

# GENESIS

## The beginning

**1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. <sup>4</sup>God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light 'day', and the darkness he called 'night'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, 'Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.' <sup>7</sup>So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the vault 'sky'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.' And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry ground 'land', and the gathered waters he called 'seas'. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup>Then God said, 'Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.' And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning – the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, 'Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.' And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup>to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning – the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, 'Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.' <sup>21</sup>So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird

according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them and said, 'Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.' <sup>23</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning – the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.' And it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,<sup>a</sup> and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'

<sup>27</sup>So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'

<sup>29</sup>Then God said, 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup>And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.' And it was so.

<sup>31</sup>God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.

**2** Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

<sup>2</sup>By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup>Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

<sup>a</sup> 26 Probable reading of the original Hebrew text (see Syriac); Masoretic Text *the earth*

**Adam and Eve**

<sup>4</sup>This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

<sup>5</sup>Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth<sup>a</sup> and no plant had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, <sup>6</sup>but streams<sup>b</sup> came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD God formed a man<sup>c</sup> from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

<sup>8</sup>Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. <sup>9</sup>The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground – trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup>A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. <sup>11</sup>The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. <sup>12</sup>(The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin<sup>d</sup> and onyx are also there.) <sup>13</sup>The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush.<sup>e</sup> <sup>14</sup>The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Ashur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

<sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; <sup>17</sup>but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.'

<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'

<sup>19</sup>Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam<sup>f</sup> no suitable helper was found. <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs<sup>g</sup> and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God made a

woman from the rib<sup>h</sup> he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

<sup>23</sup>The man said,

'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called "woman", for she was taken out of man.'

<sup>24</sup>That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

<sup>25</sup>Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

**The fall**

**3**Now the snake was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God really say, "You must not eat from any tree in the garden"?''

<sup>2</sup>The woman said to the snake, 'We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God did say, "You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die."'

<sup>4</sup>'You will not certainly die,' the snake said to the woman. <sup>5</sup>'For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.'

<sup>6</sup>When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

<sup>8</sup>Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

<sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, 'Where are you?'

<sup>10</sup>He answered, 'I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.'

<sup>11</sup>And he said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?'

<sup>12</sup>The man said, 'The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.'

<sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this you have done?'

The woman said, 'The snake deceived me, and I ate.'

<sup>14</sup>So the LORD God said to the snake, 'Because you have done this,

'Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals!

<sup>h</sup> 22 Or part

<sup>a</sup> 5 Or land; also in verse 6

<sup>b</sup> 6 Or mist

<sup>c</sup> 7 The Hebrew for man (*adam*) sounds like and may be related to the Hebrew for ground (*adamah*); it is also the name Adam (see verse 20).

<sup>d</sup> 12 Or good; pearls

<sup>e</sup> 13 Possibly south-east Mesopotamia

<sup>f</sup> 20 Or the man

<sup>g</sup> 21 Or took part of the man's side

You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring<sup>a</sup> and hers;  
he will crush<sup>b</sup> your head,  
and you will strike his heel.<sup>c</sup>

<sup>16</sup> To the woman he said,

‘I will make your pains in childbearing very  
severe;  
with painful labour you will give birth to  
children.

Your desire will be for your husband,  
and he will rule over you.’

<sup>17</sup> To Adam he said, ‘Because you listened to  
your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which  
I commanded you, “You must not eat from it,”

‘Cursed is the ground because of you;  
through painful toil you will eat food  
from it  
all the days of your life.

<sup>18</sup> It will produce thorns and thistles for you,  
and you will eat the plants of the field.

<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your brow  
you will eat your food  
until you return to the ground,  
since from it you were taken;  
for dust you are  
and to dust you will return.’

<sup>20</sup> Adam<sup>c</sup> named his wife Eve,<sup>d</sup> because she  
would become the mother of all the living.

<sup>21</sup> The LORD God made garments of skin for  
Adam and his wife and clothed them. <sup>22</sup> And the  
LORD God said, ‘The man has now become like  
one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not  
be allowed to reach out his hand and take also  
from the tree of life and eat, and live for ever.’

<sup>23</sup> So the LORD God banished him from the Gar-  
den of Eden to work the ground from which he  
had been taken. <sup>24</sup> After he drove the man out,  
he placed on the east side<sup>e</sup> of the Garden of Eden  
cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and  
forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

### Cain and Abel

**4** Adam<sup>a</sup> made love to his wife Eve, and she  
became pregnant and gave birth to Cain.<sup>b</sup>  
She said, ‘With the help of the LORD I have

brought forth<sup>c</sup> a man.’ <sup>2</sup> Later she gave birth to  
his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the  
soil. <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought some  
of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the  
LORD. <sup>4</sup> But Abel also brought an offering – fat  
portions from some of the firstborn of his flock.  
The LORD looked with favour on Abel and his of-  
fering, <sup>5</sup> but on Cain and his offering he did not  
look with favour. So Cain was very angry, and his  
face was downcast.

<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, ‘Why are you  
angry? Why is your face downcast? <sup>7</sup> If you do  
what is right, will you not be accepted? But if  
you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at  
your door; it desires to have you, but you must  
rule over it.’

<sup>8</sup> Now Cain said to his brother Abel, ‘Let’s go  
out to the field.’<sup>d</sup> While they were in the field,  
Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, ‘Where is your  
brother Abel?’

‘I don’t know,’ he replied. ‘Am I my brother’s  
keeper?’

<sup>10</sup> The LORD said, ‘What have you done? Listen!  
Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the  
ground. <sup>11</sup> Now you are under a curse and driven  
from the ground, which opened its mouth to  
receive your brother’s blood from your hand.

<sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it will no longer  
yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wander-  
er on the earth.’

<sup>13</sup> Cain said to the LORD, ‘My punishment is  
more than I can bear. <sup>14</sup> Today you are driving  
me from the land, and I will be hidden from  
your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on  
the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.’

<sup>15</sup> But the LORD said to him, ‘Not so;<sup>e</sup> anyone  
who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times  
over.’ Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that  
no one who found him would kill him. <sup>16</sup> So Cain  
went out from the LORD’s presence and lived in  
the land of Nod,<sup>f</sup> east of Eden.

<sup>17</sup> Cain made love to his wife, and she became  
pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then  
building a city, and he named it after his son  
Enoch. <sup>18</sup> To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was  
the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the  
father of Methushael, and Methushael was the  
father of Lamech.

<sup>19</sup> Lamech married two women, one named  
Adah and the other Zillah. <sup>20</sup> Adah gave birth to  
Jabal; he was the father of those who live in  
tents and raise livestock. <sup>21</sup> His brother’s name  
was Jubal; he was the father of all who play  
stringed instruments and pipes. <sup>22</sup> Zillah also  
had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds

<sup>a</sup> 15 Or seed

<sup>b</sup> 15 Or strike

<sup>c</sup> 20 Or The man

<sup>d</sup> 20 Eve probably means living.

<sup>e</sup> 24 Or placed in front

<sup>a</sup> 1 Or The man

<sup>b</sup> 1 Cain sounds like the Hebrew for brought forth or acquired.

<sup>c</sup> 1 Or have acquired

<sup>d</sup> 8 Samaritan Pentateuch, Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac;  
Masoretic Text does not have ‘Let’s go out to the field.’

<sup>e</sup> 15 Septuagint, Vulgate and Syriac; Hebrew Very well

<sup>f</sup> 16 Nod means wandering (see verses 12 and 14).

of tools out of bronze and iron. Tubal-Cain's sister was Naamah.

<sup>23</sup>Lamech said to his wives,

'Adah and Zillah, listen to me;  
wives of Lamech, hear my words.  
I have killed a man for wounding me,  
a young man for injuring me.

<sup>24</sup>If Cain is avenged seven times,  
then Lamech seventy-seven times.'

<sup>25</sup>Adam made love to his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth,<sup>h</sup> saying, 'God has granted me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him.'<sup>26</sup>Seth also had a son, and he named him Enosh.

At that time people began to call on<sup>i</sup> the name of the LORD.

### From Adam to Noah

**5** This is the written account of Adam's family line.

When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God.<sup>2</sup> He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them 'Mankind'<sup>a</sup> when they were created.

<sup>3</sup>When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth.<sup>4</sup>After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>5</sup>Altogether, Adam lived a total of 930 years, and then he died.

<sup>6</sup>When Seth had lived 105 years, he became the father<sup>b</sup> of Enosh.<sup>7</sup>After he became the father of Enosh, Seth lived 807 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>8</sup>Altogether, Seth lived a total of 912 years, and then he died.

<sup>9</sup>When Enosh had lived 90 years, he became the father of Kenan.<sup>10</sup>After he became the father of Kenan, Enosh lived 815 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>11</sup>Altogether, Enosh lived a total of 905 years, and then he died.

<sup>12</sup>When Kenan had lived 70 years, he became the father of Mahalalel.<sup>13</sup>After he became the father of Mahalalel, Kenan lived 840 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>14</sup>Altogether, Kenan lived a total of 910 years, and then he died.

<sup>15</sup>When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he became the father of Jared.<sup>16</sup>After he became the father of Jared, Mahalalel lived 830 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>17</sup>Altogether, Mahalalel lived a total of 895 years, and then he died.

<sup>18</sup>When Jared had lived 162 years, he became the father of Enoch.<sup>19</sup>After he became the father of Enoch, Jared lived 800 years and had

other sons and daughters.<sup>20</sup>Altogether, Jared lived a total of 962 years, and then he died.

<sup>21</sup>When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah.<sup>22</sup>After he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>23</sup>Altogether, Enoch lived a total of 365 years.<sup>24</sup>Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

<sup>25</sup>When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech.<sup>26</sup>After he became the father of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>27</sup>Altogether, Methuselah lived a total of 969 years, and then he died.

<sup>28</sup>When Lamech had lived 182 years, he had a son.<sup>29</sup>He named him Noah<sup>c</sup> and said, 'He will comfort us in the labour and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed.'<sup>30</sup>After Noah was born, Lamech lived 595 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>31</sup>Altogether, Lamech lived a total of 777 years, and then he died.

<sup>32</sup>After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth.

### Wickedness in the world

**6** When human beings began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them,<sup>2</sup>the sons of God saw that the daughters of humans were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose.<sup>3</sup>Then the LORD said, 'My Spirit will not contend with<sup>a</sup> humans for ever, for they are mortal;<sup>b</sup> their days will be a hundred and twenty years.'

<sup>4</sup>The Nephilim were on the earth in those days – and also afterwards – when the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.

<sup>5</sup>The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time.<sup>6</sup>The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled.<sup>7</sup>So the LORD said, 'I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created – and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground – for I regret that I have made them.'<sup>8</sup>But Noah found favour in the eyes of the LORD.

### Noah and the flood

<sup>9</sup>This is the account of Noah and his family.

Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully

g 22 Or who instructed all who work in

h 25 Seth probably means granted.

i 26 Or to proclaim

a 2 Hebrew adam

b 6 Father may mean ancestor; also in verses 7-26.

c 29 Noah sounds like the Hebrew for comfort.

a 3 Or My spirit will not remain in

b 3 Or corrupt

with God. <sup>10</sup>Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth.

<sup>11</sup>Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. <sup>12</sup>God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. <sup>13</sup>So God said to Noah, 'I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. <sup>14</sup>So make yourself an ark of cypress-wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. <sup>15</sup>This is how you are to build it: the ark is to be three hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide and thirty cubits high. <sup>d</sup> <sup>16</sup>Make a roof for it, leaving below the roof an opening one cubite high all around. <sup>f</sup> Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. <sup>17</sup>I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. <sup>18</sup>But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark – you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. <sup>19</sup>You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. <sup>20</sup>Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. <sup>21</sup>You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them.'

<sup>22</sup>Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

**7** The LORD then said to Noah, 'Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. <sup>2</sup>Take with you seven pairs of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and one pair of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, <sup>3</sup>and also seven pairs of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. <sup>4</sup>Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made.'

<sup>5</sup>And Noah did all that the LORD commanded him.

<sup>6</sup>Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters came on the earth. <sup>7</sup>And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood. <sup>8</sup>Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, <sup>9</sup>male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. <sup>10</sup>And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.

<sup>11</sup>In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on

the seventeenth day of the second month – on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. <sup>12</sup>And rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights.

<sup>13</sup>On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. <sup>14</sup>They had with them every wild animal according to its kind, all livestock according to their kinds, every creature that moves along the ground according to its kind and every bird according to its kind, everything with wings. <sup>15</sup>Pairs of all creatures that have the breath of life in them came to Noah and entered the ark. <sup>16</sup>The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut him in.

<sup>17</sup>For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the waters increased they lifted the ark high above the earth. <sup>18</sup>The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. <sup>19</sup>They rose greatly on the earth, and all the high mountains under the entire heavens were covered. <sup>20</sup>The waters rose and covered the mountains to a depth of more than fifteen cubits. <sup>a,b</sup> <sup>21</sup>Every living thing that moved on land perished – birds, livestock, wild animals, all the creatures that swarm over the earth, and all mankind. <sup>22</sup>Everything on dry land that had the breath of life in its nostrils died. <sup>23</sup>Every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out; people and animals and the creatures that move along the ground and the birds were wiped from the earth. <sup>24</sup>Noah was left, and those with him in the ark.

<sup>24</sup>The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

**8** But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and the livestock that were with him in the ark, and he sent a wind over the earth, and the waters receded. <sup>2</sup>Now the springs of the deep and the floodgates of the heavens had been closed, and the rain had stopped falling from the sky. <sup>3</sup>The water receded steadily from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the water had gone down, <sup>4</sup>and on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. <sup>5</sup>The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible.

<sup>6</sup>After forty days Noah opened a window he had made in the ark <sup>7</sup>and sent out a raven, and it kept flying back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the ground. <sup>9</sup>But the dove could find nowhere to perch because there was water

c 14 The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

d 15 That is, about 135 metres long, 23 metres wide and 14 metres high

e 16 That is, about 45 centimetres

f 16 The meaning of the Hebrew for this clause is uncertain.

a 20 That is, about 6.8 metres

b 20 Or rose more than fifteen cubits, and the mountains were covered

over all the surface of the earth; so it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark. <sup>10</sup>He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. <sup>11</sup>When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the water had receded from the earth. <sup>12</sup>He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him.

<sup>13</sup>By the first day of the first month of Noah's six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry. <sup>14</sup>By the twenty-seventh day of the second month the earth was completely dry.

<sup>15</sup>Then God said to Noah, <sup>16</sup>'Come out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and their wives. <sup>17</sup>Bring out every kind of living creature that is with you – the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground – so they can multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number on it.'

<sup>18</sup>So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. <sup>19</sup>All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds – everything that moves on land – came out of the ark, one kind after another.

<sup>20</sup>Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. <sup>21</sup>The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: 'Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though<sup>a</sup> every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

<sup>22</sup>'As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.'

### God's covenant with Noah

**9**Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth. <sup>2</sup>The fear and dread of you will fall on all the beasts of the earth, and on all the birds in the sky, on every creature that moves along the ground, and on all the fish in the sea; they are given into your hands. <sup>3</sup>Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.

<sup>4</sup>'But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it. <sup>5</sup>And for your lifeblood I will

surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each human being, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of another human being.

<sup>6</sup>'Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind.

<sup>7</sup>As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it.'

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: <sup>9</sup>'I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that was with you – the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you – every living creature on earth. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you: never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.'

<sup>12</sup>And God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: <sup>13</sup>I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. <sup>16</sup>Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.'

<sup>17</sup>So God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.'

### The sons of Noah

<sup>18</sup>The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) <sup>19</sup>These were the three sons of Noah, and from them came the people who were scattered over the whole earth.

<sup>20</sup>Noah, a man of the soil, proceeded<sup>a</sup> to plant a vineyard. <sup>21</sup>When he drank some of its wine, he became drunk and lay uncovered inside his tent. <sup>22</sup>Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father naked and told his two brothers outside. <sup>23</sup>But Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it across their shoulders; then they walked in backwards and covered their father's naked body. Their faces were turned the other way so that they would not see their father naked.

<sup>24</sup>When Noah awoke from his wine and found out what his youngest son had done to him, <sup>25</sup>he said,

<sup>a</sup> 21 Or humans, for

<sup>a</sup> 20 Or soil, was the first



'Cursed be Canaan!  
The lowest of slaves  
will he be to his brothers.'

<sup>26</sup> He also said,

'Praise be to the LORD, the God of Shem!  
May Canaan be the slave of Shem.  
<sup>27</sup> May God extend Japheth's<sup>b</sup> territory;  
may Japheth live in the tents of Shem,  
and may Canaan be the slave of Japheth.'

<sup>28</sup> After the flood Noah lived 350 years. <sup>29</sup> Noah lived a total of 950 years, and then he died.

### The table of nations

**10** This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, Noah's sons, who themselves had sons after the flood.

#### The Japhethites

<sup>2</sup> The sons<sup>a</sup> of Japheth:

Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshek and Tiras.

<sup>3</sup> The sons of Gomer:

Ashkenaz, Riphath and Togarmah.

<sup>4</sup> The sons of Javan:

Elishah, Tarshish, the Kittites and the Rodanites.<sup>b</sup> <sup>5</sup> (From these the maritime peoples spread out into their territories by their clans within their nations, each with its own language.)

#### The Hamites

<sup>6</sup> The sons of Ham:

Cush, Egypt, Put and Canaan.

<sup>7</sup> The sons of Cush:

Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah and Sabteka.

The sons of Raamah:

Sheba and Dedan.

<sup>8</sup> Cush was the father<sup>c</sup> of Nimrod, who became a mighty warrior on the earth. <sup>9</sup> He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; that is why it is said, 'Like Nimrod, a mighty hunter before the LORD.'<sup>d</sup> <sup>10</sup> The first centres of his kingdom were Babylon, Uruk, Akkad and Kalneh, in<sup>e</sup> Shinar. <sup>11</sup> From that land he went to Assyria, where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir,<sup>f</sup> Calah<sup>12</sup> and Resen, which is between Nineveh and Calah – which is the great city.

*b* 27 Japheth sounds like the Hebrew for extend.

*a* 2 Sons may mean descendants or successors or nations; also in verses 3, 4, 6, 7, 20-23, 29 and 31.

*b* 4 Some manuscripts of the Masoretic Text and Samaritan Pentateuch (see also Septuagint and 1 Chron. 1:7); most manuscripts of the Masoretic Text Dodanites

*c* 8 Father may mean ancestor or predecessor or founder; also in verses 13, 15, 24 and 26.

*d* 10 Or Uruk and Akkad – all of them in

*e* 10 That is, Babylonia

*f* 11 Or Nineveh with its city squares

<sup>13</sup> Egypt was the father of the Ludites, Anamites, Lehabites, Naphthuhites, <sup>14</sup> Pathrusites, Kasluhites (from whom the Philistines came) and Caphortites.

<sup>15</sup> Canaan was the father of

Sidon his firstborn,<sup>g</sup> and of the Hittites, <sup>16</sup> Jebusites, Amorites, Girgashites, <sup>17</sup> Hivites, Arkites, Sinites, <sup>18</sup> Arvadites, Zemarites and Hamathites.

Later the Canaanite clans scattered <sup>19</sup> and the borders of Canaan reached from Sidon towards Gerar as far as Gaza, and then towards Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboyim, as far as Lasha.

<sup>20</sup> These are the sons of Ham by their clans and languages, in their territories and nations.

#### The Semites

<sup>21</sup> Sons were also born to Shem, whose elder brother was<sup>h</sup> Japheth; Shem was the ancestor of all the sons of Eber.

<sup>22</sup> The sons of Shem:

Elam, Ashur, Arphaxad, Lud and Aram.

<sup>23</sup> The sons of Aram:

Uz, Hul, Gether and Meshek.<sup>i</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Arphaxad was the father of Shelah,

and Shelah the father of Eber.

<sup>25</sup> Two sons were born to Eber:

One was named Peleg,<sup>k</sup> because in his time the earth was divided; his brother was named Joktan.

<sup>26</sup> Joktan was the father of

Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, <sup>27</sup> Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, <sup>28</sup> Obal, Abimael, Sheba, <sup>29</sup> Ophir, Havilah and Jobab. All these were sons of Joktan.

<sup>30</sup> The region where they lived stretched from Mesha towards Sephar, in the eastern hill country.

<sup>31</sup> These are the sons of Shem by their clans and languages, in their territories and nations.

<sup>32</sup> These are the clans of Noah's sons, according to their lines of descent, within their nations. From these the nations spread out over the earth after the flood.

#### The tower of Babel

**11** Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. <sup>2</sup> As people moved eastward,<sup>a</sup> they found a plain in Shinar<sup>b</sup> and settled there.

*g* 15 Or of the Sidonians, the foremost

*h* 21 Or Shem, the elder brother of

*i* 23 See Septuagint and 1 Chron. 1:17; Hebrew Mash.

*j* 24 Hebrew; Septuagint father of Cainan, and Cainan was the father of

*k* 25 Peleg means division.

*a* 2 Or from the east; or in the east

*b* 2 That is, Babylonia

<sup>3</sup>They said to each other, 'Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly.' They used brick instead of stone, and bitumen for mortar. <sup>4</sup>Then they said, 'Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.'

<sup>5</sup>But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. <sup>6</sup>The LORD said, 'If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup>Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.'

<sup>8</sup>So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. <sup>9</sup>That is why it was called Babel<sup>c</sup> – because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

### From Shem to Abram

<sup>10</sup>This is the account of Shem's family line.

Two years after the flood, when Shem was 100 years old, he became the father<sup>d</sup> of Arphaxad. <sup>11</sup>And after he became the father of Arphaxad, Shem lived 500 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>12</sup>When Arphaxad had lived 35 years, he became the father of Shelah. <sup>13</sup>And after he became the father of Shelah, Arphaxad lived 403 years and had other sons and daughters.<sup>e</sup>

<sup>14</sup>When Shelah had lived 30 years, he became the father of Eber. <sup>15</sup>And after he became the father of Eber, Shelah lived 403 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>16</sup>When Eber had lived 34 years, he became the father of Peleg. <sup>17</sup>And after he became the father of Peleg, Eber lived 430 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>18</sup>When Peleg had lived 30 years, he became the father of Reu. <sup>19</sup>And after he became the father of Reu, Peleg lived 209 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>20</sup>When Reu had lived 32 years, he became the father of Serug. <sup>21</sup>And after he became the father of Serug, Reu lived 207 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>22</sup>When Serug had lived 30 years, he became the father of Nahor. <sup>23</sup>And after he became the father of Nahor, Serug lived 200 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>24</sup>When Nahor had lived 29 years, he became

the father of Terah. <sup>25</sup>And after he became the father of Terah, Nahor lived 119 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>26</sup>After Terah had lived 70 years, he became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran.

### Abram's family

<sup>27</sup>This is the account of Terah's family line.

Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran. And Haran became the father of Lot.

<sup>28</sup>While his father Terah was still alive, Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, in the land of his birth. <sup>29</sup>Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milkah; she was the daughter of Haran, the father of both Milkah and Iskah. <sup>30</sup>Now Sarai was childless because she was not able to conceive.

<sup>31</sup>Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Harran, they settled there.

<sup>32</sup>Terah lived 205 years, and he died in Harran.

### The call of Abram

**12** The LORD had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.'

<sup>2</sup>I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.<sup>b</sup>

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. <sup>5</sup>He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

<sup>6</sup>Abram travelled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>The LORD appeared to Abram and said, 'To your offspring<sup>c</sup> I will give this land.' So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

<sup>8</sup>From there he went on towards the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

<sup>c</sup> 9 That is, Babylon; Babel sounds like the Hebrew for confused.

<sup>d</sup> 10 Father may mean ancestor; also in verses 11-25.

<sup>e</sup> 12, 13 Hebrew; Septuagint (see also Luke 3:35, 36 and note at Gen. 10:24) 35 years, he became the father of Cainan. <sup>13</sup>And after he became the father of Cainan, Arphaxad lived 430 years and had other sons and daughters, and then he died. When Cainan had lived 130 years, he became the father of Shelah. And after he became the father of Shelah, Cainan lived 330 years and had other sons and daughters

<sup>a</sup> 2 Or be seen as blessed

<sup>b</sup> 3 Or earth / will use your name in blessings (see 48:20)

<sup>c</sup> 7 Or seed



<sup>9</sup>Then Abram set out and continued towards the Negev.

### Abram in Egypt

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. <sup>11</sup>As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, 'I know what a beautiful woman you are. <sup>12</sup>When the Egyptians see you, they will say, "This is his wife." Then they will kill me but will let you live. <sup>13</sup>Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.'

<sup>14</sup>When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that Sarai was a very beautiful woman. <sup>15</sup>And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace. <sup>16</sup>He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels.

<sup>17</sup>But the LORD inflicted serious diseases on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram's wife Sarai. <sup>18</sup>So Pharaoh summoned Abram. 'What have you done to me?' he said. 'Why didn't you tell me she was your wife?' <sup>19</sup>Why did you say, "She is my sister," so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!' <sup>20</sup>Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.

### Abram and Lot separate

**13** So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. <sup>2</sup>Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.

<sup>3</sup>From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier <sup>4</sup>and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the LORD.

<sup>5</sup>Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. <sup>6</sup>But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. <sup>7</sup>And quarrelling arose between Abram's herdsmen and Lot's. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time.

<sup>8</sup>So Abram said to Lot, 'Let's not have any quarrelling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and mine, for we are close relatives. <sup>9</sup>Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left.'

<sup>10</sup>Lot looked around and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan towards Zoar was well watered, like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) <sup>11</sup>So Lot chose

for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out towards the east. The two men parted company: <sup>12</sup>Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom. <sup>13</sup>Now the people of Sodom were wicked and were sinning greatly against the LORD.

<sup>14</sup>The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, 'Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. <sup>15</sup>All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring<sup>a</sup> for ever. <sup>16</sup>I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. <sup>17</sup>Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you.'

<sup>18</sup>So Abram went to live near the great trees of Mamre at Hebron, where he pitched his tents. There he built an altar to the LORD.

### Abram rescues Lot

**14** At the time when Amraphel was king of Shinar,<sup>a</sup> Arioch king of Ellasar, Kedorlaomer king of Elam and Tidal king of Goyim, <sup>2</sup>these kings went to war against Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboyim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar). <sup>3</sup>All these latter kings joined forces in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Dead Sea Valley). <sup>4</sup>For twelve years they had been subject to Kedorlaomer, but in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

<sup>5</sup>In the fourteenth year, Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him went out and defeated the Rephaites in Ashteroth Karnaim, the Zuzites in Ham, the Emites in Shaveh Kiriathaim <sup>6</sup>and the Horites in the hill country of Seir, as far as El Paran near the desert. <sup>7</sup>Then they turned back and went to En Mishpat (that is, Kadesh), and they conquered the whole territory of the Amalekites, as well as the Amorites who were living in Hazezon Tamar.

<sup>8</sup>Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboyim and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) marched out and drew up their battle lines in the Valley of Siddim <sup>9</sup>against Kedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of Goyim, Amraphel king of Shinar and Arioch king of Ellasar – four kings against five. <sup>10</sup>Now the Valley of Siddim was full of tar pits, and when the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, some of the men fell into them and the rest fled to the hills. <sup>11</sup>The four kings seized all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food; then they went away. <sup>12</sup>They also carried off Abram's nephew Lot and his possessions, since he was living in Sodom.

<sup>13</sup>A man who had escaped came and reported this to Abram the Hebrew. Now Abram was living

<sup>a</sup> 15 Or seed; also in verse 16

<sup>a</sup> 1 That is, Babylonia; also in verse 9

near the great trees of Mamre the Amorite, a brother<sup>b</sup> of Eshkol and Aner, all of whom were allied with Abram. <sup>14</sup>When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he called out the 318 trained men born in his household and went in pursuit as far as Dan. <sup>15</sup>During the night Abram divided his men to attack them and he routed them, pursuing them as far as Hobah, north of Damascus. <sup>16</sup>He recovered all the goods and brought back his relative Lot and his possessions, together with the women and the other people.

<sup>17</sup>After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).

<sup>18</sup>Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, <sup>19</sup>and he blessed Abram, saying,

'Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
Creator of heaven and earth.

<sup>20</sup>And praise be to God Most High,  
who delivered your enemies into your  
hand.'

Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

<sup>21</sup>The king of Sodom said to Abram, 'Give me the people and keep the goods for yourself.'

<sup>22</sup>But Abram said to the king of Sodom, 'With raised hand I have sworn an oath to the LORD, God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, <sup>23</sup>that I will accept nothing belonging to you, not even a thread or the strap of a sandal, so that you will never be able to say, "I made Abram rich." <sup>24</sup>I will accept nothing but what my men have eaten and the share that belongs to the men who went with me – to Aner, Eshkol and Mamre. Let them have their share.'

### The LORD's covenant with Abram

**15** After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

'Do not be afraid, Abram.  
I am your shield,<sup>a</sup>  
your very great reward.'<sup>b</sup>

<sup>2</sup>But Abram said, 'Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit<sup>c</sup> my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?' <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, 'You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.'

<sup>4</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to him: 'This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.'<sup>5</sup> He took him outside and said, 'Look up at the

sky and count the stars – if indeed you can count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your offspring<sup>d</sup> be.'

<sup>6</sup>Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup>He also said to him, 'I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.'

<sup>8</sup>But Abram said, 'Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I shall gain possession of it?'

<sup>9</sup>So the LORD said to him, 'Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.'

<sup>10</sup>Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.

<sup>11</sup>Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup>As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD said to him, 'Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and ill-treated there. <sup>14</sup>But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterwards they will come out with great possessions. <sup>15</sup>You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. <sup>16</sup>In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.'

<sup>17</sup>When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking brazier with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces.

<sup>18</sup>On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi<sup>e</sup> of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates – <sup>19</sup>the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, <sup>20</sup>Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, <sup>21</sup>Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites.'

### Hagar and Ishmael

**16** Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; <sup>2</sup>so she said to Abram, 'The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her.'

Abram agreed to what Sarai said. <sup>3</sup>So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. <sup>4</sup>He slept with Hagar, and she conceived.

When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. <sup>5</sup>Then Sarai said to Abram, 'You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my slave in your arms, and now

<sup>b</sup> 13 Or a relative; or an ally

<sup>a</sup> 1 Or sovereign

<sup>b</sup> 1 Or shield; / your reward will be very great

<sup>c</sup> 2 The meaning of the Hebrew for this phrase is uncertain.

<sup>d</sup> 5 Or seed

<sup>e</sup> 18 Or river