

UJOSHUWA

UJehova ulaya uJoshuwa

1 Ngemva kokufa kukaMosi inceku kaJehova, uJehova wathi kuJoshuwa indodana ka Nuni, umsekelo kaMosi: ²“UMosi inceku yami usefile. Ngakho-ke wena labantu bonke laba lungiselani ukuchapha umfula uJodani liye elizweni esengizalinika bona abakoIsrayeli. ³Ngizalinika zonke izindawo lapho elizanyathela ngezinyawo zenu njengokuthembisa engakwenza kuMosi. ⁴Ilizwe lenu lizasukela enkangala ye-Lebhanoni, lasemfuleni omkhulu uYufrathi – ilizwe lonke lamaHethi – lize liyekhawula olwandle olukhulu entshonalanga. ⁵Kakulamuntu ozakwanelisa ukumelana lani zonke izinsuku zokuphila kwenu. Njengoba ngangiloMosi ngizakuba lawe; kangisoze ngikutshiye, kangisoze ngikudele. ⁶“Qina ube lesibindi, ngenxa yokuthi uzakhokhela abantu laba ukuze bayethatha ilifa eliyilizwe engafunga kubokhokho babo ukuthi ngizabanika lona. ⁷Qina ube lesibindi. Nanzelela ukuthi ulandela yonke imithetho inceku yami uMosi akupha yona: ungaze waphambuka kuyo uye kwesokunene kumbe esokhohlo ukuze uphumelele kuzo zonke izindawo ozakuya kuzo. ⁸Incwadi yomthetho le kayingasuki emlonyeni wakho: cabanga ngayo emini lebusuku, ukuze unanzelele ukuthi wenza konke okulotshwe kuyo. Ngakho uzaphumelela. ⁹Angikulayanga na? Qina ube lesibindi ungethuki njalo ungalahli ithemba, ngoba uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho uzakuba lawe loba kungaphi lapho oya khona”

¹⁰Ngakho-ke uJoshuwa walaya iziphathamandla zabantu wathi: ¹¹“Dabulani phakathi kwezihonqo litshela abantu ukuthi, “Hlalani lilungisile imiphako yenu. Ezinsukwini ezintathu kusukela lamhla lizachapha uJodani lapha ukuze lingene liyethatha ilizwe uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona ukuba libe ngelenu!”

¹²UJoshuwa wathi kwabako Rubheni, labakoGadi lengxenye yesizwana sika Manase, ¹³“Khumbulani umlayo uMosi inceku kaJehova alinika wona owokuthi: ‘UJehova uNkulunkulu wenu uyaliphumuza njalo ulinika ilizwe leli.’ ¹⁴Amakhosikazi enu, abantwabenu lezifuyo zenu zingahlala elizweni elalinikwa nguMosi empumalanga yeJodani, kodwa ibutho lenu lonke, lihlome liphelele, kumele lichaphe ngaphambi kwabafowenu. Kuzamele lincedise abafowenu ¹⁵uJehova aze abaphumuze, njengalokho alenzele khona lina, labo baze bathathe ilizwe leli uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu abanika lona. Ngemva kwalokho selingabuyela liyehlala elizweni lenu, uMosi inceku kaJehova alinika lona ngempumalanga yeJodani.

¹⁶Baphendula uJoshuwa bathi, “Konke osilaya khona sizakwenza, lalapho osithuma khona sizahamba. ¹⁷Njengalokhu salalela uMosi ngokupheleleyo lawe sizakulalela. Sifisa ukuthi uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho abe lawe njengoba wayeloMosi. ¹⁸Yiloba ngubani ohlamukela ilizwi lakho njalo engalaleli lokho okutshoyo, lalokho oyabe ukulaya, kumele abulawe. Kumele uqine ube lesibindi.!”

URahabi lezinhloli

2 UJoshuwa indodana kaNuni wathumela izinhloli ezimbili ngasese

zisuka eShithimi. Wathi kuzo,
 “Hambani liyehlola ilizwe lakhona,
 ikakhulu iJerikho.” Ngakho zahamba
 zayangena endlini yesifebe esithiwa
 nguRahabi zahlala khona.

²Inkosi yaseJerikho yatshelwa ukuthi
 “Khangela! Abanye abantu bako-Israyeli
 bafike lapha ebusuku ukuze bazohlola
 ilizwe lethu.”³Ngakho inkosi
 yaseJerikho yathumela ilizwi kuRahabi
 yathi, “Khupha amadoda eze kuwe
 angena endlini yakho, ngoba alande
 ukuzohlola ilizwe lonke.”⁴Kodwa
 owesifazane wayethethe amadoda
 womabili wawafihla. Wasesithi,
 “Liqiniso amadoda afikile kimi, kodwa
 bengingakwazi ukuthi abevela ngaphi.
⁵Kusihlwa, sesifikile isikhathi sokuvala
 isango ledolobho amadoda asuke
 azihambela. Kangikwazi ukuthi aqonde
 ngaphi. Baxhumeni masinyane.
 Engxenye lingabafica.”⁶(Kodwa
 wayebakhweze phezu kophahla
 wabafihla ngaphansi kwenqwaba
 zesikusha ayesichaye ephahleni).
⁷Ngakho amadoda aphuma ijumo
 elandela izinhlozi emgwaqweni oya
 ezibukweni leJodani, njalo athi esanda
 kuphuma isango lavalwa.

⁸Izinhlozi zathi zingakalali kulobo-
 busuku wakhwela phezu kophahla.
⁹Wasesithi kuzo, “Ngiyazi ukuthi
 uJehova uselinike lelilizwe lokuthi
 sonke sesehlelwe yikwesaba okukhulu
 ngenxa yenu, okwenza ukuthi bonke
 abahlala kulelizwe babelomhedehede
 wokulesaba.”¹⁰Sesizwile ukuthi uJehova
 walenzela amanzi oLwandle Olubomvu
 atsha ngesikhathi liphuma eGibhithe,
 lalokho elakwenza kuSihoni lo-Ogi
 amakhosi amabili ama-Amori
 empumalanga yeJodani elawatshaya
 lawaqothula.”¹¹Sathi sikuzwa lokho
 izinhliziyi zethu zahle zaphela amandla
 njalo wonke umuntu kazabe esaba
 lesibindi ngenxa yenu ngoba uJehova

uNkulunkulu wenu unguNkulunkulu
 ophezulu ezulwini laphansi emhlabeni.
¹²Yikho-ke ngicela ukuthi lifunge kimi
 ngoJehova ukuthi lizakuba lomusa
 emulini yami ngoba lami ngitshengise
 umusa kini.”¹³Nginikani isitshengiselo
 esiqinisekileyo esokuthi lizaphathisa
 impilo kababa lomama, abanewethu
 labodadewethu labo bonke abangababo,
 njalo lizasisindisa ekufeni.”

¹⁴Amadoda amthembisa athi,
 “Ukuphila kwethu yikuphila kwenu!
 Ungayekela ukuveza lokho esikwenzayo
 sizakwenzela umusa lokwethembeka
 lapho uJehova esesipha ilizwe.”

¹⁵Ngakho-ke wabehlisela phansi
 ngentambo baphuma ngewindi ngoba
 indlu ayehlala kuyo yayingumdule
 munye lalowo owawugombolozele
 idolobho.”¹⁶Wayethe kubo, “Qondani
 emaqaqeni ukwenzela ukuthi abalandeli
 benu bangaze balifica. Catshani khonale
 okwezinsuku ezintathu baze baphenduke
 beseliqhubeka ngendlela yenu.

¹⁷Amadoda athi kuye, “Isifungo
 osifungise sona sizakuba yize
¹⁸ngaphandle kokuthi uma sesingena
 kulelizwe sifice ubophele leliqhele
 elibomvu ewindini osikhuphe ngalo,
 njalo usulethe uyihlo lonyoko,
 abafowenu lemuli yakho yonke endlini
 yakho.”¹⁹Uma umuntu angaphuma
 phandle kwendlu yakho abesesiya
 esitaladeni, igazi lakhe lizakuba
 sekhandakhe: kawusoze ube
 ngumlandu wethu. Kuye wonke oyabe
 ephakathi kwendlu kanye lawe, igazi
 lakhe lizakuba sekhandakhe lethu uma
 angavele athintwe.”²⁰Kodwa ungavele
 uveze lokho esikwenzayo, sizabe
 sesikhululiwe esifungweni osenza lathi.

²¹Waphendula wathi: “Ngiyavuma,
 kakube njengokutsho kwenu.” Ngakho
 wavalelisana labo basebezihambela.
 Wasebophela iqhele elibomvu ewindini.

²² Bathi besuka baqonda emaqaqeni lapho abahlala khona okwezinsuku ezintathu abalandeli baze badela ukubadinga emgwaqweni wonke basebebuyela bengababonanga. ²³ Ngakho-ke amadoda womabili aphindela emuva. Ehla emaqaqeni achapha umfula asefika kuJoshuwa indodana kaNuni amtshela konke okwakwenzakele kuwo. ²⁴ Athi kuJoshuwa, “UJehova ngeqiniso uphe ilizwe lonke ezandleni zethu; bonke abantu bayathuthumela ngokwesaba, ngenxa yethu.”

Ukuchapha uJodani

3 Kusele ekuseni uJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli basuka eShitimi baqonda eJodani lapho abakha izihonqo zabo khona bengakachaphi. ² Ngemva kwezinsuku ezintathu iziphathamandla zangena phakathi kwezihonqo, ³ zinika imilayo ebantwini zisithi, “Lapho libona ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova uNkulunkulu wenu, labaphristi abangabaLevi, belithwele kuzamele litshiye izindawo zenu lililandele. ⁴ Ngakho lizakwazi ukuthi lilandele yiphi indlela, njengoba lingakaze libe kuwonalo ummango. Kodwa kumele ligcine ibanga elingaba yizingalo eziyinkulungwane ezimbili phakathi kwenu lebhokisi; lingasondeli phansi kwalo.

⁵ UJoshuwa wathi ebantwini, “Zihlambululeni ngoba kusasa uJehova uzakwenza izimanga phakathi kwenu.”

⁶ UJoshuwa wathi kubaphristi, “Thathani ibhokisi lesivumelwano beselikhokhela phambi kwabantu.” Ngakho balithatha basebehamba phambi kwabo.

⁷ UJehova wasesithi kuJoshuwa, “Lamhla ngizaqalisa ukukuphakamisa

emehlweni abako-Israyeli bonke ukuze babone ukuthi ngilawe njengoba ngangiloMosi. ⁸ Tshela abaphristi abathwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano uthi, ‘Lingafika ekhunjini lwamanzi kaJodani, ngenani liyekuma phakathi komfula.’ ”

⁹ UJoshuwa wathi kwabako-Israyeli, “Wozani lapha lizolalela amazwi kaJehova uNkulunkulu wenu. ¹⁰ Lokhu yikho okuzakwenza ukuthi lazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu ophilayo uphakathi kwenu njalo ngempela uzaxotsha phambi kwenu amaKhenani, amaHethi, amaHivi, amaPherizi amaGirigashi ama-Amori lamaJebusi. ¹¹ Khangelani, ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova womhlaba wonke lizangena phakathi kweJodani phambi kwenu. ¹² Ngakhoke khethanini amadoda alitshumi lambili esuka ezizwaneni zako-Israyeli, oyedwa esizwaneni. ¹³ Kuzakuthi masinyazana abaphristi abathwele ibhokisi likaJehova – uJehova womhlaba wonke – sebengene eJodani, amanzi omfula ogelezayo azakwehlukaniswa abesesima abe yinqwaba.”

¹⁴ Ngakho kwathi abantu sebesuke ezihonqweni ukuze bayochapha uJodani abaphristi ababethwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano bahamba phambili. ¹⁵ UJodani uhlala egcwele ngezikhathi zonke zokuvuna. Kukanti kwathi abaphristi ababethwele ibhokisi sebefika eJodani izinyawo zabo zithinta amanzi, ¹⁶ amanzi ayevelela ngaphezulu ema ukugeleza. Abuthana aba yinqwaba ema khatshana laphaya, malungana ledolobho elithiwa yi-Adamu duzane leZarethani kukanti amanzi ayegelezela phansi ngekuyeni olwandle lwe-Arabha (okutsho uLwandle Lwetshwayi) ahle ehlukeniswa ngokupheleleyo. Ngakho-ke abantu bachaphela ngaphetsheya malungana leJerikho. ¹⁷ Abaphristi ababethwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova bema bathi mpo

emhlabathini owomileyo phakathi kweJodani, ngesikhathi abantu bonke bako-Israyeli bechapha isizwe sonke saze saqeda ukuchapha emhlabathini owomileyo.

4 Kwathi isizwe sonke sesiqede

ukuchapha uJodani, uJehova wathi kuJoshuwa, ²“Khetha amadoda alitshumi lambili phakathi kwabantu, yileyo imele isizwana sako-Israyeli, ³ubusubatshelela ukuthi bathathe amatshe alitshumi lambili phakathi laphakathi kweJodani kusukela lapho okwakumi khona abaphristi beseliwathwala liwabeke endaweni elizalala kuyo lamhla ebusuku.”

⁴Ngakho-ke uJoshuwa wabiza amadoda alitshumi lambili ayewakhetha phakathi kwabako-Israyeli, eyodwa esizwaneni. ⁵Wasesithi kuwo, “Hambani phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova uNkulunkulu wenu liye phakathi laphakathi kweJodani. Omunye lomunye wenu kumele athwale ilitshe ehloambe lakhe, kusiya ngenani lezizwana zako-Israyeli, ⁶ukuze kube luphawu phakathi kwenu. Kwelakusasa uma abantwana belibuza besithi, ‘Kanti amatshe la atshoni?’ ⁷Batsheleni ukuthi ukugeleza kweJodani kwamiswa phambi kweBhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova. Kwathi lapho ibhokisi lichapha iJodani, amanzi omfula uJodani ehlukeniswa. Amatshe la azakuba yisukhumbuzo ebantwini bako-Israyeli nini lanini.”

⁸Ngakho-ke abako-Israyeli benza njengokulaya kuka Joshuwa. Bathatha amatshe alitshumi lambili phakathi laphakathi kweJodani, kusiya ngenani lezizwana zako-Israyeli, njengokulaywa kukaJoshuwa nguJehova; basebewathwalela ezihonqweni zabo lapho abafika bawabeka phansi.

⁹UJoshuwa wamisa amatshe alitshumi

lambili ayekade ephakathi laphakathi kweJodani, endaweni lapho abaphristi ababethwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano ababefike bema khona njalo lokhu ekhonapho kuze kube lamhlanje.

¹⁰Abaphristi ababethwele ibhokisi baqhubeka bemi phakathi kweJodani abantu baze benza konke uJehova akulaya uJoshuwa, njengokuqondiswa kukaJoshuwa nguMosi. Abantu bedlula ngokuphangisa ¹¹njalo bathi bonke sebechaphile, ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova labaphristi beza kwelinye icele abantu bekhangele. ¹²Amadoda akoRubheni, akoGadi lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase achapha ehlo mile phambi kwabako-Israyeli njengokuqondisa kukaMosi. ¹³Abantu abaphose bafike kunkulungwane ezingamatshumi amane ababehlomele impi bachapha phambi kukaJehova besiya emagcekeni eJerikho ukuyakulwa impi.

¹⁴Ngalelolanga uJehova waphakamisa uJoshuwa emehlweni abo bonke abako-Israyeli; njalo bamhlonipha okwempilo yakhe yonke, njengoba babehloniphe uMosi. ¹⁵UJehova wathi kuJoshuwa, ¹⁶“Laya abaphristi abathwele ibhokisi loBufakazi bakhuphuke baphume eJodani.”

¹⁷Ngakho uJoshuwa walaya abaphristi esithi, “Phumani phakathi kweJodani.”

¹⁸Abaphristi baphuma emfuleni bethwele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova. Bonela ukunyathela umhlabathi owomileyo amanzi eJodani abuyela endaweni yawo ageleza okomfula ogcweleyo njengakuqala.

¹⁹Ngelanga letshumi enyangeni yokuqala abantu basuka eJodani bayamisa izihonqo eGiligali emngceleni ongempumalanga eJerikho. ²⁰UJoshuwa wamisa amatshe alitshumi ayethethwe phakathi kweJodani eGiligali.

²¹Wakhuluma kwabako-Israyeli wathi,

“Kwelakusasa uma izizukulwana zenu zingabuza oyise zisithi, ‘Amatshe la atshoni?’²² batsheleni ukuthi ‘Abako-Israyeli bachapha uJodani emhlabathini owomileyo!’²³ Ngoba uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu womisa uJodani phambi kwenu laze lachapha. UJehova uNkulunkulu wenu wenza kuJodani lokho akwenza eLwandle Olubomvu aze alomise phambi kwethu saze sachapha sonke.²⁴ Wenza lokhu ukuze abantu bonke bomhlaba bakwazi ukuthi isandla sikaJehova silamandla lokuthi lihlale lisesaba uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu.

Ukusokwa eGiligali

5 Kwathi amakhosi ama-Amori ayebusa intshonalanga yeJodani lamakhosi wonke amaKhenani ayebusa ezigcawini ezisekelana lokhumbi lolwandle esizwa ukuthi uJehova wayomise njani uJodani phambi kwabako-Israyeli baze bachapha, izinhliziyi zawo zathuthumela aswela izibindi zokumelana labako-Israyeli.

²Ngaleso isikhathi uJehova wathi kuJoshuwa, “Khanda izingqamu ezibukhali ubususoka abako-Israyeli njalo.”³ Ngakhoke uJoshuwa wakhanda izingqamu ezibukhali wasesoka abako-Israyeli eGibheya Haralothi.

⁴Nansi isizatho sesenzo lesi: Bonke labo abaphume eGibhithe – wonkeamadoda ayengabuthelwa empini afela enkangala ephakathi kommango esuka eGibhithe.⁵ Bonke abantu abaphumayo babesokiwe kodwa bonke abantu ababezalelwe enkangala phakathi kohambo lokusuka eGibhithe babengasokwanga.

⁶Abako-Israyeli babezulazule enkangala okweminyaka engamatshumi amane amadoda wonke ayefanele ukubuthelwa empini ngesikhathi esuka

eGibhithe aze afa, njengoba engazange alalele uJehova. UJehova wayefunge waqinisa kubo wathi ayengasoze alibone ilizwe ayelithembise oyise ukuthi bazalinikwa, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju.⁷ Ngakho wondla amadodana ezikhundleni zabo okuyiwo asokwa ngoba kungazanga kube lethuba lokubasoka endleleni.⁸ Kwathi isizwe sonke sesisokiwe, sahlala ezihonqweni kwaze kwaphola.

⁹UJehova wasesithi kuJoshuwa, “Lamhla ngisuse isigcono seGibhithe kini.” Yikho indawo leyo lokhu ibizwa ngokuthi yiGiligali kuze kube lamhlanje.

¹⁰Ngokuhlwa kwelanga letshumi lane kuleyo nyanga, bathi belokhu behlezi ezihonqweni zabo eGiligali emagcekeni eJerikho, abako-Israyeli benza umkhosi wePhasika.¹¹ Ngosuku olwalandela usuku lwePhasika, khona mhlalokho, badla okunye ababekuvune emhlabathini: isinkwa esingela mvubelo lamabele akhazingiweyo.¹² Imana yema ukukhithika ngelanga elalandela lelo abadla ngalo ukudla okwakuvela emhlabathini; ngakho kwakungasela mana yabako-Israyeli, kodwa ngalowo mnyaka badla okwelizwe leKhenani.

Ukuwa kweJerikho

¹³Kwathi uJoshuwa esesondele eJerikho, wakhangelela wabona indoda eyayimi phambi kwakhe ilomhedla esandleni sayo, uJoshuwa wasondela kuyo wayibuza wathi “Ungowakithi kumbe ungowezitha zethu?”

¹⁴Yaphendula yathi “Angikho ndawo, kodwa njengomlawuli webutho likaJehova sengifikile.” UJoshuwa wathi mbo phansi ngobuso ngokudumisa waseyibuza esithi, “Kambe uJehova ulombiko bani kule inceku yakhe?”

¹⁵Umlawuli wamabutho kaJehova waphendula wathi, “Khulula izicathulo

zakho ngoba indawo omi kuyo ingcwele.” UJoshuwa wenza njalo.

6 IJerikho yayivalwe ngci ngenxa yabako-Israyeli. Akulamuntu owayephuma loba owayengena.

²Ngakho uJehova wathi kuJoshuwa, “Khangalani, senginikele iJerikho ezandleni zenu, ndawonye lenkosi yayo lamabutho ayo. ³Hambani libhode idolobho kanye lamadoda wonke ahlomileyo. Kwenzeni lokhu okwezinsuku eziyisithupha. ⁴Abaphristi abayisikhombisa kabathwale amacilongo enziwe ngezimpondo zezinqama phansi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano. Ngosuku lwesikhombisa, hambani libhoda idolobho kasikhombisa, abaphristi bevuthela amacilongo. ⁵Nxa lingabezwa sebethshaya amacilongo badonse, abantu bonke kabahlabe umkhosi; umduli wedolobho uzadilika abantu bahle bangene, yilowo lalowo aqonde phambili.”

⁶Ngakho uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni wabiza abaphristi wathi kubo, “Thathani ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova kuthi abaphristi abayisikhombisa bahambe phambi kwalo bethwele amacilongo. ⁷Waselaya abantu esithi, “Akuhanjwe! Hambani libhode idolobho, amabutho ahlomileyo ehamba phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova.”

⁸Kwathi uJoshuwa esekhulume labantu, abaphristi abayisikhombisa ababethwele amacilongo ayisikhombisa phambi kukaJehova bahamba phambili bevuthela amacilongo, njalo ibhokisi lesivumelwano libalandela. ⁹Amabutho ayehlomile ahamba phambi kwabaphristi ababevuthela amacilongo, njalo amabutho angemuva ayelandela ibhokisi. Ngaso sonke lesi isikhathi amacilongo ayekhala. ¹⁰Kodwa uJoshuwa wayelaye abantu wathi,

“Lingaze lahlaba umkhosi wempini, lingakhwezi amazwi enu, lingakhulumi lutho kuze kufike isikhathi engizalitshela ngaso ukuthi limemeze. Beselihlaba umkhosi.” ¹¹Ngakho ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova balithwala babhoda lalo idolobho, kanye. Abantu babuyela ezihonqweni bayalala khona.

¹²UJoshuwa wavuka kusesele ngelanga elalandelayo njalo abaphristi bathwala ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova. ¹³Abaphristi abayisikhombisa ababethwele amacilongo ayisikhombisa bahamba phambili bekhokhele ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova bevuthela amacilongo. Amadoda ayehlomile ayehamba phambi kwabo njalo amabutho angemuva ayelandela ibhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova, kukanti-ke amacilongo aqhubeka ekhala. ¹⁴Ngosuku lwesibili babhoda idolobho kanye basebebuyela ezihonqweni. Bakwenza lokhu okwezinsuku eziyisithupha.

¹⁵Ngelanga lesikhombisa bavuka emadabukakusa babhoda idolobho kasikhombisa ngendlela efanayo, ngaphandle kokuthi ngalelolang babhoda kasikhombisa. ¹⁶Ngokwesikhombisa, kwathi abaphristi bekhalisa amacilongo, uJoshuwa walaya abantu wathi, “Memezani! Ngoba uJehova useliphe idolobho. ¹⁷Idolobho, lakho konke okukulo kuzakwahlukaniselwa uJehova. URahabi isifebe lalabo ahlala labo endlini yakhe yibo abazasindiswa, ngenxa yokuthi wafihla izinhlozi esazithumayo. ¹⁸Kodwa xwayani izinto ezahlukaniselwe ukubhujiswa, ukwenzela ukuthi lingazehliseli ukubhujiswa ngokuthatha okunye kwalezo zinto. Lokho kungenza ukuthi izihonqo zako-Israyeli zehlelwe luhlupho zitshabalaliswe njalo. ¹⁹Sonke isiliva legolide lezinto zonke ezenziwe ngethusi langensimbi ezingcwele

ziletheni kuJehova. Ngakho kumele zifakwe esipheleni sakhe sengcebo.”

²⁰ Kwathi amacilongo ekhala abantu bahlaba umkhosi; ekukhaleni kwecilongo, abantu sebehlababha umkhosi omkhulu, umduli wabhidlika, ngakho wonke umuntu wangena phakathi balithatha idolobho. ²¹ Balehlukanisela uJehova idolobho basebebhuhisa ngenkamba yonke into ephilayo eyayihlala kulo – amadoda labesifazana, abatsha labadala, inkomo izimvu labobabhemi.

²² UJoshuwa wakhuluma emadodeni amabili ayeke athunywa njengezinhloli zelizwe wathi, “Yanini endlini yesifebe liyesikhupha lezihlobo zaso zonke ligcwalise isifungo elasenza kuso.”

²³ Ngakho amadoda asakhulayo ayenze umsebenzi wokuhlola angena akhupha uRahabi, uyise lonina labanewabo lazo zonke izihlobo zakhe. Bakhupha imuli yonke bayifaka endaweni eyayingaphandle kwezihonqo zaku-Israyeli.

²⁴ Basebetshisa idolobho lonke lakho konke okwakuphakathi kwalo, kodwa befake isiliva legolide lezinto ezilungiswe ngethushi lensimbi esipheleni sengcebo yendlu kaJehova. ²⁵ Kodwa uJoshuwa waphephisa uRahabi isifebe lemuli yakhe labo bonke abangabakhe ngenxa yokuthi wafihla amadoda ayethunywe nguJoshuwa ukuba zinhlole eJerikho – futhi ulokhu ehlala phakathi kwabako-Israyeli kuze kube lamhlanje.

²⁶ Ngaleso isikhathi uJoshuwa wenza isifungo esiqinileyo esithi, “Ithukiwe phambi kukaJehova indoda ezimisela ukwakha kutsha lelidolobho, iJerikho:

“Ngempilo yezibulo lakhe lendodana uzakwenza isisekelo; ngempilo yecinathunjana uzalungisa amasango alo”.

²⁷ UJehova wayeloJoshuwa, udumo lwakhe lwanda elizweni lonke.

Isono sika-Akhani

7 Kodwa abako Israyeli bephula umthetho phezu kokugcinwa kwezimpahla ezahlukaniselwa kuJehova; u-Akhani indodana kaKhami indodana kaZimiri, indodana kaZera, owesizwana sakoJuda, wathatha ezinye zakhona. Ngakho ulaka lukaJehova lwavutha kwabako-Israyeli.

² Ngakho uJoshuwa wathumela amadoda esuka eJerikho esiya e-Ayi eseduzane leBhethi Aveni ngempumalanga yeBhetheli wathi kubo: “Hambani liyehlola lelolizwe.” Yikho amadoda aphuma ayahlola ilizwe.

³ Bathi bephindela kuJoshuwa bafika bathi, “Kayisuye wonke umuntu okumele ayelwisa i-Ayi. Thumela amadoda azinkulungwane ezimbili kumbe ezintathu ukuze ayoyithumba njalo ungaze wadinisa abantu bonke, ngenxa yokuthi lelidolobho lilabantu abalutshwana.” ⁴ Amadoda abalelwa kunkulungwane ezintathu asuka ahamba kodwa ehlulwa ngamadoda e-Ayi, wona ⁵ abulala amadoda angamatshumi amathathu lesithupha. Baxotsha abako-Israyeli besuka esangweni ledolobho baze baya batshiya enkwalini bababulalela ekwehleni. Bathi besizwa lokhu abantu baba lokwesaba okukhulu baphelelwa ngamandla.

⁶ UJoshuwa wadabula izigqoko zakhe wathi mbo phansi ngobuso phambi kwebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova, wala elokhu enjalo kwaze kwahlwa. Abakhokheli bako-Israyeli labo benza njalo, basebezithela ngothuli emakhanda abo.

⁷UJoshuwa wasesithi, “Maye, Jehova Wobukhosi, wabachaphiselani iJodani lababantu ukuzabanikela ezandleni zama-Amori ukuze asibhubhise? Ngabe sasuthiseka ngokuzihlalela kwelinye iphetsheya leJodani!

⁸Maye, Jehova kuyini engingakutsho, njengoba u-Israyeli esebhuqwe yizitha zakhe? ⁹AmaKhenani labanye abantu belizwe bazakuzwa ngalokhu besebesihanqa besule igama lethu emhlabeni. Pho kuyini ozakwenzela igama lakho elikhulu kangaka na?”

¹⁰UJehova wathi kuJoshuwa, “Sukuma. Kuyini okwenzayo uthe mbo ngobuso bakho? ¹¹Abako-Israyeli bonile; bephule isivumelwano sami, engabalaya ukuthi basigcine. Sebethe ezinye izinto ezahlukaniselwe mina bantshontsha, baqamba amanga, sebezifake empahleni yabo. ¹²Yikho abako-Israyeli bebengeke bamelana lezitha zabo; bayafulathela besebebaleka ngoba sebeyinto efanele ukubhujiswa. Kangisoze ngibe lani ngaphandle kokuthi lichithe lokho okwakwehlukaniselwe ukubhujiswa.

¹³“Hamba ungcwelise abantu. Ubatshele uthi, ‘Zingcweliseni ukulungiselela kusasa ; ngoba lokhu yikho okutshiwo nguJehova uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli; ukuthi: Lokho okwahlukaniselwe uJehova kuphakathi kwenu, lina bako-Israyeli. Kalingeke limelane lezitha zenu ngaphandle kokuba selikukhuphile.

¹⁴“ Ekuseni kumele lisondeze isizwana ngesizwana. Isizwana esikhethwa nguJehova kuzamele sisondele phambili usendo ngosendo; usendo oluzakhethwa nguJehova luzasondele imuli ngemuli; imuli ezakhethwa nguJehova izasondele umuntu ngamunye. ¹⁵Lowo ozafunyanwa elezinto ezahlukaniselwe uJehova uzatshiswa ngomlilo, lakho konke alakho. Wephule isivumelwano

sikaJehova njalo wenze into elihlazo phakathi kuka-Israyeli.”

¹⁶Kusesele ngelanga elilandelayo uJoshuwa wenza u-Israyeli wasondela ngezizwana inkatho yadla koJuda.

¹⁷Izinsendo zakoJuda zasondele inkatho yadla abakoZera. Wasondeza izinsendo zakoZera ngezimuli. Inkatho yadla uZimiri. ¹⁸UJoshuwa wasondeza imuli kaZamiri indoda yinye ngayinye, inkatho yadla u-Akhani indodana ka-Khami, indodana kaZimiri, indodana ka-Zera owesizwana sakoJuda.

¹⁹UJoshuwa wathi ku-Akhani, “Ndodana yami, dumisa uJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, umuphe udumo. Ngitshela lokho okwenzileyo, ungaze wangifihlela.”

²⁰U-Akhani waphendula wathi, “Liqiniso! Ngonile phambi kukaJehova, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli. Nanku engikwenzileyo: ²¹Ngathi ngibona phakathi kwempango ingubo enhle yase Bhabhiloni, lamashekele esiliva angamakhulu amabili lomgqala wegolide olesisindo samashekeli angamatshumi amahlanu ngakuhawukela, ngakuthatha. Ngakwembela phansi ethenteni lami, isiliva singaphansi.”

²²UJoshuwa wathuma izithunywa, zagijima zaya ethenteni lakhe, isiliva singaphansi. ²³Bathatha izinto ezazisethenteni, baziletha kuJoshuwa lebantwini bonke bako-Israyeli, bazichaya phambi kukaJehova.

²⁴UJoshuwa labo bonke abako-Israyeli bathatha u-Akhani indodana ka-Zera lesiliva, ingubo, lomgqala wegolide, lamadodana lamadodakazi akhe, lezinkomo zakhe, obabhemi kanye lezimvu, ithente lakhe lakho konke ayelakho bakusa esiHotsheni se-Akhori. ²⁵UJoshuwa wathi, “Kungani usilethele uhlupho olungaka? UJehova uzakwehlisela uhlupho lamhlanje.”

Bonke abako-Israyeli bamtshaya ngamatshe, njalo bathi sebeqedile ukutshaya labanye ngamatshe babatshisa. ²⁶ Babuthelela inqwaba yamatshe amakhulu phezu kuka-Akhani alokhu ekhona lalamhlanje. Ukuvutha kolaka lukaJehova kwahle kwaphela. Ngakho leyondawo lalamhlanje ilokhu isabizwa ngokuthi yisigodi sika-Akhor.

Ukutshabalaliswa kwe-Ayi

8 UJehova wathi kuJoshuwa,

“Ungesabi, ungalahli ithemba. Thatha ibutho lonke uhambe uyehlasela i-Ayi, ngoba nginikile ezandleni zakho inkosi yase-Ayi, abantu bayo, idolobho layo lelizwe layo. ² Uzakwenza e-Ayi lenkosini yakhona lokho owakwenza eJerikho lenkosini yakhona, ngaphandle kokuthi lingazithathela impahla zonke eliyabe lizithumbile lezifuyo kube ngokwenu. Cathamani ngemva kwedolobho.”

³ Ngakho uJoshuwa lebutho lonke baphuma bayahlasela i-Ayi. Wakhetha amabutho azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amathathu ayezingcitshi ukwedlula amanye ekulweni, wasewathuma ebusuku. ⁴ Wawalaya wathi, “Lalesisisani: kumele licathame ngemva kwedolobho. Lingaze laya khatshana lalo. Lonke kumele lihlale liqaphele. ⁵ Mina lalabo engizabe ngilabo sizaqhubeka siqonde edolobheni, kuthi nxa amadoda ephuma ukusihlasela njengalokho akwenza kuqala, sizawabalekela. ⁶ Bazaxotshana lathi size sibahugele khatshana ledolobho, ngoba bazakuthi, ‘Bayasibalekela njengalokhu abakwenza kuqala.’ Yikho nxa sibabalekela, ⁷ lina lizavuka lapho eliyabe licathame khona beselithumba idolobho. UJehova uNkulunkulu wenu uzalunikela ezandleni zenu. ⁸ Nxa

selilithumbile idolobho lithungeleni ngomlilo. Yenzani lokho okulaywe nguJehova. Wobani leqiniso lokuthi lilandela iziqondiso zami.”

⁹ UJoshuwa wasebalaya ukuthi bahambe, basebesiya endaweni okwakumele bachathame kuyo phakathi kweBhetheli le-Ayi, entshonalanga ye-Ayi – kodwa uJoshuwa waqeda ubusuku lobo elabantu.

¹⁰ Ekuseni ngelanga elilandelayo uJoshuwa waqoqa amabutho akhe, kwathi yena labakhokheli bako-Israyeli bahamba phambi kwabo besiya e-Ayi. ¹¹ Iviyo lonke lalabo ayelabo lahamba laya edolobheni lafika lema phambi kwabo. Bamisa izihonqo enyakatho ye-Ayi, isigodi siphakathi kwabo ledolobho. ¹² UJoshuwa wayethethe amadoda aphosa afike kunkulungwane ezinhlanu wawacathamisa phakathi kweBhetheli le-Ayi entshonalanga yedolobho. ¹³ Benza ukuthi amabutho aye ezikhundleni zawo zonke ezaziphakathi kwezihonqo enyakatho yedolobho lendaweni yokuchathamela eyayisentshonalanga yalo. Ngalobobusuku uJoshuwa waya esigodini.

¹⁴ Inkosi yase-Ayi yathi ibona lokhu yona lawo wonke amadoda akulelodelobho aphanga aphuma kusesele ekuseni ukuze ayehlangana lo-Israyeli empini kweyinye indawo ekhangelane le-Arabha. Kodwa yayingazi ukuthi kwakulamabutho ayeyicathamele ngemva kwedolobho. ¹⁵ UJoshuwa labantu bonke bako-Israyeli bavumela ukubuyiselwa emuva, babalekela enkangala. ¹⁶ Wonke amadoda e-Ayi atshelwa ukuthi ababaxotshe, basebexotshana loJoshuwa bahugelwa khatshana ledolobho. ¹⁷ Kakukho lendoda eyodwa eyasala e-Ayi kumbe eBhetheli engazanga ixotshane labako-Israyeli.

¹⁸ UJehova wasesithi kuJoshuwa, “Phakamisa umkhonto osesandleni

ukhombwe e-Ayi, ngenxa yokuthi idolobho leli ngizalunikela ezandleni zakho.” Ngakho uJoshuwa wakhombela e-Ayi ngomkhonto wakhe. ¹⁹ Wathi esanda kwenza lokhu, amadoda ayecathamele ukuhlasela aphakama masinyane ezindaweni ayekuzo agijimela phambili. Angena edolobheni alithumba asephanga ukulithungela ngomlilo.

²⁰ Amadoda e-Ayi anyemukula abona intuthu eyasisuka edolobheni iqonga emayezini kodwa aswela ukuthi azabalekela ngaphi ngoba abako Israyeli ababebalekele enkangala basebephendukele labo ababebaxotsha.

²¹ Kwathi uJoshuwa labako Israyeli bonke bebona ukuthi labo ababecathamile basebethumbe idolobho lokuthi intuthu yayiqonga emayezini ivela edolobheni batshibilika baqalisa ukuhlasela amadoda ase-Ayi.

²² Amadoda ayecathamile lawo aphuma edolobheni abahlasela, okwenza ukuthi babe phakathi laphakathi, inxa zombili zilabako-Israyeli. Abako-Israyeli babatshaya bababhuqa akwaze kwasala muntu owaphunyukayo. ²³ Kodwa bathatha inkosi yase-Ayi iphila basebeyiletha kuJoshuwa.

²⁴ Kwathi abako-Israyeli sebeqedile ukubulala wonke amadoda ase-Ayi emagekeni enkangala lapho ababexotshane lawo khona, njalo wonke esegwazwe ngenkamba, bonke abako-Israyeli babuyela e-Ayi babulala abantu bonke abakulelo dolobho. ²⁵ Amadoda labesifazana abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili bafa ngalelolanga bonke kungabantu be-Ayi, ²⁶ ngoba uJoshuwa kazange ehlise isandla sakhe esiphethe umkhonto sikhombisa ngawo baze babhujiswa bonke abantu ababehlala e-Ayi. ²⁷ Kodwa abako-Israyeli bathatha zonke izifuyo lezimpahla okwakuthunjwe

kulelodobho, njengokulaywa kukaJoshuwa nguJehova.

²⁸ UJoshuwa watshisa i-Ayi

wayenza yaba lunxiwa oluyinqwaba, indawo engekuhlalwa muntu kuze kube lamhlanje. ²⁹ Walengisa inkosi yase-Ayi ezihlahleni wayitshiya kwaze kwaba ntambama. Ekutshoneni kwelanga uJoshuwa walaya ukuthi bethule isidumbu sayo esihlahleni basiphosele esangweni ledolobho. Babuthelela inqumbi yamatshe phezu kwaso, njalo lokhu kunjalo kuze kube lamhlanje.

Isivumelwano siyavuselelwa eNtabeni yase-Ebhali

³⁰ UJoshuwa wasesakhela uJehova uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli i-alitare e-Ebhali.

³¹ Njengokulaya okwenziwa nguMosi inceku kaJehova kwabako-Israyeli walakha njengokulaywa okulotshwe encwadini yomthetho kaMosi i-alithare lamatshe angabazwanga, okungazanga kusetshenziswe insimbi phezu kwawo. Kulo banikela kuJehova iminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yobudlelwano.

³² Lapho phambi kwabako-Israyeli uJoshuwa waloba ematsheni umthetho kaMosi ayewubhalile. ³³ Bonke abako-Israyeli, abezizweni lezakhamuzi ngokufanayo, labadala babo, iziphathamandla labehluleli babemi emaceleni womabili ebhokisi lesivumelwano sikaJehova bekhangelane lalabo ababelithwele – abaphristi, ababengabaLevi. Ingxenye yabantu yema phambi kwentaba yeGerizimi kwathi eyinye ingxenye yema phambi kwentaba ye-Ebhali, njengokulaya kuka-Mosi inceku kaJehova owayelaye ukuthi kubusiswe abantu bako-Israyeli.

³⁴ Sekumuva, uJoshuwa wafunda wonke amazwi omthetho – izibusiso leziqalekiso – njengokulotshwa

okwenziwe encwadini yemithetho. Kakulalizwi elalaywa nguMosi elingazanga lifundwe nguJoshuwa phambi kombuthano wonke wako-Israyeli kugoqela abesifazane labantwana labezizweni ababehlala phakathi kwabo.

Ubuqili bamaGibheyoni

9 Kwathi amakhosi wonke ayebusa ngentshonalanga yeJodani esezwe mayelana lezinto lezi – lawo ayeselizweni lamaqaqa, aphantsi kwamaqaqa, angentshonalanga lasekhunjini lonke loLwandle oLukhulu kusiyafika eLebhanoni, amakhosi amaHithi, ama-Amori, amaKhenani, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamaJebusi ² bahlangana ukuze balwise uJoshuwa labako-Israyeli.

³ Kodwa kwathi ngesikhathi abantu beGibheyoni sebezwe konke uJoshuwa ayekwenze eJerikho le-Ayi, ⁴ benza ubuqili: Bahamba njengamanxusa ayelabobabhemi ababethwele amasaka adabukileyo lezigxingi zewayini ezindala ezazidabuke zangcinwa.

⁵ Amadoda ayegqoke amanyathela ayedabukile njalo ethungiwe, begqoke lezigqoko ezindala. Zonke izinkwa ababezithwele njengomphako zazomile njalo zikhuntile. ⁶ Baya kuJoshuwa esihonqweni seGiligali bathi kuye labantu bako-Israyeli, “Sivela elizweni elikude: yenza isivumelwano lathi.”

⁷ Abako-Israyeli baphendula amaHivi bathi, “Kodwa mhlawumbe lihlala eduzane lathi. Pho-ke singenzanjani isivumelwano lani?”

⁸ Bathi kuJoshuwa “Siyizinceku zenu.” Kodwa uJoshuwa wababuza wathi, “Lingobani njalo livela ngaphi?”

⁹ Baphendula bathi, “Izinceku zakho zivela elizweni elikude njalo zikhangwe

yindumela kaJehova uNkulunkulu wenu. Phela sesezwa imibiko emayelana laye: lakho konke akwenza eGibhithe, ¹⁰ lakho konke akwenza emakhosini amabili ama-Amori empumalanga yeJodani – USihoni inkosi yeHeshibhoni lo-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani owayebusa e-Ashitarothi. ¹¹ Abadala bethu lalabo bonke abahlala elizweni lakithi bathi kithi, ‘Thwalani umphako kuhambo lwenu; hambani liyehlangana labo lithi kubo, “Sizinceku zenu: yenzani isivumelwano lathi.’ ” ¹² Isinkwa sethu lesi sasikhudumala ngesikhathi sisifaka emigodleni yethu sisesengekhaya ngelanga esasuka ngalo sisiza kini. Kodwa-ke khangelani ukuthi sesome njani njalo sesikhuntile. ¹³ Izingxingi lezi zewayini esazigcwalisisayo zazizintsha, kodwa-ke khangelani ukuthi sezidabuke njani. Izigqoko lamanyathela ethu sekudatshulwe yibude bommango.”

¹⁴ Abako-Israyeli bahlola umphako wabo kodwa-ke kabasabuzanga kuJehova. ¹⁵ Ngakho uJoshuwa wenza isivumelwano sokuthula labo wabavumela ukuthi bahlale, njalo abakhokheli bebandla bavumelana lalokhu ngesifungo.

¹⁶ Sekwedlule izinsuku ezintathu benze isivumelwano lamaGhibheyoni, abako-

Israyeli bezwa ukuthi lababantu babengomakhelwana, ababehlala eduzane labo. ¹⁷ Abako-Israyeli baya emadolobheni abo la: iGibheyoni, iKhefira, iBhirothi leKhiriyathi Jeyarim, ¹⁸ Kodwa abako-Israyeli kabazange babahlasele ngenxa yokuthi abakhokheli bebandla babefunge ngoJehova uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli. Ibandla lonke lakhonona kubakhokheli, ¹⁹ kodwa abakhokheli bonke baphendula bathi, “Sibanike isifungo sethu ngoJehova, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli njalo singeke sabathinta khathesi. ²⁰ Lokhu yikho esizakwenza kubo: Sizabayekela

bahlale, ukuze ulaka lungezi kithi ngenxa yokwephula isifungo esasenza phambi kwabo.”²¹ Baqhubeka bathi, “Bayekeleni bahlale, kodwa bazakuba ngababandi benkuni labakhi bamanzi abazasebenzela uzulu wonke.” Ngakho-ke isivumelwano sabakhokheli sagcinwa.

²² UJoshuwa wabiza wonke amaGibheyoni wathi kuwo, “Kungani lisiqilibezele ngokuthi, ‘Sihlala khatshana lani, lina lihlala eduzane lathi kangaka?’”²³ Seliqalekisiwe: kalisoze liyekele ukuba ngababandi benkuni labakhi bamanzi lisebenzela indlu kaNkulunkulu wami.”

²⁴ Baphendula uJoshuwa bathi, “Izinceku zakho zatshelwa mgeceke ukuthi uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu walaya njani inceku yakhe uMosi ukuthi alinike ilizwe lonke lokuthi litshabalalise bonke ababakhele kulo lina lingakafiki. Ngakho-ke sesabela izimpilo zethu ngenxa yenu, yikho okusibangele ukuthi senze lokhu.”²⁵ Sesizinikele ezandleni zenu. Yenzani kithi konke elibona kufanele njalo kuqondile kini.”

²⁶ Ngakho-ke uJoshuwa wabasindisa esandleni sika-Israyeli, njalo kabasababulalanga.

²⁷ Ngalelolanga wenza ukuthi amaGibhiyoni abe ngababandi benkuni labakhi bamanzi besebenzela uzulu njalo besebenza e-alithareni likaJehova endaweni eyayikhethwe nguJehova. Yikho abayikhona kuze kube lamhlanje.

Ilanga lima mpo

10 U-Adoni-Zedeki inkosi

yaseJerusalema wezwa ukuthi uJoshuwa wayesethumbe i-Ayi wayitshabalalisa wenza e-Ayi enkosini yayo lokho ayekwenze eJerikho lenkosini yayo, lokuthi abantu baseGibheyoni babenze isivumelwano sokuthula labako-Israyeli

njalo bahlale eduzane labo.² Yena labantu bakhe bethuswa kakhulu yilokhu, ngenxa yokuthi iGibheyoni kwakulidolobho eliqakatheke kakhulu, njengeliye lamadolobho esikhosini; lalilikhulu kule-Ayi, njalo amadoda alo wonke ayengabalwi ababelamandla.³ Ngakho u-Adoni-Zedeki inkosi yase Jerusalema wakhalaza kuHohami inkosi yaseJamuthi, uJafiya inkosi yase-Lakhishi loDebhira inkosi yase-Egilomi.⁴ Wathi kubo, “Wozani lizongincedisa ukuhlasele iGibheyoni ngenxa yokuthi yenze isivumelwano sokuthula loJoshuwa labako-Israyeli.

⁵ Ngakho amakhosi womahlanu ama-Amori – aseJerusalema, laseHebhroni, eJamuthi, eLakhishi lase-Egiloni – abambana. Aphuma lamabutho awo wonke ayihonqolozela iGibheyoni ayihlasela.

⁶ AmaGibheyoni athumela ilizwi kuJoshuwa ezihonqweni zaseGiligali athi: “Ungalahli izinceku zakho. Woza-ngapha kithi ngokuphangisa uzosilamulela! Sincede, ngoba wonke amakhosi ama-Amori abusa emazweni asemaqaneni asebambene ukuze alwisane lathi.”

⁷ Ngakho uJoshuwa wasuka eGigali waqubuka kanye lebuthe lakhe lonke, elaligoqela wonke amadoda ayekwazi ukulwa.⁸ UJehova wathi kuJoshuwa, “Ungabesabi; sengibabeke esandleni sakho. Kakho loyedwa ozakwanelisa ukumelana lawe.”

⁹ Ngemva kokuhamba okobusuku bonke besuka eGiligali uJoshuwa wabajuma.¹⁰ UJehova wenza ukuthi basanganiseke phambi kuka-Israyeli, wabehlula ngokunqoba okukhulu eGibheyoni. Abako-Israyeli baxotshana labo emgwaqweni oya eBethi Horoni baxhumana labo baze bayafika e-Azekha leMakheda.¹¹ Lapho babalekela abako-Israyeli emgwaqweni osuka eBethi

Horoni usiya e-Azekha, uJehova wehlisa isiqhotho esikhulu sivela emkhathini, njalo inengi labo lafa libulawa yisiqhotho ukwedlula ababulawa zinkemba zabako-Israyeli.

¹²Ngalelo langa uJehova wanikela ngalo ama-Amori kwabako-Israyeli, uJoshuwa wathi kuJehova phambi kwabako- Israyeli;

“We langa, mana uthi mpo ngaphezu kweGibheyoni ,

We nyanga, lawe mana ngaphezu kweSigodi se-Ayijaloni.”

¹³Ngakho ilanga lema lathi mpo, lenyanga yema, isizwe saze saphindisela ezitheni zaso,

njengoba kulotshiwe eGwalweni lukaJasha. Ilanga lema phakathi laphakathi kwesibhakabhaka laphuza ukutshona okosuku lonke. ¹⁴Kakukaze kube losuku olufana lalo ngaphambili kumbe kuze kube lamhlanje, usuku lapho uJehova alalela khona umuntu. Ngeqiniso uJehova wayelwela u-Israyeli!

¹⁵Ngakho uJoshuwa waphindela labo bonke abako-Israyeli ezihonqweni zase Giligali.

Amakhosi amahlanu ama-Amori ayabulawa.

¹⁶Amakhosi amahlanu lawo ayesebalekile ayacatsha ebhalwini lwase Makheda. ¹⁷Kwathi uJoshuwa esetshelwe ukuthi amakhosi womahlanu ayetholakale ecatshele ebhalwini lweMakheda, ¹⁸wathi, “Giqani amatshe amakhulu liwafake emlonyeni wobhalu, beselithumela amanye amadoda ukuthi alinde. ¹⁹Kodwa lingemi! Xotshani izitha zenu, lingazivumeli ukuthi zifike

emadolobheni azo, ngoba uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu esezethule ezandleni zenu.”

²⁰Ngakho uJoshuwa labako-Israyeli bababhuhisa baphosa baphela bonke kodwa abalutshwana abasalayo banelisa ukufika emadolobheni abo ayezinqaba. ²¹Ibutho lonke lanelisa ukuphenduka ngokuthula kuJoshuwa esihonqweni seMakheda, njalo kakho owake wakhuluma okubi ngabako-Israyeli.

²²UJoshuwa wathi, “Vulani umlomo wobhalu beseliletha amakhosi womahlanu eze kimi.” ²³Ngakho bakhupha amakhosi womahlanu ebhalwini – amakhosi aseJerusalema, lase Hebhroni laseJamuthi, laseLakhishi kanye leyase-Egiloni. ²⁴Bathi sebelethe amakhosi la kuJoshuwa, wabiza wonke amadoda ako-Israyeli wasesithi kubo bonke abalawuli bamabutho ababeze laye, “Wozani lapha lizofaka izinyawo zenu ezintanyeni zala amakhosi.” Ngakho beza phambili basebefaka izinyawo zabo ezintanyeni zawo.

²⁵UJoshuwa wathi kubo, “Lingesabi; lingadangali qinani libe lezibindi. Lokhu yikho okuzakwenziwa nguJehova kuzo zonke izitha elizalwisana lazo.”

²⁶Ngakho uJoshuwa watshaya wawabulala amakhosi wawalengisa ezihlahleni ezinhlanu, ayekelwa elenga ezihlahleni kwaze kwahlwa.

²⁷Ekutshoneni kwelanga uJoshuwa walaya ukuthi bawethule ezihlahleni bawaphose ebhalwini lapho ayekade ecatshe khona. Emlonyeni wobhalu bafaka amatshe amakhulu alokhu ekhona lanamhlanje.

²⁸Ngalelo langa uJoshuwa wathumba iMakheda. Wahlasela idolobho kanye lenkosi yalo ngenkemba wabhuhisa wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo. Kakho owatshiywa ephila. Wenza enkosini yeMakheda lokho ayekwenze enkosini yaseJerikho.

Amadolobho aseningizimu ayanqotshwa

²⁹Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako- Israyeli ababelaye basuka eMakheda baya eLibhina balihlasela.

³⁰UJehova waphinda wanikela lelodolobho lenkosi yalo esandleni sika-Israyeli. Idolobho laye wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo uJoshuwa wakuhlasela ngenkamba. Kakho owatshiywa ephila lapho. Wenza enkosini yalo lokho ayekwenze enkosini yeJerikho.

³¹Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako- Israyeli ayelabo bahamba besuka eLibhina besiya eLakhishi; balihonqolozela balihlasela. ³²UJehova wanikela iLakhishi ku-Israyeli, uJoshuwa wayithatha ngelanga lesibili. Idolobho laye wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo wakuhlasela ngenkamba, njengalokho ayekwenze eLibhina. ³³Kunjalonje uHorumu inkosi yaseGezeri yayize ukuzoncedisa iLakhishi kodwa uJoshuwa wayehlula ndawonye lebuthe layo – kakho owatshiywa ephila.

³⁴Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako- Israyeli ababelaye basuka eLakhishi baya edolobheni le-Egiloni; balihonqolozela belihlasela.

³⁵Balithumba ngalelolanga balihlasela ngenkamba basebebhubhisa wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo, njengalokho ababekwenze eLakhishi.

³⁶Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako- Israyeli ababelaye bahamba besuka se-Egiloni besiya eHebhroni bayihlasela. ³⁷Balithumba lelidolobho balihlasela ngenkamba, ndawonye leNkosi yalo, imizana yalo laye wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo, kakho owatshiywa ephila. Njengalokho abakwenza e-Egiloni, balitshabalalisa laye wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwalo.

³⁸Ngakho uJoshuwa labo bonke abako- Israyeli ayelabo baphenduka bahlasela iDebhiri.

³⁹Bathumba lelidolobho, inkosi lemizi yalo, bayihlasela ngenkamba. Bonke abantu ababephakathi kwalo babhujiswa baphela. Kakho owatshiywa ephila. Benza eDebhiri lenkosini yakhona lokho abakwenza eLibhina lenkosini yakhona kanye leHebhroni.

⁴⁰Ngakho uJoshuwa wasinqoba sonke isabelo, okugogela ilizwe elilamaqaqa, iNegebi, emawatheni ezintaba entshonalanga lemithezukweni yezintaba ndawonye lamakhosi alapho wonke. Kakho owatshiywa ephila. Wabhubhisa bonke abebephefumula, njengoba uJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wayebalayile. ⁴¹UJoshuwa wabanqoba kusukela eKhadeshi Bhaneya kusiya eGaza lakuso sonke isabelo seGosheni kusiya eGibheyoni.

⁴²Wonke la amakhosi lamazwe awo athunjwa nguJoshuwa ekuhlaleni kunye, ngenxa yokuthi uJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli walwela u-Israyeli.

⁴³Ngakho uJoshuwa waphindela laye wonke u-Israyeli ezihonqweni zase-Giligali.

Amakhosi asenyakatho ayehlulwa

11 Kwathi UJabhini inkosi yeHazori isizwa lokhu yathumela ilizwi kuJobabi inkosi yeMadoni lase makhosini eShimironi le-Akhafi, ²lasemakhosini enyakatho ayesezintabeni e-Arabha eningizimu yeKhinerethi emawatheni amaqqa entshonalanga kanye laseNafothi Dori entshonalanga; ³lakumaKhenani empumalanga lentshonalanga; lakuma- Amori, amaHithi, amaPerizi lamaJebusi elizweni elilamaqaqa; kanye lakuma-

Hivi ngaphansi kweHemoni esabelweni seMizipha. ⁴Baphuma lamabutho abo wonke lenani elikhulu lamabhiza lezinqola – ibutho elikhulu, elikhulu okulingana letshebetshebe lokhunjini lolwandle. ⁵Wonke la amakhosi abambana asesakha izihonqo ndawonye eManzini aseMeromi, ukulwa labako-Israyeli.

⁶UJehova wathi kuJoshuwa, “Ungabesabi, ngoba ngalesi sikhathi kusasa ngizabanikela bonke kuba-Israyeli, sebefile. Uzaquma imisipha yamabhiza abo utshise izihonqo zabo.”

⁷Ngakho uJoshuwa lebuthe lakhe lonke bahlangana labo mathupha eManzini eMeromi wasebahlasela, ⁸uJehova wabanikela esandleni sika-Israyeli. Babanqoba baxotshana labo baze babafikisa eSidoni Enkulu kusiya eMisirefothi Mayimi, leSigodini se-Mizipha empumalanga kwaze kwasala kungelamuntu ophilayo. ⁹UJoshuwa wenza kibo lokho ayekulaywe nguJehova: Waquma imisipha yamabhiza abo njalo watshisa izinqola zabo.

¹⁰Ngaleso sikhathi uJoshuwa waphenduka wabuyela emuva wathumba iHazoni wasehlasela inkosi yakuleyo ndawo ngenkamba. (IHazoni yayiyisigodlo sayo yonke imibuso leyo.) ¹¹Wonke umuntu owayephakathi kwayo wabhujiswa ngenkamba. Bababhubhisa baphela, abaze batshiya lutho oluphefumulayo, watshisa iHazoni ngokwayo.

¹²UJoshuwa wathumba wonke amadolobho esikhosini lamakhosi awo wawahlasela ngenkamba. Wwabhubhisa wonke, njengokulaya kukaMosi inceku kaJehova. ¹³Kukanti-ke u-Israyeli kazange atshise loba yiwaphi amadolobho ayakhelwe emadundulwini – ngaphandle kweHazoni, eyatshiswa nguJoshuwa.

¹⁴Abako-Israyeli bathatha zaba ngezabo zonke izimpahla ababezithumbile okwakugoqela izifuyo zala amadolobho bahamba lakho kodwa bonke abantu bababhubhisa ngenkamba baphela bathi du, bengatshiyi lutho oluphefumulayo. ¹⁵Njengoba uJehova walaya inceku yakhe uMosi, uMosi laye walaya uJoshuwa, uJoshuwa wakwenza lokho: katshiyanga lutho lungenziwanga ezintweni zonke uJehova owazilaya uMosi.

¹⁶Ngakho uJoshuwa wathatha ilizwe lonke: ilizwe lamaqaqa, yonke iNegebi, isabelo sonke seGosheni, amawatha asentshonalanga, i-Arabha, lezintaba zako-Israyeli lamawatha azo, ¹⁷kusukela entabeni yeHalaki, ephakama ngokuya eSeyiri, kusiya eBhali Gadi esiGodini seLebhanoni ngaphansi kwentaba iHemoni. Wathumba wonke amakhosi awo wawehlula wawabulala.

¹⁸UJoshuwa walwa impi lawo wonke amakhosi okwesikhathi eside.

¹⁹Ngaphandle kwamaHivi ayehlala eGibheyoni, kalikho idolobho loba elilodwa elenza isivumelwano sokuthula labako-Israyeli, abawathumbayo wonke empini. ²⁰Ngoba kwakunguJehova owenza izinhliziyi zawo zaba lukhuni zafuna ukulwa impi lo-Israyeli, ukwenzela ukuthi enelise ukubachitha baphele, ebabhubhisa okungelazwelo, njengokulaywa kukaMosi nguJehova.

²¹Ngaleso sikhathi uJoshuwa waphuma wwabhubhisa ama-Anakhi elizweni lamaqaqa: kusukela eHebhroni, eDebhiri le-Anabi, kusukela elizweni lonke lamaqaqa lako-Israyeli. UJoshuwa wabhubhisa wababhuqa bona kanye lamadolobho abo.

²²Akula ma-Anaki asala esabelweni sabako-Israyeli; ngaphandle kweGaza iGathi le-Ashdodi lapho okwasila abanye bakhona.

²³Ngakho uJoshuwa wathumba ilizwe lonke, njengoba uJehova walaya uMosi, waselinika abako-Israyeli, njengelifa kusiya ngokwahlukaniswa kwezizwana zabo. Ngakhoke ilizwe laphumula ekulweni izimpi.

Uluhlu lwamakhosi ehlulwayo

12 La ngamakhosi elizwe

elanqotshwa ngabako-Israyeli njalo abalesabelo esathunjwayo empumalanga yeJodani, kusukela eDongeni lwase-Arinoni kusiya entabeni yaseHemoni, okugoqela lonke icele langempumalanga ye-Arabha:

²USihoni inkosi yama-Amori, wayebusa eHeshibhoni. Wayebusa kusukela e-Aroweri emaphethelweni oDonga lwase-Arinoni – kusukela phakathi Laphakathi kodonga kusiyafika emfuleni uJabhokhi, oyiwo umngcele wama-Amoni. Lokhu kwakugoqela ingxenye yeGileyadi.

³Wayebusa njalo empumalanga ye-Arabha kusukela olwandle lwe-Khinerethi kusiyafika olwandle lwe-Arabha (uLwandle lweTshwayi) kusiya ngeningizimu phansanyana kwemithezuko yasePhisiga:

⁴Lelizwe lika-Ogi inkosi yase Bhashani, omunye wamaRafeyithi okucina owayebusa e-Ashitharothi le-Edreyi. ⁵Wabusa eNtabeni yaseHemoni, eSalekha, iBhashani yonke kusiya emngceleni wabantu beGeshure le-Mahakha, lengxenye yeGileyadi kusiya emngceleni kaSihoni inkosi yeHeshiboni.

⁶UMosi inceku kaJehova, labako-Israyeli babanqoba. UMosi inceku

kaJehova wanika ilizwe labo kumaRubheni lamaGadi lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase ukuthi libe ngelabo.

⁷La yiwo amakhosi elizwe lelo uJoshuwa labako-Israyeli abalithumbayo eceleni elisentshonalanga yeJodani, kusukela eBhadi Gadi esiGodini seLebhanoni kusiya eNtabeni yeHalakhi ekhangele eSeyiri (amazwe abo uJoshuwa wawanika njengelifa ezizwaneni zako-Israyeli kusiya ngezigaba zezizwana zabo – ⁸indawo elamaqaqa, amawatha asentshonalanga, i-Arabha, lemithezukweni yezintaba, inkangala leNegebi – amazwe amaHithi, ama-Amori, amaKhenani, amaPherizi, amaHivi lamaJebusi):

⁹inkosi yaseJerikho eyodwa eyodwainkosi yase-Ayi (eduzane leBhetheli) eyodwa

¹⁰inkosi yaseJerusalema eyodwa inkosi yaseHebhroni eyodwa

¹¹inkosi yaseJarimuthi eyodwa inkosi yaseLakhishi eyodwa

¹²inkosi yase-Egiloni eyodwa inkosi yaseGezeri eyodwa

¹³inkosi yaseDhebhiri eyodwa inkosi yaseGederi eyodwa

¹⁴inkosi yaseHorima eyodwa inkosi yase-Aradi eyodwa

¹⁵inkosi yaseLibhima eyodwa inkosi yase-Adulamu eyodwa

¹⁶inkosi yaseMakheda eyodwa inkosi yaseBetheli eyodwa

¹⁷inkosi yase-Afeki eyodwa

¹⁸inkosi yaseLasharoni eyodwa

¹⁹inkosi yaseMadoni eyodwa inkosi yaseHazoni eyodwa

²⁰inkosi yaseShimroni Meroni eyodwa inkosi yase-Akhishafi eyodwa

²¹inkosi yaseThahanakhi eyodwa inkosi yaseMegido eyodwa

²² inkosi yaseKhedeshi eyodwa
 inkosi yaseJokhineyami eKhameli
 eyodwa
²³ inkosi yaseDori (eNafothi Dori)
 eyodwa
 inkosi yase Goyimi eGiligali eyodwa
²⁴ inkosi yaseThiriza eyodwa

Esewonke ayengamakhosi
 angamatshumi amathathu lanye.

Ilizwe elisezathunjwa

13 UJoshuwa esemdala njalo

eseluphele kakhulu, uJehova wathi kuye,
 “Usuluphele kakhulu, njalo lokhu
 usasalelwe yilizwe elikhulu kakhulu
 okumele ulithumbe.

² “Nanti ilizwe elisaseleyo: zonke
 izabelo zama Filisti lamaGeshuri:

³ kusukela emfuleni uShihori
 empumalanga yeGibhithe kusiya
 esabelweni se-Ekhroni enyakatho,
 lonke libaliswa njengelamaKhenani
 (isabelo sababusi, e-Ashidodi,
 e-Ashikheloni, Gathi le-Ekhroni –
 esama-Avithi); ⁴ Kusukela
 eningizimu, lonke ilizwe
 lamaKhenani, kusukela e-Ara
 yamaSidoni kusiya e-Afedi,
 isabelo sama-Amori, ⁵ indawo
 yamaGebhali; layo yonke iLebhanoni
 ngempumalanga, kusukela eBhali Gadi
 ngaphansi kweNtaba yeHemoni kusiya
 eLebho Hamathi.

⁶ “Njengalabo abakhele ezabelweni
 ezisezintabeni kusukela eLebhanoni
 kusiya eMisirefothi Mayimi, okutsho
 wonke amaSidoni, mina ngokwami

ngizabaxotsha phambi kwabako-Israyeli.
 Wobani leqiniso lokuthi lelizwe
 labelwe abako-Israyeli ukuze libe yilifa
 labo njengokulilaya kwami, ⁷ njalo lilabe
 njengelifa phakathi kwezizwana
 eziyisitshiyagalo lunye lengxenye
 yesizwana sakoManase.”

*Ukwabiwa kwelizwe elisempumalanga
 yeJodani*

⁸ Eyinye ingxenye yakoManase,
 amaRubheni lamaGadi yayizuze ilifa
 eyalinikwa nguMosi empumalanga
 yeJodani njengoba yena inceku kaJehova
 ayebaphe lona.

⁹ Lasuka e-Aroweri
 emaphethelweni oDonga lwe-
 Arinoni, lasedolobheni
 eliphakathi kodonga, njalo
 ligoqela amageceke eMedeba
 kusiya eDibhoni,
¹⁰ lamadolobho wonke

kaSihoni inkosi yama-Amori,
 owabusa eHeshibhoni,
 kusiya eMgceleni wama-
 Amori. ¹¹ Laligoqela iGileyadi,
 isabelo sabantu baseGeshuri
 leMalakha, leNtaba yonke
 yeHemoni leBhashani yonke
 kusiya eSalekha – ¹² okutsho
 ukuthi, umbuso wonke ka-Ogi
 eBashani, yena owabusa e-
 Ashitharothi le-Edireyi njalo
 wayengomunye wamaRafayithe
 ayelokhu esaphila. UMosi
 wayebanqobile wathatha ilizwe
 labo. ¹³ Kodwa abako-Israyeli
 kabazanga baxotshe abantu
 beGeshuri le-Mahakha, yikho
 lokhu behlala phakathi
 kwabako-Israyeli kuze kube
 lamhlanje.

¹⁴Kodwa abesizwana sabaLevi kazange abanike ilifa, njengoba iminikelo eyayisenziwa ngomlilo kuJehova, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli iyilifa labo njengokubathembisa kwakhe.

¹⁵Lokhu yikho uMosi akunika isizwana sakoRubheni, usendo lunye ngalunye:

¹⁶Isigaba esisuka e-Aroweri emaphethelweni oDonga lwe-Arinoni, lokusuka edolobheni eliphakathi koDonga lawo wonke amageceke adabula eMedeba ¹⁷kusiya eHeshibhoni lawo wonke amadolobho asemagekeni agoqela iDibhoni, Bamothi Bhali, Bhethi Bhali Mewoni, ¹⁸iJhazi, iKhedemothi, iMefahathi, ¹⁹iKiryathayimi, iSibhima, iZerethi Shahari eqaqeni olusesigodini, ²⁰iBethi Phewori, lemithezuko yasePhisiga, leBethi Jeshimothi ²¹ – wonke amadolobho asemagekeni lombuso wonke kaSihoni inkosi yama-Amori, owayebusa eHeshibhoni. UMosi wayemehlule yena lezinduna zama-Midiyani, u-Evi, uRekhemu, uZuri, uHuri, loRebha – engamakhosana amanyane loSihoni – owayehlala kulelolizwe. ²²Phezu kwalabo ababulawa empini abako-Israyeli babebulele ngenkamba uBhalamu indodana kaBhewori, owayeyisanusi. ²³Umngcele wamaRubheni wawulukhumbi lweJodani. Amadolobho la lemizana yawo ayeyilifa lamaRubheni, usendo lunye ngalunye:

²⁴Lokhu yikho uMosi akupha isizwana sakoGadi usendo lunye ngalunye:

²⁵Isabelo seJazeri, amadolobho wonke eGileyadi lengxenye yelizwe lama-Amori kusiyafika e-Aroweri, eduzane

leRabha; ²⁶lokusuka eHeshibhoni kusiya eRamathi Mizipha leBhethonimi, lokusuka

eMahanayimi

kusiya esigabeni seDebhiri;

²⁷esigodini iBhethi Haramu, iBhethi Nimira, iSukhothi leZafoni lawo wonke umbuso kaSihoni inkosi ye-Heshibhoni (icele elisempumalanga yeJodani, isabelo esisekucineni kolwandle lweKhinerethi.)

²⁸Amadolobho la ndawonye lemizana yawo ayeyilifa lamaGadi; usendo lunye ngalunye.

²⁹Lokhu yikho uMosi ayekunike ingxenye yesizwana sakoManase, okutsho ingxenye yemuli eyayiyinzalo kaManase, usendo lunye ngalunye:

³⁰Ummango owawusuka eMahanayimu ugoqela iBhashani, wonke umbuso ka-Ogi inkosi yaseBhashani – yonke imizana yeJayiri eBhashani, amadolobho angamatshumi ayisithupha, ³¹ingxenye yeGileyadi, le-Ashithanethi le-Edreyi (amadolobho

obukhosi ka-Ogi eBhashani) Lokhu kwakungokwezizukulwane zika-Makhiri indodana kaManase – kungokwengxenye yamadodana ka-Makhiri usendo lunye ngalunye.

³²Leli yilo ilifa uMosi ayelabile lapho wayesemagekeni eMowabi

ngaphetsheya kweJodani empumalanga yeJerikho. ³³Kodwa esizwaneni sabaLevi, uMosi wayengazanga aphe ilifa; uJehova, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli, nguye ilifa labo njengokubathembisa kwakhe.

Ukwabiwa komhlaba eNtshonalanga yeJodani

14 Lezi yizo izindawo abako-

Israyeli abazamukela njengelifa elizweni leKhenani, lezo u-Eliyazari umphristi, uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni lezinhlolo zezizwana zako-Israyeli abazabela zona. ²Ilifa labo labiwa ngokwenza inkatho ezizwaneni eziyisificamunwemunye lengxenye, njengokulaya kukaJehova ngoMosi.

³UMosi wayenike izizwe ezimbili lengxenye ilifa lazo empumalanga yeJodani, kodwa wayengabelanga abaLevi ilifa phakathi kwazo, ⁴ngoba amadodana kaJosefa ayeyizizwana ezimbili – esikaManase lesika-Efrayimi. AbaLevi kabazuzanga sabelo ngaphandle kwamadolobho okuhlalala lamadlelo emihlambi yezimvu leyezinkomo. ⁵Ngakho abako- Israyeli behlukanisa umhlaba, njengoba uJehova wayelaye uMosi.

IHebhroni inikwa uKhalebi

⁶Amadoda akoJuda aya kuJoshuwa eGiligali, uKhalebi indodana kaJefune umKhenizi wathi kuye, “Uyakwazi ukuthi uJehova wathini kuMosi umuntu kaNkulunkulu eKhadshi Bhaneya mayelana lawe lami. ⁷Ngangileminyaka engamatshumi amane lapho uMosi inceku kaJehova yangithuma ngisuka eKhadshi Bhaneya ukuyahlola ilizwe. Ngaletha kuye umbiko owawuphathelane lemibono yami, ⁸kodwa abazalwane engahamba labo

benza ukuthi izinhliziyi zabantu zithuthumele ngokwesaba. Mina, lanxa kunjalo, ngalandela uJehova uNkulunkulu wami ngenhliziyo yami yonke. ⁹Ngakho ngalelolanga uMosi wafunga kimi wathi, ‘Umhlabathi lowo onyathelwe yizinyawo zakho uzakuba yilifa lakho labantwabakho kuze kube nini lanini, ngenxa yokuthi ulandele uJehova uNkulunkulu wami ngenhliziyo yakho yonke.’

¹⁰“ Ngakhoke, njengoba uJehova wayethembisile, usengigcine ngiphila okweminyaka engamatshumi amane lanhlanu kusukela ngezikhathi lapho akhuluma lokhu kuMosi, u-Israyeli esazulazula enkangala. Ngakho nanku sengilapha lamhla, sengileminyaka yokuzalwa engamatshumi ayisificamibili lanhlanu! ¹¹Lokhu ngisaqinile lamhla njengelanga uMosi angithuma ngalo; lokhu ngisaqinile ukuyakulwa impi khathesi okufanana lalokho engangiyikho khona ngaleso sikhathi. ¹²Ngakho nginika leli ilizwe lamaqaqa engalithenjiswa nguJehova ngalelo langa. Wena ngokwakho wezwa ngaleso sikhathi ukuthi ama-Anakhi ayekhona lapho njalo amadolobho awo ayemakhulu ehonqolozelwe, kodwa ngokuncediswa nguJehova, ngizawaxotsha njengokutsho kwakhe.”

¹³Ngakho UJoshuwa wabusisa uKhalebi indodana kaJefune wamnika iHebhroni yaba yilifa lakhe. ¹⁴Ngakho iHebhroni isibe ngekaKhalebi indodana kaJefune umKhenizi kusukela ngaleso sikhathi, ngenxa yokuthi walandela uJehova, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke. ¹⁵(IHebhroni yayithiwa yiKhiriya Abha ibizwa ngo-Abhe owayeyindoda eyayiyisikhulu esesabekayo phakathi kwama-Anakhi). Ngakho ilizwe laba lokuphumula ekulweni izimpi.

Isabelo sikaJuda

15 Isabelo sesizwe sikaJuda, usendo lunye ngalunye sasiqhele sehla sayafika elizweni lako-Edomi, sisiyakhawula eNkangala yeZimi eningizimu kude le.

²Umngcele wabo weningizimu wawuqalisela ethekweni oluseningizimu emaphethelweni oLwandle lweTshwayi, ³uchaphela eningizimu yoMkhandlu weNkume, uqhubeka usiya eZini, usiyaphutsha eningizimu yeKhadeshi Bhaneya. Wasusedlula eHezironi usiyafika e-Adari wabhoda unquma wayaphutsha ususeKharikha.

⁴Wasusedlula usiya e-Azimoni usiyaxhumana lesiHotsha saseGibhithe, uphelela olwandle. Lo yiwo umngcele wabo waseningizimu.

⁵Umngcele wempumalanga luLwandle lweTshwayi kuze kufike lapho okuthela khona iJodani, ⁶waqhubeka usiya eBhethi Arabha usiya eLitsheni lika Bhothami indodana kaRubheni. ⁷Umngcele wasuqansa usiya eDebhiri usuka esigodini sika-Akhoru wasujika usiya enyakatho ukhangela eGiligali, ekhangelane loMkhandlu ka-Adumimu eningizimu yodonga.

Waqhubeka usiya emanzini ase-Eni Shemeshi wasufika e-Eni Rogeli. ⁸Wasuqonda esigodini seBeni Hinomu emthezukungweni wangeningizimu yedolobho lamaJebusi (okutsho iJerusalema). Usuka lapho waqansa phezu koqaqa entshonalanga yesigodi seHinomu ekucineni kwangenyakatho yesigodi seRafayimi. kwangenyakatho yesigodi seRefayini. ⁹Usuka engqongeni yoqaqa umngcele waqonda emthonjeni wamanzi aseNefuthowa, wasuphutsha emadolobheni eNtabeni ye-Efuroni wasusehla usiya eBhahala (okutsho iKhiriyathi Jeyarimu) ¹⁰Wasujika usiya entshonalanga usuka eBhahala usiya

entabeni yeSeyiri wedlula emthezukungweni wangenyakatho yentaba iJeyarimu (okutsho iKhesalomi) waqhubeka usiya eBhethi Shemeshi uchaphela eThimina. ¹¹Waqonda emthezukungweni wenyakatho owe-Ekhironi, wajika ukhangele eShikheroni, wedlule usiya eNtabeni yeBhahala wafika eJabhinieli. Umngcele wapelela elwandle. ¹²Umngcele wangentshonalanga lukhumbi loLwandle oLukhulu. Le yiyo imingcele eyayigombolozele abantu bakoJuda usendo lunye ngalunye.

¹³Kulandela umlayo kaJehova kuye, uJoshuwa wanika uKhalebi indodana kaJefune ingxenye eseJuda – iKhiriyathi Aribha, okutsho iHebhroni (u-Aribha wayengukhokho ka-Anaki). ¹⁴Esuka eHebhroni uKhalebi waxotsha ama-Anakhi amathathu – uSheshayi, u-Ahimani lo Thalimayi – abazukulu baka-Anaki. ¹⁵Esuka lapho wahamba ehlasela abantu ababehlala eDebhiri (okwakuthiwa yiKhiriyathi Sefa). ¹⁶UKhalebi wathi, “Ngizakwendisela indodakazi yami u-Akhisa endodeni ezahlasela ithumbe iKhiriyathi Sefa.” ¹⁷U-Othiniyeli indodana kaKhenazi, umfowabo kaKhalebi walithumba: ngakho uKhalebi wamendisela indodakazi yakhe u-Akhisa yaba ngumkakhe.

¹⁸Ngelinye ilanga u-Akhisa wafika ku-Othiniyeli wamkhuthaza ukuthi acele insimu kuyise. Lapho esehla kubabhemi wakhe, uKhalebi wambuza wathi, “Kuyini engingakwenzela khona?”

¹⁹Waphendula wathi, “Akungenzele umusa. Njengoba unginike ilizwe eNegebi, nginika njalo imithombo yamanzi.” Ngakho uKhalebi wayinika indodakazi yakhe imithombo eyayingaphezulu leyayingaphansi kommango.

²⁰ Leli yilo ilifa lesizwana sikaJuda usendo lunye ngalunye:

²¹ Amadolobho aseningizimu asekucineni awesizwe sikaJuda eNegebi ekuyeni emngceleni we-Edomi aye yila:

iKhabhuzili, i-Ederi, iJaguri,
²² iKhina, iDimona, i-Adada,
²³ iKhedeshi, iHazori, i-Ithinani,
²⁴ iZifi, iThelemu,
 iBheyalothi, ²⁵ iHazori Hadatha,
 iKheriyothi Hezironi (okutsho
 iHazori), ²⁶ i-Amamu, iShema,
 iMolada, ²⁷ iHazari Gada,
 iHeshimoni,
 iBhethi Phelethi, ²⁸ iHazari Shuwali,
 iBherisheba, iBhiziyothiya,
²⁹ iBhahala, i-Iyimu, i-Ezemu,
³⁰ i-Elitholadi, iKhesili, iHorima
³¹ iZikhilagi, iMadimana, iSansana,
³² iLebhayothi, iShilihumu, i-Ayini
 leRomoni – esewonke
 kwakungamadolobho
 angamatshumi amabili
 lesitshiyagalo-
 lunye lemizana yawo.

³³ Emawatheni asentshonalanga kwakulamadolobho la:

I-Eshithawoli, iZora, i-Ashina,
³⁴ iZanowa i-Eni Ganini, iThaphuwa,
 i-Enamu, ³⁵ iJarimuthi, i-Adulamu,
 iSokho, i-Azekha, ³⁶ iShayarimu,
 i-Adithayimu le Gedera (kumbe
 iGederothayimu) amadolobho
 alitshumi lane lemizi yawo.
³⁷ iZenani, iHadasha, iMigidali Gadi,
³⁸ iDiliyeni, iMizipha, iJokhitheyeli,
³⁹ iLakhishi, iBhozikhathi, i-Egiloni,

⁴⁰ iKhabhoni, iLahimasi, iKhithilishi

⁴¹ iGederothi, iBhethi Dagoni,
 iNayama leMakheda – amadolobho
 alitshumi lesithupha lemizi yawo.

⁴² iLibhina, i-Etheri, i-Ashami,

⁴³ i-Ifitha, i-Ashina, iNezibhi,

⁴⁴ iKheyila, i-Akhizibhi leMaresha –
 amadolobho ayisitshiyagalolunye
 lemizi yawo.

⁴⁵ i-Ekhironi, lemizana eyigqagqeleyo;

⁴⁶ entshonalanga ye-Ekhironi, wonke
 ayeseduzane le-Ashidodi, ndawonye
 lemizana yawo; ⁴⁷ i-Ashidodi lemizana
 egqagqeleyo leGaza, imizana
 egqagqeleyo kusiyafika esiHotsheni
 saseGibhithe lekhunjini loLwandle
 oLukhulu.

⁴⁸ Elizweni elimaqaqa:

Ishamiri, iJathiri, iSokho, ⁴⁹ iDana,
 iKhiriyathi Sana (okutsho
 iDebhire),

⁵⁰ i-Anabhi, i-Eshithemo, i-Animi,

⁵¹ iGosheni, iHoloni leGilo –
 amadolobho alitshumi lanye
 lemizana

yawo.

⁵² i-Arabhi, iDuma, i-Eshani,

⁵³ iJanimu, iBhethi Thaphuwa,

i-Afeka, ⁵⁴ iHumitha, iKhiriyathi
 Aribha (okutsho iHebhroni) leZiwori –
 amadolobho ayisitshiyagalolunye
 lemizana yawo.

⁵⁵ iMawoni, iKhameli,

iZifi, iJutha, ⁵⁶ iJezereli,

iJokideyamu,

iZanowa, ⁵⁷ iKhayini, iGibheya

leThimina – amadolobho alitshumi
 lemizana yawo.

⁵⁸ iHalihuli, iBhethi Zuri, iGedori,

⁵⁹ iMaharathi, iBhethi Anothi

le-Elithekhoni – amadolobho

ayisithupha lemizana yawo.

⁶⁰IKhiriyathi Bhali (okutsho ukuthi iKhiriyathi Jeyarimu) leRabha – amadolobho amabili lemizana yawo.

⁶¹ Enkangala:

IBethi Arabha, iMidini, iSekhakha,

⁶² iNibhishani, iDolobho leTshwayi le-Eni Gedi – amadolobho ayisithupha lemizana yawo.

⁶³ UJuda wehluleka ukususa amaJebusi, ayehlala eJerusalema; lalamhla amaJebusi lokhu ehlala lapho labantu bakoJuda.

Isabelo sika-Efrayimi loManase

16 Isabelo sikaJosefa saqala

eJodani leJerikho, empumalanga yamanzi eJerikho, sakhwela sisuka lapho sisiya enkangala singena elizweni elimaqaqa eleBhetheli. ² Sadabula sisuka eBetheli (okutsho iLuzi) sachaphela esabelweni sama-Arikhithi e-Atharothi, ³ sehlela entshonalanga esabelweni seBhethi Horoni ephansi sisiya eGezeri, sisiyaphelela olwandle.

⁴ Ngakho uManase lo-Efrayimi, izizukulwane zikaJosefa, bemukela ilifa labo.

⁵ Leli kwakuyilizwe lika-Efrayimi usendo lunye ngalunye:

Umngcele welifa labo wawusuka e-Atharothi Adari empumalanga usiya

eBethi Horoni Ephezulu

⁶ Waqhubeka

usiy olwandle. Usuka eMikhimetha

enyakatho wajika empumalanga usiya

eThahanathi Shilo, usedlula eJanowa empumalanga. ⁷ Wasusehlela phansi

usuka eJanowa usiya e-Atharothi leNayara, wathinta iJerikho wayaphutshela kuJodani. ⁸ Usuka eThaphuwa umngcele waya entshonalanga eDongeni lweKhana wayaphelela olwandle. Leli kwakuyilifa lesizwana sako-Efrayimi, usendo lunye ngalunye.

⁹ Wawugqela njalo wonke amadolobho lemizana yawo eyayehlukaniselwe ama-Efrayimi phakathi kwelifa labako Manase.

¹⁰ Kabazange badudule amaKhenani ayehlala eGezeri; kuze kube lamhla amaKhenani ahlala phakathi kwabantu bako-Efrayimi kodwa besenziswa umsebenzi wobugqili.

17 Lesi kwakuyisabelo sesizwana

sikaManase njengezibulo likaJosefa, okutsho esikaMakhire, izibulo likaManase. UMakhire wayengukhokho wamaGileyadi, owayamukele uGileyadi loBhashani ngenxa yokuthi amaMakhire ayengamaqhawe amakhulu. ² Ngakho isabelo lesi sasingesabantu bonke bakoManase – izinsendo zika-Abhiyezeri, uHeleki u-Asiriyeli, uShekemu, uHefefi loShemida. Lezi ngezinye izizukulwane zesilisa zikaManase indodana kaJosefa ngezinsendo zazo.

³ UZelofehadi indodana kaHeferi, indodana kaGileyadi, indodana kaMakhire indodana kaManase, wayengelamadodana kodwa wayelamadodakazi wodwa, amabizo awo kwakungu Mahla, uNowa, uHogila, uMilikha loThiriza.

⁴ Aya ku-Eliyazari umphristi, loJoshuwa indodana kaNuni, labakhokheli athi, “UJehova walaya uMosi ukuthi asabele ilifa kanye

labanewethu.” Ngakho uJoshuwa wabanika ilifa ndawonye labanewabo bakayise, kulandelwa umlayo kaJehova.⁵ Isabelo sikaManase sasigoqela iziqinti ezilitshumi zomhlabathi eceleni leGileyadi leBhashani empumalanga yeJodani,⁶ ngenxa yokuthi amadodakazi esizwana sikaManase azuza ilifa phakathi kwamadodana. Umhlaba weGileyadi wawungowezizukulwana zikaManase.

⁷ Ilizwe likaManase lalisukela e-Asheri lisiya eMikhimethathi empumalanga yeShekemu. Umngcele wawudabula usiya eningizimu usukela khonapho ugoqela abantu ababehlala e-Eni Thaphuwa.⁸ (UManase wayelomhlaba elizweni leThaphuwa, kodwa iThaphuwa ngokwayo, emgceleni kaManase, yayingeyama-Efrayimi.)⁹ Umngcele waqhubeka eningizimu usiya eDongeni lweKhana. Kwakulamadolobho ka-Efrayimi ayakhelwe phakathi kwamadolobho kaManase, kodwa umngcele kaManase wawulicele langenyakatho yodonga njalo uphelela olwandle.¹⁰ Eningizimu ilizwe lalingelika-Efrayimi, enyakatho lisiyakhawula koManase. Ilizwe lika Manase lalifika olwandle njalo lingcelelane lo-Asheri enyakatho lo-Isakhari empumalanga.

¹¹ Phakathi kuka-Isakhari lo-Asheri uManase wayeloBhethi Shani, u-Ibhileyami labantu beDori, abe-Endori, abe-Tanakhi leMegido, ndawonye lemizana ababakhelane layo (owesithathu eluhlwini kwakungu Nafothi).

¹² Kanti-ke abakoManase babengenelisi ukuhlala emadolobheni ngoba amaKhenani ayezimisele ukuhlala kuleso sigaba.

¹³ Lanxa kunjalo kwathi abako-Israyeli sebelamandla amakhulu benza

amaKhenani izigqili zabo kodwa kababaxotshanga kokuphela.

¹⁴ Abantu bakoJosefa bathi kuJoshuwa, “Kungani lisinike isabelo esisodwa kuphela lengxenywe eyodwa yelifa? Singabantu abanengi kakhulu njalo uJehova usibusise ngeziphho ezinengi.”

¹⁵ UJoshuwa wabaphendula wathi; “Uma libanengi kakhulu, njalo nxa ilizwe lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi lilincinyane kini, ngenani eguswini liyecenta umhlaba ube ngowenu elizweni lamaPherizi lelama Refayithi.

¹⁶ Abantu bakoJosefa baphendula bathi, “Ilizwe lamaqaqa kaliseneli njalo amaKhenani wonke ahlala emagekeni alezinqola zensimbi, bonke abase Bhethi Shani lemizana yakhona lalabo ababehlala esigodini seJezerili.”

¹⁷ Kodwa uJoshuwa wakhuluma kwabendlu kaJosefa – ku-Efrayimi loManase wathi – “Libanengi njalo lilamandla amakhulu kakhulu. Kalisoze libe lesabelo esisodwa kuphela,

¹⁸ kodwa lelizwe lamaqaqa eliligusu. Licenteni lize liyefika lapho eliphelela khona kube ngelenu; lanxa amaKhenani elezinqola zensimbi njalo lanxa elamandla, lingawaxotsha.

Ukwabiwa kwelizwe elalisele.

18 Ibandla lonke lako-Israyeli

labuthana eShilo laselimisa ithente lokuhlanganela khonapho. Ilizwe lalethwa ngaphansi kombuso wabo,² kodwa kwakulokhu kulezizwana zako-Israyeli eziyisikhombisa ezazingakemukeli ilifa lazo.

³ Ngakho uJoshuwa wathi kwabakako-Israyeli, “Lizakuma okwesikhathi esinganani lingakathathi umhlaba lowo uJehova, uNkulunkulu waboyihlo alinike wona? ⁴ Khethani amadoda amathathu

esizweni sinye ngasinye. Ngizawathuma ukuthi ayehlola ilizwe abeseloba ngesimo salo, kusiya ngelifa lesizwana ngasinye. Azaphindela kimi.

⁵Lizakwaba umhlaba ube yizigaba eziyisikhombisa. UJuda uzaqhubeka eselizweni lakhe eningizimu njalo indlu kaJosefa iselizweni layo enyakatho.

⁶Ngemva kokuba selibhale ingcazelo yezigaba eziyisikhombisa zelizwe, ziletheni kimi lapha njalo ngizalenzela inkatho phambi kukaJehova uNkulunkulu wethu.

⁷AbaLevi, lanxa kunjalo, kabazuzi lutho phakathi kwenu, ngoba umsebenzi wobuphristi kuJehova yilifa labo. Njalo uGadi, uRubheni lengxenywe yesizwe sikaManase sebathola ilifa labo eceleni langempumalanga yeJodani. UMosini inceku kaJehova wabanika lona.”

⁸Kwathi amadoda engena indlela esiyahlola umhlaba, uJoshuwa wawalaya esithi, “Hambani liyehlola umhlaba beselibhala ingcazelo yesimo sawo. Libe selibuya kimi, njalo ngizalenzela inkatho lapha eShilo phambi kukaJehova.”⁹Ngakho amadoda asuka adabula phakathi kwelizwe. Abhala ingcazelo yesimo salo ephepheni eligoqwayo, idolobho ngedolobho, ezigabeni eziyisikhombisa, asephindela kuJoshuwa esihonqweni seShilo.

¹⁰UJoshuwa wawenzela inkatho eShilo phambi kukaJehova, njalo lapho wabela ilizwe kwabako-Israyeli kusiya ngokwehlukani kwezizwana.

Isabelo sikaBhenjamini

¹¹Inkatho yawela isizwana sakoBhenjamini usendo lunye ngalunye. Ilizwe labo elabizwayo laliphakathi kwezizwana zakoJuda loJosefa:

¹²Eceleni lenyakatho umngcele wabo wawuqalisela kuJodani, usedlula emthekweni wangenyakatho yeJerikho

usiya entshonalanga elizweni elilamaqaqa, uthutshela enkangala yeBhethi Aveni.¹³Usuka lapho wawuchaphela emthekweni weningizimu oweLuzi (okutsho iBhetheli) usehlela phansi e-Atherothi Adari eqaqeni oluseningizimu yeBethi Horoni engaphansi.

¹⁴Usuka eqaqeni olukhangelane leBhethi Horoni eningizimu ulandela icele lentshonalanga wasuthutshela eKhiriyathi Bhali (okutsho iKiryathi Jeyarimi) idolobho labantu bakoJuda. Leli kwakulicele langentshonalanga.

¹⁵Icele langeningizimu laliqalisela emaphethelweni eKhiriyathi Jeyarimi entshonalanga, njalo umngcele waphuma emthonjeni wamanzi oweNefuthowa.¹⁶Umngcele wehla waya ewatheni lentaba ekhangelane leSigodi seBheni Hinomi, enyakatho yeSigodi seRafayimi. Waqhubeka usehla eSigodini seHinomi ulandela umthekuko wedolobho lamaJebusi usiya e-Eni Rogeli.¹⁷Wasubhoda usiya enyakatho, waya e-Eni Shemeshi, waqhubeka usiya eGelilothi, ekhangele

uMkhandlu we-Adumimi, wehla phansi usiya elitsheni lika Bhohani indodana kaRubheni.¹⁸Waqhubeka emthekweni wenyakatho oweBhethi Arabha wehlela phansi ungena e-Arabha.¹⁹Wasusiywa emthekweni wasenyakatho oweBhathi Hogila wasuphumela ewatheni langenyakatho loLwandle lweTshwayi lapho okuthela khona iJodani eningizimu. Lo kwakungumngcele waseningizimu.

²⁰IJodani yenza umngcele eceleni langempumalanga. Le kwakuyimingcele eyayiphawula ilifa lezinsendo zikaBhenjamini emaceleni wonke.

²¹ Isizwana sikaBhenjamini, usendo ngosendo sasilamadolobho alandelayo:

IJerikho, iBhethi Hogila, i-Emeki Khezizi, ²² iBhethi Arabha, iZemarayima, iBhetheli, ²³ i-Avimu, iPhara, i- Ofira, ²⁴ iKhefari Amoni, i-Ofini leGebha – amadolobho alitshumi lambili kanye lemizana yawo.

²⁵ IGibheyoni, iRama, iBheherothi,

²⁶ iMizipha, iKhefira, iMoza,

²⁷ iRekhemu, iRipheyeli, iTharala, iZela, iHayelefi, idolobho lamaJebusi (okuyikuthi iJerusalema), iGibheya leKhiriya – amadolobho alitshumi lane kanye lemizana yawo.

Leli kwakuyilifa lika Bhenjamini lezinsendo zakhe.

Isabelo sika Simeyoni

19 Inkatho yesibili yawela

esizwaneni sikaSimeyoni, usendo ngosendo. Ilifa labo laliphakathi kwelizwe likaJuda.

² Laligoqela:

iBherisheba (noma Sheba), iMolada, ³ iHazari Shuwali, iBhala, i-Ezemu, ⁴ i-Elitholadi, iBhethuli, iHorima, ⁵ iZikhilagi, iBhethi Marikhabhothi, iHazari Susa, ⁶ iBhethi Lebhawothi leSharuheni – amadolobho alitshumi lantathu lemizana yawo;

⁷ i-Ayini, iRimoni, i-Etheri le-

Ashani – amadolobho amane

lemizana yawo – ⁸ layo yonke

imizana eyakhelene lalawo

madolobho kusiyafika eBhalathi

Bhiya (iRama eseNegebi)

Leli kwakuyilifa lesizwane sama Simeyoni usendo ngosendo. ⁹ Ilifa lamaSimeyoni lathathwa kungxenyeka kaJuda, ngenxa yokuthi isigaba sakoJuda sasisikhulu ukwedlula lokho ababekuswela. Ngakho amaSimeyoni athola ilifa lawo phakathi kwesabelo sakoJuda.

Isabelo sika Zebhuluni

¹⁰ Inkatho yesithathu yawela uZebhuluni usendo ngosendo:

Umngcele welifa labo wayafika

eSaridi. ¹¹ Waqonda entshonalanga

wadabula usiya eMarala, wathinta

iDabheshethi waqhela usiya

edongeni

eduze leJokhineyamu. ¹² Wajikela

empumalanga usuka eSaridi

ukhangele

lapho okuphuma khona ilanga usiya

elizweni likaKhislothi Thabhothi

waqonda eDabherathi ukhwela

usiya

eJafiya. ¹³ Waqhubeka ukhangele

empumalanga usiya eGathi Heferi

le-Ethi Kazini; wathutshela eRimoni

wasujikela eNeya. ¹⁴ Lapho

umngcele

wabhoda enyakatho usiya

eHanathoni wakhawula eSigodini

se-Ifitha Eli. ¹⁵ Kwakukhona njalo

iKhatha, iNahalali, iShimironi,

i-Idala leBethelehema.

Kwakulamadolobho alitshumi

lambili

lemizana yawo.

¹⁶ La madolobho lemizana yawo

ayeyilifa lika Zebhuluni, usendo

ngosendo.

Isabelo sika-Isakhari

¹⁷ Inkatho yesine yawela u-Isakhari, usendo ngosendo. ¹⁸ Ilizwe labo laligoqela:

IJezereli, iKhesulothi, iShunemi,

¹⁹ iHafarayimi, iShiyoni, i-Anaharathi,

²⁰ iRabhithi, iKhishiyoni, i-Ebhezi

²¹ iRemethi, i-Eni Ganimu, i-Eni Hada leBhethi Phazezi.

²² Umngcele wawuthinta iThabori, iShahazuma leBhethi Shemeshi wasukhawula eJodani.

Kwakulamadolobho alitshumi lesithupha lemizana yawo.

²³ Amadolobho la lemizi yawo kwakuyilifa lesizwana sika-Isakhari usendo ngosendo.

Isabelo sika Asheri

²⁴ Inkatho yesihlanu yawela esizwaneni sika-Asheri, usendo ngosendo. ²⁵ Ilizwe labo laligoqela:

iHelikhathi, iHali, iBhetheni

i-Akhishafi, ²⁶ i-Alameleki, i-Amadi le-Mishali. Entshonalanga

umngcele wathinta iKhameli leShihori Libhinathi. ²⁷ Wajikela empumalanga

ukhangele eBhethi Dagoni, wathinta iZebhuluni leSigodi se-Ifutha Eli,

waqonda enyakatho usiya eBhethi Emekhi leNeyiyeli, usedlula

eKhabhuli kwesenxele. ²⁸ Waya

e-Abhidoni, eRehobhu, eHamoni leKhana usiyafika eSidoni enkulu.

²⁹ Umngcele waphinda wajika ukhangele eRama wasusiyana edolobheni

eliyinqaba eleThire, wajika ukhangele

iHosa wathutshela olwandle

olusesabelweni se-Akhizibhi,

³⁰ i-Uma, i-Afeki leRehobi.

Kwakulamadolobho angamatshumi

amabili lambili lemizana yawo.

³¹ Amadolobho la lemizana yawo ayeyilifa lesizwana sika-Asheri, usendo ngosendo.

Isabelo sikaNaftali

³² Inkatho yesithupha yawela uNaftali usendo ngosendo:

³³ Umngcele wasuka eHelefi kanye lesihlahla esikhulu eZahanani usedlula

e-Adami Nekhebi leJabhineyeli usiya

eLakhumi njalo uphelela eJodani.

³⁴ Umngcele wadabula entshonalanga phakathi kwe-Azinothi Thabhoru wayaphuma ususeHukhokhi wathinta

iZebhuluni leJodani empumalanga.

³⁵ Amadolobho ayeleziqaba yiZidimu, iZeri, iHamathi, iRakhathi, iKhinerethi,

³⁶ i-Adama, iRama, iHazoni,

³⁷ iKhedeshi, i-Edreyi, i-Eni-Hazoni,

³⁸ i-Ironi, iMigidali Eli, iHoremu, iBhethi Anathi leBhethi Shemeshi.

Kwakulamadolobho alitshumi lesificamunye lemizana yawo.

³⁹ Amadolobho la lemizana yawo kwakuyilifa lesizwana sika Naftali usendo ngosendo.

Isabelo sikaDani

⁴⁰ Inkatho yesikhombisa yehlela isizwana sikaDani, usendo ngosendo.

⁴¹ Ilizwe lelifa labo laligoqela:

iZora, i-Eshthawoli, i-Iri Shemeshi, ⁴² iShayalabhini, i-Ayijaloni, i-Ithila,

⁴³ i-Eloni, iThimina, i-Ekhroni,

⁴⁴ i-Elitheke, iGibhethoni, iBhahalathi,

⁴⁵ iJehudi, iBhene Bherakhi, iGathi

Rimoni, ⁴⁶ iMe Jarikhoni leRakhoni
lendawo ekhangele iJopha.

⁴⁷ (Kodwa amaDani akhangelana
lobunzima bokuthatha umhlaba wawo,
ngakho asuka ayahlasela iLeshemu
ayithatha ayingenela ngenkamba
ayithumba. Ahlala eLeshemu ayibiza
ngokuthi yiDani, ibizo likakhokho
wabo.) ⁴⁸ Amadolobho la lemizana yawo
ayeyilifa lesizwe sika Dani usendo
ngosendo.

Isabelo sikaJoshuwa

⁴⁹ Bathi sebeqede ukwehlukana
umhlaba waba zingxenywe ezabiweyo,
abako- Israyeli banika uJoshuwa
indodana kaNuni ilifa phakathi kwabo,
⁵⁰ njengoba uJehova wayelayile.
Bamnika idolobho ayelicelile –
Thimnathi Sera elizweni elilamaqaqa
elako-Efrayimi. Wakha idolobho
wahlala khona.

⁵¹ La yiwo amazwe lawo u-Eliyezari
umphristi, uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni
labakhokheli bonke lezinsendo
zezizwana zako-Israyeli
ababehlukanisela wona ngenkatho
eShilo phambi kukaJehova entubeni
yethente lokuhlanganela. Ngakho-ke
baqeda ukwaba umhlaba.

Amadolobho okuphephela

20 Ngakho uJehova wathi

kuJoshuwa:

² “Tshela abako-Israyeli ukuthi
baphawule amadolobho okuphephela
njengokulilaya engakwenza ngoMosi,

³ ukuze wonke umuntu obulala
omunye umuntu ngengozi njalo engenzi
ngabomo ulakho ukubaleka adinge
ukuvikelwa kumphindiseli wegazi.

⁴ “Lapho ebalekela kwelinye lala
amadolobho, keme emangenelweni

esango ledolobho abesetitsho ukuthi
ukhala ngani kubakhokheli bedolobho
lelo. Sebezamamukela edolobheni labo
besebemnika indawo yokuhlala phakathi
kwabo. ⁵ Uma umphindiseli wegazi
emlandela, akumelanga bamnikele lowo
owetheswa umlandu ngoba
kambulalanga ngabomo njalo
langenhliziyo embi. ⁶ Usezahlala
kulelidolobho kuze kufike isikhathi
sokuthonisiswa phambi kwebandla njalo
kuze kufe umphristi omkhulu oyabe
ephethe umsebenzi ngalesosikhathi.
Lapho usengabuyela ekhaya lakhe
edolobheni abaleka kulo.”

⁷ Ngakho behlukanisa iKhedeshi
eseGalile elizweni lamaqaqa
elikaNafthali, iShekemu elizweni
lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi leKhiriya
Abha(okutsho iHebhroni) elizweni
lamaqaqa lakoJuda. ⁸ Empumalanga
yeJodani leJerikho baphawula iBhezari
enkanjala esemagcekeni esizwaneni
sikaRubheni, iRamothe esegiliyadi
esizwaneni sika Gadi, leGolani
eseBhashani esizwaneni sikaManase.

⁹ Nguloba ngubani owako-Israyeli
kumbe omunye owezizweni ohlala
phakathi kwabo owabulala omunye
umuntu ngengozi angabalekela
amadolobheni aqanjweyo, akumelanga
abulawe ngumphindiseli wegazi
engakamiswa phambi kwebandla
ethonisiswa.

Amadolobho abaLevi

21

Abakhokheli bezimuli zabaLevi
balanda u-Elizari umphristi, uJoshuwa
indodana kaNuni, labakhokheli bezinye
izimuli ezizwaneni zako-Israyeli,

² eShilo esekhenani bathi kubo,
“UJehova walaya ngoMosi wathi lisinike
amadolobho okuhlala, alamadlelo
ezifuyo zethu.” ³ Ngakho njengoba

uJehova wayelayile, ama-Israyeli anika
abaLevi amadolobho alandelayo
lamadlelo kuvela elifeni labo:

⁴ Inkatho yakuqala yawela
amaKhohathi, usendo ngosendo.
AbaLevi ababeyizizukulwane zika-Aroni
umphristi babelwa amadolobho
alitshumi lantathu ezizwaneni zakoJuda,
ezako Simeyoni lezako Bhenjamini.

⁵ Inengi lonke lezizukulwane
zikaKhohathi babelwa amadolobho
alitshumi kuzinsendo zezizwana zako-
Efrayimi, ezako Dani lengxenye
yakoManase.

⁶ Izizukulwana zikaGeshoni zabelwa
amadolobho alitshumi lantathu
kuzinsendo zezizwana zako-Isakakhari,
ezako Nafthali lesizwana esiyinxenye
yesakoManase eBhashani.

⁷ Izizukulwana zikaMerari, usendo
ngosendo zathola amadolobho alitshumi
lambili ezizwaneni zakoRubheni,
ezakoGadi lezako Zebhuluni.

⁸ Ngakho abako-Israyeliabela
abaLevi amadolobho la lamadlelo awo,
njengokulaya kukaJehova ngoMosi.

⁹ Ezizwaneni zakoJuda
lezakoSimeyoni amadolobho abwayo
nanka ngamabizo

awo ¹⁰ (la amadolobho anikwa
izizukulwana zika-Aroni ezazivela
kuzinsendo zamaKhohathi phakathi
kwabaLevi, ngoba inkatho yakuqala
yawela kuzo):

¹¹ Bazinika iKhiriyathi Abha
(okutsho iHebhroni) emadlelweni
akulowommango elizweni
elilamaqaqa
lakoJuda (u-Abha wayengukhokho
ka-Anabhi). ¹² Kodwa amasimu
lemizana okwakuseduzane
ledolobho
babekunike uKhalebi indodana

kaJefune ukuba kube ngokwakhe.

¹³ Ngakho izizukulwana zika-Aroni
umphristi bazinika iHebhroni
(idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo
abalamacala okubulala),
iLibhina, ¹⁴ iJathiri, i-Eshthemowa
¹⁵ iHoloni, iDebhiri, ¹⁶ i-Ayini, iJutha
leBethi Shemeshi, ndawonye
lamadlelo awo – amadolobho
ayisificamunwe munye esuka
ezizwaneni lezi zombili.

¹⁷ Esizwani sakoBhenjamini bazinika
iGibheyoni, iGebha, ¹⁸ i-Anathothi
le-Alimoni, ndawonye lamadlelo
awo – amadolobho amane.

¹⁹ Wonke amadolobho abaphristi,
izizukulwana zika-Aroni, ayelitshumi
lantathu ndawonye lamadlelo awo.

²⁰ Ezinye zonke izinsendo
zesiKhohathi phakathi kwabaLevi
zabelwa amadolobho esizwaneni sako-
Efrayimi.

²¹ Elizweni elilamaqaqa elako-
Efrayimi zanikwa iShekemu
(idolobho lokuphepha kwalabo
abalamacala okubulala) leGezeri,
²² iKhibhizayimi leBhethi Horoni,
ndawonye lamadlelo awo –
amadolobho amane.

²³ Esizwaneni sakoDani zathola
i-Elithekhe, iGibhethoni,

²⁴ i-Ayijaloni leGathi Rimoni,
ndawonye lamadlelo awo –
amadolobho amane.

²⁵ Kungxenye yesizwe sakoManase
zathola iThanakhi leGathi Rimoni,
ndawonye lamadlelo awo –
amadolobho amabili.

²⁶ Wonke la amadolobho alitshumi
lamadlelo awo anikwa kuzo zonke
izinsendo zamaKhohathi.

²⁷ Izinsendo zamaLevi ezeGeshoni zanikwa:

kungxenye yesizwana sakoManase, iGolani eseBhashani (idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo abalamacala okubulala) leBhe Ashthara, ndawonye lamadlelo awo – amadolobho amabili:

²⁸ Esizwaneni sika-Isakhari, iKhishiyoni, iDabherathi,

²⁹ iJarimuthi le-Eni Ganimi, ndawonye lamadlelo awo – amadolobho amane;

³⁰ esizwaneni sika-Asheri, iMishali, i-Abhidoni, ³¹ iHelikhathi leRehobi, ndawonye lamadlelo awo – amadolobho amane;

³² Kusukela esizwaneni sakoNafthali, iKhedeshi eseGalile (idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo abalamacala okubulala), iHamothi Dori leKharithani, ndawonye lamadlelo

awo

– amadolobho amathathu.

³³ Wonke amadolobho ezinsendo zamaGeshoni ayelitshumi lantathu, ndawonye lamadlelo awo.

³⁴ Izinsendo zamaMerani (okutsho bonke abaLevi) zanikwa kanje:

esizwaneni sikaZebhuluni, iJokhineyami, iKharitha, ³⁵ iDimina leNahalali ndawonye lamadlelo awo – amadolobho amane;

³⁶ esizwaneni sakoRubheni, iBhezeri, iJahazi, ³⁷ iKhedemoshi leMefahathi ndawonye lamadlelo awo – amadolobho amane;

³⁸ esizwaneni sakoGadi, iRamoshi eseGileyadi (idolobho lokuphephela kwalabo abalamacala okubulala),

iMahanayimi, ³⁹ iHeshibhoni leJazeri ndawonye lamadlelo awo – amadolobho amane esewonke.

⁴⁰ Wonke amadolobho abelwa izinsendo zamaMerari, eyingxenye yonke eseleyo yabaLevi, ayelitshumi lambili.

⁴¹ Amadolobho abaLevi elizweni eliphansi kwabako-Israyeli ayengamatshumi amane lesificamibili esewonke ndawonye lamadlelo awo.

⁴² Linye ngalinye lamadolobho la lalilamadlelo aligombolozeyo. Konke kwakunjalo ngawo wonke la amadolobho.

⁴³ Ngakho uJehova wanika u-Israyeli wonke umhlaba ayefunge ukuwunika okhokho bakhe bawuthatha basebesakha khonapho. ⁴⁴ UJehova wabapha ukuphumula kunhlangothi zonke, njengokufunga ayekwenze kubokhokho babo. Akulasitha lesisodwa esenelisa

ukumelana labo; uJehova wanikela zonke izitha zabo kubo.

⁴⁵ Asikho lesisodwa sazo zonke izithembiso ezinhle zikaJehova endlini ka-Israyeli esehlulekayo; zonke zagcwaliseka.

Izizwana zeMpumalanga ziphindela Ekhaya

22 UJoshuwa wamema amaRubheni, amaGadi lengxenye yesizwe sikaManase

² wathi kubo, "Selenze konke uMosi inceku kaJehova eyakulayayo, njalo lingilalele kukho konke engililaye ngakho. ³ Okwesikhathi eside khathesi –

kuze kube lamuhla – kalizange lihlamukele abafowenu kodwa lenze umsebenzi lowo uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu alinike wona. ⁴ Njengoba uJehova

uNkulunkulu wenu wanika abafowenu ukuphumula njengokuthembisa kwakhe, buyelani emakhaya enu elizweni uMosi inceku kaJehova alinika lona ngaphetsheya kweJodani. ⁵ Kodwa linanzelele kakhulu ukuthi lilondoloza umlayo lomthetho uMosi inceku kaJehova alinika wona: Ukuthanda uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu, ukuhamba ezindleleni zakhe zonke, ukulalela imilayo yakhe, ukubambelela kuye lokumsebenzela ngenhliziyo yenu yonke lomphfumulo wenu wonke.”

⁶ UJoshuwa wasebabusisa wathi kabahambe; yikho basebesiya emizini yabo.

⁷ Ingxenye yesizwana sakoManase uMosi wayeyinike ilizwe eBhashani, kwathi eyinye ingxenye yesizwana uJoshuwa wayeyinike indawo lapho okwakwakhele abafowabo eJodani. Kwathi uJoshuwa esethe kabahambe emakhaya, wababusisa ⁸ wathi, “Buyelani emakhaya enu lenotho yenu enengi – lilemihlambi emikhulu yezifuyo, lilesiliva, igolide ithusi lensimbi, lamalembu amanengi – beselisabelana labafowenu lokho elakuthumba ezitheni zenu.”

⁹ Ngakho amaRubheni, amaGadi lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase batshiya abako-Israyeli eShilo eseKhenani babuyela eGileyadi, ilizwe labo, ababelizuze kulandela umlayo kaJehova awethula ngoMosi.

¹⁰ Bathi sebefike eGelithothi eduzane leJodani elizweni leKhenani, amaRubheni, amaGadi lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase bakha i-alithare elikhulu eduzane leJodani. ¹¹ Kwathi abako-Israyeli sebezwe ukuthi sebakhe i-alithare emngceleni weKhenani eGelithothi duzane leJodani eceleni le-Israyeli ¹² umphakathi wonke wako-Israyeli wabuthana eShilo ukulungiselela ukulwa labo empini. ¹³ Ngakho abako-Israyeli

bathuma uFinelasi indodana ka-Eliyazari, umphristi elizweni leGileyadi kuRubheni, uGadi lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase. ¹⁴ Waphelekezelwa yiziphathamandla ezilitshumi sisinye siyinhloko yesigaba semuli phakathi kwezinsendo zako-Israyeli.

¹⁵ Ekuyeni kwabo eGileyadi – kuRubheni loGadi lengxenye yesizwana sakoManase bathi kubo:

¹⁶ “Umphakathi wonke kaJehova uthi: ‘Kungani lephule ithemba kuNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli ngale indlela? Kungani lilahle uNkulunkulu lizakhela i-alithare njengokumhlamukela khathesi. ¹⁷ Kambe ukona kukaPhewori kakwanelanga kithi na? Kuze kube lamhla kasikazihlanzi esonweni lesi, lanxa umkhuhlane wakewahlasela isizwe sikaJehova!

¹⁸ Selibalekela uJehova na?

“ ‘Uma lingahlamukela uJehova lamhla, kusasa uzazondela isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli: ¹⁹ Uma umhlaba elilawo ungcolisiwe wozani emhlabeni kaJehova lapho ithabanikele likaJehova elimi khona beselisabelana umhlaba lathi. Kodwa lingahlamukeli uJehova kumbe thina ngokuzakhela i-alithare lenu, ngaphandle kwe-alithare likaJehova uNkulunkulu wethu. ²⁰ Lapho u-Akhani indodana kaZera aze aziphathe ngendlela engathembekanga mayelana lezinto ezingwelisiweyo, isijeziso kasehlelanga isizwe sonke sako-Israyeli yini? Kayisuye yedwa owafela isono sakhe’ ”

²¹ Ngakho uRubheni, uGadi lengxenye yesizwe sakoManase baphendula abakhokheli bezinsendo zako-Israyeli bathi: ²² “USomandla, uNkulunkulu uJehova! USomandla uNkulunkulu uJehova! Uyazi! Njalo u-Israyeli kabe lolwazi! Uma lokhu bekuyikuhlamukela kumbe ukuqholozela uJehova, ungasisindisi lamhlanje. ²³ Uma sazakhela i-alithare lethu ukwenzela ukubalekela uJehova lokunikela

ngeminikelo yokutshisa leminikelo yamabele, kumbe ukunikela ngeminikelo yobudlelwano kulo, uJehova ngokwakhe kasijejise.

²⁴“Hatshi! Sakwenza sisesaba ukuthi kwelinye ilanga izizukulwana zenu zingathi kwezethu, ‘Lilani loJehova uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli?’ ²⁵UJehova sewenza iJodani ibe ngumngcele phakathi kwethu lani lina maRubheni lamaGadi! Kalilasabelo kuJehova.’ Ngakho izizukulwane zenu zingenza ukuthi ezethu ziyekele ukwesaba uJehova.

²⁶“Yikho sathi, ‘Kasilungiseni, sakhe i-alithare – kodwa hatshi eleminikelo yokutshisa kumbe imihlatshelo.’

²⁷Ngeyinye indlela, kuzakuba yibufakazi phakathi kwethu lani lezizukulwana ezizalandela, ukuthi sizekhonza uJehova endlini yakhe engcwele ngeminikelo yobudlelwano. Ngakho kwelakusasa izizukulwane zenu kazisoze zithi kwezethu, ‘Kalilasabelo kuJehova’

²⁸“Njalo sathi, ‘Bangavele batsho lokhu kithi kumbe kuzizukulwane zethu, sizaphendula sithi: Khangelani emfanekisweni we-alithare likaJehova, elakhiwa ngobaba, hatshi eleminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlathshelo, kodwa njengobufakazi phakathi kwethu lani.’

²⁹Kukhatshana kithi ukuthi sihlamukele uJehova simfulathele lamhla ngokwakha i-alithare leminikelo yokutshiswa, iminikelo yamabele lemihlathshelo, ngaphandle kwe-alithare likaJehova uNkulunkulu wethu elimi phambi kwethabanikeli lakhe.”

³⁰Kwathi uFinehasi umphristi labakhokheli besizwe – abakhokheli bezinsendo zako- Israyeli – sebezwe okwakutshiwo nguRubheni, uGadi loManase bathokoza. ³¹UFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari, umphristi, wathi

kuRubheni, uGadi loManase, “Lamhla siyazi ukuthi uJehova ulathi, ngenxa yokuthi kalizanga liyekele ukwethembeka phambi kukaJehova kuloludaba. Khathezi selihlenge abako-Israyeli esandleni sikaJehova.”

³²UFinehasi indodana ka-Eliyazari, umphristi, labakhokheli babuyela eKhenani bevela emhlanganweni wabo lamaGadi eGileyadi basebebika kwabako-Israyeli. ³³Bathokoza ukuzwa umbiko basebedumisa uNkulunkulu. Kabasakhulumanga njalo ngokuya empini yokubalwisa ukwenzela ukutshabalalisa ilizwe lapho amaRubheni lamaGadi ayehlala khona.

³⁴Njalo amaRubheni lamaGadi anika i-alithare lelibizo: UBufakazi Phakathi Kwethu ukuthi uJehova unguNkulunkulu.

UJoshuwa uvalelisa abakhokheli

23 Ngemva kwesikhathi eside njalo uJehova esephumuze abako-Israyeli kuzo zonke izitha zabo ezazibagombolozele, uJoshuwa ngaleso sikhathi esekhulile eseleminyaka eminengi, ²wabiza bonke abako-Israyeli – abadala babo, abakhokheli babo, abahluleli babo leziphathamandla zabo wathi kubo: “Sengimdala njalo sengiluphele kakhulu. ³Lina ngokwenu selikubonile konke lokho uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu akwenzileyo kuzo zonke lezi izizwe esenzela lina; nguJehova uNkulunkulu wenu owalilwelayo.

⁴Khumbulani ukuthi ngalabela njani ukuba kube yilifa lenu lezizwana zenu wonke umhlaba wezizwe ezasalayo – izizwe engazinqobayo – phakathi kweJodani loLwandle Olukhulu entshonalanga. ⁵UJehova uNkulunkulu wenu ngokwakhe uzabaxotsha endleleni

yenu. Uzabasusa lina lingakafiki, njalo lina lizathatha umhlaba wabo, njengokuthembisa kukaJehova uNkulunkulu.

⁶“Qinani kakhulu; linanzelele ukuthi lilalela konke okulotshwe eGwalweni lweMithetho kaMosi, lingaphambukelanga kwesokudla kumbe esenxele. ⁷Lingaze lazisondeza ezizweni lezi eziphakathi kwenu; lingaze labiza amagama abonkulunkulu bazo kumbe lifunge ngabo. Akumelanga ukuthi libasebenzele lokubakhothamela.

⁸Kodwa kumele libambebele kuJehova uNkulunkulu wenu njengalokhu eselikwenze kwaze kwaba khathesi.

⁹“UJehova usezixotshile phambi kwenu izizwe ezilamandla; kuze kube lamhla kakho owenelisa ukumelana lani.

¹⁰Oyedwa wenu uyenelisa ukwehlula abantu abayinkulungwane eyodwa ngenxa yokuthi uJehova uNkulunkulu uyalilwela njengokuthembisa kwakhe.

¹¹Ngakho-ke nanzelelani ukuthi liyamthanda uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu.

¹²“Kodwa lingabaleka beselisiba lobungane lalabo abasindileyo phakathi kwezizwe lezi ezizasala phakathi kwenu njalo lingavumelana lokuthathana lokudlelana lazo, ¹³lapho lingaba leqiniso lokuthi uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu kasoze azixotshe izizwe phambi kwenu. Kodwa-ke zizakuba yimijibila lezithiyo kini, zizakuba yiziswebhu emihlane yenu lameva emehlweni enu, lize libhujiswe elizweni leli elihle uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu alinika lona.

¹⁴“Khathesi sengizahamba ngendlela yomhlaba wonke. Liyazi ngezinhliziyo zenu lemiphefumulo ukuthi kasikho isithembiso lasinye esihle phakathi kwalezo elazinikwa nguJehova uNkulunkulu wenu esehlulekayo. Zonke izithembiso sezagcwaliswa; kasikho lesisodwa esehlulekayo. ¹⁵Kodwa

njengoba zonke izithembiso ezinhle zikaJehova uNkulunkulu wenu seziphumelele, kunjalo uJehova uzalilethela bonke ububi alethusela ngabo, aze alibhubhise elizweni leli elihle alinike lona. ¹⁶Lingephula isivumelwano sikaJehova uNkulunkulu wenu, owalilayayo ngaso liyokhonza abanye onkulunkulu libakhothamele, ulaka lukaJehova luzavutha kini, njalo lizabhubha ngokuphangisa elizweni elihle alinike lona.”

Isivumelwano siyavuselelwa eShekemu

24 Ngakho uJoshuwa wabuthanisa

zonke izizwana zako-Israyeli eShekemu. Wamema bonke abadala, abakhokheli, abehluleli leziphathamandla zako-Israyeli, njalo bazethula phambi kukaNkulunkulu.

²UJoshuwa wathi ebantwini bonke, “UJehova uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli uthi: ‘Kudala okhokho benu, okugogqela uThera uyise ka-Abrahama loNahori, babehlala ngaphetsheya koMfula njalo bekhonza abanye onkulunkulu. ³Kodwa ngathatha uyihlo u-Abrahama elizweni elingaphetsheya koMfula ngamkhokhelela eKhenani ngamnika izizukulwana ezinengi. Ngamnika u-Isaka, ⁴njalo u-Isaka ngamnika uJakhobe lo-Esawu. Nganika ilizwe lonke elilamaqaqa eleSeyiri ku-Esawu, kodwa uJakhobe lamadodana akhe baya eGibhithe.

⁵“Ngasengithuma uMosi lo-Aroni, njalo ngajezisa amaGibhithe ngalokho engakwenza khonale ngasengilikhupha khona. ⁶Ekukhupheni kwami okhokho benu eGibhithe, beza olwandle njalo amaGibhithe axotshana labo ngezinqola lamabhiza baze bayafika eLwandle Olubomvu.

⁷ Kodwa bakhala kuJehova befuna uncedo yena waseletha umnyama phakathi kwenu lamaGibhithe; waletha ulwandle phezu kwabo wabembesa ngalo. Lazibonela ngamehlo enu lokho engakwenza kumaGibhithe. Laselihlale enkangala okwesikhathi eside.

⁸ “Ngaliletha elizweni lama-Amori ayehlala empumalanga yeJodani. Balwisana lani, kodwa mina ngabanikela ezandleni zenu. Ngababhuhisa phambi kwenu njalo laselithatha ilizwe labo. ⁹ Lapho uBhalaki indodana kaZiphori inkosi yaseMowabi, alungiselela ukulwisana lo-Israyeli, wathumela uBhalamu indodana kaBhewori ukuthi aliqalekise. ¹⁰ Kodwa ngala ukulalela uBhalamu, ngakho walibusisa njalo-njalo mina ngasengilhlenga esandleni sakhe.

¹¹ “Laselichapha uJodani leza eJerikho. Izakhamizi zeJerikho zalwisana lani njengalokho okwenziwa ngama-Amori, amaPherizi, amaKhenani, amaHithi, amaGirigashi, amaHivi lamaJebusi, kodwa ngabanikela ezandleni zenu. ¹² Ngatshaya uphondo phambi kwenu, olwabaxotsha phambi kwenu – kanye lamakhosi amabili ama-Amori. Kalizanga likwenze ngenkamba yenu langedandili lenu. ¹³ Ngakho ngalinika ilizwe elingazanga liliginqele lamadolobho elingazange liwakhe; njalo lihlala phakathi kwawo njalo lisidla ezivinini lemi-oliva elingayihlanyelanga.’

¹⁴ “Ngakho yesabani uJehova limkhonze ngokuthembeka konke. Lahlani onkulunkulu ababekhonzwa ngokhokho benu ngaphetsheya koMfula laseGibhithe, likhonze uJehova.

¹⁵ Kodwa nxa ukukhonza uJehova kukhanya kungathandeki kini, khethani phakathi kwenu namhlanje lowo eliza mkhonza, kumbe ngonkulunkulu okhokho benu ababebakhonza

ngaphetsheya koMfula kumbe onkulunkulu bama-Amori, lawo elihlala elizweni lawo. Kodwa mina lendlu yami sizakhonza uJehova.”

¹⁶ Abantu basebephendula besithi, “Akubekhatshana lathi ukuthi silahle uJehova ukuze sikhonze abanye onkulunkulu! ¹⁷ KwakunguJehova uNkulunkulu wethu ngokwakhe owasikhuphayo thina kanye labobaba eGibhithe sisuka elizweni lobugqili, wasesenza izimanga ezinkulu emehlweni ethu. Wasivikela kulo lonke uhambo lwethu lakuzo zonke izizwe.

¹⁸ Njalo uJehova wazixotsha phambi kwethu zonke izizwe, okugoqela ama-Amori ayehlala elizweni. Lathi sizamkhonza uJehova ngoba unguNkulunkulu wethu.”

¹⁹ UJoshuwa wathi ebantwini, “Kalanelisi ukumkhonza uJehova. UnguNkulunkulu ongcwele; unguNkulunkulu olobukhwele. Kasoze alixolele ukuhlamuka kwenu lezono zenu.

²⁰ Uma lingatshiya uJehova beselikhonza abanye onkulunkulu bezizweni uzaliphendukela alehlisele umonakalo aliqede du, yena ubelungile.

²¹ Kodwa abantu bathi kuJoshuwa, “Hatshi! Sizamkhonza uJehova.

²² UJoshuwa wathi, “Yini elizifakazelayo ukuthi selikhethe ukukhonza uJehova.” Baphendula bathi, “Yebo singofakazi.” ²³ UJoshuwa wathi kubo, “Ngakho-ke lahlani bonke onkulunkulu bezizweni abaphakathi kwenu beselinikela izinhliziyi zenu kuJehova, uNkulunkulu wako-Israyeli.”

²⁴ Abantu bathi kuJoshuwa, “Sizamkhonza uJehova uNkulunkulu wethu simlalele.”

²⁵ Ngalelolanga uJoshuwa wenzela abantu isivumelwano, njalo wabenzela imithetho lemilayo khonapho eShekemu.

²⁶UJoshuwa waloba konke lokhu eGwalweni lwemithetho kaNkulunkulu. Wasethatha ilitshe elikhulu walimisa phansi kwesihlahla som-Okhi eduzane lendawo engcwele kaJehova.

²⁷Wathi ebantwini bonke, “Khangelani! Ilitshe leli lizakuba yibufakazi kithi sonke. Selizwile wonke amazwi akhulunywe nguJehova kithi. Lizakuba ngofakazi kimi uma lingakhulumi iqiniso kuNkulunkulu.”

Ungcwatshelwa Elizweni Lesithembiso

²⁸UJoshuwa wasetshela abantu ukuba bahambe, yilowo esiya elifeni lakhe.

²⁹Ngemva kwezinto lezi, uJoshuwa indodana kaNuni, inceku kaJehova wafa eseleminyaka elikhulu letshumi. ³⁰Njalo bamngcwaba elizweni alizuza njengelifa, eThiminathi Sera elizweni elilamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi enyakatho yentaba yeGahashi.

³¹Abako-Israyeli bamkhonza uJehova ngesikhathi sokuphila kukaJoshuwa labadala abaphile iminyaka eyayisedlula eyakhe njalo ababebone zonke izinto uJehova ayezenzele abako-Israyeli.

³²Njalo amathambo kaJosefa, abako-Israyeli ababesuke lawo eGibhithe, angcwatshelwa eShekemu esiqintini somhlaba leso uJakhobe asithenga ngezinhlamvu ezilikhulu zesiliva emadodaneni kaHamori, uyise kaShekemu. Leli laba yilifa lezizukulwane zikaJosefa.

³³U-Eliyazari indodana ka-Aroni wafa wasengcwatshelwa eGibheya, eyayabelwe indodana yakhe uFinehasi elizweni lamaqaqa elako-Efrayimi.