

UEZRA



ISAHLUKO 1

Ke kaloku ngowokuqala umnyaka kaKoreshi, ukumkani wasePersi, ukuze kuzaliseke ilizwi likaYehova ngomlomo kaYeremiya, uYehova wawuxhokonxa umoya kaKoreshi, ukumkani wasePersi; wahambisa izwi ebukumkanini bakhe bonke, walibhala, esithi,

² Utsho uKoreshi ukumkani wasePersi, ukuthi, Zonke izikumkani zehlabathi uzinike mna uYehova, uThixo wamazulu. Yena undiyalele ukuba ndimakhele indlu eYerusalem, ekwaYuda.

³ Ubani ophakathi kwenu, ebantwini bakhe bonke, uThixo wakhe makabe naye, anyuke aye eYerusalem ekwaYuda, ayakhe indlu kaYehova, uThixo kaSirayeli (nguye uThixo), eseYerusalem.

⁴ Onke amasalela, ezindaweni zonke aphambukele kuzo, makancedwe ngamadoda aloo ndawo akuyo ngesilivere, negolide, nempahla, neenkomo, kunye nomnikelo wabaqhutywa yintliziyo, wendlu kaThixo eseYerusalem.

⁵ Zesuka ke iintloko zezindlu zooyise zakwaYuda, nezakwaBhenjamin, nezababingeleli, nezabaLevi, bonke abo uThixo wawuxhokonxayo umoya wabo, ukuba banyuke, baye kuyakha indlu kaYehova eseYerusalem.

⁶ Bonke ababebangqongile babancedisa ngezitya zesilivere, nangegolide, nangempahla, nangeenkomo, nangezinto ezinqabileyo; ngaphandle kwazo zonke ezibe zinikwe ngabantu ngokuqhutywa yintliziyo.

⁷ Ke ukumkani uKoreshi wazirhola iimpahla zendlu kaYehova, awayezithabathe eYerusalem uNebhukadenetsare, wazibeka endlwini yoothixo bakhe.

⁸ UKoreshi ukumkani wasePersi wazirhola, wazinikela kuMitredati, umgcini-ndyebo, wazibalela kuSheshbhatsare, isikhulu sakwaYuda.

⁹ Lilo eli inani lazo: izitya zegolide zamashumi mathathu, izitya zesilivere zaliwaka, iinkamba zamashumi mabini anesithoba, iindebe zegolide zamashumi mathathu,

¹⁰ iindebe zesilivere zohlobo lwesibini zamakhulu mane anashumi linye, iimpahla ezizimbi zaliwaka.

¹¹ Zonke iimpahla zegolide nezesilivere zaba mawaka mahlanu anamakhulu amane. Zonke ezo nto wazinyusa uSheshbhatsare, ekunyasweni kwababethinjelwe eBhabheli, beziswa eYerusalem.

ISAHLUKO 2

- N**gabo ke aba oonyana belizwe lakwaYuda abenyukayo, kwababethinjwe basemfudusweni, awabafudusela eBhabheli uNebhukadenetsare, ukumkani waseBhabheli, ababuyela eYerusalem nakwaYuda, elowo wabuyela emzini wakowabo;
- ² abeza noZerubhabheli, noYeshuwa, noNehemiya, noSeraya, noRehelaya, noMordekayi, noBhileshan, noMispere, noBhigwayi, noRelum, noBhahana. Inani lamadoda abantu bakwaSirayeli:
- ³ oonyana bakaParoshe ibingamawaka amabini, anekhulu elinamanci asixhenxe anababini.
- ⁴ Oonyana bakaShefatiya ibingamakhulu amathathu, anamanci asixhenxe anababini.
- ⁵ Oonyana baka-Ara ibingamakhulu asixhenxe, anamanci asixhenxe anabahlanu.
- ⁶ Oonyana bakaPahati wakwaMowabhi, koonyana bakaYeshuwa noYowabhi, ibingamawaka amabini anamakhulu asibhozo, aneshumi elinye elinababini.
- ⁷ Oonyana bakaElam ibiliwaka elinamakhulu amabini, anamanci mahlanu anabane.
- ⁸ Oonyana bakaZatu ibingamakhulu asithoba, anamanci mane anabahlanu.
- ⁹ Oonyana bakaZakayi ibingamakhulu asixhenxe, anamanci mathandathu.
- ¹⁰ Oonyana bakaBhani ibingamakhulu amathandathu, anamanci mane anababini.
- ¹¹ Oonyana bakaBhebhayi ibingamakhulu amathandathu, anamanci mabini anabathathu.
- ¹² Oonyana baka-Azegadi ibiliwaka elinamakhulu amabini, anamanci mabini anababini.
- ¹³ Oonyana baka-Adonikam ibingamakhulu amathandathu, anamanci mathandathu anabathandathu.
- ¹⁴ Oonyana bakaBhigwayi ibingamawaka amabini, anamanci mahlanu anabathandathu.
- ¹⁵ Oonyana baka-Adin ibingamakhulu amane, anamanci mahlanu anabane.
- ¹⁶ Oonyana baka-Atere kaHezekiya ibingamashumi asithoba anesibhozo.
- ¹⁷ Oonyana bakaBhetsayi ibingamakhulu amathathu, ana manci mabini anabathathu.
- ¹⁸ Oonyana bakaYora ibilikhulu elineshumi elinababini.
- ¹⁹ Oonyana bakaHashum ibingamakhulu amabini, anamanci mabini anabathathu.
- ²⁰ Oonyana baseGibhare ibingamashumi asithoba anabahlanu.
- ²¹ Oonyana baseBhetelehem ibilikhulu, elinamanci mabini anabathathu.
- ²² Amadoda aseNetofa ibingamashumi amahlanu anamathandathu.
- ²³ Amadoda aseAnatoti ibilikhulu, elinamanci mabini anesibhozo.
- ²⁴ Oonyana baseAzemavete ibingamashumi amane anababini.
- ²⁵ Oonyana baseKiryati-yeharim neKefira neBheroti, ibingamakhulu asixhenxe, anamanci amane anabathathu.
- ²⁶ Oonyana baseRama neGabha ibingamakhulu amathandathu, anamanci mabini anamnye.
- ²⁷ Amadoda aseMikimase ibilikhulu, elinamanci mabini anababini.
- ²⁸ Amadoda aseBheteli neAyi ibingamakhulu amabini, anamanci mabini anamathathu.
- ²⁹ Oonyana baseNebho ibingamashumi amahlanu anababini.
- ³⁰ Oonyana bakaMagebhishe ibilikhulu, elinamanci mahlanu anabathandathu.
- ³¹ Oonyana bomnye uElam ibiliwaka, elinamakhulu amabini, anamanci amahlanu anabane.
- ³² Oonyana bakaHarim ibingamakhulu amathathu, anamanci mabini.
- ³³ Oonyana baseLodi neHadide neOno ibingamakhulu asixhenxe, anamanci mabini anabahlanu.

- ³⁴ Oonyana baseYeriko ibingamakhulu amathathu, anamanci mane anabahlanu.
- ³⁵ Oonyana baseSenaha ibingamawaka amathathu, anamakhulu amathandathu, anamanci mathathu.
- ³⁶ Ababingeleli: oonyana bakaYedaya bendlu kaYeshuwa ibingamakhulu asithoba, anamanci asixhenxe anabathathu.
- ³⁷ Oonyana bakalmere ibiliwaka, elinamanci mahlanu anababini.
- ³⁸ Oonyana bakaPashure ibiliwaka elinamakhulu amabini, anamanci mane anesixhenxe.
- ³⁹ Oonyana bakaHarim ibiliwaka, elineshumi elinesixhenxe.
- ⁴⁰ AbaLevi: oonyana bakaYeshuwa noKademiyele, koonyana bakaHodaviya, ibingamashumi asixhenxe anabane.
- ⁴¹ Iimvumi: oonyana baka-Asafu ibilikhulu, elinamanci mabini anesibhozo.
- ⁴² Oonyana babamasango: oonyana bakaShalum, oonyana baka-Atere, oonyana bakaTalemon, oonyana baka-Akubhi, oonyana bakaHatita, oonyana bakaShobhayi, bebonke ibilikhulu, elinamanci mathathu anesithoba.
- ⁴³ Abakhonzi betempile: oonyana bakaTsiha, oonyana bakaHasufa, oonyana bakaTabhayoti,
- ⁴⁴ oonyana bakaKerose, oonyana bakaSiyaha, oonyana bakaPadon,
- ⁴⁵ oonyana bakaLebhana, oonyana bakaHagabha, oonyana baka-Akubhi,
- ⁴⁶ oonyana bakaHagabhi, oonyana bakaShalemayi, oonyana bakaHanan,
- ⁴⁷ oonyana bakaGidele, oonyana bakaGahare, oonyana bakaRehaya,
- ⁴⁸ oonyana bakaRetsin, oonyana bakaNekoda, oonyana bakaGazam,
- ⁴⁹ oonyana bakaUza, oonyana bakaPaseha, oonyana bakaBhesayi,
- ⁵⁰ oonyana baka-Asna, oonyana bakaMehunim, oonyana bakaNefusim,
- ⁵¹ oonyana bakaBhakebhuki, oonyana bakaHakufa, oonyana bakaHar-hure,
- ⁵² oonyana bakaBhatseluti, oonyana bakaMehida, oonyana bakaHarsha,
- ⁵³ oonyana bakaBharkose, oonyana bakaSisera, oonyana bakaTama,
- ⁵⁴ oonyana bakaNetsiha, oonyana bakaHatifa.
- ⁵⁵ Oonyana babakhonzi bakaSolomon: oonyana bakaSotayi, oonyana bakaSoferete, oonyana bakaPeruda,
- ⁵⁶ oonyana bakaYahala, oonyana bakaDarkon, oonyana bakaGidele,
- ⁵⁷ oonyana bakaShefatiya, oonyana bakaHatili, oonyana bakaPokerete-tsebhayim, oonyana baka-Ami.
- ⁵⁸ Bonke abakhonzi betempile, noonyana babakhonzi bakaSolomon, ibingamakhulu amathathu, anamanci asithoba anababini.
- ⁵⁹ Ngaba abenyuka, bevela eTele-mela, naseTele-harsha, naseKerubhi-adan-imere; ke ababanga nakuzixela izindlu zooyise, nembewu yabo, ukuba ngabakwaSirayeli na:
- ⁶⁰ oonyana bakaDelaya, oonyana bakaTobhiya, oonyana bakaNekoda, babengamakhulu omathandathu anamanci mahlanu anababini.
- ⁶¹ Ke koonyana bababingeleli: oonyana bakaHabhaya, oonyana bakaHakotsi, oonyana bakaBharzilayi (owazeka umfazi ezintombini zikaBharzilayi waseGiliyadi, wabizwa ngegama lazo),
- ⁶² abo bakufuna ukubhalwa kwabo kwababhalelwe emilibeni yokuzalwa, abakufumana; bangcola ke, ababa sebungelile.
- ⁶³ Irhuluneli yathi kubo, mabangadli nto kwezingcwele kanye, kude kuvele umbingeleli oneeUrim neeTumim.

- ⁶⁴ Lonke ibandla, lindawonye, ibe ingamawaka angamashumi amane anamabini, anamakhulu mathathu, anamanci mathandathu;
- ⁶⁵ ngaphandle kwezicaka zabo ezi, nezicakakazi zabo ezi, zingamawaka asixhenxe, anamakhulu amathathu, anamanci mathathu anesixhenxe; zineemvumi neemvumikazi ezingamakhulu amabini.
- ⁶⁶ Amahashe abo ibingamakhulu asixhenxe, anamanci mathathu anamathandathu; oondlebende babo ibingamakhulu amabini, anamanci mane anabahlanu;
- ⁶⁷ iinkamela zabo ibingamakhulu amane, anamanci mathathu anantlanu; amaesile ibingamawaka amathandathu, anamakhulu asixhenxe, anamanci mabini.
- ⁶⁸ Inxenye yeentloko zezindlu zooyise ekufikeni kwayo endlwini kaYehova eseYerusalem, yayizisela indlu kaThixo iminikelo yokuqhutywa yintliziyo, ukuba imiswe endaweni yayo.
- ⁶⁹ Banikela ngoko konke ababenako ebuncwaneni bomsebenzi: igolide yangamawaka amashumi amathandathu, anawaka linye eedarike, nesilivere yangamawaka amahlanu eemina, nekhulu leengubo ezingaphantsi zababingeleli.
- ⁷⁰ Bahlala ke ababingeleli, nabaLevi, nabantu inxenye, neemvumi, nabamasango, nabakonzi betempile, emizini yakowabo; amaSirayeli onke emizini yawo.

ISAHLUKO 3

Ithe yakufika inyanga yesixhenxe, oonyana bakaSirayeli besemizini yabo, bahlangana abantu njengamntu mnye, beza eYerusalem.

² Wesuka uYeshuwa unyana kaYotsadaki, nabazalwana bakhe ababingeleli, noZerubhabheli unyana kaShelatiyeli, nabazalwana bakhe, basakha isibingelelo sikaThixo kaSirayeli, ukuba kunyuswe phezu kwaso amadini anyukayo, ngoko kubhaliweyo emyalelweni kaMoses umfo wakwaThixo.

³ Basizinzisa isibingelelo endaweni yaso; ngokuba beboyikiswe zizizwe zala mazwe. Banyusa phezu kwaso amadini anyukayo kuYehova, amadini anyukayo akusasa nawangokuhlwa.

⁴ Benza umthendeleko weminquba njengoko kubhaliweyo, namadini anyukayo iimini ngeemini, ngenani, ngokwesiko, into yemini ngangemini yayo.

⁵ Emveni kwawo benza idini elinyukayo lamaxesha onke, nawokuthwasa kwenyanga, nawamaxesha onke kaYehova angcwalisiweyo, amisiweyo, nawabo bonke abanikela ngokuqhutywa yintliziyo kuYehova, iminikelo yokuqhutywa yintliziyo.

⁶ Baqala ugowokuqala umhlawenyanga yesixhenxe, baqala banyusa amadini anyukayo kuYehova; itempile kaYehova ibe ingekasekwa.

⁷ Imali bayinika abaqingqi nabakroli; banika amaTsidon namaTire ukudla, nento eselwayo, neoli, ukuba athabathe imisedare eLebhanon, ayizise ngolwandle eYafo, ngokuvunyelwa kwabo nguKoreshi ukumkani wasePersi.

⁸ Ngomnyaka wesibini wokufika kwabo endlwini kaThixo eYerusalem, ngenyanga yesibini, baqala ooZerubhabheli unyana kaShelatiyeli, noYeshuwa unyana kaTsadoki, nabanye abazalwana babo, ababingeleli, nabaLevi, nabo bonke ababephume ekuthinjweni ukuza eYerusalem, bamisa abaLevi, bathabathela kominyaka imashumi mabini ezelwe, kwenyusa, ukuba bawongamele umsebenzi wendlu kaYehova.

⁹ Kwema ooYeshuwa noonyana bakhe nabazalwana bakhe, uKademiyeeli noonyana bakhe, oonyana bakaHodaviya, njengamntu mnye, ukubongamela abawenzayo umsebenzi endlwini kaThixo: oonyana bakaHenadade, oonyana babo nabazalwana babo, abaLevi.

- ¹⁰ Abakhi bayiseka itempile kaYehova; bema ababingeleli, bevethe, benamaxilongo; nabaLevi, oonyana baka-Asafu, benamacangci, ukumdumisa uYehova ngokolwalathiso lukaDavide ukumkani wakwaSirayeli.
- ¹¹ Basusela ngokudumisa, nangokubulela kuYehova, besithi, Ulungile, inceba yakhe ingunaphakade kuSirayeli; ke bonke abantu baduma ngodumo olukhulu, bedumisa uYehova ngenxa yokusekwa kwendlu kaYehova.
- ¹² Ke isininzi kubabingeleli, nabaLevi, neentloko zezindlu zooyise, namadoda amakhulu, awayeyibonile indlu yokuqala, sathi ekusekweni kwale ndlu emehlweni aso, salila ngezwi elikhulu; ke abaninzi baduma, bavuya ngokuphakamisa ilizwi.
- ¹³ Abantu ababa nakulahlula ilizwi lokuduma ngokuvuya kwilizwi lokulila kwabantu; ngokuba abantu babeduma ngodumo olukhulu; ilizwi lavakala nakude.

ISAHLUKO 4

- K**e kaloku, bakuva ababandezeli bamaYuda nabamaBhenjamin, ukuba oonyana basemfudusweni bamakhela itempile uYehova uThixo wakwaSirayeli,
- ² beza kuZerubhabheli, nakwiintloko zezindlu zooyise, bathi kubo, Masakhe nani, ngokuba siquqela uThixo wenu njengani; sibingelela kuye kususela kwimihla kaEsarhadon, ukumkani waseAsiriya, owasinyusela apha.
- ³ Wathi uZerubhabheli, noYeshuwa, nabanye abaziintloko zezindlu zooyise bakwaSirayeli kubo, Anithe ni nathi ekumakheleni uThixo wethu indlu; somakhela sedwa uYehova, uThixo wakwaSirayeli, njengoko wasiwisela umthetho ngako ukumkani onguKoreshi, ukumkani wasePersi.
- ⁴ Abantu belo zwe bamana ukubaphelisa amandla abantu bakwaYuda, beboyikisa ekwakheni;
- ⁵ bebaqeshela amagqwetha, ukuba alishitshise iqhinga labo, yonke imihla kaKoreshi ukumkani wasePersi, kwada kwezisa ebukumkanini bukaDariyo ukumkani wasePersi.
- ⁶ Nasebukumkanini buka-Ahaswerose, ekuqalekeni kobukumkani bakhe, babhala, bebancetheza abemi bakwaYuda nabaseYerusalem.
- ⁷ Nangemihla ka-Artashashta kwabhala uBhish-lam, noMitredati, noTabheli, nabanye abalingane babo, kuArtashashta ukumkani wasePersi; incwadi yabhalwa ngentetho yesiAram, yakhunyushwa ngesiAram.
- ⁸ OoRehum umkhumbuzi wezinto zakomkhulu, noShimshayi umbhali, babhala incwadi ngeYerusalem kuArtashashta ukumkani, ngolu hlobo.
- ⁹ Bathumela ke ooRehum umkhumbuzi wezinto zakomkhulu, noShimshayi umbhali, nabanye abalingane babo bamaDina, nabama-Afarsateki, nabamaTarpela, nabama-Afarsi, nabama-Arki, nabamaBhabheli, nabamaShushanki, nabamaDehavi, nabamaElam,
- ¹⁰ nezinye izizwe, awazithimbayo uOsnapare omkhulu obekekileyo, wazibeka emzini wakwaSamari, nakweminye nganeno koMlambo, nakwezinye iindawo.
- ¹¹ Yiyo le incwadi abayithumela kuArtashashta ukumkani, ithi: Abakhonzi bakho, amadoda anganeno koMlambo, njalonjalo.
- ¹² Makwazeke kukumkani, ukuba amaYuda anyukileyo evela kuwe, afikile kuthi eYerusalem; ayawakha umzi ogwilikayo, ongendawo; ayazimisa iindonga zawo, ayazimbela iziseko.
- ¹³ Makwazeke ngoku kukumkani, ukuba othi, xa uthe wakhiwa lo mzi, zafezwa neendonga zawo, angarholi rhafu nasithabathaba, nalunikelo, kude kuye kuxhwaleka ookumkani.

- ¹⁴ Kaloku, ngenxa enokuba sisidla ityuwa yasebhotwe, kwaye kungafanelekile kuthi ukubona ukumkani encitshiswa. Ngako oko siyathumela, simazisa ukumkani,
- ¹⁵ ukuze kuphicothwe encwadini yezikhumbuzo ezo zooyihlo, wazi ukuba lo mzi waba ngumzi ogwilikayo, owaxhwalekisa ookumkani namazwe, kwenziwa, isiphendu phakathi kwawo kwakudala, waba linxuwa lo mzi ngenxa yoko.
- ¹⁶ Siyamazisa ukumkani ukuba, xa uthe wakhiwa lo mzi, zafezwa neendonga zawo, wothi ngenxa yelo thuba ungabi nasabelo wena nganeno koMlambo.
- ¹⁷ Waza ukumkani wabathumela impendulo ooRehum umkhumbuzi wezinto zakomkhulu, noShimshayi umbhali, nabanye abalingane babo abahleli kwaSamari, nabanye abanganeno koMlambo, wathi: Uxolo, njalonjalo.
- ¹⁸ Loo ncwadi nayithumelayo kuthi ilesiwe ngokucacileyo phambi kwam.
- ¹⁹ Ndiwise umthetho, kwaphicothwa, kwafunyanwa ukuba lo mzi kwakudala uziphakamisile kookumkani, kwenziwa ugwiliko nesiphendu phakathi kwawo.
- ²⁰ Kwabe kukho ookumkani abanamandla eYerusalem, nabanegunya kwilizwe lonke eliphesheya koMlambo apho; kunikelwa kubo irhafu, nesithabathaba, nonikelo.
- ²¹ Wisani ngoko umthetho wokuba abanjezelwe loo madoda, loo mzi ungakhiwa, kude kuwiswe umthetho ndim.
- ²² Lumkani, ningakhe le nto niyiyeke; kungani na ukuba kukhule ukonakala, baxhwaleke ookumkani?
- ²³ Ithe yakuleswa incwadi ka-Artashashta ukumkani phambi koRehum, noShimshayi umbhali, nabalingane babo, basuka, beza ngobungxamo eYerusalem kumaYuda, bawanyanzela ngegunya nangamandla.
- ²⁴ Waza wema umsebenzi wendlu kaThixo eseYerusalem; wema kwada kwaba ngumnyaka wesibini wobukumkani bukaDariyo, ukumkani wasePersi.

ISAPHLUKO 5

- K**e kaloku abaprofeti, ooHagayi umprofeti, noZekariya unyana kaldo, baprofeta kumaYuda abekwaYuda neYerusalem, egameni likaThixo kaSirayeli obekubo.
- ² Baza basuka ooZerubhabheli unyana kaShelatiyeli, noYeshuwa unyana kaYotsadaki, nabathetheli bakhe, ukuba bayakhe indlu kaThixo eYerusalem, abaprofeti bakaThixo bekubo bencedisana nabo.
- ³ Kwangelo xesha, weza kubo uTatenayi, ibamba langaneno koMlambo, noShetar-bhozenayi, nabalingane babo, bathi kubo, Niwiselwe umthetho ngubani na ukuba niyakhe le ndlu, nilwenze olu donga?
- ⁴ Saza senjenje ukuthetha kubo, ngoonantsi noonantsi, amagama amadoda ayakhayo le ndlu.
- ⁵ Ke iliso loThixo wawo libe liphezu kwamadoda amakhulu amaYuda, ukuba bangawabambezeli, ide loo ndawo iye kuDariyo, bakhuphe incwadi ngayo loo ndawo.
- ⁶ Incwadi leyo, ooTatenayi, ibamba langaneno koMlambo, noShetar-bhozenayi, nabalingane bakhe bama-Afarseka banganeno koMlambo, bayithumelayo kuDariyo ukumkani,
- ⁷ bayithumela loo ndawo kuye; kwabhalwa kwathiwa kuyo: KuDariyo ukumkani, uxolo luphelele.
- ⁸ Makwazeke kukumkani, ukuba saya ezweni lakwaYuda, endlwini kaThixo omkhulu. Iyakhiwa ngamatye anzima, nemithi iyafakwa ezindongeni; lo msebenzi usetyenzwa

ngenyameko, uyaphumelela ezandleni zabo.

⁹ Saza sabuza kumadoda lawo makhulu, sathi kuwo, Niwiselwe umthetho ngubani na ukuba niyakhe le ndlu, nilwenze olu donga?

¹⁰ Sabuza kuwo namagama awo, ukuba sikwazise wena, siwabhale amagama amadoda aziintloko kuwo.

¹¹ Enjenje ke ukusibuyisela impendulo, athi, Singabakhe, singabakhonzi bakaThixo wamazulu nehlabathi. Sakha le ndlu yakhiwayo iminyaka emininzi eyadlulayo, yakhiwa yafezwa ngukumkani omkhulu wakwaSirayeli.

¹² Ngokokuba oobawo bamqumbisayo uThixo wamazulu, wabanikela esandleni sikaNebhukadenetsare ukumkani waseBhabheli, umKaledi. Yena wayichitha le ndlu, wabafudusela eBhabheli abantu.

¹³ Kodwa ngomnyaka wokuqala kaKoreshi ukumkani waseBhabheli, ukumkani uKoreshi wawisa umthetho wokuba yakhiwe le ndlu kaThixo.

¹⁴ Kananjalo iimpahla zendlu kaThixo zegolide nezesilivere, awazirholayo uNebhukadenetsare etempileni eseYerusalem, awazisisayo etempileni yaseBhabheli, ezo wazikhupha uKoreshi ukumkani etempileni yaseBhabheli: zanikelwa kogama linguSheshbhatsare, awammisayo ukuba abe libamba.

¹⁵ Wathi kuye, Thabatha ezi mpahla, hamba, uzise etempileni eseYerusalem, indlu kaThixo yakhelwe endaweni yayo.

¹⁶ Waza weza lo Sheshbhatsare, wazibeka iziseko zendlu kaThixo eseYerusalem; kususela kwelo xesha unangoku iyakhiwa; ayikagqitywa ke.

¹⁷ Kaloku, ukuba kuthe kwalunga kukumkani, makuphicothwe endlwini yendyebo yokumkani, eseBhabheli apho, kukhangelwe ukuba kunjalo na, ukuba wawiswa na umthetho nguKoreshi ukumkani, wokuba yakhiwe le ndlu kaThixo eYerusalem; kananjalo makuthunyelwe kuthi ukuthanda kokumkani ngale nto.

ISAHLUKO 6

Waaza uDariyo ukumkani wawisa umthetho; kwaphicothwa endlwini khona eBhabheli.

² Kwafunyanwa komkhulu, eAmeta, eselizweni lamaMedi, incwadi esongwayo; kwaye kubhaliwe apho isikhumbuzo, kwathiwa:

³ Ngowokuqala umnyaka kaKoreshi ukumkani, wawisa umthetho uKoreshi ukumkani, wathi, Indlu kaThixo eYerusalem, mayakhiwe indlu leyo, ibe yindawo apho kubingelelwa khona imibingelelo; zimiswe neziseko zayo; ukuphakama kwayo kube ziikubhite ezimashumi mathandathu, ububanzi bayo bube ziikubhite ezimashumi mathandathu.

⁴ Ize ibe ziingcamba ezintathu zamatye anzima, nocamba lwemithi emitsha; indleko mayiphume endlwini yokumkani.

⁵ Neempahla zendlu kaThixo zegolide, nezesilivere, awazirholayo uNebhukadenetsare etempileni yaseYerusalem, wazizisa eBhabheli, mazibuyiswe zisiwe etempileni eseYerusalem, ezindaweni zazo, endlwini kaThixo.

⁶ Ngoko, Tatenayi, bamba laphesheya koMlambo, nawe Shetar-bhozenayi, nabalingane benu bama-Afarseka phesheya koMlambo, yibani kude naloo nto;

⁷ wuyekeni umsebenzi wale ndlu kaThixo. Ibamba lamaYuda namadoda amakhulu akwaYuda mabayakhe le ndlu kaThixo endaweni yayo.

⁸ Ndiwisa umthetho wento enoyenza kumadoda amakhulu aloo maYuda, ukuba yakhiwe loo ndlu kaThixo; ndithi, loo madoda makanikwe indleko, ebutyebini bukakumkani, erhafini yaphesheya koMlambo, kunyanyekwe, angabanjezelwa.

⁹ Nezinto ezifunekayo, iinkunzi ezintsha zeenkomo, neenkunzi zeegusha, neemvana, zokuba ngamadini anyukayo kuThixo wamazulu, nengqolowa, netyuwa, newayini, neoli, ngokwelizwi lababingeleli abaseYerusalem, makazinikwe imihla ngemihla, kungaphosiswa;

¹⁰ ukuze basondeze imibingelelo elivumba elithozamisayo kuThixo wamazulu, bathandazele ubomi bokumkani noboonyana bakhe.

¹¹ Ndiwisa umthetho wokuba bonke abantu abayijikayo loo nto, makuncothulwe umthi endlwini yabo, baxhonywe, babethelelwe kuwo, nendlu yabo yenziwe indawo yokuya endle, ngenxa yoko.

¹² UThixo, olibeke khona igama lakhe, makabakhahlele phantsi bonke ookumkani, nabantu, abolula izandla zabo, beyijika loo nto, ukuba bayitshabalalise le ndlu kaThixo eseYerusalem. Mna Dariyo ndiwise umthetho; mawenziwe ngenyameko.

¹³ Baza ooTatenayi ibamba langaneno koMlambo, noShetar-bhozenayi, nabalingane babo, ngenxa enokuba uDariyo ukumkani ethumile, benjenjalo ngenyameko.

¹⁴ Ke amadoda amakhulu amaYuda akha, aphumelela ngokokuprofeta kukaHagayi umprofeti, noZekariya unyana kaldo; akha ke agqiba, ngenxa yomthetho kaThixo kaSirayeli, nangenxa yomthetho wooKoreshi, noDariyo, noArtashashta, ookumkani basePersi.

¹⁵ Yagqitywa ke le ndlu ngosuka lwesithathu lwenyanga enguAdare; ngumnyaka wesithandathu lowo wokulawula kukaDariyo ukumkani.

¹⁶ Oonyana bakaSirayeli, ababingeleli nabaLevi nabanye oonyana basemfudusweni, bakwenza ngovuyo ukuhlaziywa kwale ndlu kaThixo.

¹⁷ Basondezela ukuhlaziywa kwale ndlu kaThixo, ikhulu leenkunzi ezintsha zeenkomo, namakhulu amabini eenkunzi zeegusha, namakhulu amane eemvana; neenkunzi zeebhokhwe zedini lesono, ngenxa yamaSirayeli onke, zalishumi elinambini, ngokwenani lezizwe zakwaSirayeli.

¹⁸ Babamisa ababingeleli ngokwezahlulo zabo, nabaLevi ngokwamaqela abo, phezu kwenkonzo kaThixo eseYerusalem, ngoko kubhaliweyo encwadini kaMoses.

¹⁹ Oonyana basemfudusweni bayenza ipasika ngomhla weshumi elinesine wenyanga yokuqala;

²⁰ ngokuba babezihlambulule ababingeleli nabaLevi, njengamntu mnye, bahlambuluka bonke bephela; babaxhelela ipasika oonyana bonke basemfudusweni, nabazalwana babo ababingeleli, nabo ngokwabo.

²¹ Badla ke oonyana bakaSirayeli ababebuye ekufudusweni, kwanabo bonke abazahlulayo ebunqambini beentlanga zelizwe, beza kubo ukuba bamqucele uYehova, uThixo kaSirayeli.

²² Benza umthendeleko wezonka ezingenagwele imihla yasixhenxe bevuyile; ngokuba uYehova ebebavuyisile ngokuyibuyisela kubo intliziyo yokumkani waseAsiriya, ukuze izandla zabo zomelezwe emsebenzini wendlu kaThixo, uThixo kaSirayeli.

IS AHLUKO 7

Emveni kwezo zinto, ebukumkanini buka-Artashashta ukumkani wasePersi, wathi Uezra, unyana kaSeraya, unyana ka-Azariya, unyana kaHilekiya,

² unyana ka-Shalum, unyana kaTsadoki, unyana ka-Abhitubhi,

³ unyana ka-Amariya, unyana ka-Azariya, unyana kaMerayoti,

⁴ unyana kaZeraya, unyana kaUzi, unyana kaBhuki,

- ⁵ unyana ka-Abhishuwa, unyana kaPinehasi, unyana kaElazare, unyana ka-Aron umbingeleli oyintloko:
- ⁶ uUezra lowo wenyuka, ephuma eBhabheli. Waye engumbhali oyinkunkqele emyalelweni kaMoses, awawuwisayo uYehova, uThixo kaSirayeli. Ukumkani wamnika konke awakucelayo ngokwesandla sikaYehova, uThixo wakhe, esiphezu kwakhe.
- ⁷ Kwenyuka naye inxenye yoonyana bakaSirayeli, neyababingeleli, nabaLevi, neemvumi, nabamasango, nabakhonzi betempile, besiya eYerusalem, ngomnyaka wesixhenxe ka-Artashashta ukumkani.
- ⁸ Wafika eYerusalem ngenyanga yesihlanu; lowo ke ngumnyaka wesixhenxe wokumkani.
- ⁹ Ngokuba ibe ingumhla wokuqala wenyanga yokuqala, awawumisela ukunyuka ngawo, ephuma eBhabheli; wafika eYerusalem ngomhla wokuqala wenyanga yesihlanu, ngokwesandla esilungileyo sikaThixo wakhe, esibe siphezu kwakhe;
- ¹⁰ ngokuba uUezra intliziyo yakhe wayeyibhekise ekuwufuneni umyalelo kaYehova, awenze, afundise ummiselo nesiko kwaSirayeli.
- ¹¹ Yiyo le incwadi, awathi ukumkani uArtashashta wamnika uUezra umbingeleli, umbhali obhala amazwi emithetho kaYehova, nemimiselo yakhe kumaSirayeli:
- ¹² UArtashashta, ukumkani wookumkani, kuUezra umbingeleli, umbhali ogqibeleleyo emthethweni kaThixo wamazulu, njalonjalo.
- ¹³ Ndiwise umthetho wokuba bonke ebukumkanini bam, phakathi kwabantu bakwaSirayeli, nababingeleli babo nabaLevi, abaqhutywa yintliziyo ukuya eYerusalem, mabahambe nawe.
- ¹⁴ Ngokuba wena uthunywa ngukumkani namaphakathi akhe asixhenxe, ukubuzisa ngamaYuda neYerusalem, ngokomthetho kaThixo wakho osesandleni sakho;
- ¹⁵ uyise isilivere negolide, ayinikelayo ukumkani namaphakathi akhe, ngokuqhutywa yintliziyo, kuThixo kaSirayeli, okhaya liseYerusalem;
- ¹⁶ nayo yonke isilivere negolide, owoyifumana ezweni lonke laseBhabheli, kunye nomnikelo wokuqhutywa yintliziyo wabantu nababingeleli, abanikela ngokuqhutywa yintliziyo ngenxa yendlu kaThixo wabo, eseYerusalem.
- ¹⁷ Ngoko ke uya kuthenga ngenyameko ngale mali iinkunzi ezintsha zeenkomo, neenkunzi zeegusha, neemvana, neminikelo yazo yokudla, nethululwayo; uyisondeze esibingelelweni sendlu kaThixo wenu eseYerusalem.
- ¹⁸ Nento ethe yalunga kuwe, nakubazalwana bakho, ukwenziwa ngesilivere nangegolide eseleyo, noyenza ngokokuthanda kukaThixo wenu.
- ¹⁹ Ke iimpahla ozinikiweyo ngenxa yombuso wendlu kaThixo wakho, zinikele ziphelele phambi koThixo eYerusalem.
- ²⁰ Nezinye izinto ezifunekayo zendlu kaThixo wakho, othi kuyafuneka ukuba zinikelwe, wozirhola endlwini yendyebo yokumkani.
- ²¹ Mna Artashashta, kumkani, ndiwise umthetho kubo bonke abagcini-ndyebo abaphesheya koMlambo, wokuba konke aya kukubiza kuni Uezra, umbingeleli, umbhali womthetho kaThixo wamazulu, makwenziwe ngenyameko,
- ²² kuse ekhulwini leetalente zesilivere, nekhulu leekore zengqolowa, nekhulu leebhate zewayini, nekhulu leebhate zeoli, netyuwa ingalinganiselwa.
- ²³ Yonke into engomthetho kaThixo wamazulu mayenzelwe indlu kaThixo wamazulu ngokuthe nqo; kuba kungani na ukuba bufikelwe buburhalarhume ubukumkani bokumkani noonyana bakhe?
- ²⁴ Makwazeke kuni, ukuba bonke ababingeleli, nabaLevi, neemvumi, nabamasango, nabakhonzi betempile, nabalungiseleleli bale ndlu kaThixo, akukho bani unagunya

lakubathwesa irhafu, nasithabathaba, nalunikelo.

²⁵ Wena Ezra, ngokobulumko bukaThixo wakho obusesandleni sakho, misa abagwebi, nabathethi bamatyala, ebantwini bonke abaphesheya koMlambo; ndithi, bonke abayaziyo imithetho kaThixo wakho; nabangayaziyo nobazisa.

²⁶ Ke bonke abasukuba bengawenzi umthetho kaThixo wakho, nomthetho wokumkani, malithethwe ityala labo ngenyameko, nokuba baya kubulawa, nokuba baya kugxothwa, nokuba baya kudliwa, nokuba baya kukhonkxwa.

²⁷ Makabongwe uYehova, uThixo woobawo, oyinikeleyo into enjalo entliziyweni yokumkani, ukuba ayihombise indlu kaYehova eseYerusalem;

²⁸ ondithobele inceba phambi kokumkani, namaphakathi akhe, nabathetheli bonke bokumkani abangamagorha. Mna ndomelezeka ngokwesandla sikaYehova uThixo wam esiphezu kwam; ndazibutha kumaSirayeli iintloko zezindlu zooyise, ukuba zinyuke nam.

ISAHLUKO 8

Zizo ke ezi iintloko zezindlu zooyise, nokubhalwa kwazo emilibeni yokuzalwa, ezenyuka nam, ziphuma eBhabheli, ebukumkanini buka-Artashashta ukumkani:

² koonyana bakaPinehasi nguGershom; koonyana bakaltamare nguDaniyeli; koonyana bakaDavide nguHatushe;

³ koonyana bakaShekaniya, koonyana bakaParoshe, nguZekariya, enamadoda abhalwe emilibeni yokuzalwa, alikhulu elinamanci mahlanu;

⁴ koonyana bakaPahati wakwaMowabhi nguEliyohenayi unyana kaZeraya, enamadoda angamakhulu mabini;

⁵ koonyana bakaShekaniya, ngunyana kaYahaziyeli, enamadoda angamakhulu amathathu;

⁶ koonyana baka-Adin nguEbhedde unyana kaYonatan, enamadoda amashumi mahlanu;

⁷ koonyana bakaElam nguYeshaya unyana ka-Ataliya, enamadoda amashumi asixhenxe;

⁸ koonyana bakaShefatiya nguZebhadiya unyana kaMikayeli, enamadoda amashumi asibhozo;

⁹ koonyana bakaYowabhi nguObhadiya unyana kaYehiyeli, enamadoda angamakhulu amabini aneshumi elinesibhozo;

¹⁰ koonyana bakaShelomiti ngunyana kaYosifiya, enamadoda alikhulu elinamanci mathandathu;

¹¹ koonyana bakaBhebhayi nguZekariya unyana kaBhebhayi, enamadoda amashumi mabini anesibhozo;

¹² koonyana baka-Azegadi nguYohanan unyana kaHakatan, enamadoda alikhulu elineshumi linye;

¹³ koonyana bokugqibela baka-Adonikam abamagama angala: nguElifelete, noYehiyeli, noShemaya, benamadoda amashumi mathandathu;

¹⁴ koonyana bakaBhigwayi ngu-Utayi, noZabhudi, enamadoda amashumi asixhenxe.

¹⁵ Ndabahlanganisela emlanjeni ongumAhava; samisa khona imihla yamithathu. Ndabagqala abantu nababingeleli, andafumana khona namnye woonyana bakaLevi.

¹⁶ Ndathumela ukuba kubizwe ooEliyezere, noAriyeli, noShemaya, noElinatan, noYaribhi, noElinatan, noNatan, noZekariya, noMeshulam, abaziintloko; noYoyaribhi noElinatan, abaqondisi-mthetho.

¹⁷ Ndabasusa baya kuldo, oyintloko endaweni eyiKasifiya; ndabeka amazwi emlonyeni

wabo, ukuba bathethe wona kuldo nabazalwana bakhe, abakhonzi betempile, endaweni eyiKasifiya, ukuba basizisele abalungiseleli bendlu kaThixo wethu.

18 Bathi ke, ngokwesandla sikaThixo wethu esilungileyo esiphezu kwethu, babazisa kuthi oolshi-sekele koonyana bakaMahali, unyana kaLevi, unyana kaSirayeli; noSherebhiya, noonyana bakhe nabazalwana bakhe, ishumi elinesibhozo;

19 noHashabhiya enoYeshaya koonyana bakaMerari nabazalwana bakhe, noonyana babo, amashumi amabini;

20 nakubakhonzi betempile, ababethe ooDavide nabathetheli babanikela ukuba bakhonze kubaLevi; abakhonzi betempile ibingamakhulu amabini anamanci mabini, bonke bebalulwe ngamagama.

21 Ndamema inzilo apho emlanjeni ongumAhava, ukuba sizithobe phambi koThixo wethu, sizifunele kuye indlela ethe tye, thina, nentsapho yethu, nemfuyo yethu yonke.

22 Ngokuba ndandineentloni ukuba ndicele impi nabamahashe kukumkani, ukuba basincede ezintshabeni endleleni; ngokuba besesithe kukumkani, Isandla sikaThixo wethu siphezu kwabo bonke abamfunayo, ukuba kulunge; namandla akhe nomsindo wakhe uyabachasa bonke abamshiyayo.

23 Sazila ukudla ke, samkhunga ngenxa yoko uThixo wethu, wathandazeka sithi.

24 Ndahlula kubathetheli bababingeleli ishumi elinababini, ngaphandle koSherebhiya, noHashabhiya, neshumi labazalwana babo;

25 ndayilinganisela kubo isilivere, negolide, nempahla, umrhumo wendlu kaThixo wethu, abawurhumayo ukumkani, namaphakathi akhe, nabathetheli bakhe, namaSirayeli onke awayekho apho.

26 Ndalinganisela esandleni sabo amakhulu amathandathu anamanci mahlanu eetalente zesilivere, nekhulu leetalente zeempahla zesilivere, nekhulu leetalente zegolide;

27 namashumi amabini eendebe zegolide ziliwaka leedarike, neempahla ezimbini zobhedu olubengezela kakuhle, zinqweneleka njengegolide.

28 Ndathi kubo, Ningcwele kuYehova, iimpahla zingcwele; negolide nesilivere zingumnikelo wabaqhutywa yintliziyo, kuYehova, uThixo wooyihlo;

29 phaphani, nizigcine, nide nizilinganisele phambi kwabathetheli bababingeleli, nabaLevi, nabathetheli bezindlu zooyise zamaSirayeli, eYerusalem, emagumbini endlu kaYehova.

30 Ababingeleli nabaLevi bawamkela ke umlinganiso wesilivere negolide nempahla, ukuba bawuzise eYerusalem endlwini yoThixo wethu.

31 Saza sanduluka emlanjeni ongumAhava ngomhla weshumi elinesibini wenyanga yokuqala, ukuba size eYerusalem; isandla soThixo wethu saba phezu kwethu, sasihlangula esandleni seentshaba nesabasilaleleyo endleleni.

32 Safika eYerusalem, sahlala khona iintsuku zantathu.

33 Ngomhla wesine yalinganiselwa isilivere negolide neempahla, endlwini yoThixo wethu, esandleni sikaMeremoti unyana kaUriya, umbingeleli, enoElazare unyana kaPinehasi, benoYozabhadhi unyana kaYeshuwa, noNowadiya unyana kaBhinwi, abaLevi;

34 zanikelwa ngokwenani ngokulinganiselwa kwezinto zonke; konke ukulinganiselwa kwabhalwa ngelo xesha.

35 Oonyana basemfudusweni, abo babephume ekuthinjweni, basondeza amadini anyukayo kuThixo kaSirayeli: iinkunzi ezintsha zeenkomo zalishumi elinambini, ngenxa yamaSirayeli onke, neenkunzi zeegusha zamashumi asithoba anantandathu, neemvana zamashumi asixhenxe anesixhenxe, neenkunzi zeebhokhwe zedini lesono zalishumi

elinambini; zonke zaba lidini elinyukayo kuYehova.

³⁶ Bayinikela imithetho yokumkani kwiirhuluneli zokumkani, nakumabamba nganeno koMlambo; abo babanceda abantu, nendlu kaThixo.

ISAHLUKO 9

Kwakugqitywa oko, beza kum abathetheli, bathi, Abantu bakwaSirayeli, nababingeleli, nabaLevi, abazahluli kwizizwe zamazwe la; benza ngokwamasikizi azo, awamaKanan, namaHetu, namaPerizi, namaYebhusi, nama-Amon, namaMowabhi, namaYiputa, nama-Amori;

² ngokuba bazizekele bona noonyana babo abafazi ezintombini zawo; yazixuba imbewu engcwele nezizwe zala mazwe; ke kuqale isandla sabathetheli nabaphathi kobu bumenemene.

³ Ndathi ndakuliva elo lizwi, ndazikrazula iingubo zam, kwaneyokwaleka, ndazidlathula iinwele zam neendevu, ndahlala phantsi ndimangalisiwe.

⁴ Ndahlanganisela kum bonke abagubha ngamazwi kaThixo kaSirayeli ngenxa yobumenemene babafuduswayo; ndahlala phantsi ndimangalisiwe, kwada kwalilixa lomnikelo wokudla wangokuhlwa.

⁵ Ngelo xa lomnikelo wokudla wangokuhlwa, ndesuka ekuzithobeni kwam, ndazikrazula iingubo zam neyokwaleka, ndaguqa ngamadolo, ndazolulela izandla zam kuYehova uThixo wam, ndathi:

⁶ Thixo wam, ndidanile, ndineentloni, andinakubuphakamisela kuwe ubuso bam, Thixo wam; ngokuba ubugwenxa bethu bukhulile, baba phezu kweentloko zethu; netyala lethu likhulu, lesa emazulwini.

⁷ Kususela kwimihla yoobawo, sisetyaleni elikhulu unanamhla; ngenxa yobugwenxa bethu sanikelwa thina, nookumkani bethu, nababingeleli bethu, esandleni sookumkani bala mazwe, nasekreleni, nasekuthinjweni, nasekuphangweni, nasekudaneni kobuso, njengoko kunjalo namhla.

⁸ Kaloku, ngokwephanyazo elincinane, kukho ubabalo oluvela kuYehova uThixo wethu, lokusishiyela abasindileyo, asinike isikhonkwane endaweni yengcwele yakhe, ukuze uThixo wethu awakhanyisele amehlo ethu, asisindise kancinane ebukhobokeni bethu.

⁹ Ngokuba singamakhoboka; ke ebukhobokeni bethu akasishiyanga uThixo wethu; usithobele inceba phambi kookumkani basePersi, basisindisa, ukuba siphakamise indlu yoThixo wethu, silungise inxuxo layo, basibiyele uthango kwaYuda, naseYerusalem.

¹⁰ Singathini na kaloku, Thixo wethu, emveni koko? Kuba siyishiyile imithetho yakho, owayiwisayo ngabakhonzi bakho abaprofeti, usithi,

¹¹ Ilizwe eniya kulima, lilizwe lokungcola, ngokungcola kwezizwe zala mazwe, ngamasikizi azo azalisileyo, athabathela kwelinye icala esa kwelinye, ngobunqambi bazo.

¹² Ke ngoko iintombi zenu musani ukuzendisela koonyana bazo, neentombi zazo musani ukuzizekela oonyana benu; ningalunyamekeli uxolo lwazo nokuzilungeleyo, naphakade; ukuze nomelele, nidle ukulunga kwelizwe elo, nilinike oonyana benu libe lilifa kude kuse ephakadeni.

¹³ Emveni kwako konke okusihleleyo, ngenxa yezenzo zethu ezibi, nangenxa yetyala lethu elikhulu (kanti wena, Thixo wethu, usiyekile, akwasohlwaya ngangobugwenxa bethu, wasinika abasindileyo abangakanana),

¹⁴ singabuya siyaphule na imithetho yakho, sendiselane nezizwe ezinaloo masikizi? Akuyi kusifuthela ngomsindo side siphele na, ukuze kungabikho baseleyo, basindileyo?

¹⁵ Yehova, Thixo kaSirayeli, ulilungisa, ngokuba sisele singabasindileyo, njengoko kunjalo namhla. Uyabona, siphambi kwakho, sinalo ityala lethu, ngokuba akukho unokuma phambi kwakho ngenxa yoko.

ISAHLUKO 10

Ke kaloku akuthandaza Uezra, akukuxela oku, elila, eziwisile phambi kwendlu kaThixo, kwabuthelana kuye kumaSirayeli ibandla elikhulu kakhulu lamadoda, nabafazi, nabantwana, ngokuba abantu batsho ngesililo esikhulu.

² Waphendula uShekaniya unyana kaYehiyeli, owoonyana bakaElam, wathi kUezra, Senze ubumenemene kuThixo wethu, sazeka abafazi bezinye iintlanga ezizweni zelizwe eli; kodwa kusekho ithemba kumaSirayeli ngale nto.

³ Masimenzele ngoku umnqophiso uThixo wethu, wokuba sibakhuphe bonke abafazi nabazelwe ngabo, ngokwecebo lenkosi yam, nelabagubhela imithetho yoThixo wethu; makwenziwe ngokomyalelo.

⁴ Vuka, ngokuba le nto iphezu kwakho; singakuwe; yomelela, wenze.

⁵ Wavuka Uezra, wabafungisa abathetheli bababingeleli, nababaLevi, nabamaSirayeli onke, ukuba benze ngokwelo lizwi; bafunga ke.

⁶ Wesuka uUezra phambi kwendlu kaThixo, wangena egumbini likaYohanan unyana kaEliyashibhi. Wathi akufika khona, akadla sonka, akasela manzi; ngokuba ubesenza isijwili ngenxa yobumenemene babo bafuduswayo.

⁷ Bahambisa ilizwi kwaYuda naseYerusalem, kubo bonke oonyana basemfudusweni, lokuba babuthelane eYerusalem;

⁸ bathi, bonke abathe abeza ngesithuba semihla emithathu, ngokwecebo labathetheli nelamadoda amakhulu, mayisingelwe phantsi yonke impahla yabo; ke bona ngokwabo bahlulwe nebandla lasemfudusweni.

⁹ Abuthelana eYerusalem onke amadoda akwaYuda nawakwaBhenjamin ngeentsuku ezintathu; yaye iyinyanga yesithoba, ngowamashumi amabini umhla wenyanga leyo. Bahlala bonke abantu ebaleni lendlu kaThixo, bengangcazela yile nto, naziimvula.

¹⁰ Wesuka wema uUezra umbingeleli, wathi kubo, Nenze ubumenemene; nizeke abafazi bezinye iintlanga, ukuze nongeze etyaleni lamaSirayeli.

¹¹ Mzukiseni ngokunje uYehova, uThixo wooyihlo, nenze okukholekileyo kuye, nizahlule kwizizwe zeli lizwe, nakubafazi bezinye iintlanga.

¹² Laphendula lonke ibandla, lathi ngezwi elikhulu, Kufanelekile kuthi, ukuba senze ngokwelizwi lakho;

¹³ kodwa abantu baninzi, yaye ilixesha lemvula, akunakumiwa phandle; lo msebenzi asingowemini enye, asingoweemini ezimbini; ngokuba sone kakhulu ngale nto.

¹⁴ Abathetheli bethu ke mabalimele ibandla lonke; bathi bonke emizini yethu, abazeke abafazi bezinye iintlanga, beze ngamaxesha amisiweyo, benamadoda amakhulu emizi ngemizi, nabagwebi bayo, kude kubuyiswe kuthi ukuvutha komsindo woThixo wethu, isekho nje le nto.

¹⁵ NgooYonatan unyana ka-Asayeli, noYazeya unyana kaTikwa, bodwa abamelana nelo lizwi; ooMeshulam, noShabhetayi umLevi, bebancedisa.

¹⁶ Benjenjalo ke oonyana basemfudusweni. Kwahlulwa ooUezra umbingeleli, namadoda aziintloko zezindlu zooyise ngokwezindlu zooyise, bonke bephela, bebalulwe ngamagama, bahlala phantsi ngomhla wokuqala wenyanga yeshumi ukuyibuza le nto.

¹⁷ Bayigqiba into yonke yamadoda abezeke abafazi bezinye iintlanga, elusukwini lokuqala

lwenyanga yokuqala.

¹⁸ Koonyana bababingeleli kwafunyanwa ababezeke abafazi bezinye iintlanga: koonyana bakaYeshuwa unyana kaYotsadaki, nabazalwana bakhe: ingooMahaseya, noEliyezere, noYaribhi, noGedaliya.

¹⁹ Banika isandla sabo, ukuba bobakhupha abafazi babo; bathi, benetyala nje, bakhuphe inkunzi yasempahleni emfutshane ngenxa yetyala labo;

²⁰ koonyana bakaImere yanguHanani noZebhadiya;

²¹ koonyana bakaHarim yanguMahaseya, noEliya, noShemaya, noYehiyeli, noUziya;

²² koonyana bakaPashure yanguEliyohenayi, noMahaseya, noIshmayeli, noNataniyeli, noYozabhadi, noEliyas;

²³ nakubaLevi; yanguYozabhadi, noShimehi, noKelaya okwanguKelita, noPetaya, noYuda, noEliyezere;

²⁴ kwiimvumi yanguEliyashibhi; kwabamasango yanguShalum, noTelem, noUri;

²⁵ kumaSirayeli: koonyana bakaParoshe yanguRamiya, noIziya, noMalekiya, noMiyamin, noElazare, noMalekiya, noBhenaya;

²⁶ koonyana bakaElam yanguMataniya, noZekariya, noYehiyeli, noAbhedi, noYeremoti, noEliya;

²⁷ koonyana bakaZatu yanguEliyohenayi, noEliyashibhi, noMataniya, noYeremoti, noZabhadi, noAziza;

²⁸ nakoonyana bakaBhebhayi yanguYohanan, noHananiya, noZabhadi, noAtelayi;

²⁹ koonyana bakaBhani yanguMeshulam, noMaluki, noAdaya, noYashubhi, noShehali, noYeremoti;

³⁰ koonyana bakaPahati wakwaMowabhi yanguAdena, noKelali, noBhenaya, noMahaseya, noMataniya, noBhetsaleli, noBhinwi, noManase;

³¹ koonyana bakaHarim yanguEliyezere, noIshiya, noMalekiya, noShemaya, noSimon,

³² noBhenjamin, noMaluki, noShemariya;

³³ koonyana bakaHashum yanguMatenayi, noMatata, noZabhadi, noElifelete, noYeremayi, noManase, noShimehi;

³⁴ koonyana bakaBhani yanguMahadayi, noAmram, noUweli,

³⁵ noBhenaya, noBhedeya, noKelwi,

³⁶ noVaniya, noMeremoti, noEliyashibhi,

³⁷ noMataniya, noMatenayi, noYahasavi,

³⁸ noBhani, noBhinwi, noShimehi,

³⁹ noShelemiya, noNatan, noAdaya,

⁴⁰ noMakenadebhayi, noShashayi, noSharayi,

⁴¹ noAzareli, noShelemiya, noShemariya,

⁴² noShalum, noAmariya, noYosefu;

⁴³ koonyana bakaNabho yanguYehiyeli, noMatitiya, noZabhadi, noZebhina, noYadayi, noYoweli, noBhenaya.

⁴⁴ Bonke abo babezeke abafazi bezinye iintlanga. Bekukho phakathi kwabo abafazi ababezele oonyana.