweni yakho.”
- <sup>9</sup> Ngokuba bonke babesethusa bethi: “Izandla zabo ziyakudangala emsebenzini ukuba ungenziwa.” Ngase ngikhuleka ngathi: “Kepha manje, Nkosi, qinisa izandla zami.”
- <sup>10</sup> Ngase ngiya endlini kaShemaya indodana kaDelaya kaMehetabeli owayezivalele. Wathi: “Masihlangane endlini kaNkulunkulu phakathi kwethempeli, sivale iminyango yethempeli, ngokuba bayakufika ukukubulala, yebo, ebusuku bayakufika bakubulale.”
- <sup>11</sup> Ngathi: “Umuntu onjengami abaleke na? Ngubani onjengami ongangena ethempelini, aphile, na? Angingeni.”
- <sup>12</sup> Ngaqonda ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayengamthumile, kepha wakhuluma lesi siprofetho ngami eqashiwe ngoThobiya noSanibalati.
- <sup>13</sup> Wayeqashelwe lokhu kokuba ngesabe, ngenze kanjalo, ngone, babe nombiko omubi, bangijivaze.
- <sup>14</sup> Ngakhuleka ngathi: “Khumbula, Nkulunkulu wami, oThobiya noSanibalati ngalezo zenzo zabo, nomprofethikazi uNohadiya, nabanye abaprofethi, ababengesabisa.”
- <sup>15</sup> Ugange lwaphela ngolwamashumi amabili nanhlanu lwenyanga ka-Eluli ngezinsuku ezingamashumi ayisihlanu nambili.
- <sup>16</sup> Kwathi lapho zonke izitha zikuzwa lokho, abezizwe bonke abasizungezayo, besaba, bayetha, ngokuba baqonda ukuthi lowo msebenzi wawenziwe nguNkulunkulu wethu.
- <sup>17</sup> Phezu kwalokho abakhulu bakwaJuda bathuma ngalezo zinsuku izincwadi eziningi kuThobiya, nezikaThobiya zafika kubo.
- <sup>18</sup> Ngokuba abanengi bakwaJuda babefungile kubo, ngokuba wayengumkhwenyana kaShekaniya indodana ka-Ara; indodana uJehohanani yayithathile indodakazi kaMeshulamu indodana kaBerekiya.
- <sup>19</sup> Bakhuluma ngezenzo zakhe ezinhle phambi kwami, bamukisa kuye amazwi ami. UThobiya wathuma izincwadi ukungesabisa.

## ISAPHLUKO 7

**K**wathi lapho ugange selwakhiwe, sengimisile izivalo, futhi kubekiwe abalindisango nabahlabeleli namaLevi,

<sup>2</sup> ngayaleza uHanani umfowethu noHananiya induna yendlu yenkosi ukuba baphathe iJerusalema, ngokuba wayengumuntu othembekileyo, wamesaba uNkulunkulu kunabaningi.

<sup>3</sup> Ngathi kubo: “Amasango aseJerusalema mawangavulwa lize lishise ilanga; besemi, mabavale izivalo, baziqinise; bekani abalindi kwabakhileyo eJerusalema, kube yilowo nalowo emlindweni wakhe, yilowo abe malungana nendlu yakhe.”



- <sup>4</sup> Umuzi wawubanzi nxazombili; wawumkhulu, kepha abantu babe yingcosana phakathi kwawo, izindlu zingakakhiwa.
- <sup>5</sup> UNkulunkulu wami wabeka enhliziyweni yami ukuba ngibuthe abakhulu, nababusi, nabantu, ukuze babhalwe ngezizukulwane. Ngafumana incwadi yezizukulwane zabakhuphuka kuqala, ngafumana kulotshiwe kuyo ukuthi:
- <sup>6</sup> Nampa abantwana bezwe abakhuphuka ekuthunjweni kubo ababethunjwe nguNebukadinesari inkosi yaseBabele, babuyela eJerusalema nakwaJuda, kwaba yilowo nalowo emzini wakubo,
- <sup>7</sup> abafika noZerubabele, noJeshuwa, noNehemiya, no-Azariya, noRahamiya, noNahamani, noMoridekayi, noBilishani, noMispereti, noBigivayi, noNehumi, noBahana. Umumo wamadoda abantu bakwa-Israyeli nanku:
- <sup>8</sup> abantwana bakwaPharoshi: yizinkulungwane ezimbili nekhulu namashumi ayisikhombisa nambili;
- <sup>9</sup> abantwana bakwaShefathiya: ngamakhulu amathathu namashumi ayisikhombisa nambili;
- <sup>10</sup> abantwana bakwa-Ara: ngamakhulu ayisithupha namashumi ayisihlanu nambili;
- <sup>11</sup> abantwana bakwaPhahati Mowabi babantwana bakwaJeshuwa noJowabe: yizinkulungwane ezimbili namakhulu ayisishiyagalombili neshumi nesishiyagalombili;
- <sup>12</sup> abantwana bakwa-Elamu: yinkulungwane namakhulu amabili namashumi ayisihlanu nane;
- <sup>13</sup> abantwana bakwaZathu: ngamakhulu ayisishiyagalombili namashumi amane nanhlanu;
- <sup>14</sup> abantwana bakwaZakayi: ngamakhulu ayisikhombisa namashumi ayisithupha;
- <sup>15</sup> abantwana bakwaBinuwi: ngamakhulu ayisithupha namashumi amane nesishiyagalombili;
- <sup>16</sup> abantwana bakwaBebayi: ngamakhulu ayisithupha namashumi amabili nesishiyagalombili;
- <sup>17</sup> abantwana bakwa-Azigadi: yizinkulungwane ezimbili namakhulu amathathu namashumi amabili nambili;
- <sup>18</sup> abantwana bakwa-Adonikamu: ngamakhulu ayisithupha namashumi ayisithupha nesikhombisa;
- <sup>19</sup> abantwana bakwaBigivayi: yizinkulungwane ezimbili namashumi ayisithupha nesikhombisa;
- <sup>20</sup> abantwana bakwa-Adini: ngamakhulu ayisithupha namashumi ayisihlanu nanhlanu;
- <sup>21</sup> abantwana bakwa-Atheri kaHezekiya: ngamashumi ayisishiyagalolunye nesishiyagalombili;
- <sup>22</sup> abantwana bakwaHashumi: ngamakhulu amathathu namashumi amabili nesishiyagalombili;
- <sup>23</sup> abantwana bakwaBesayi: ngamakhulu amathathu namashumi amabili nane;
- <sup>24</sup> abantwana bakwaHarifi: yikhulu neshumi nambili;
- <sup>25</sup> abantwana bakwaGibeyoni: ngamashumi ayisishiyagalolunye nanhlanu.
- <sup>26</sup> Amadoda aseBetlehema naseNethofa: yikhulu namashumi ayisishiyagalombili nesishiyagalombili;
- <sup>27</sup> amadoda ase-Anathoti: yikhulu namashumi amabili nesishiyagalombili;
- <sup>28</sup> amadoda aseBeti Azimaveti: ngamashumi amane nambili;
- <sup>29</sup> amadoda aseKiryati Jeharimi, naseKhefira, naseBeyeroti: ngamakhulu ayisikhombisa namashumi amane nantathu;



- 30 amadoda aseRama naseGeba: ngamakhulu ayisithupha namashumi amabili nanye;
- 31 amadoda aseMikimasi: yikhulu namashumi amabili nambili;
- 32 amadoda aseBethale nase-Ayi: yikhulu namashumi amabili nantathu;
- 33 amadoda elinye iNebo: ngamashumi ayisihlanu nambili;
- 34 abantwana bakwa-Elamu omunye: yinkulungwane namakhulu amabili namashumi ayisihlanu nane;
- 35 abantwana bakwaHarimi: ngamakhulu amathathu namashumi amabili;
- 36 abantwana baseJeriko: ngamakhulu amathathu namashumi amane nanhlano;
- 37 abantwana baseLodi, naseHadidi, nase-Ono: ngamakhulu ayisikhombisa namashumi amabili nanye;
- 38 abantwana baseSenawa: yizinkulungwane ezintathu namakhulu ayisishiyagalolunye namashumi amathathu.
- 39 Abapristi: abantwana bakwaJedaya, abendlu kaJeshuwa: ngamakhulu ayisishiyagalolunye namashumi ayisikhombisa nantathu;
- 40 abantwana bakwa-Imeri: yinkulungwane namashumi ayisihlanu nambili;
- 41 abantwana bakwaPhashuri: yinkulungwane namakhulu amabili namashumi amane nesikhombisa;
- 42 abantwana bakwaHarimi: yinkulungwane neshumi nesikhombisa.
- 43 AmaLevi: abantwana bakwaJeshuwa kaKadimiyeli babantwana bakwaHodeva: ngamashumi ayisikhombisa nane.
- 44 Abahlabeleli: abantwana bakwa-Asafa: yikhulu namashumi amane nesishiyagalombili.
- 45 Abalindisango: abantwana bakwaShalumi, nabantwana bakwa-Atheri, nabantwana bakwaThalimoni, nabantwana bakwa-Akubi, nabantwana bakwaHathita, nabantwana bakwaShobayi: yikhulu namashumi amathathu nesishiyagalombili.
- 46 AmaNethini: ngabantwana bakwaSiha, nabantwana bakwaHasufa, nabantwana bakwaThabawoti,
- 47 nabantwana bakwaKerosi, nabantwana bakwaSiya, nabantwana bakwaPhadoni,
- 48 nabantwana bakwaLebana, nabantwana bakwaHagaba, nabantwana bakwaShalimayi,
- 49 nabantwana bakwaHanani, nabantwana bakwaGideli, nabantwana bakwaGahari,
- 50 nabantwana bakwaRewaya, nabantwana bakwaResini, nabantwana bakwaNekhoda,
- 51 nabantwana bakwaGazamu, nabantwana bakwa-Uza, nabantwana bakwaPhaseya,
- 52 nabantwana bakwaBesayi, nabantwana bakwaMehuni, nabantwana bakwaNefushesimi,
- 53 nabantwana bakwaBakibuki, nabantwana bakwaHakufa, nabantwana bakwaHarihuri,
- 54 nabantwana bakwaBasiluthi, nabantwana bakwaMehida, nabantwana bakwaHarisha,
- 55 nabantwana bakwaBarikhosi, nabantwana bakwaSisera, nabantwana bakwaThema,
- 56 nabantwana bakwaNesiya, nabantwana bakwaHathifa.
- 57 Abantwana bezinceku zikaSolomoni: ngabantwana bakwaSothayi, nabantwana bakwaSofereti, nabantwana bakwaPherida,
- 58 nabantwana bakwaJahala, nabantwana bakwaDarikoni, nabantwana bakwaGideli,
- 59 nabantwana bakwaShefathiya, nabantwana bakwaHathili, nabantwana bakwaPhokereti Hasebayimi, nabantwana bakwa-Amoni.
- 60 Onke amaNethini nabantwana bezinceku zikaSolomoni babe ngamakhulu amathathu namashumi ayisihiyagalolunye nambili.
- 61 Nampa abakhuphuka eTheliMela, naseTheli Harisha, naseKherubi, nase-Adoni, nase-

Imeri, kepha bebengenakusho izindlu zawoyise nozalo lwabo ukuba babe ngabakwa-Israyeli yini:

<sup>62</sup> abantwana bakwaDela, nabantwana bakwaThobiya, nabantwana bakwaNekhoda: ngamakhulu ayisithupha namashumi amane nambili.

<sup>63</sup> Kubapristi: ngabantwana bakwaHobaya, nabantwana bakwaHakhosi, nabantwana bakwaBarizilayi owathatha umfazi kumadodakazi kaBarizilayi wakwaGileyadi, wabizwa ngegama lawo.

<sup>64</sup> Labo bafuna ukubhalwa kwabo phakathi kwababhaliweyo ngezizukulwane, kepha akufunyanwanga; ngalokho kwathiwa bangcolile, bakhishwa ebupristini.

<sup>65</sup> Umbusi washo kubo ukuba bangadli okungcwelengcwele, kuze kuvele umpristi one-Urimi neThumimi.

<sup>66</sup> Lonke ibandla selihlangene laliyizinkulungwane ezingamashumi amane nambili namakhulu amathathu namashumi ayisithupha,

<sup>67</sup> ngaphandle kwezinceku zabo nezi ncekukazi zabo ezaziyizinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa namakhulu amathathu namashumi amathathu nesikhombisa; babe nabahlabeleli besilisa nabesifazane abangamakhulu amabili namashumi amane nanhlanu.

<sup>68</sup> Amahhashi abo ayengamakhulu ayisikhombisa namashumi amathathu nesithupha; iminyuzi yabo yayingamakhulu amabili namashumi amane nanhlanu;

<sup>69</sup> amakamela ayengamakhulu amane namashumi amathathu nanhlanu; izimbongolo zaziyizinkulungwane eziyisithupha namakhulu ayisikhombisa namashumi amabili.

<sup>70</sup> Ezinye izinhloko zanikelela umsebenzi; umbusi wanikelela isikhwama amadarike ayinkulungwane egolide, nezitsha ezingamashumi ayisihlanu, nezambatho zabapristi ezingamakhulu ayisihlanu namashumi amathathu.

<sup>71</sup> Ezinye izinhloko zawoyise zanikelela isikhwama somsebenzi amadarike ayizinkulungwane ezingamashumi amabili egolide namamane ayizinkulungwane ezimbili namakhulu amabili esiliva.

<sup>72</sup> Abakunikelayo abanye abantu kwakungamadarike ayizinkulungwane ezingamashumi amabili egolide, namamane ayizinkulungwane ezimbili esiliva, nezambatho zabapristi ezingamashumi ayisithupha nesikhombisa.

<sup>73</sup> Base behlala-ke abapristi, namaLevi, nabalindisango, nabahlabeleli, nabanye abantu, namaNethini, naye wonke u-Israyeli emizini yabo. Kwathi lapho inyanga yesikhombisa isifikile, abantwana bakwa-Israyeli babe semizini yabo.

## ISAHLUKO 8

**B**onke abantu babuthana njengomuntu munye esigcawini esasiphambi kweSango Lamanzi; bakhuluma ku-Ezra, umbhali, ukuba alethe incwadi yomthetho kaMose, uJehova ayeyale ngawo u-Israyeli.

<sup>2</sup> U-Ezra, umpristi, wawuletha umthetho phambi kwebandla, abesilisa nabesifazane nabo bonke ababe nengqondo yokuzwa, ngosuku lokuqala lwenyanga yesikhombisa.

<sup>3</sup> Wafunda kuwo phambi kwesigcawu esasiphambi kweSango Lamanzi, kusukela ekuseni kuze kube semini, phambi kwabesilisa nabesifazane nababe nengqondo yokuzwa; izindlebe zabantu bonke zalalela incwadi yomthetho.

<sup>4</sup> U-Ezra umbhali wayemi ebhesitulu lamapulungwe ababelenzele lo mgomo; eceleni kwakhe kwakumi oMatithiya, noShema, no-Anaya, no-Uriya, noHilikiya, noMahaseya ngakwesokunene sakhe, nangakwesokhohlo sakhe ngoPhedaya, noMishayeli,

noMalikhiya, noHashumi, noHashibadana, noZakariya, noMeshulamu.

<sup>5</sup> U-Ezra wayivula incwadi emehlweni abantu bonke, ngokuba wayengaphezulu kwabantu bonke, nalapho eyivula, bonke abantu basukuma.

<sup>6</sup> U-Ezra wambonga uJehova uNkulunkulu omkhulu. Bonke abantu baphendula bathi: “Amen, Amen,” bephakamisa izandla zabo; bakhothama, bakhuleka kuJehova, ubuso babo bubheke phansi.

<sup>7</sup> NoJeshuwa, noBani, noSherebiya, noJamini, no-Akubi, noShabethayi, noHodiya, noMahaseya, noKelitha, no-Azariya, noJozabadi, noHanani, noPhelaya, namaLevi bafundisa abantu umthetho, abantu besezindaweni zabo.

<sup>8</sup> Bafunda encwadini, emthethweni kaNkulunkulu, bephumisela kahle; bachaza, babaqondisa okufundwayo.

<sup>9</sup> UNEhemiya owayengumbusi, no-Ezra umpristi nombhali, namaLevi ayebafundisa abantu, bathi kubantu bonke: “Lolu suku lungcwele kuJehova uNkulunkulu wenu; ningalili, ningakhali.” Ngokuba bonke abantu bakhala, lapho bezwa amazwi omthetho.

<sup>10</sup> Wayesethi kubo: “Hambani nidle okunonileyo, niphuze okumnandi, nithumele izabelo kwabangalungiselwanga lutho, ngokuba lolu suku lungcwele kuJehova; ningadabuki, ngokuba injabulo kaJehova iyingqaba yenu.”

<sup>11</sup> AmaLevi ayesethulisa abantu bonke, ethi: “Thulani, ngokuba lolu suku lungcwele; ningadabuki.”

<sup>12</sup> Abantu bonke bahamba ukuba badle, baphuze, bathumele izabelo, bajabule kakhulu, ngokuba babeqondile amazwi ababewazisiwe.

<sup>13</sup> Ngosuku lwesibili kwabuthana izinhloko zawoyise babantu bonke, nabapristi, namaLevi ku-Ezra umbhali ukuba baqaphele amazwi omthetho.

<sup>14</sup> Bafumanisa kulotshiwe emthethweni ukuthi uJehova wayeyalile ngesandla sikaMose ukuba abantwana bakwa-Israyeli bahlale emadokodweni ngomkhosi wenyanga yesikhombisa,

<sup>15</sup> bezwakalise, bathumele izwi emizini yabo yonke naseJerusalema lokuthi: “Phumani, niye entabeni, nilande amagatsha omnqumo, namagatsha omnqumo wasendle, namagatsha ombomvana, namagatsha esundu, namagatsha emithi edumbileyo, nenze amadokodo njengokulotshiweyo.”

<sup>16</sup> Base bephuma abantu, balanda lokho, bazenzela amadokodo, kwaba yilowo nalowo ophahleni lwendlu, nasemagcekeni abo, nasemagcekeni endlu kaNkulunkulu, nasesigcawini seSango Lamanzi, nasesigcawini seSango lakwa-Efrayimi.

<sup>17</sup> Ibandla lonke lababuyileyo ekuthunjweni lenza amadokodo, lahlala emadokodweni, ngokuba kusukela ezinsukwini zikaJeshuwa, indodana kaNuni, kuze kube yilolo suku abantwana bakwa-Israyeli babengenzanga kanjalo. Kwakukhona ukuthokoza okukhulu kakhulu.

<sup>18</sup> Wafunda encwadini yomthetho kaNkulunkulu imihla ngemihla kusukela osukwini lokuqala kuze kube lusuku lokugcina. Bagubha umkhosi izinsuku eziyisikhombisa; ngosuku lwesishiyagalombili kwakungumhlango ozothileyo njengomthetho.

## ISAPHLUKO 9

**N**gosuku lwamashumi amabili nane lwaleyo nyanga abantwana bakwa-Israyeli babuthana, bazila ukudla benezindwangu zamasaka nothuli phezu kwabo.

<sup>2</sup> Inzalo ka-Israyeli yayizahlukanisa nabezizwe bonke, yayimi ivuma izono zayo nokona kwawoyise.

- <sup>3</sup> Basukuma endaweni yabo, bafunda encwadini yomthetho kaJehova uNkulunkulu wabo inxenye yesine yosuku; inxenye yesine bavuma izono zabo, bakhuleka kuJehova uNkulunkulu wabo.
- <sup>4</sup> Kwase kukhwela ezikhwelweni zamaLevi oJeshuwa, noBani, noKadimiyeli, noShebaniya, noBuni, noSherebiya, noBani, noKhenani, bamemeza ngezwi elikhulu kuJehova uNkulunkulu wabo.
- <sup>5</sup> AmaLevi oJeshuwa, noKadimiyeli, noBani, noHashabineya, noSherebiya, noHodiya, noShebaniya, noPhethahiya athi: “Sukumani nimbonge uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu kusukela phakade kuze kube phakade. “Malibongwe igama lakho elikhazimulayo, eliphakanyisiwe ngaphezu kwakho konke ukubonga nokudumisa.
- <sup>6</sup> Wena unguJehova, wena wedwa. Wenzile izulu, izulu lamazulu nalo lonke ibandla lawo, umhlaba nakho konke okukuwo, izilwandle nakho konke okukuzo, ulonda konke, nebandla lasezulwini likhuleka kuwe.
- <sup>7</sup> “Wena unguJehova uNkulunkulu owakhetha u-Abrama, wamkhipha e-Uri lamaKaledi, wametha igama lokuthi u-Abrahama;
- <sup>8</sup> wafumana inhliziyi yakhe ithembekile phambi kwakho, wenza isivumelwano naye ukunika inzalo yakhe izwe lamaKhanani, nelamaHetu, nelama-Amori, nelamaPherizi, nelamaJebusi, nelamaGirigashi, wawafeza amazwi akho, ngokuba ulungile.
- <sup>9</sup> “Wabona ukuhlupheka kwawobaba eGibthe, wezwa ukukhala kwabo ngaseLwandle Olubomvu;
- <sup>10</sup> wenza izibonakaliso nezimangaliso kuFaro nasezincekwini zakhe zonke, nakubo bonke abantu bezwe lakhe, ngokuba wazi ukuthi babebaqholoshela, wazenzela igama, njengalokhu kunjalo nanamuhla.
- <sup>11</sup> Wahlukanisa ulwandle phambi kwabo, badabula phakathi kolwandle emhlabathini owomileyo; nababaxoshayo wabaphonsa otweni njengetshe emanzini anamandla.
- <sup>12</sup> Wabahola ngensika yefu emini nangensika yomlilo ebusuku ukubakhanyisela endleleni ababeyakuhamba ngayo.
- <sup>13</sup> “Wehlela entabeni yaseSinayi, wakhuluma nabo usezulwini, wabanika izahlulelo ezilungileyo, nemithetho eqinisileyo, nezimiso, nemiyalo emihle;
- <sup>14</sup> wabazisa isabatha lakho elingcwele, wabayala ngemiyalo, nangezimiso, nangomthetho ngesandla sikaMose inceku yakho;
- <sup>15</sup> wabanika isinkwa esivela ezulwini ngokulamba kwabo, wabakhiphela amanzi edwaleni ngokoma kwabo, wabayala ukuba bangene ukulidla izwe owaphakamisa ngalo isandla sakho ukuba ubanike lona.
- <sup>16</sup> “Kepha bona nawoyise baqholosha, benza lukhuni izintamo zabo, kabalalelanga imiyalo yakho,
- <sup>17</sup> bengaba ukulalela, abakhumbulanga izimangaliso zakho owazenza phakathi kwabo, kepha benza lukhuni izintamo zabo, nangokuhlubuka kwabo bamisa induna ukuba babuyele ebugqileni babo; kodwa wena unguNkulunkulu othethelelayo, onomusa nesihe; wephuza ukuthukuthela, ugcwele isihawu; kawubashiyanga.
- <sup>18</sup> Yebo, lapho bezenzele ithole elibunjiweyo bethi: ‘Leli linguNkulunkulu wakho owakukhuphula eGibthe,’ benza izithuko ezinkulu,
- <sup>19</sup> nokho wena ngomusa wakho omkhulu awubashiyanga ehlane; insika yefu ayisukanga phezu kwabo emini ukubahola endleleni, nensika yomlilo ebusuku ukubakhanyisela endleleni ababeyakuhamba ngayo.
- <sup>20</sup> Wabanika nomoya wakho omuhle ukubafundisa; awugodlanga imana lakho emilonyeni yabo, wabanika amanzi ngokoma kwabo.

**21** Wabondla iminyaka engamashumi amane ehlane, kabaswelanga lutho; izingubo zabo aziguganga, nezinyawo azivuvukalanga.

**22** “Wabanika imibuso nezizwe owababela khona izindawo ngezindawo; badla izwe likaSihoni, izwe lenkosi yaseHeshiboni, nezwe lika-Ogi inkosi yaseBashani.

**23** Nabantwana babo wabandisa ngangezinkanyezi zezulu, wabangenisa ezweni owasho ngalo koyise ukuthi bayakungena ukulidla.

**24** Abantwana bangena-ke, balidla izwe, wahlula phambi kwabo abakhe ezweni, amaKhanani, wabanikela ezandleni zabo, kanye namakhosi abo, nabantu bezwe, ukuba benze kubo njengokuthanda kwabo.

**25** Bathatha imizi ebiyelweyo nezwe elivundileyo, badla izindlu ezigcwele okuhle konke: imithombo embiweyo, nezivini, neminqumo, nemithi eminingi yokudliwa; badla-ke, basutha, bakhuluphala, benama ngobuhle bakho obukhulu.

**26** “Kepha babengalaleli, bakuhlubuka, balahla nyovane umthetho wakho, bababulala abaprofethi bakho abafakaza ngabo ukubabuyisela kuwe, benza izithuko ezinkulu.

**27** Wawusubanikela esandleni sezitha zabo ezabahlupha; ngesikhathi sokuhlupheka kwabo sebekhala kuwe, wena wabezwa usezulwini, nangomusa wakho omkhulu wabanika abasindisi ababasindisa esandleni sezitha zabo.

**28** “Kepha sebethumule, babuye benza okubi ebusweni bakho; wawusubashiya esandleni sezitha zabo, zaze zabusa phezu kwabo; kodwa lapho bebuye bekhala kuwe, wena wabezwa usezulwini, wabophula kaningi ngomusa wakho omkhulu,

**29** wabaxwayisa ukuba ubabuyisele emthethweni wakho, kepha baqholosha, kabayilalelanga imiyalo yakho, kodwa bona ezahlulelweni zakho, okothi uma umuntu ezenza, uyakuphila ngazo, baphendula ihlombe ngenkani, benza lukhuni intamo yabo, abaze bezwa.

**30** Nokho iminyaka eminingi wababekezelela, wabaxwayisa ngoMoya wakho ngesandla sabaprofethi bakho, kepha abezwanga; wawusubanikela esandleni sabantu bezizwe.

**31** Nokho ngomusa wakho omkhulu awubaqothulanga, awubashiyanga, ngokuba unguNkulunkulu onomusa nobumnene.

**32** “Ngalokho, Nkulunkulu wethu, Nkulunkulu omkhulu onamandla owesabekayo, ogcina isivumelwano nomusa, yonke le nkathazo mayingabi ncane ebusweni bakho esificile thina, namakhosi ethu, nezikhulu zethu, nabapristi bethu, nabaprofethi bethu, nawobaba, nabo bonke abantu bakho, kusukela esikhathini samakhosi ase-Asiriya kuze kube namuhla.

**33** Nokho wena ulungile kukho konke okusehleleyo, ngokuba wenze ngeqiniso, kepha thina sinecala;

**34** namakhosi ethu, nezikhulu zethu, nabapristi bethu, nawobaba abagcinanga umthetho wakho, kabalalelanga imiyalo yakho nezixwayiso zakho obaxwayise ngazo.

**35** Abakukhonzanga embusweni wabo, nasebuhleni bakho obukhulu owabanika bona, nasezweni elibanzi nelivundileyo owabapha lona ebusweni babo, ababuyanga emisebenzini yabo emibi.

**36** “Bheka, siyizinceku namuhla, nezwe owalinika obaba ukuba badle izithelo zalo nokuhle kwalo, bheka, siyizinceku kulo.

**37** Lithelela kakhulu amakhosi owabeke phezu kwethu ngenxa yezono zethu; abusa phezu kwemizimba yethu naphezu kwezinkomo zethu njengokuthanda kwawo; thina sisekuhluphekeni okukhulu.

**38** “Ngenxa yakho konke lokho senza isivumelwano esiqinisileyo, sasiloba; kwanamatheliswa ngophawu yizikhulu zethu, namaLevi ethu, nabapristi bethu.”

## ISAHLUKO 10

- A**banamathelisa nampa: uNehemiya umbusi, indodana kaHakaliya, noSedekiya,  
<sup>2</sup> noSeraya, no-Azariya, noJeremiya,  
<sup>3</sup> noPhashuri, no-Amariya, noMalikhiya,  
<sup>4</sup> noHathushi, noShebaniya, noMaluki,  
<sup>5</sup> noHarimi, noMeremoti, no-Obadiya,  
<sup>6</sup> noDaniyeli, noGinethoni, noBaruki,  
<sup>7</sup> noMeshulamu, no-Abiya, noMijamini,  
<sup>8</sup> noMahaziya, noBiligayi, noShemaya; labo babe ngabapristi.  
<sup>9</sup> AmaLevi: uJeshuwa indodana ka-Azaniya, noBinuwi wamadodana kaHenadadi, noKadimiyeli,  
<sup>10</sup> nabafofowabo oShebaniya, noHodiya, noKelitha, noPhelaya, noHanani,  
<sup>11</sup> noMika, noRehobe, noHashabiya,  
<sup>12</sup> noZakuri, noSherebiya, noShebaniya,  
<sup>13</sup> noHodiya, noBani, noBeninu.  
<sup>14</sup> Izinhloko zabantu: oPharoshi, noPhahati Mowabi, no-Elamu, noZathu, noBani,  
<sup>15</sup> noBuni, no-Azigadi, noBebayi,  
<sup>16</sup> no-Adoniya, noBigivayi, no-Adini,  
<sup>17</sup> no-Atheri, noHezekiya, no-Azuri,  
<sup>18</sup> noHodiya, noHashumi, noBesayi,  
<sup>19</sup> noHarifi, no-Anathoti, noNobayi,  
<sup>20</sup> noMagiphiyashi, noMeshulamu, noHeziri,  
<sup>21</sup> noMeshezabeli, noSadoki, noJaduwa,  
<sup>22</sup> noPhelathiya, noHanani, no-Anaya,  
<sup>23</sup> noHosheya, noHananiya, noHashubi,  
<sup>24</sup> noHaloheshi, noPhiliha, noShobeki,  
<sup>25</sup> noRehumi, noHashabina, noMahaseya,  
<sup>26</sup> no-Ahiya, noHanani, no-Anani,  
<sup>27</sup> noMaluki, noHarimi, noBahana.  
<sup>28</sup> Abantu abaseleyo, abapristi, namaLevi, nabalindisango, nabahlabeleli, namaNethini, nabo bonke ababezahlukanisile nabantu bezwe ukuba bazihlanganise nomthetho kaNkulunkulu, nawomkabo, namadodana abo, namadodakazi abo, bonke ababe nolwazi nokuhlakanipha,  
<sup>29</sup> babambelela kubafowabo, abakhulu babo, benza isithembiso nesifungo sokuba bahambe emthethweni kaNkulunkulu owanikwa ngesandla sikaMose inceku kaNkulunkulu, bagcine, benze yonke imiyalo kaJehova iNkosi yethu, nezahlulelo zakhe, nezimiso zakhe  
<sup>30</sup> ukuba singabaniki abantu bezwe amadodakazi ethu, singathatheli amadodana ethu amadodakazi abo,  
<sup>31</sup> nokuba lapho abantu bezwe beletha impahla, noma uhlobo oluthile lwamabele ngosuku lwesabatha ukuba bathengise ngakho, singathengi kubo ngesabatha nangosuku olungcwele, futhi siwuyeke umnyaka wesikhombisa nazo zonke izikwenetu.  
<sup>32</sup> Futhi sazimisela umthetho wokuba sithele inxenye yesithathu yeshekeli ngomnyaka, ibe ngeyomsebenzi wendlu kaNkulunkulu wethu,

<sup>33</sup> eyesinkwa sokubukwa kanye nomnikelo wempuphu wemihla yonke nomnikelo oshiswa imihla yonke, neyamasabatha, neyokwethwasa kwenyanga, neyemikhosi emisiweyo, neyezinto ezingcwele, neyeminikelo yezono, ukuba kwenziwe ukubuyisana kuka-Israyeli nomsebenzi wonke wendlu kaNkulunkulu wethu.

<sup>34</sup> Senza inkatho thina bapristi namaLevi nabantu ngomnikelo wezinkuni ukuba zingeniswe endlini kaNkulunkulu wethu njengezindlu zawobaba ngezikhathi ezinqunyiweyo, iminyaka ngeminyaka, zibaswe phezu kwe-altare likaJehova uNkulunkulu wethu njengokulotshiweyo emthethweni,

<sup>35</sup> kulethwe endlini kaJehova ulibo lomhlabathi wethu nolibo lwezithelo zemithi yezinhlobo zonke iminyaka ngeminyaka,

<sup>36</sup> kulethwe endlini kaNkulunkulu wethu namazibulo amadodana ethu, nawezimpahla zethu njengokulotshiweyo emthethweni, namazibulo ezinkomo zethu nawezimvu zethu, kubapristi abakhonza endlini kaNkulunkulu wethu;

<sup>37</sup> silethe ulibo lomgqakazo wethu, neminikelo yethu yokuphakanyiswa, nezithelo zemithi yezinhlobo zonke, newayini namafutha kubapristi emakamelweni endlu kaNkulunkulu wethu, nokweshumi komhlabathi wethu kumaLevi, ngokuba wona amaLevi amukela okweshumi emizini yonke esilima kuyo.

<sup>38</sup> Umpristi, indodana ka-Aroni, ubeyakuba namaLevi, lapho amaLevi amukela okweshumi; amaLevi ayakukhuphulela okweshumi kokweshumi endlini kaNkulunkulu wethu emakamelweni endlini yengcebo.

<sup>39</sup> Ngokuba abantwana bakwa-Israyeli nabantwana bakwaLevi babeyakukhuphulela umnikelo wamabele, newayini, namafutha emakamelweni, lapho kukhona izitsha zendlu engcwele, nabapristi abakhonzayo, nabalindisango, nabahlabeleli; besingenakuyishiya indlu kaNkulunkulu wethu.

## ISAHLUKO 11

**I**zinduna zabantu zahlala eJerusalema; abantu abaseleyo benza inkatho ukuyisa omunye kwabayishumi njalo ukuba ahlale eJerusalema, umuzi ongcwele, nabayisishiyagalolunye kweminye imizi.

<sup>2</sup> Abantu babusisa bonke abantu ababezinikela ngenhliziyo ukuhlala eJerusalema.

<sup>3</sup> Nazi izinhloko zezwe ezazihlala eJerusalema; kepha emizini yakwaJuda bahlala emizini yabo, kwaba yilowo nalowo efeni lakhe: abakwa-Israyeli, nabapristi, namaLevi, namaNethini, nabantwana bezinceku zikaSolomoni.

<sup>4</sup> EJerusalema kwahlala abantwana abathile bakwaJuda nabakwaBenjamini. Kubantwana bakwaJuda: ngu-Athaya ka-Uziya, kaZakariya, ka-Amariya, kaShefathiya, kaMahalalele wabantwana bakwaPheresi,

<sup>5</sup> noMahaseya kaBaruki, kaKholi Hoze, kaHazaya, ka-Adaya, kaJoyaribi, kaZakariya, indodana yomShiloni.

<sup>6</sup> Onke amadodana kaPheresi ahlala eJerusalema ayengamadoda anamandla angamakhulu amane namashumi ayisithupha nesishiyagalombili.

<sup>7</sup> Nampa abantwana bakwaBenjamini: uSalu kaMeshulamu, kaJohedi, kaPhedaya, kaKholaya, kaMahaseya, ka-Ithiyeli, kaJeshaya.

<sup>8</sup> Emva kwakhe ngoGabayi noSalayi, bengamakhulu ayisishiyagalolunye namashumi amabili nesishiyagalombili.

<sup>9</sup> UJoweli, indodana kaZikiri, wayengumbonisi; uJuda, indodana kaHasenuwa, wayengowesibili emzini.



- <sup>10</sup> Kubapristi: nguJedaya, indodana kaJoyaribi, noJakini,
- <sup>11</sup> noSeraya kaHilikiya, kaMeshulamu, kaSadoki, kaMerayoti, ka-Ahithubi, umphathi wendlu kaNkulunkulu;
- <sup>12</sup> nabafofowabo ababewenza umsebenzi abangamakhulu ayisishiyagalombili namashumi amabili nambili, no-Adaya kaJerohamu, kaPhelaliya, ka-Amisi, kaZakariya, kaPhashuri, kaMalikhiya;
- <sup>13</sup> nabafofowabo, izinhloko zawoyise, bengamakhulu amabili namashumi amane nambili, no-Amashisayi ka-Azareli, ka-Ahizayi, kaMeshilemoti, ka-Imeri;
- <sup>14</sup> nabafofowabo, amaqhawe anamandla, beyikhulu namashumi amabili nesishiyagalombili; umbonisi wabo wayenguZabidiyeli, indodana kaHagedolimi.
- <sup>15</sup> KumaLevi: nguShemaya kaHashubi, ka-Azirikamu, kaHashabiya, kaBuni,
- <sup>16</sup> noShabethayi noJozabadi bezinhloko zamaLevi ababephetha umsebenzi wangaphandle wendlu kaNkulunkulu,
- <sup>17</sup> noMathaniya, kaMika, kaZabidi, ka-Asafa, induna yomkhuleko wokubonga, noBakibukiya, owesibili phakathi kwabafofowabo, no-Abida kaShamuwa kaGalali kaJeduthuni.
- <sup>18</sup> Onke amaLevi emzini ongcwele ayengamakhulu amabili namashumi ayisishiyagalombili nane.
- <sup>19</sup> Abalindisango o-Akubi noThalimoni nabafofowabo ababelinda ngasemasangweni babe yikhulu namashumi ayisikhombisa nambili.
- <sup>20</sup> Abakwa-Israyeli abaseleyo, abapristi namaLevi, babe semizini yonke yakwaJuda, kwaba yilowo nalowo efeni lakhe.
- <sup>21</sup> AmaNethini ahlala e-Ofeli; oSiha noGishipha babe phezu kwamaNethini.
- <sup>22</sup> Umbonisi wamaLevi eJerusalema kwakungu-Uzi kaBani, kaHashabiya, kaMathaniya, kaMika wamadodana ka-Asafa, abahlabeleli, engumphathi womsebenzi wendlu kaNkulunkulu.
- <sup>23</sup> Ngokuba kwakukhona umyalo wenkosi ngabo, nomthetho wabahlabeleli njengokufunekayo imihla ngemihla.
- <sup>24</sup> Uphethahiya, indodana kaMeshezabeli, wabantwana bakwaZera, indodana kaJuda, wayengasesandleni senkosi ezindabeni zonke zabantu.
- <sup>25</sup> Emizaneni inamasimu ayo kwahlala abanye abantwana bakwaJuda: eKiryati Araba nasemizaneni yalo, naseDiboni nasemizaneni yalo, naseJekabiseyeli nasemizaneni yalo,
- <sup>26</sup> naseJeshuwa, naseMolada, naseBeti Pheleti,
- <sup>27</sup> naseHasari Shuwali, naseBeri Sheba nasemizaneni yalo,
- <sup>28</sup> naseSikilagi, naseMekhona nasemizaneni yalo,
- <sup>29</sup> nase-Eni Rimoni, naseSora, naseJarimuthi,
- <sup>30</sup> naseZanowa, nase-Adulamu nasemizaneni yawo, naseLakishi inamasimu alo, nase-Azeka nasemizaneni yalo. Bamisa kusukela eBeri Sheba ukuze kube sesigodini sikaHinomu.
- <sup>31</sup> Abantwana bakwaBenjamini bahlala kusukela eGeba kuze kube seMikimasi, nase-Aja, naseBethetele nasemizaneni yalo,
- <sup>32</sup> nase-Anathoti, naseNobi, nase-Ananiya,
- <sup>33</sup> naseHasori, naseRama, naseGitayimi,

- <sup>34</sup> naseHadidi, naseSeboyimi, naseNebalati,  
<sup>35</sup> naseLodi, nase-Ono, isiGodi Sababazi.  
<sup>36</sup> KumaLevi izigaba zakwaJuda zahlanganiswa noBenjamini.

## ISAHLUKO 12

- N**ampa abapristi namaLevi abakhuphuka noZerubabele indodana kaSheyalitiyeli noJeshuwa: oSeraya, noJeremiya, no-Ezra,  
<sup>2</sup> no-Amariya, noMaluki, noHathushi,  
<sup>3</sup> noShekaniya, noRehumi, noMeremoti,  
<sup>4</sup> no-Ido, noGinethoyi, no-Abiya,  
<sup>5</sup> noMijamini, noMahadiya, noBiliga,  
<sup>6</sup> noShemaya, noJoyaribi, noJedaya,  
<sup>7</sup> noSalu, no-Amoki, noHilikiya, noJedaya. Labo babe yizinhloko zabapristi nezabafowabo emihleni kaJeshuwa.  
<sup>8</sup> AmaLevi: ngoJeshuwa, noBinuwi, noKadimiyeli, noSherebiya, noJuda, noMathaniya owayephethe ukubonga, yena nabafowabo,  
<sup>9</sup> noBakibukiya no-Uno abafowabo, bemalungana nabo ngezigaba.  
<sup>10</sup> UJeshuwa wazala uJoyakimi; uJoyakimi wazala u-Eliyashibi; u-Eliyashibi wazala uJoyada;  
<sup>11</sup> uJoyada wazala uJonathani; uJonathani wazala uJaduwa.  
<sup>12</sup> Emihleni kaJoyakimi izinhloko zawoyise babapristi zaziyelezi: ekaSeraya: nguMeraya; ekaJeremiya: nguHananiya;  
<sup>13</sup> eka-Ezra: nguMeshulamu; eka-Amariya: nguJehohanani;  
<sup>14</sup> ekaMaluki: nguJonathani; ekaShebaniya: nguJosefa;  
<sup>15</sup> ekaHarimi: ngu-Adina; ekaMerayoti: nguHelekayi;  
<sup>16</sup> eka-Ido: nguZakariya; ekaGinethoni: nguMeshulamu;  
<sup>17</sup> eka-Abiya: nguZikiri; ekaMiniyamini, ekaMohadiya: nguPhilitayi;  
<sup>18</sup> ekaBiliga: nguShamuwa; ekaShemaya: nguJehonathani;  
<sup>19</sup> ekaJoyaribi: nguMathenayi; ekaJedaya: ngu-Uzi;  
<sup>20</sup> ekaSalayi: nguKhalayi; eka-Amoki: ngu-Ebere;  
<sup>21</sup> ekaHilikiya: nguHashabiya; ekaJedaya: nguNethaneli.  
<sup>22</sup> AmaLevi abhalwa emihleni ka-Eliyashibi, noJoyada, noJohanani, noJaduwa njengezinhloko zawoyise kanye nabapristi ekubuseni kukaDariyu umPheresiya.  
<sup>23</sup> Izinhloko zawoyise babantwana bakwaLevi zalotshwa encwadini yezindaba zemihla ngemihla, kwaze kwaba semihleni kaJohanani indodana ka-Eliyashibi.  
<sup>24</sup> Izinhloko zamaLevi nazi: oHashabiya, noSherebiya, noJeshuwa, indodana kaKadimiyeli, kanye nabafowabo malungana nabo, ukuba badumise, babonge njengemiyalo kaDavide, umuntu kaNkulunkulu, isigaba malungana nesigaba.  
<sup>25</sup> OMathaniya, noBakibukiya, no-Obadiya, noMeshulamu, noThalimoni, no-Akubi babe ngabalindisango, belinda izindlu zokubekelela ngasemasangweni.  
<sup>26</sup> Labo babe khona emihleni kaJoyakimi indodana kaJeshuwa kaJosadaki nasemihleni kaNehemiya umbusi no-Ezra, umbhali.  
<sup>27</sup> Ekuhlanjululweni kogange lwaseJerusalema bafuna amaLevi ezindaweni zawo zonke ukuba ayiswe eJerusalema ukwenza ukuhlambulula ngokuthokoza, nangokubonga,

ngokuhlabelela ngamasimbali nangezingubhu nangamahabhu.

<sup>28</sup> Abantwana babahlabeleli babuthana bevela ethafeni elalizungeza iJerusalema nasemizaneni yamaLevi,

<sup>29</sup> naseBeti Giligali, nasemasimini aseGeba, nase-Azimaveti, ngokuba babezakhele imizana nxazonke zeJerusalema.

<sup>30</sup> Abapristi namaLevi base bezihlambulula; bahlambulula nabantu, namasango, nogange.

<sup>31</sup> Ngase ngikhuphulela ogangeni izikhulu zakwaJuda, ngabeka izigaba ezimbili ezinkulu ezabongayo, zahlaba ihele; esinye sahamba ngakwesokunene ogangeni, saya ngaseSangweni Lomquba;

<sup>32</sup> emva kwaso kwahamba uHoshaya nenxenye yezikhulu zakwaJuda,

<sup>33</sup> no-Azariya, no-Ezra, noMeshulamu,

<sup>34</sup> noJuda, noBenjamini, noShemaya, noJeremiya,

<sup>35</sup> kanye namadodana athile abapristi ephethe amacilongo: uZakariya kaJonathani, kaShemaya, kaMathaniya, kaMikhaya, kaZakuri, ka-Asafa,

<sup>36</sup> nabafowabo oShemaya, no-Azareli, noMilalayi, noGilalayi, noMahayi, noNethaneli, noJuda, noHanani, bephethe izinto zokubethwa zikaDavide, umuntu kaNkulunkulu; u-Ezra, umbhali, wayengaphambi kwabo.

<sup>37</sup> NgaseSangweni Lomthombo malungana nabo bakhuphuka ngezikhwelo zomuzi kaDavide ezikhwelweni zogange, ngasenhla kwendlu kaDavide, kwaze kwaba seSangweni Lamanzi.

<sup>38</sup> Esinye isigaba saya ngakwesokhohlo, mina ngasilandela kanye nenxenye yabantu ogangeni, ngasenhla koMbhosongo Wezithando, kwaze kwaba soGangeni Olubanzi,

<sup>39</sup> nangenhla kweSango lakwa-Efrayimi, naseSangweni Elidala, naseSangweni Lezinhlanzi, naseMbhosongweni KaHananeli naseMbhosongweni KaHameya, kwaze kwaba seSangweni Lezimvu; bema eSangweni Letilongo.

<sup>40</sup> Zase zima lezo zigaba zombili zababongayo endlini kaNkulunkulu kanye nami, nenxenye yababusi inami,

<sup>41</sup> nabapristi o-Eliyakimi, noMahaseya, noMiniyamini, noMikhaya, no-Eliyohenayi, noZakariya, noHananiya, bephethe amacilongo,

<sup>42</sup> noMahaseya, noShemaya, no-Eleyazare, no-Uzi, noJehohanani, noMalikhiya, no-Elamu, no-Ezeri. Abahlabeleli bahlabelela ngokuzwakalisayo, benoJizirahiya umbonisi wabo.

<sup>43</sup> Banikela ngemihlatshelo emikhulu ngalolo suku, bathokoza, ngokuba uNkulunkulu wayebathokozisile ngentokozo enkulu; nabesifazane nabantwana bathokoza, kwezwakala kude ukuthokoza kweJerusalema.

<sup>44</sup> Ngalolo suku amiswa amadoda ukuba abe ngabaphathi bamakamelo engcebo, nabeminikelo yokuphakanyiswa, nabolibo, nabokweshumi ukuba baqoqele kuwo njengamasimu emizi izabelo ezinqunyelwe abapristi namaLevi ngomthetho, ngokuba uJuda wathokoza ngabapristi namaLevi asebebekiwe.

<sup>45</sup> Bagcina imfanelo kaNkulunkulu wabo nemfanelo yokuhlambulula kanye nabahlabeleli nabalindisango njengemiyalo kaDavide noSolomoni indodana yakhe.

<sup>46</sup> Ngokuba nasemihleni kaDavide neka-Asafa kwasendulo kwakukhona abaholi babahlabeleli kanye nezihlabelelo zokudumisa nezokubonga uNkulunkulu.

<sup>47</sup> Wonke u-Israyeli wayesenika emihleni kaZerubabele nasemihleni kaNehemiya abahlabeleli nabalindisango izabelo njengokufunekayo imihla ngemihla; bakungcwelisela amaLevi, namaLevi akungcwelisela amadodana ka-Aroni.

## ISAHLUKO 13

**N**galolo suku kwafundwa encwadini kaMose ezindlebeni zabantu; kwafunyanwa kulotshiwe kuyo ukuthi owakwa-Amoni nowakwaMowabi abanakungena ebandleni likaNkulunkulu kuze kube phakade,

<sup>2</sup> ngokuba abahlangabezanga abakwa-Israyeli ngesinkwa namanzi, kepha babaqashela uBileyam ukuba abaqalekise; kodwa uNkulunkulu wethu waphendula isiqalekiso saba yisibusiso.

<sup>3</sup> Kwathi sebezwele umthetho, bahlukanisa no-Israyeli yonke ingxubevange.

<sup>4</sup> Ngaphambi kwalokho u-Eliyashibi, umpristi, owayemiselwe amakamelo endlu kaNkulunkulu wethu, isihlobo sikaThobiya,

<sup>5</sup> wayemlungisele ikamelo elikhulu, lapho kade bebeka khona iminikelo yempuphu, nenhlaka, nezitsha, nokweshumi kwamabele, newayini, namafutha, okwakunqunyelwe ngomthetho amaLevi, nabahlabeleli, nabalindisango, kanye neminikelo yabapristi.

<sup>6</sup> Kepha kukho konke lokho ngangingekho eJerusalema, ngokuba ngomnyaka wamashumi amathathu nambili ka-Aritahishashita inkosi yaseBabele ngaya enkosini; nangasekugcineni kwezinsuku ngacela enkosini,

<sup>7</sup> ngaya eJerusalema, ngaqonda okubi u-Eliyashibi akwenzele uThobiya ngokumlungisela ikamelo emagcekeni endlu kaNkulunkulu.

<sup>8</sup> Kwaba kubi kakhulu kimi; ngalahla phandle zonke izinto zendlu kaThobiya zikhishwe ekamelweni.

<sup>9</sup> Ngase ngithi mabahlambulule amakamelo; ngabuyisela khona izitsha zendlu kaNkulunkulu kanye neminikelo yempuphu nenhlaka.

<sup>10</sup> Ngase ngazi ukuthi amaLevi awanikwanga izabelo zawo; amaLevi nabahlabeleli abenza umsebenzi babebalekele, kwaba yilowo nalowo ensimini yakhe.

<sup>11</sup> Ngase ngiphikisana nababusi, ngathi: “Ishiyelweni indlu kaNkulunkulu na?” Ngababutha, ngababeka ezindaweni zabo.

<sup>12</sup> Wonke uJuda wayeseletha okweshumi kwamabele, nokwewayini, nokwamafutha engcebeni.

<sup>13</sup> Ngabeka abaphathizikhwama phezu kwengcebo: nguShelemiya umpristi, noSadoki umbhali, noPhedaya wamaLevi; eceleni kwabo kwakunguHanani kaZakuri kaMathaniya, ngokuba kwathiwa bathembekile; babeyakwabela abafowabo.

<sup>14</sup> Ngelokho ngikhumbule, Nkulunkulu wami, ungesuli izenzo zami zomusa engizenzileyo endlini kaNkulunkulu wami nasenkonzweni yayo.

<sup>15</sup> Ngalezo zinsuku ngabona kwaJuda abanyathela izikhamo zewayini ngesabatha nabaletsha izithungu zamabele, bethwesa izimbongolo, newayini, nezithelo zewayini, namakhiwane, nemithwalo yonke, bekungenisa eJerusalema ngosuku lwesabatha; ngabaxwayisa ngosuku abathengisa ngalo lokho kudla.

<sup>16</sup> AbaseTire ababehlala khona bangenisa izinhlanzi nezimpahla zezinhlobo zonke, bathengisa ngakho ngesabatha kubantwana bakwaJuda naseJerusalema.

<sup>17</sup> Ngase ngiphikisana nabakhulu bakwaJuda, ngathi kubo: “Okubi kuni lokhu enikwenzayo, nilona usuku lwesabatha na?”

<sup>18</sup> Abenzanga kanjalo oyihlo, noNkulunkulu wenu akehliselanga yini phezu kwenu konke lokho okubi, naphezu kwalo muzi, na? Nokho nina niyenezela intukuthelo phezu kuka-Israyeli ngokulona isabatha.”

<sup>19</sup> Kwathi lapho amasango aseJerusalema eseqala ukuba mnyama lingakafiki isabatha, ngathi mazivalwe izivalo, ngathi futhi mazingavulwa lize lidlule isabatha, ngabeka ezinye

izinceku zami ngasemasangweni ukuba kungangeniswa mthwalo ngosuku lwesabatha.

<sup>20</sup> Abathengi nabathengisi bezimpahla zezinhlobo zonke base belala ngaphandle kweJerusalema kanye nakabili.

<sup>21</sup> Ngabaxwayisa, ngathi kubo: “Nilalelani malungana noganga na? Uma niphinda, ngiyakubeka isandla sami kini.” Kusukela kuleso sikhathi abafikanga ngesabatha.

<sup>22</sup> Ngasho kumaLevi ukuba azihlambulule, eze, alinde amasango, angcwelise usuku lwesabatha. Ngalokho ngikhumbule, Nkulunkulu wami, ungihawukele ngokobuningi bomusa wakho.

<sup>23</sup> Futhi ngalezo zinsuku ngabona abaJuda ababezithathele abesifazane base-Ashidodi, nabakwa-Amoni, nabakwaMowabi.

<sup>24</sup> Abantwana babo bakhuluma ngokwenxenye ngesi-Ashidodi; bengenakukhuluma isiJuda bakhuluma ngolimi lwezizwe ngezizwe.

<sup>25</sup> Ngabasola ngalokho, ngabathuka, ngashaya abanye abantu, ngabahluthula izinwele, ngabafungisa uNkulunkulu, ngathi: “Ninganiki amadodana abo amadodakazi enu, ningathatheli amadodana enu amadodakazi abo.

<sup>26</sup> Akonanga ngalokho uSolomoni inkosi yakwa-Israyeli na? Phakathi kwezizwe eziningi kwakungekho nkosi enjengaye; wayethandekile kuNkulunkulu wakhe; uNkulunkulu wambeka inkosi phezu kuka-Israyeli wonke; nokho abesifazane babezizwe bamonisa naye.

<sup>27</sup> Sekuzwakele nangani ukuthi nenzile konke lokho okubi kakhulu ukuba niphambuke kuNkulunkulu wethu ngokuzithathela abesifazane babezizwe.”

<sup>28</sup> Enye yamadodana kaJoyada indodana ka-Eliyashibi umpri omkhulu yayingumkhwenyana kaSanibalati umHaroni; ngamxosha kimi.

<sup>29</sup> Bakhumbule, Nkulunkulu wami, ngokuba bangcolisile ubupristi nesivumelwano sabapristi nesamaLevi.

<sup>30</sup> Ngase ngibahlambulula kukho konke okwabezizwe, nganquma izimfanelo zabapristi namaLevi, kwaba yilowo nalowo emsebenzini wakhe,

<sup>31</sup> nomnikelo wezinkuni ngezikhathi ezinqunyiweyo, nolibo. Ngikhumbule, Nkulunkulu wami, kube kuhle kimi.

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