

TOVIYAHU

The Book of ToviYahu

1 The book of the words of ToviYahu, son of ToviY'el, the son of AnaniY'el, the son of Ad'u'el, the son of Gavay'el, of the seed of Asael, of the tribe of NephtaliY; ² Who in the time of Enemessar king of Ashshur was led captive out of Thisbe, which is at the right hand of that city, which is called properly NephtaliY in Galilee above Aser.

ToviYahu's Youth and Virtuous Life

³ I ToviYahu have walked all the days of my life in the ways of truth and justice, and I did many alms deeds to my brethren, and my nation, who came with me to Niyneveh, into the land of Ashshur. ⁴ And when I was in mine own country, in the land of Yashar'el being but young, all the tribe of NephtaliY my father fell from the house of Yerushalayim, which was chosen out of all the tribes of Yashar'el, that all the tribes should sacrifice there, where the temple of the habitation of the most High was consecrated and built for all ages.

⁵ Now all the tribes which together revolted, and the house of my father NephtaliY, sacrificed unto the heifer Ba'al. ⁶ But I alone went often to Yerushalayim at the feasts, as it was ordained unto all the people of Yashar'el by an everlasting decree, having the first fruits and tenths of increase, with that which was first shorn; and them gave I at the altar to the priests the children of Aharon. ⁷ The first tenth part of all increase I gave to the sons of Aharon, who ministered at Yerushalayim: another tenth part I sold away, and went, and spent it every year at Yerushalayim: ⁸ And the third I gave unto them to whom it was meet, as Deborah my father's mother had commanded me, because I was left an orphan by my father. ⁹ Furthermore, when I was come to the age of a man, I married Channah of mine own kindred, and of her I begat ToviYahu.

Taken Captive to Niyneveh

¹⁰ And when we were carried away captives to Niyneveh, all my brethren and those that were of my kindred did eat of the bread of the other

nations. ¹¹ But I kept myself from eating; ¹² Because I remembered ALAHAYAM with all my heart. ¹³ And the Most High gave me grace and favor before Enemessar, so that I was his purveyor. ¹⁴ And I went into Madai, and left in trust with Gavay'el, the brother of Gabrias, at Rages a city of Madai ten talents of silver. ¹⁵ Now when Enemessar was dead, Cancheriyv his son reigned in his stead; whose estate was troubled, that I could not go into Madai.

Courage in Burying the Dead

¹⁶ And in the time of Enemessar I gave many alms to my brethren, and gave my bread to the hungry, ¹⁷ And my clothes to the naked: and if I saw any of my nation dead, or cast about the walls of Niyneveh, I buried him. ¹⁸ And if the king Cancheriyv had slain any, when he was come, and fled from Yahudah, I buried them privily; for in his wrath he killed many; but the bodies were not found, when they were sought for of the king. ¹⁹ And when one of the Ninevites went and complained of me to the king, that I buried them, and hid myself; understanding that I was sought for to be put to death, I withdrew myself for fear. ²⁰ Then all my goods were forcibly taken away, neither was there anything left me, beside my wife Channah and my son Toviyaahu.

²¹ And there passed not five and fifty days, before two of his sons killed him, and they fled into the mountains of Ararat; and Ecar-Chaddon his son reigned in his stead; who appointed over his father's accounts, and over all his affairs, Achiacharus my brother Anael's son. ²² And Achiacharus entreating for me, I returned to Niyneveh. Now Achiacharus was cup bearer, and keeper of the signet, and steward, and overseer of the accounts: and Ecar-Chaddon appointed him next unto him: and he was my brother's son.

2 Now when I came home again, and my wife Channah was restored unto me, with my son Toviyaahu, in the feast of Shavu'oth, which is the holy feast of the seven weeks, there was a good dinner prepared for me, in the which I sat down to eat. ² And when I saw abundance of meat, I said to my son, Go and bring what poor man soever you shalt find out of our brethren, who is mindful of the YAHUAHA; and, lo, I tarry for thee. ³ But he came again, and said, Father, one of our nation is strangled, and is cast out in the marketplace. ⁴ Then before I had tasted any meat, I started up, and took him up into a room until the going down of the sun. ⁵ Then I returned, and washed myself, and ate my meat in heaviness,

⁶ Remembering that prophecy of Amoc, as he said, Your feasts shall be turned into mourning, and all your mirth into lamentation.

Toviyabu Becomes Blind

⁷ Therefore I wept: and after the going down of the sun I went and made a grave and buried him. ⁸ But my neighbors mocked me, and said, This man is not yet afraid to be put to death for this matter: who fled away; and yet, lo, he buries the dead again. ⁹ The same night also I returned from the burial, and slept by the wall of my courtyard, being polluted and my face was uncovered: ¹⁰ And I knew not that there were sparrows in the wall, and mine eyes being open, the sparrows muted warm dung into mine eyes, and a whiteness came in mine eyes: and I went to the physicians, but they helped me not: moreover Achiacharus did nourish me, until I went into Elymais.

Toviyabu's Wife Earns Their Livelihood

¹¹ And my wife Channah did take women's work to do. ¹² And when she had sent them home to the owners, they paid her wages, and gave her also besides a kid. ¹³ And when it was in my house, and began to cry, I said unto her, From whence is this kid? is it not stolen? render it to the owners; for it is not lawful to eat anything that is stolen. ¹⁴ But she replied upon me, It was given for a gift more than the wages. Howbeit I did not believe her but bade her render it to the owners: and I was abashed at her. But she replied upon me, Where are thine alms and your righteous deeds? behold, you and all your works are known.

3 Then I being grieved did weep, and in my sorrow prayed, saying, ² O YAHUAHA, you are just, and all your works and all your ways are mercy and truth, and you judge truly and justly forever. ³ Remember me, and look on me, punish me not for my sins and ignorance, and the sins of mg fathers, who have sinned before thee: ⁴ For they obeyed not your commandments: wherefore you hast delivered us for a spoil, and unto captivity, and unto death, and for a proverb of reproach to all the nations among whom we are dispersed. ⁵ And now your judgments are many and true: deal with me according to my sins and my fathers': because we have not kept your commandments, neither have walked in truth before thee.

⁶ Now therefore deal with me as seems best unto thee, and command my spirit to be taken from me, that I may be dissolved, and become earth: for it is profitable for me to die rather than to live, because I have heard false reproaches, and have much sorrow: command therefore that I may now

be delivered out of this distress, and go into the everlasting place: turn not your face away from me.

Sarah Falsely Accused

⁷ It came to pass the same day, that in Ecbatane a city of Madai Sara the daughter of Re'u'el was also reproached by her father's maids; ⁸ Because that she had been married to seven husbands, whom Asmodeus the evil spirit had killed, before they had lain with her. Do you not know, said they, that you hast strangled thine husbands? you hast had already seven husbands, neither were you named after any of them. ⁹ Wherefore dost you beat us for them? if they are dead, go your ways after them, let us never see of thee, either son or daughter.

Sarah's Prayer for Death

¹⁰ When she heard these things, she was very sorrowful, so that she thought to have strangled herself; and she said, I am the only daughter of my father, and if I do this, it shall be a reproach unto him, and I shall bring his old age with sorrow unto the grave. ¹¹ Then she prayed toward the window, and said,

Blessed are you, O YAHUAHA Alahai, and thine holy and glorious name is blessed and honorable forever: let all your works praise thee forever. ¹² And now, O YAHUAHA, I set I mine eyes and my face toward thee, ¹³ And say, Take me out of the earth, that I may hear no more the reproach. ¹⁴ You knowest, Adonai, that I am pure from all sin with man, ¹⁵ And that I never polluted my name, nor the name of my father, in the land of my captivity: I am the only daughter of my father, neither hath he any child to be his heir, neither any near kinsman, nor any son of his alive, to whom I may keep myself for a wife: my seven husbands are already dead; and why should I live? but if it please not thee that I should die, command some regard to be had of me, and pity taken of me, that I hear no more reproach.

An Answer to Prayer

¹⁶ So the prayers of them both were heard before the majesty of the great ALAHAYAM. ¹⁷ And Rapha'el was sent to heal them both, that is, to scale away the whiteness of Toviyahu's eyes, and to give Sara the daughter of Re'u'el for a wife to Toviyahu the son of Toviyahu; and to bind Asmodeus the evil spirit; because she belonged to Toviyahu by right of inheritance.

The selfsame time came Toviyaahu home, and entered into his house, and Sara the daughter of Re'u'el came down from her upper chamber.

Toviyaahu Gives Instructions to His Son

4 In that day Toviyaahu remembered the money which he had committed to Gavay'el in Rages of Madai, ² And said with himself, I have wished for death; wherefore do I not call for my son Toviyaahu that I may signify to him of the money before I die? ³ And when he had called him, he said, My son, when I am dead, bury me; and despise not your mother, but honor her all the days of your life, and do that which shall please her, and grieve her not. ⁴ Remember, my son, that she saw many dangers for thee, when you were in her womb: and when she is dead, bury her by me in one grave.

⁵ My son, be mindful of the Adonai Alahayu all your days, and let not your will be set to sin, or to transgress his commandments: do uprightly all your life long and follow not the ways of unrighteousness. ⁶ For if you deal truly, your doings shall prosperously succeed to thee, and to all of them that live justly. ⁷ Give alms of your substance; and when you give alms, let not thine eye be envious, neither turn your face from any poor, and the face of ALAHAYAM shall not be turned away from thee. ⁸ If you hast abundance give alms accordingly: if you have but a little, be not afraid to give according to that little: ⁹ For you lay up a good treasure for thyself against the day of necessity. ¹⁰ Because that alms do deliver from death and suffers not to come into darkness. ¹¹ For alms is a good gift unto all that give it in the sight of Al Alayauan.

¹² Beware of all whoredom, my son, and chiefly take a wife of the seed of your fathers, and take not a strange woman to wife, which is not of your father's tribe: for we are the children of the prophets, Noe, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: remember, my son, that our fathers from the beginning, even that they all married wives of their own kindred, and were blessed in their children, and their seed shall inherit the land. ¹³ Now therefore, my son, love your brethren, and despise not in your heart your brethren, the sons and daughters of your people, in not taking a wife of them: for in pride is destruction and much trouble, and in lewdness is decay and great want: for lewdness is the mother of famine.

¹⁴ Let not the wages of any man, which hath wrought for thee, tarry with thee, but give him it out of hand: for if you serve ALAHAYAM, he will also repay thee: be circumspect my son, in all things you do, and be wise

in all your conversation. ¹⁵ Do that to no man which you hate: drink not wine to make thee drunken: neither let drunkenness go with thee in your journey. ¹⁶ Give of your bread to the hungry, and of your garments to them that are naked; and according to thine abundance give alms: and let not thine eye be envious, when you give alms. ¹⁷ Pour out your bread on the burial of the just but give nothing to the wicked. ¹⁸ Ask counsel of all that are wise and despise not any counsel that is profitable. ¹⁹ Bless the Adonai your ALAHAYAM always, and desire of him that your ways may be directed, and that all your paths and counsels may prosper: for every nation hath not counsel; but the Adonai himself giveth all good things, and he humbles whom he will, as he will; now therefore, my son, remember my commandments, neither let them be put out of your mind.

Money Left in Trust with Gavay'el

²⁰ And now I signify this to them that I committed ten talents to Gavay'el the son of Gabrias at Rages in Madai. ²¹ And fear not, my son, that we are made poor: for you hast much wealth, if you fear ALAHAYAM, and depart from all sin, and do that which is pleasing in his sight.

The Angel Rapha'el

5 Toviyahu then answered and said, Father, I will do all things which you hast commanded me: ² But how can I receive the money, seeing I know him not? ³ Then he gave him the handwriting, and said unto him, Seek thee a man which may go with thee, whiles I yet live, and I will give him wages: and go and receive the money.

⁴ Therefore when he went to seek a man, he found Rapha'el that was an angel. ⁵ But he knew not; and he said unto him, Canst you go with me to Rages? and knowest you those places well? ⁶ To whom the angel said, I will go with thee, and I know the way well: for I have lodged with our brother Gavay'el. ⁷ Then Toviyahu said unto him, Tarry for me, till I tell my father. ⁸ Then he said unto him, Go and tarry not. So he went in and said to his father, Behold, I have found one which will go with me. Then he said, Call him unto me, that I may know of what tribe he is, and whether he be a trusty man to go with thee.

⁹ So he called him, and he came in, and they saluted one another.

¹⁰ Then Toviyahu said unto him, Brother, shew me of what tribe and family you are. ¹¹ To whom he said, Do you seek for a tribe or family, or an hired man to go with your son? Then Toviyahu said unto him, I would

know, brother, your kindred and name. ¹² Then he said, I am Azarias, the son of Ananias the great, and of your brethren. ¹³ Then Toviyahu said, You are welcome, brother; be not now angry with me, because I have enquired to know your tribe and your family; for you are my brother, of an honest and good stock: for I know Ananias and Jonathas, sons of that great Samaias, as we went together to Yerushalayim to worship, and offered the firstborn, and the tenths of the fruits; and they were not seduced with the error of our brethren: my brother, you are of a good stock. ¹⁴ But tell me, what wages shall I give thee? wilt you a drachm a day, and things necessary, as to mine own son?

¹⁵ Yea, moreover, if ye return safe, I will add something to your wages. ¹⁶ So they were well pleased. Then said he to Toviyahu, Prepare thyself for the journey, and ALAHAYAM send you a good journey. And when his son had prepared all things for the journey, his father said, Go you with this man, and ALAHAYAM, which dwelleth in heaven, prosper your journey, and the angel of ALAHAYAM keep you company. So they went forth both, and the young man's dog with them. ¹⁷ But Channah his mother wept, and said to Toviyahu, Why hast you sent away our son? is he not the staff of our hand, in going in and out before us?

¹⁸ Be not greedy to add money to money: but let it be as refuse in respect of our child. ¹⁹ For that which the Adonai hath given us to live with doth suffice us. ²⁰ Then said Toviyahu to her, Take no care, my sister; he shall return in safety, and thine eyes shall see him. ²¹ For the good angel will keep him company, and his journey shall be prosperous, and he shall return safe. ²² Then she made an end of weeping.

Journey to Rages

6 And as they went on their journey, they came in the evening to the river Tigris, and they lodged there. ² And when the young man went down to wash himself, a fish leaped out of the river, and would have devoured him. ³ Then the angel said unto him, Take the fish. And the young man laid hold of the fish and drew it to land. ⁴ To whom the angel said, Open the fish, and take the heart and the liver and the gall, and put them up safely. ⁵ So the young man did as the angel commanded him; and when they had roasted the fish, they did eat it: then they both went on their way, till they drew near to Ecbatane. ⁶ Then the young man said to the angel, Brother Azarias, to what use is the heart and the liver and the gal of the fish?

⁷ And he said unto him, Touching the heart and the liver, if a devil or an evil spirit trouble any, we must make a smoke thereof before the man or the woman, and the party shall be no more vexed. ⁸ As for the gall, it is good to anoint a man that hath whiteness in his eyes, and he shall be healed.

Rapha'el's Instructions

⁹ And when they were come near to Rages, ¹⁰ The angel said to the young man, Brother, today we shall lodge with Re'u'el, who is your cousin; he also hath one only daughter, named Sara; I will speak for her, that she may be given thee for a wife. ¹¹ For to thee doth the right of her appertain, seeing you only are of her kindred. ¹² And the maid is fair and wise: now therefore hear me, and I will speak to her father; and when we return from Rages, we will celebrate the marriage: for I know that Re'u'el cannot marry her to another according to the law of Moses, but he shall be guilty of death, because the right of inheritance doth rather appertain to thee than to any other.

¹³ Then the young man answered the angel, I have heard, brother Azarias that this maid hath been given to seven men, who all died in the marriage chamber. ¹⁴ And now I am the only son of my father, and I am afraid, lest if I go in unto her, I die, as the other before: for a wicked spirit loveth her, which hurts no body, but those which come unto her; wherefore I also fear lest I die, and bring my father's and my mother's life because of me to the grave with sorrow: for they have no other son to bury them.

¹⁵ Then the angel said unto him, Do you not remember the precepts which your father gave thee, that you shouldest marry a wife of thine own kindred? wherefore hear me, O my brother; for she shall be given thee to wife; and make you no reckoning of the evil spirit; for this same night shall she be given thee in marriage. ¹⁶ And when you shalt come into the marriage chamber, you shalt take the ashes of perfume, and shalt lay upon them some of the heart and liver of the fish, and shalt make a smoke with it: ¹⁷ And the devil shall smell it, and flee away, and never come again any more: but when you shalt come to her, rise up both of you, and pray to ALAHAYAM which is merciful, who will have pity on you, and save you: fear not, for she is appointed unto thee from the beginning; and you shalt preserve her, and she shall go with thee. Moreover, I suppose that she shall bear your children. Now when Toviyahu had heard these things, he loved her, and his heart was effectually joined to her.

Arrival at Home of Re'u'el

7 And when they came to Ecbatane, they came to the house of Re'u'el, and Sara met them: and after they had saluted one another, she brought them into the house. ² Then said Re'u'el to Edna his wife, How like is this young man to Toviyahu my cousin! ³ And Re'u'el asked them, From whence are ye, brethren? To whom they said, We are of the sons of Nephthalim, which are captives in Niyneveh. ⁴ Then he said to them, Do ye know Toviyahu our kinsman? And they said, We know him. Then said he, Is he in good health? ⁵ And they said, He is both alive, and in good health: and Toviyahu said, He is my father. ⁶ Then Re'u'el leaped up, and kissed him, and wept, ⁷ And blessed him, and said unto him, You are the son of an honest and good man. But when he had heard that Toviyahu was blind, he was sorrowful, and wept. ⁸ And likewise Edna his wife and Sara his daughter wept. Moreover, they entertained them cheerfully; and after that they had killed a ram of the flock, they set store of meat on the table. Then said Toviyahu to Rapha'el, Brother Azarias, speak of those things of which you didst talk in the way, and let this business be dispatched.

Marriage of Toviyahu and Sarah

⁹ So he communicated the matter with Re'u'el: and Re'u'el said to Toviyahu, Eat and drink, and make merry: ¹⁰ For it is meet that you shouldest marry my daughter: nevertheless, I will declare unto thee the truth. ¹¹ I have given my daughter in marriage the seven men, who died that night they came in unto her: nevertheless, for the present be merry. But Toviyahu said, I will eat nothing here, till we agree and swear one to another. ¹² Re'u'el said, Then take her from henceforth according to the manner, for you are her cousin, and she is thine, and the merciful ALAHAYAM give you good success in all things. ¹³ Then he called his daughter Sara, and she came to her father, and he took her by the hand, and gave her to be wife to Toviyahu, saying, Behold, take her after the law of Moses, and lead her away to your father. And he blessed them; ¹⁴ And called Edna his wife, and took paper, and wrote an instrument of covenants, and sealed it. ¹⁵ Then they began to eat.

¹⁶ After Re'u'el called his wife Edna, and said unto her, Sister, prepare another chamber, and bring her in thither. ¹⁷ Which when she had done as he had bidden her, she brought her thither: and she wept, and she received the tears of her daughter, and said unto her, ¹⁸ Be of good

comfort, my daughter; the Adonai of heaven and earth give thee joy for this your sorrow: be of good comfort, my daughter.

Toviyahu Routs the Demon

8 And when they had supped, they brought Toviyahu in unto her. ² And as he went, he remembered the words of Rapha'el, and took the ashes of the perfumes, and put the heart and the liver of the fish thereupon and made a smoke therewith. ³ The which smell when the evil spirit had smelled, he fled into the utmost parts of Egypt, and the angel bound him.

⁴ And after that they were both shut in together, Toviyahu rose out of the bed, and said, Sister, arise, and let us pray that ALAHAYAM would have pity on us. ⁵ Then began Toviyahu to say,

Blessed are you, O ALAHAYAM of our fathers, and blessed is your holy and glorious name for ever; let the heavens bless thee, and all your creatures.

⁶ You made A'dam, and gave him Chuah his wife for an helper and stay: of them came mankind: you hast said, It is not good that man should be alone; let us make unto him an aid like unto himself.

⁷ And now, O Adonai, I take not this my sister for lush but uprightly: therefore, mercifully ordain that we may become aged together.

⁸ And she said with him, Amen.

⁹ So they slept both that night. And Re'u'el arose, and went and made a grave, ¹⁰ Saying, I fear lest he also be dead. ¹¹ But when Re'u'el came into his house, ¹² He said unto his wife Edna. Send one of the maids and let her see whether he be alive: if he be not, that we may bury him, and no man know it. ¹³ So the maid opened the door, and went in, and found them both asleep, ¹⁴ And came forth, and told them that he was alive.

¹⁵ Then Re'u'el praised ALAHAYAM, and said, O ALAHAYAM, you are worthy to be praised with all pure and holy praise; therefore, let your saints praise thee with all your creatures; and let all thine angels and thine elect praise thee forever.

¹⁶ You are to be praised, for you hast made me joyful; and that is not come to me which I suspected; but you hast dealt with us according to your great mercy.

¹⁷ You are to be praised because you hast had mercy of two that were the only begotten children of their fathers: grant them mercy, O Adonai, and finish their life in health with joy and mercy.

¹⁸ Then Re'u'el bade his servants to fill the grave.

Wedding Feast

¹⁹ And he kept the wedding feast fourteen days. ²⁰ For before the days of the marriage were finished, Re'u'el had said unto him by an oath, that he should not depart till the fourteen days of the marriage were expired; ²¹ And then he should take the half of his goods and go in safety to his father; and should have the rest when I and my wife be dead.

9 Then Toviyahu called Rapha'el, and said unto him, ² Brother Azarias, take with thee a servant, and two camels, and go to Rages of Madai to Gavay'el, and bring me the money, and bring him to the wedding. ³ For Re'u'el hath sworn that I shall not depart. ⁴ But my father counts the days; and if I tarry long, he will be very sorry. ⁵ So Rapha'el went out, and lodged with Gavay'el, and gave him the handwriting; who brought forth bags which were sealed up and gave them to him. ⁶ And early in the morning they went forth both together and came to the wedding: and Toviyahu blessed his wife.

10 Now Toviyahu his father counted every day: and when the days of the journey were expired, and they came not, ² Then Toviyahu said, Are they detained? or is Gavay'el dead, and there is no man to give him the money? ³ Therefore he was very sorry. ⁴ Then his wife said unto him, My son is dead, seeing he stays long; and she began to wail him, and said, ⁵ Now I care for nothing, my son, since I have let thee go, the light of mine eyes. ⁶ To whom Toviyahu said, Hold your peace, take no care, for he is safe. ⁷ But she said, Hold your peace, and deceive me not; my son is dead. And she went out every day into the way which they went, and did eat no meat on the daytime, and ceased not whole nights to bewail her son Toviyahu, until the fourteen days of the wedding were expired, which Re'u'el had sworn that he should spend there.

Toviyahu and Sarah Start for Home

Then Toviyahu said to Re'u'el, Let me go, for my father and my mother look no more to see me. ⁸ But his father-in-law said unto him, Tarry with me, and I will send to your father, and they shall declare unto him how things go with thee. ⁹ But Toviyahu said, No; but let me go to my

father. ¹⁰ Then Re'u'el arose, and gave him Sara his wife, and half his goods, servants, and cattle, and money: ¹¹ And he blessed them, and sent them away, saying, The ALAHAYAM of heaven give you a prosperous journey, my children. ¹² And he said to his daughter, Honor your father and your mother-in-law, which are now your parents, that I may hear good report of thee. And he kissed her. Edna also said to Toviyaahu, YAHAUAHA of heaven restore thee, my dear brother, and grant that I may see your children of my daughter Sara before I die, that I may rejoice before the Adonai: behold, I commit my daughter unto thee of special trust, where are do not entreat her evil.

Homeward Journey

11 After these things Toviyaahu went his way, praising ALAHAYAM that he had given him a prosperous journey, and blessed Re'u'el and Edna his wife, and went on his way till they drew near unto Niyneveh. ² Then Rapha'el said to Toviyaahu, You knowest, brother, how you didst leave your father: ³ Let us haste before your wife and prepare the house. ⁴ And take in thine hand the gall of the fish. So, they went their way, and the dog went after them.

⁵ Now Channah sat looking about toward the way for her son. ⁶ And when she espied him coming, she said to his father, Behold, your son cometh, and the man that went with him.

Toviyaahu's Sight Restored

⁷ Then said Rapha'el, I know, Toviyaahu, that your father will open his eyes. ⁸ Therefore anoint you his eyes with the gall, and being pricked therewith, he shall rub, and the whiteness shall fall away, and he shall see thee.

⁹ Then Channah ran forth, and fell upon the neck of her son, and said unto him, Seeing I have seen thee, my son, from henceforth I am content to die. And they wept both. ¹⁰ Toviyaahu also went forth toward the door, and stumbled: but his son ran unto him, ¹¹ And took hold of his father: and he strake of the gall on his fathers' eyes, saying, Be of good hope, my father. ¹² And when his eyes began to smart, he rubbed them; ¹³ And the whiteness pilled away from the corners of his eyes: and when he saw his son, he fell upon his neck.

¹⁴ And he wept, and said, Blessed are you, O ALAHAYAM, and blessed is your name for ever; and blessed are all thine holy angels: ¹⁵ For you hast

scourged, and hast taken pity on me: for, behold, I see my son Toviyaahu. And his son went in rejoicing and told his father the great things that had happened to him in Madai.

¹⁶Then Toviyaahu went out to meet his daughter in law at the gate of Niyneveh, rejoicing and praising ALAHAYAM: and they which saw him go marveled, because he had received his sight. ¹⁷But Toviyaahu gave thanks before them, because ALAHAYAM had mercy on him. And when he came near to Sara his daughter in law, he blessed her, saying, You are welcome, daughter: ALAHAYAM be blessed, which hath brought thee unto us, and blessed be your father and your mother. And there was joy among all his brethren which were at Niyneveh. ¹⁸And Achiacharus, and Nasbas his brother's son, came: ¹⁹And Toviyaahu' wedding was kept seven days with great joy.

Rapha'el's Wages

12Then Toviyaahu called his son Toviyaahu, and said unto him, My son, see that the man have his wages, which went with thee, and you must give him more. ²And Toviyaahu said unto him, O father, it is no harm to me to give him half of those things which I have brought: ³For he hath brought me again to thee in safety, and made whole my wife, and brought me the money, and likewise healed thee. ⁴Then the old man said, It is due unto him. ⁵So he called the angel, and he said unto him, Take half of all that ye have brought and go away in safety.

Rapha'el's Exhortation

⁶Then he took them both apart, and said unto them, Bless ALAHAYAM, praise him, and magnify him, and praise him for the things which he hath done unto you in the sight of all that live. It is good to praise ALAHAYAM, and exalt his name, and honorably to show forth the works of ALAHAYAM; therefore, be not slack to praise him. ⁷It is good to keep close the secret of a king, but it is honorable to reveal the works of ALAHAYAM. Do that which is good, and no evil shall touch you. ⁸Prayer is good with fasting and alms and righteousness. A little with righteousness is better than much with unrighteousness. It is better to give alms than to lay up gold: ⁹For alms doth deliver from death and shall purge away all sin. Those that exercise alms and righteousness shall be filled with life: ¹⁰But they that sin are enemies to their own life.

Rapha'el Discloses His Identity

¹¹ Surely, I will keep close nothing from you. For I said, It was good to keep close the secret of a king, but that it was honorable to reveal the works of ALAHAYAM. ¹² Now therefore, when you didst pray, and Sara your daughter in law, I did bring the remembrance of your prayers before the Holy One: and when you didst bury the dead, I was with thee likewise. ¹³ And when you didst not delay to rise up, and leave your dinner, to go and cover the dead, your good deed was not hid from me: but I was with thee. ¹⁴ And now ALAHAYAM hath sent me to heal thee and Sara your daughter in law. ¹⁵ I am Rapha'el, one of the seven holy angels, which present the prayers of the saints, and which go in and out before the glory of the Holy One.

¹⁶ Then they were both troubled and fell upon their faces: for they feared. ¹⁷ But he said unto them, Fear not, for it shall go well with you; praise ALAHAYAM, therefore. ¹⁸ For not of any favor of mine, but by the will of our ALAHAYAM I came; wherefore praise him forever. ¹⁹ All these days I did appear unto you; but I did neither eat nor drink, but ye did see a vision. ²⁰ Now therefore give ALAHAYAM thanks: for I go up to him that sent me; but write all things which are done in a book. ²¹ And when they arose, they saw him no more. ²² Then they confessed the great and wonderful works of ALAHAYAM, and how the angel of the Adonai had appeared unto them.

Toviyahu's Thanksgiving to ALAHAYAM

13 Then Toviyahu wrote a prayer of rejoicing, and said,

Blessed be ALAHAYAM that lives forever and blessed be his kingdom.

² For he doth scourge, and hath mercy:
he leadeth down to hell, and bringeth up again:
neither is there any that can avoid his hand.

³ Confess him before the other nations, ye children of Yashar'el:
for he hath scattered us among them.

⁴ There declare his greatness, and extol him before all the living:
for he is our Adonai, and he is the ALAHAYAM our Father
forever.

⁵ And he will scourge us for our iniquities, and will have mercy
again,
and will gather us out of all nations, among whom he hath
scattered us.

⁶ If ye turn to him with your whole heart, and with your whole
mind,
and deal uprightly before him, then will he turn unto you,
and will not hide his face from you.
Therefore, see what he will do with you,
and confess him with your whole mouth,
and praise the Adonai of might and extol the everlasting King.
In the land of my captivity do I praise him,
and declare his might and majesty to a sinful nation.
O ye sinners, turn and do justice before him:
who can tell if he will accept you, and have mercy on you?
⁷ I will extol my ALAHAYAM, and my soul shall praise the King
of heaven,
and shall rejoice in his greatness.
⁸ Let all men speak, and let all praise him for his righteousness.
⁹ O Yerushalayim, the holy city, he will scourge thee for your
children's works,
and will have mercy again on the sons of the righteous.
¹⁰ Give praise to the Adonai, for he is good:
and praise the everlasting King,
that his tabernacle may be built in thee again with joy,
and let him make joyful there in thee those that are captives,
and love in thee forever those that are miserable.
¹¹ Many nations shall come from far to the name of the Adonai
ALAHAYAM
with gifts in their hands, even gifts to the King of heaven;
all generations shall praise thee with great joy.
¹² Cursed are all they which hate thee,
and blessed shall all be which love thee forever.
¹³ Rejoice and be glad for the children of the just:
for they shall be gathered together and shall bless the Adonai of
the just.
¹⁴ O blessed are they which love thee, for they shall rejoice in
your peace:
blessed are they which have been sorrowful for all your scourges;
for they shall rejoice for thee, when they have seen all your glory,
and shall be glad forever.
¹⁵ Let my soul bless ALAHAYAM the great King.

¹⁶ For Yerushalayim shall be built up with sapphires and emeralds, and precious stone:

your walls and towers and battlements with pure gold.

¹⁷ And the streets of Yerushalayim shall be paved with beryl and carbuncle and stones of Ophir.

¹⁸ And all her streets shall say, *Alleluia*, and they shall praise him, saying,

Blessed be ALAHAYAM, which hath extolled it forever.

Toviyahu's Final Counsel

14 So Toviyahu made an end of praising ALAHAYAM.

² And he was eight and fifty years old when he lost his sight, which was restored to him after eight years: and he gave alms, and he increased in the fear of the Adonai ALAHAYAM, and praised him.

³ And when he was very aged he called his son, and the sons of his son, and said to him, My son, take your children; for, behold, I am aged, and am ready to depart out of this life. ⁴ Go into Madai my son, for I surely believe those things which Yonah the prophet spoke of Niyneveh, that it shall be overthrown; and that for a time peace shall rather be in Madai; and that our brethren shall lie scattered in the earth from that good land: and Yerushalayim shall be desolate, and the house of ALAHAYAM in it shall be burned and shall be desolate for a time.

⁵ And that again ALAHAYAM will have mercy on them, and bring them again into the land, where they shall build a temple, but not like to the first, until the time of that age be fulfilled; and afterward they shall return from all places of their captivity, and build up Yerushalayim gloriously, and the house of ALAHAYAM shall be built in it forever with a glorious building, as the prophets have spoken thereof. ⁶ And all nations shall turn, and fear the Adonai ALAHAYAM truly, and shall bury their idols. ⁷ So shall all nations praise the Adonai, and his people shall confess ALAHAYAM, and the Adonai shall exalt his people; and all those which love the Adonai ALAHAYAM in truth and justice shall rejoice, shewing mercy to our brethren. ⁸ And now, my son, depart out of Niyneveh, because that those things which the prophet Yonah spoke shall surely come to pass. ⁹ But keep you the law and the commandments, and shew thyself merciful and just, that it may go well with thee. ¹⁰ And bury me decently, and your mother with me; but tarry no longer at Niyneveh. Remember, my son, how Aman handled Achiacharus that brought him

up, how out of light he brought him into darkness, and how he rewarded him again: yet Achiacharus was saved, but the other had his reward: for he went down into darkness. Menashsheh gave alms and escaped the snares of death which they had set for him: but Aman fell into the snare and perished. ¹¹ Wherefore now, my son, consider what alms doeth, and how righteousness doth deliver.

Death of ToviYahu and Channah

When he had said these things, he gave up the ghost in the bed, being a hundred and eight and fifty years old; and he buried him honorably. ¹² And when Channah his mother was dead, he buried her with his father. But ToviYahu departed with his wife and children to Ecbatane to Re'u'el his father-in-law, ¹³ Where he became old with honor, and he buried his father and mother-in-law honorably, and he inherited their substance, and his father ToviYahu's. ¹⁴ And he died at Ecbatane in Madai, being a hundred and seven and twenty years old. ¹⁵ But before he died, he heard of the destruction of Niyneveh, which was taken by Nebuchadnezzar and Assuerus: and before his death he rejoiced over Niyneveh.

Edited by Noel Joshua Hadley

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