

1 SAMUWELI

Isahluko: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

ISAHLUKO 1

Kwakukhona umuntu waseRamatayimi Sofimu lasezintabeni zakwa-Efrayimi ogama lakhe lalingu-Elkana indodana kaJerohamu ka-Elihu kaTholu kaSufi wakwa-Efrayimi;

² wayenabafazi ababili, igama lomunye lalinguHana, igama lomunye lalinguPhenina; uPhenina wayenabantwana, kepha uHana wayengenabantwana.

³ Lowo muntu wenyuka emzini wakhe iminyaka ngeminyaka ukukhonza nokuhlabela uJehova Sebawoti eShilo. Kwakukhona lapho amadodana amabili ka-Eli, oHofini noFinehasi, bengabapristi bakaJehova.

⁴ Kwathi ngosuku u-Elkana ahlaba ngalo, wanika uPhenina umkakhe nawo onke amadodana akhe namadodakazi akhe izabelo;

⁵ kepha wanika uHana isabelo siphindwa kabili, ngokuba wayemthanda uHana, kepha uJehova wayesivalile isizalo sakhe.

⁶ Isitha sakhe samncokoloza kakhulu ukuba amthukuthelise, ngokuba uJehova wayesivalile isizalo sakhe.

⁷ Kwathi ukuba u-Elkana enze njalo iminyaka ngeminyaka, lapho enyukela endlini kaJehova, wamncokoloza kanjalo; ngalokho wakhala, akadlanga lutho.

⁸ Wayesethi u-Elkana umyeni wakhe kuye: “Hana, ukhalelani na? Awudli ngani? Inhliziyo yakho idabukeleni na? Angidluli yini amadodana ayishumi kuwe na?”

⁹ UHana wasukuma, nxa sebedlile eShilo, bephuzile. U-Eli umpristi wayehlezi esihlalweni sakhe ngasensikeni yomnyango wethempeli likaJehova.

¹⁰ Umphefumulo wakhe wawunomunyu, wakhuleka kuJehova, wakhala kakhulu.

¹¹ Wenza isithembiso, wathi: “Jehova Sebawoti, ubheke nokubheka ukuhlupheka kwencekukazi yakho, ungikhumbule, ungakhohlwa incekekazi yakho, unike incekekazi yakho umntwana wesilisa, bese ngimnika uJehova zonke izinsuku zokuhamba kwakhe, kungathinti mpucok ekhanda lakhe.”

¹² Kwathi esaqhubeka ukukhuleka phambi kukaJehova, u-Eli waqaphela umlomo wakhe.

¹³ UHana wayekhuluma enhliziyweni yakhe, kwabikizela izindebe zakhe zomlomo kuphela, kepha izwi lakhe lalingezwakali; ngalokho u-Eli wacabanga ukuthi udakiwe.

¹⁴ U-Eli wathi kuye: “Uyakudakwa kuze kube nini na? Susa iwayini lakho kuwe.”

¹⁵ UHana waphendula wathi: “Hhayi, nkosi, ngingowesifazane ohluphekileyo; angiphuzanga iwayini naphuzo olunamandla, kepha bengithulula umphefumulo wami phambi kukaJehova.

¹⁶ Ungasho ukuthi incekekazi yakho ingowesifazane omubi, ngokuba kungobuningi bosizi

Iwami nangokuncokolozwa kwami ngikhulumile kuze kube manje.”

17 Wayesephendula u-Eli ethi: “Hamba ngokuthula; uNkulunkulu wakwa-Israyeli makakunike okucelileyo kuye.”

18 Wathi: “Incekukazi yakho mayifumane umusa emehlweni akho.” Owesifazane wayesehamba, wadla, ubuso bakhe ababe busanyukumala.

19 Bavuka ekuseni kakhulu, bakhuleka phambi kukaJehova, babuya, bafika endlini yabo eRama; u-Elkana wamazwi uHana umkakhe, uJehova wamkhumbula.

20 Kwathi sesiphelele isikhathi, uHana wakhulelwa, wazala indodana, waqamba igama layo ngokuthi uSamuweli, ethi: “Ngimcelile kuJehova.”

21 Lowo muntu u-Elkana wenyuka kanye nendlu yakhe ukuyonikela kuJehova umhlathelo weminyaka nesithembiso sakhe.

22 Kepha uHana akenyukanga, ngokuba wathi kumyeni wakhe: “Hhayi aze alunyulwe umntwana; khona ngiyakumyisa ukuba abonakale phambi kukaJehova, ahlale khona njalo.”

23 Wayesethi u-Elkana umyeni wakhe kuye: “Yenza okuhle emehlweni akho; hlala uze umlumule; uJehova makaqinise izwi lakhe kuphela.” Owesifazane wayesehlala, wancelisa indodana yakhe waze wayilumula.

24 Eseyilumulile wenyuka nayo enezinkunzi ezintathu, ne-efa lempuphu, nemvaba yewayini, wakuyisa endlini kaJehova eShilo; umntwana wayesemncane.

25 Bahlaba inkunzi, bamyisa umntwana ku-Eli.

26 Wathi: “E nkosi, kuphila komphfumulo wakho, nkosi yami, ngingowesifazane owayemi kuwe lapha, ekhuleka kuJehova.

27 Ngamkhulekela lo mntwana; uJehova unginikile lokho engakucela kuye;

28 ngalokho nami ngimnikele kuJehova; zonke izinsuku zokuphila kwakhe unikelwe kuJehova.” Bakhuleka kuJehova khona.

ISAHLUKO 2

UHana wakhuleka wathi: “Inhliziyo yami iyethaba kuJehova, uphondo lwami luphakeme kuJehova; umlomo wami ukhamisile phezu kwezitha zami, ngokuba ngenama ngensindiso yakho.

2 “Akakho ongcwele njengoJehova, ngokuba akakho noyedwa ngaphandle kwakho; futhi alikho idwala elinjengoNkulunkulu wethu.

3 Ningabe nisakhuluma ngokuzidla kangaka, kungaphumi ukuqhosha emlonyeni wenu, ngokuba uJehova unguNkulunkulu wokwazi; izenzo zilinganiswa nguye.

4 “Iminsalo yamaqhawe yaphuliwe, kepha abakhubekayo babhinciswa amandla.

5 Ababesuthile baqashelwa isinkwa; ababelambile sebeyekile ukulamba; yebo, oyinyumba uzele abayisikhombisa; onabantwana abaningi uyawuma.

6 “UJehova uyabulala, abesephilisa; uyehlisela endaweni yabafileyo, abesenyusa.

7 UJehova uyaphofisa, abesecebisa; uyathobisa, abeseiphakamisa.

8 Uyamvusa ompofu othulini, uyaphakamisa impabanga ezaleni, abahlalise nezikhulu, badle ifa lesihlalo sobukhosi, ngokuba izinsika zomhlaba zingezikaJehova; ubekile izwe phezu kwazo.

9 “Uyakugcina izinyawo zabathembekileyo bakhe, kepha ababi bayakuthuliswa ebumnyameni, ngokuba akukho muntu oyakwahlula ngamandla.

10 Abalwa noJehova bayakuphahlazwa; uyakuduma ezulwini phezu kwabo; uJehova

uyakwahlulela amajukujuku omhlaba, anike inkosi yakhe amandla, aphakamise uphondo logcotshiweyo wakhe.”

11 U-Elkana waya eRama endlini yakhe. Umntwana wakhonza uJehova phambi kuka-Eli umpristi.

12 Amadodana ka-Eli ayengabantu ababi; ayengamazi uJehova.

13 Kwakungumthetho wabapristi kubantu ukuba, nxa umuntu enikela ngomhlatselo, kufike inceku yompristi inyama isabila, iphethe ngesandla ingwegwe emazinyo mathathu,

14 ihlabe ngayo emcengezini, noma esocweni, noma ebhodweni, noma ekhanzini; konke ekwenyusayo ingwegwe, umpristi wakuthatha. Benze njalo eShilo kubo bonke abakwa-Israyeli ababefika khona.

15 Yebo, bengakashisi amanoni, yafika inceku yompristi, yathi kumuntu ohlabayo: “Letha inyama yokoselwa umpristi, ngokuba akayikuthatha kuwe inyama ephekiweyo kepha eluhlaza.”

16 Uma lowo muntu wathi kuye: “Bayakushisa nokushisa amanoni kuqala, besewuthatha njengokuthanda kwakho,” yathi: “Hhayi, woyiletha manje; uma ungayilethi, ngiyakuyithatha ngamandla.”

17 Isono sezinsizwa sasisikhulu kakhulu phambi kukaJehova, ngokuba abantu bawudelela umnikelo kaJehova.

18 USamuweli wakhonza phambi kukaJehova esengumntwana, egqoke ingubo yamahlombe yelineni.

19 Futhi unina wamenzela ijazana, waliyisa kuye iminyaka ngeminyaka esenyuka nomyeni wakhe ukuyonikela ngomhlatselo weminyaka yonke.

20 U-Eli wabusisa u-Elkana nomkakhe, wathi: “UJehova makakunike inzalo ngalo wesifazane ngenxa yalokho uJehova atshelekwa khona.” Base bebuyela ekhaya.

21 UJehova wamhambela uHana; wakhulelwa, wazala amadodana amathathu namadodakazi amabili. Umntwana uSamuweli wakhula phambi kukaJehova.

22 U-Eli wayesemdala kakhulu, wezwa konke amadodana akhe akwenzayo ku-Israyeli wonke, nokuthi ayelala nabesifazane ababekhonza ngasemnyango wetende lokuhlangana.

23 Wathi kuwo: “Nenzelani izinto ezinjalo na? Ngokuba ngiyezwa imisebenzi yenu emibi kubo bonke laba bantu.

24 Hhayi, madodana ami, akusilo izwi elihle engilizwayo lenekwa ngabantu bakaJehova.

25 Uma umuntu ona kumuntu, uNkulunkulu uyakumahlulela, kepha uma umuntu ona kuJehova, uyakulanyulelwa ngubani na?” Kodwa awalalelanga izwi likayise, ngokuba uJehova wayethanda ukuwabulala.

26 Umntwana uSamuweli waqhubeka wakhula, waba muhle kuJehova nakubantu.

27 Kwafika umuntu kaNkulunkulu ku-Eli, wathi kuye: “UJehova usho kanje, uthi: ‘Angithi ngazibonakalisa kuyo indlu kayihlo, beseseGibithe besendlini kaFaro.

28 Ngamketha kuzo zonke izizwe zakwa-Israyeli ukuba abe ngumpristi wami, anikele e-altare lami, ashise impepho, afake ingubo yamahlombe phambi kwami, nganika indlu kayihlo yonke iminikelo yomlilo yabantwana bakwa-Israyeli.

29 Niwukhahlelani umhlatselo wami nomnikelo wami engiyale ngakho endlini yami, udumise amadodana akho phezu kwami, nizikhuluphalise ngeminikelo emihle kunayo yonke yakwa-Israyeli, abantu bami, na?’

30 “Ngalokho uJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Ngasho nokusho ukuthi indlu yakho nendlu kayihlo yohamba phambi kwami kuze kube phakade.’ Kepha manje uJehova uthi: ‘Makube kude nami, ngokuba abangidumisayo ngiyakubadumisa; abangidelelayo

bayakweyiswa.

³¹ Bheka, izinsuku ziyeza engiyakunquma ngazo ingalo yakho nengalo yendlu kayihlo ukuba kungabikho xhegu endlini yakho.

³² Uyakubona ukuhlupheka kwendlu yami kukho konke okuhle ayakwenzelwa khona u-Israyeli; akuyikubakho xhegu endlini yakho kuze kube phakade.

³³ Kepha angiyikumnquma umuntu wakho e-altare lami ukuba aqede amehlo akho, abangele usizi umphefumulo wakho; yonke inzalo yendlu yakho iyakufa isebudodeni bayo.

³⁴ “ ‘Lokhu kuyakuba yisiboniso kuwe esiyakwehlela amadodana akho amabili, oHofini noFinehasi; ngalusuku lunye bayakufa bobabili.

³⁵ Ngiyakuzivusela umpristi othembekileyo oyakwenza njengokusenhliziyweni yami nasengqondweni yami; ngiyakumakhela indlu eqinileyo; uyakuhamba phambi kogcotshweyo wami kuze kube phakade.

³⁶ Kuyakuthi bonke abasele endlini yakho bafike bamkothamele ngohlamvu lwesiliva neqebelengwane lesinkwa, bathi: “Ake ungibeke kwesinye sezikhundla zompristi ukuba ngidle ucezu lwesinkwa.” ’ ’ ”

ISAHLUKO 3

Umntwana uSamuweli wamkhonza uJehova phambi kuka-Eli. Izwi likaJehova lalingavamile ngalezo zinsuku; nombono wawuyivelakancane.

² Kwathi ngaleso sikhathi u-Eli elele endaweni yakhe - amehlo akhe ayeqale ukufiphala waze wangaba nakho ukubona -

³ isibani sikaNkulunkulu sasingakacimi, uSamuweli elele ethempelini likaJehova, lapho kwakukhona umphongolo kaNkulunkulu,

⁴ uJehova wambiza uSamuweli; wathi yena: “Ngilapha.”

⁵ Wagijimela ku-Eli, wathi: “Ngilapha, njengokuba ungibizile.” Wathi: “Angikubizanga; buya ulale.” Wahamba, walala.

⁶ UJehova waphinda wambiza uSamuweli. USamuweli wavuka, waya ku-Eli, wathi: “Ngilapha, njengokuba ungibizile.” Wathi: “Angikubizanga, ndodana yami; buya ulale.”

⁷ Kepha uSamuweli wayengakamazi uJehova, nezwi likaJehova lalingakambulelwa kuye.

⁸ UJehova wambiza uSamuweli ngokwesithathu. Wavuka, waya ku-Eli, wathi: “Ngilapha, njengokuba ungibizile.” U-Eli wayeseqonda ukuthi nguJehova ombizile umntwana.

⁹ U-Eli wathi kuSamuweli: “Hamba, ulale; kuyakuthi uma ekubiza, usho ukuthi: ‘Khuluma, Jehova, ngokuba inceku yakho iyezwa.’ ” Wayesehamba uSamuweli, walala endaweni yakhe.

¹⁰ UJehova wafika, wema, wambiza njengakwezinye izikhathi: “Samuweli, Samuweli!” USamuweli wathi: “Khuluma, ngokuba inceku yakho iyezwa.”

¹¹ UJehova wathi kuSamuweli: “Bheka, ngiyakwenza into kwa-Israyeli eziyakunkeneneza ngayo izindlebe zombili zabo bonke abayizwayo.

¹² Ngalolo suku ngiyakumehlisela u-Eli konke engikukhulumile ngendlu yakhe, kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekugcineni.

¹³ Ngokuba ngimtshelile ukuthi ngiyakwahlulela indlu yakhe kuze kube phakade ngobubi abaziyo, lokhu amadodana akhe ayezehlisela isiqalekiso, engawakhuzanga.

¹⁴ Ngalokho ngifungile ngendlu ka-Eli ukuthi ububi bendlu ka-Eli abuyikuhlangulwa ngomhlathelo nangomnikelo kuze kube phakade.”

- ¹⁵ USamuweli walala kwaze kwasa, wavula iminyango yendlu kaJehova. USamuweli wesaba ukumtshela u-Eli umbono.
- ¹⁶ U-Eli wayesembiza uSamuweli, wathi: “Samuweli, ndodana yami!” Wathi: “Ngilapha.”
- ¹⁷ Wathi: “Yintoni owayikhulumayo kuwe na? Ake ungayifihli kimi; uNkulunkulu makenze njalo kuwe, enezele futhi, uma ungifihlela izwi elilodwa lakho konke lokho owakukhuluma kuwe.”
- ¹⁸ USamuweli wayesemtshela konke, akamfihlelanga lutho. Wathi: “NguJehova; makenze okuhle emehlweni akhe.”
- ¹⁹ USamuweli wakhula; uJehova wayenaye; akawisanga phansi nelilodwa lamazwi akhe.
- ²⁰ Wonke u-Israyeli kusukela kwaDani kuze kube seBeri Sheba wazi ukuthi uSamuweli uqinisiwe ukuba abe ngumprofethi kaJehova.
- ²¹ UJehova waphinda wabonakala eShilo, ngokuba uJehova wazibonakalisa kuSamuweli eShilo ngezwi likaJehova.

ISAHLUKO 4

Izwi likaSamuweli lafika kuye wonke u-Israyeli. U-Israyeli waphuma ukulwa namaFilisti, wamisa ngase-Ebeni Ezeri; amaFilisti amisa e-Afeki.

² AmaFilisti azihlela ukuhlangana no-Israyeli; impi yaqhubeka, u-Israyeli wahlulwa phambi kwamaFilisti abulala empini ngasendle kungathi abantu abayizinkulungwane ezine.

³ Kwathi abantu bengena ekamu, amalunga akwa-Israyeli athi: “UJehova usibulaleleni phambi kwamaFilisti na? Masithathe umphongolo wesivumelwano sikaJehova eShilo, siwulethe kithi, ufike phakathi kwethu, usisindise esandleni sezitha zethu.”

⁴ Abantu base bethumela eShilo, bathatha khona umphongolo wesivumelwano sikaJehova Sebawoti ohlezi phezu kwamakherubi; amadodana amabili ka-Eli, oHofini noFinehasi, ayelapho nomphongolo wesivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu.

⁵ Kwathi umphongolo wesivumelwano sikaJehova ufika ekamu, wonke u-Israyeli wakhamuluka ngokukhamuluka okukhulu, kwaze kwaduma umhlaba.

⁶ AmaFilisti esezwa umsindo wokukhamuluka athi: “Uthini umsindo walokhu kukhamuluka okukhulu ekamu lamaHeberu na?” Aqonda ukuthi umphongolo kaJehova ufikile ekamu.

⁷ AmaFilisti esaba, ngokuba athi: “UNkulunkulu ufikile ekamu.” Athi-ke: “Maye kithina! Ngokuba akuzange kube khona okunje ngaphambili.

⁸ Maye kithina! Ngubani oyakusophula esandleni salaba onkulunkulu abanamandla na? Yilaba onkulunkulu abashaya abaseGibithe ngazo zonke izifo ehlane.

⁹ Qinani nibe ngamadoda nina maFilisti ukuba ningabi yizigqila zamaHeberu, njengalokho ebeyizigqila zenu. Yibani ngamadoda, nilwe!”

¹⁰ AmaFilisti alwa, u-Israyeli wachithwa, babaleka, kwaba yilowo nalowo etendeni lakhe; kwaba khona ukuceka okukhulu, ngokuba kwawa ku-Israyeli abantu abayizinkulungwane ezingamashumi amathathu aba yimigundatshani.

¹¹ Umphongolo kaNkulunkulu wathathwa; amadodana omabili ka-Eli, oHofini noFinehasi, abulawa.

¹² Kwaphuma umuntu wakwaBenjamini empini, wagijima waya eShilo ngalolo suku, izingubo zakhe ziklebhukile, enomhlabathi ekhanda.

¹³ Ekufikeni kwakhe, bheka, u-Eli wayehlezi esihlalweni sakhe ngaseceleni komgwaqo, ngokuba inhliziyo yakhe yayithuthumela ngomphongolo kaNkulunkulu. Esengenile emzini lowo muntu, wakubika, wakhala umuzi wonke.

¹⁴ Lapho u-Eli ezwa umsindo wokukhala, wathi: “Uthini umsindo walokhu kumemeza na?” Lowo muntu washesha waya wamtshela u-Eli.

¹⁵ U-Eli wayeneminyaka engamashumi ayisishiyagalolunye nesishiyagalombili; amehlo akhe ayequndekile, engenakubona.

¹⁶ Lowo muntu wathi ku-Eli: “Nginguye owaphuma empini, ngibaleke empini namuhla.” Wathi: “Bekunjani, ndodana yami, na?”

¹⁷ Owaletha umbiko waphendula wathi: “U-Israyeli ubalekile phambi kwamaFilisti; kwakukhona ukubulawa okukhulu phakathi kwabantu; amadodana akho omabili oHofini noFinehasi afile, nomphongolo kaNkulunkulu uthathiwe.”

¹⁸ Kwathi esaphatha umphongolo kaNkulunkulu, wawa nyovane esihlalweni sakhe ngaseceleni kwesango, kwaphuka intamo yakhe, wafa, ngokuba wayengumuntu omdala, esinda. Wayebahlulele abakwa-Israyeli iminyaka engamashumi amane.

¹⁹ Umalokazana wakhe, umkaFinehasi, wayekhulelwe esezakubeletha; esezwile umbiko wokuthi umphongolo kaNkulunkulu uthathiwe nokuthi kufile uyisezala nomyeni wakhe, wakhonkoba, wabeletha, ngokuba wafikelwa yimihelo.

²⁰ Ngesikhathi sokufa kwakhe abesifazane ababemi kuye bathi kuye: “Ungesabi, ngokuba ubelethe indodana.” Kepha akaphendulanga, akakunakanga.

²¹ Wamqamba umntwana ngokuthi u-Ikabodi, ethi: “Inkazimulo isukile kwa-Israyeli,” ngokuba umphongolo kaNkulunkulu uthathiwe, nangenxa kayisezala wakhe nomyeni wakhe.

²² Wathi: “Inkazimulo isukile kwa-Israyeli, ngokuba umphongolo kaNkulunkulu uthathiwe.”

ISAHLUKO 5

AmaFilisti athatha umphongolo kaNkulunkulu, awususa e-Ebeni Ezeri, awuyisa e-Ashidodi.

² AmaFilisti awuthatha umphongolo kaNkulunkulu, awungenisa endlini kaDagoni, awubeka ngakuye uDagoni.

³ Abase-Ashidodi sebevukile kusasa ekuseni, bheka, uDagoni wayewile phansi ngobuso phambi komphongolo kaJehova. Bamthatha uDagoni, bambuyisela endaweni yakhe.

⁴ Sebevukile kusasa ekuseni, bheka, uDagoni wayewile phansi ngobuso phambi komphongolo kaJehova; ikhanda likaDagoni nezimpama zombili zezandla zakhe zazingamukile zisembundwini; kwasala isidumbu sakhe kuphela.

⁵ Ngalokho abapristi bakaDagoni nabo bonke abangena endlini kaDagoni abanyatheli embundwini kaDagoni e-Ashidodi kuze kube namuhla.

⁶ Kepha isandla sikaJehova sasinzima phezu kwabase-Ashidodi, wabachitha, wababulala ngamathumba, i-Ashidodi nemikhawulo yalo.

⁷ Abantu base-Ashidodi sebebona ukuthi kunjalo bathi: “Umphongolo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli awuyikuhlala kithi, ngokuba isandla sakhe silukhuni phezu kwethu naphezu kukaDagoni unkulunkulu wethu.”

⁸ Bathuma babuthela kubo onke amakhosi amaFilisti, bathi: “Siyakwenzani ngomphongolo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli na?” Athi: “Umphongolo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli mawususelwe eGati.” Bawususela umphongolo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli khona.

⁹ Kwathi sebewususele khona, isandla sikaJehova sasiphezu kwalowo muzi ngokungquzula okukhulu, wabulala abantu bomuzi abancane nabakhulu; kwaqhamuka amathumba kubo.

¹⁰ Base bethuma umphongolo kaNkulunkulu e-Ekroni. Kwathi ekufikeni komphongolo kaNkulunkulu e-Ekroni abase-Ekroni bakhala bathi: “Balethile umphongolo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli kithi ukuba usibulale thina nabantu bakithi.”

¹¹ Bathuma babutha onke amakhosi amaFilisti, bathi: “Wususeni umphongolo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ubuyele endlini yawo, ukuba ungasibulali thina nabantu bakithi,” ngokuba kwakukhona ukungquzuka okokufa emzini wonke; isandla sikaNkulunkulu sasinzima kakhulu khona.

¹² Abantu abangafanga bashaywa ngamathumba; ukukhala komuzi kwenyukela ezulwini.

ISAHLUKO 6

Umphongolo kaJehova wawusezweni lamaFilisti izinyanga eziyisikhombisa.

² AmaFilisti abiza abapristi nababhuli, athi: “Siyakwenze njani ngomphongolo kaJehova na? Saziseni ukuthi singawubuyisela kanjani endaweni yawo.”

³ Bathi: “Uma nimukisa umphongolo kaNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ningawumukisi ze, kepha anobuyisela nokubuyisela kuye umnikelo wecala; khona niyakuphiliswa, kwazeke kini ukuthi isandla sakhe asisuswa ngani kini.”

⁴ Athi: “Uyakuba yini umnikelo wecala esiyakuwubuyisela kuye na?” Bathi: “Amathumba ayisihlanu egolide namagundane ayisihlanu egolide njengomumo wamakhosi amaFilisti, ngokuba kuyisifo sinye esikubo bonke nakuwo amakhosi enu.

⁵ Niyakwenza imifanekiso yamathumba enu nemifanekiso yamagundane enu alonayo izwe, nimnike uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli udumo; mhlawumbe uyakusenza lula isandla sakhe phezu kwenu, naphezu kwawonkulunkulu benu, naphezu kwezwe lakini.

⁶ Nenzeleni zibe lukhuni izinhliziyu zenu, njengalokho abaseGibithe noFaro bazenza lukhuni izinhliziyu zabo na? Lapho esebenzile phakathi kwabo, ababavumelanga yini ukuba bahambe na?

⁷ “Manje thathani nilungise inqola entsha nezinkomo ezimbili ezincelisayo okungafikanga joka phezu kwazo, nizibophele izinkomo enqoleni, nibuyisele ekhaya amankonyane azo,

⁸ nithathe umphongolo kaJehova, niwubeke enqoleni, nifake impahla yegolide eniyibuyisela kuye ibe ngumnikelo wecala ebhokisini eliseceleni kwawo, niyimukise, ihambe.

⁹ Anobona, uma yenyuka ngendlela yasemkhawulweni wayo ukuya eBeti Shemeshi, nguye osenzele lobo bubi obukhulu; kepha uma kungenjalo, siyakwazi ukuthi akusiso isandla sakhe esisishayileyo; sehlelwa ingozi nje.”

¹⁰ Abantu benze njalo; bathatha izinkomo ezimbili ezincelisayo, bazibophela enqoleni, bazivalela amankonyane azo ekhaya,

¹¹ bawubeka umphongolo kaJehova enqoleni kanye nebhokisi lamagundane egolide nemifanekiso yamathumba abo.

¹² Izinkomo zaqonda endleleni, zaya ngaseBeti Shemeshi, zahamba ngomendo, zihamba zikhala, zingaphambukeli ngakwesokunene noma ngakwesokhohlo; amakhosi amaFilisti azilandela, aze afika emkhawulweni waseBeti Shemeshi.

¹³ AbaseBeti Shemeshi babevuna ukolweni esigodini, baphakamisa amehlo abo, bawubona umphongolo, bathokoza ukuwubona.

¹⁴ Inqola yangena ensimini kaJoshuwa waseBeti Shemeshi, yema khona, lapho kwakukhona itshe elikhulu; babanda inqola yaba yizinkuni, banikela ngezinkomo zaba ngumnikelo wokushiswa kuJehova.

¹⁵ AmaLevi ayethulile umphongolo kaJehova nebhokisi elalinawo, okwakukulo impahla

yegolide, akubeka etsheni elikhulu; abantu baseBeti Shemeshi banikela ngeminikelo yokushiswa, bahlabela uJehova imihlatshelo ngalolo suku.

¹⁶ Amakhosi ayisihlanu amaFilisti esekubonile abuyela e-Ekroni ngalolo suku.

¹⁷ Lawa angamathumba egolide amaFilisti awabuyisa abe ngumnikelo wecala kuJehova: elinye ngele-Ashidodi, neline ngeleGaza, neline ngele-Ashikeloni, neline ngeleGati, neline ngele-Ekroni;

¹⁸ namagundane egolide ayenjengomumo wemizi yonke yamaFilisti yamakhosi ayisihlanu, imizi ebiyelweyo nemizana yasemaphandleni, okubufakazi bakho kuyitshe elikhulu abawubeka kulo umphongolo kaJehova, elikhona nanamuhla ensimini kaJoshuwa waseBeti Shemeshi.

¹⁹ Wabulala abantu baseBeti Shemeshi, ngokuba babebukile umphongolo kaJehova; wabulala kubantu amadoda angamashumi ayisikhombisa emadodeni ayizinkulungwane ezingamashumi ayisihlanu; abantu balila, ngokuba uJehova wabulala abantu ngokubulala okukhulu.

²⁰ Abantu baseBeti Shemeshi base bethi: “Ngubani ongema phambi kukaJehova, lo Nkulunkulu ongcwele, na? Uyakwenyukela kubani esuka kithina na?”

²¹ Bathuma izithunywa kwabakhileyo eKiryati Jeharimi, bathi: “AmaFilisti awubuyisele umphongolo kaJehova; yehlani, niwukhuphulele kini.”

ISAHLUKO 7

Abantwana baseKiryati Jeharimi bafika, bakhuphula umphongolo kaJehova, bawungenisa endlini ka-Abinadaba entabeni, bamngcwelisa u-Eleyazare indodana yakhe ukuba agcine umphongolo kaJehova.

² Kwathi kusukela osukwini umphongolo owahlala ngalo eKiryati Jeharimi, kwaba yisikhathi eside, ngokuba saba yiminyaka engamashumi amabili; yonke indlu yakwa-Israyeli yakhalela uJehova.

³ USamuweli wakhuluma kuyo yonke indlu ka-Israyeli, wathi: “Uma nibuyela kuJehova ngayo yonke inhliziyu yenu, susani kini onkulunkulu babezizwe no-Ashitaroti, nibhekise izinhliziyu zenu kuJehova, nimkhonze yena yedwa; uyakunophula esandleni samaFilisti.”

⁴ Abakwa-Israyeli base besusa oBali no-Ashitaroti, bamkhonza uJehova yedwa.

⁵ USamuweli wathi: “Buthani wonke u-Israyeli eMispa; ngiyakunikhulekela kuJehova.”

⁶ Babuthana eMispa, bakha amanzi, bawathulula phambi kukaJehova, bazila ngalolo suku, bathi khona: “Sonile kuJehova.” USamuweli wahlulela abantwana bakwa-Israyeli eMispa.

⁷ AmaFilisti esezwile ukuthi abantwana bakwa-Israyeli babuthene eMispa, amakhosi amaFilisti akhuphuka ukulwa no-Israyeli. Abantwana bakwa-Israyeli bekuzwile lokho bawesaba amaFilisti.

⁸ Abantwana bakwa-Israyeli bathi kuSamuweli: “Ungaphezi ukusikhalela kuJehova uNkulunkulu wethu ukuba asisindise esandleni samaFilisti.”

⁹ USamuweli wathatha iwundlu elincelayo, wanikela ngalo libe ngumnikelo oshiswa wonke kuJehova; uSamuweli wamkhalela u-Israyeli kuJehova; uJehova wamphendula.

¹⁰ USamuweli esanikela ngomnikelo wokushiswa, amaFilisti asondela ukulwa no-Israyeli; kepha uJehova waduma ngokuduma okukhulu phezu kwamaFilisti ngalolo suku, wawangquzula, abulawa phambi kuka-Israyeli.

¹¹ Abantu bakwa-Israyeli baphuma eMispa, bawaxosha amaFilisti, bawabulala, baze bafika ngaphansi eBeti Kari.

- ¹² USamuweli wathatha itshe, walimisa phakathi kweMispa neSheni, waqamba igama lalo ngokuthi i-Ebeni Ezeri, ethi: “Kuze kube manje uJehova usisizile.”
- ¹³ Ayesahlulwa amaFilisti, awabe esaphinda ukungena emikhawulweni ka-Israyeli; isandla sikaJehova sasimelene namaFilisti zonke izinsuku zikaSamuweli.
- ¹⁴ Imizi amaFilisti ayeyithathile ku-Israyeli yabuyiselwa ku-Israyeli, kusukela e-Ekroni kuze kube seGati; umkhawulo wayo u-Israyeli wawophula esandleni samaFilisti. Kwaba khona ukuthula phakathi kuka-Israyeli nama-Amori.
- ¹⁵ USamuweli wahlulela u-Israyeli zonke izinsuku zokuhamba kwakhe.
- ¹⁶ Wahamba iminyaka ngeminyaka ezungeza, waya eBethela, naseGiligali, naseMispa; wahlulela u-Israyeli kuzo zonke lezo zindawo.
- ¹⁷ Wayebuyela eRama, ngokuba indlu yakhe yayilapho; wahlulela u-Israyeli khona, wamakhela lapho uJehova i-altare.

ISAHLUKO 8

Kwathi uSamuweli esemdala, wabeka amadodana akhe abe ngabahluleli phezu kuka-Israyeli.

- ² Igama lendodana yakhe eyizibulo lalinguJoweli; igama leyesibili lalingu-Abiya; babe ngabahluleli eBeri Sheba.
- ³ Amadodana akhe ayengahambi ngezindlela zakhe, kepha aphambukela inzuzo embi, athengwa ngemivuzo, aphendukezela izahlulelo.
- ⁴ Kwabuthana onke amalunga akwa-Israyeli, aya kuSamuweli eRama;
- ⁵ athi kuye: “Bheka, usumdala, amadodana akho awahambi ngezindlela zakho; sibekela inkosi ukuba isahlulele njengezizwe zonke.”
- ⁶ Kepha leyo nto yaba mbi emehlweni kaSamuweli, lapho bethi: “Siphe inkosi ukuba isahlulele.” USamuweli wayeseekhuleka kuJehova.
- ⁷ UJehova wathi kuSamuweli: “Lalela izwi labantu kukho konke abakushoyo kuwe, ngokuba akusuwe abakuhlaleyo, kepha balahle mina, ukuze ngingabi yinkosi phezu kwabo.
- ⁸ Njengemisebenzi yonke abayenzileyo, kusukela osukwini engabakhuphula ngalo eGibthe kuze kube namuhla, bangishiya bekhonza abanye onkulunkulu, benze njalo nakuwe.
- ⁹ Manje lalela izwi labo, ugamele nokugamela kubo kuphela, ubatshela amalungelo enkosi eyakubusa phezu kwabo.”
- ¹⁰ USamuweli wabatshela abantu abacela kuye inkosi onke amazwi kaJehova.
- ¹¹ Wathi: “Nanka amalungelo enkosi eyakubusa phezu kwenu: iyakuthatha amadodana enu, izibekela wona ezinqoleni zayo nasemahhashini ayo, agijime phambi kwezinqola zayo;
- ¹² iyakuzibekela wona abe yizinduna zezinkulungwane nezinduna zamashumi ayisihlanu, alime umhlabathi wayo, avune isivuno sayo, enze izikhali zayo zokulwa nempahla yezinqola zayo.
- ¹³ Iyakuthatha amadodakazi enu abe ngabathaki, nabapheki, nabaphekizinkwa.
- ¹⁴ Iyakuthatha amasimu enu, nezivini zenu, neminqumo yenu emihle, ikunike izinceku zayo.
- ¹⁵ Iyakuthatha okweshumi kwembewu yenu nokwesivini senu, ikunike izinduna zayo nezinceku zayo.

- ¹⁶ Iyakuthatha izinceku zenu, nezincekukazi zenu, nezinsizwa zenu ezinhle, nezimbongolo zenu, izenze ukuba zisebenze imisebenzi yayo.
- ¹⁷ Iyakuthatha okweshumi kwezimvu zenu, nibe yizinceku zayo.
- ¹⁸ Niyakukhala ngalolo suku ngenxa yenkosi yenu, eniyakube nizikhethela yona; kepha uJehova akayikuniphendula ngalolo suku.”
- ¹⁹ Kepha abantu bala ukulalela izwi likaSamuweli, bathi: “Hhayi, sifuna ukuba kube khona inkosi phezu kwethu,
- ²⁰ ukuze nathi sibe njengezizwe zonke, inkosi yethu isahlulele, iphume phambi kwethu, ilwe izimpi zethu.”
- ²¹ USamuweli wezwa onke amazwi abantu, wawalanda ezindlebeni zikaJehova.
- ²² UJehova wathi kuSamuweli: “Lalela izwi labo, ubanike inkosi.” USamuweli wathi kubantu bakwa-Israyeli: “Hambani niye, kube yilowo nalowo emzini wakini.”

ISAHLUKO 9

- K**wakukhona umuntu wakwaBenjamini ogama lakhe lalinguKishi indodana ka-Abiyeli kaSerori kaBekhorati ka-Afiya, indodana yowakwaBenjamini, iqhawe elinamandla.
- ² Wayenendodana egama layo lalinguSawule, insizwa enhle; kwakungekho muntu omuhle kunaye phakathi kwabantwana bakwa-Israyeli; kusukela emahlombe akhe kuya phezulu wayemude kunabo bonke abantu.
- ³ Izimbongolo zikaKishi uyise kaSawule zalahleka. UKishi wathi kuSawule indodana yakhe: “Thatha enye yezinceku, usuke, uye kufuna izimbongolo.”
- ⁴ Wadabula izintaba zakwa-Efrayimi, wadabula izwe laseShalisha, kepha abazifumananga; base bedabula izwe laseShahalimi, nalapho zazingekho; wadabula izwe labakwaBenjamini, kepha kabazifumana.
- ⁵ Sebefikile ezweni laseSufi, uSawule wathi kuyo inceku yakhe eyayinaye: “Woza sibuye, funa ubaba aziyeke izimbongolo, enqene ngathi.”
- ⁶ Yathi kuye: “Bheka, kukhona kulo muzi umuntu kaNkulunkulu, umuntu ohloniphekayo; konke akushoyo kuyakwenzeka impela; masiye khona, mhlawumbe angasitshela indlela esihamba ngayo.”
- ⁷ Wayesethi uSawule kuyo inceku yakhe: “Kepha bheka, uma siya khona, siyakulethani kulowo muntu na? Ngokuba isinkwa siphelile ezitsheni zethu; akukho nto esingayiyisa kulowo muntu kaNkulunkulu; sinani, pho, na?”
- ⁸ Inceku yabuye yamphendula uSawule, yathi: “Ngiphethe esandleni sami okwesine kweshekeli lesiliva; lokhu ngiyakumnika khona lowo muntu kaNkulunkulu ukuba asitshela indlela yethu.”
- ⁹ Endulo kwa-Israyeli, lapho umuntu ebeyakubuza kuNkulunkulu, washo wathi: “Woza siye kumboni;” ngokuba lo othiwa umprofethi manje wabizwa kuqala ngokuthi umboni.
- ¹⁰ USawule wayesethi kuyo inceku yakhe: “Lihle izwi lakho; woza sihambe.” Base beya emzini lapho lowo muntu kaNkulunkulu wayekhona.
- ¹¹ Besakhuphuka ummango womuzi bafumana amantombazana eyakukha amanzi; bathi kuwo: “Umboni ukhona na?”
- ¹² Abaphendula athi: “Ukhona; nangu ngaphambi kwakho; shesha kodwa, ngokuba ufikile namuhla emzini, lokhu abantu benomhlatsshelo namuhla endaweni ephakemeyo;
- ¹³ ekungeneni kwenu emzini niyakumfumana, engakenyukeli endaweni ephakemeyo ukuyokudla; ngokuba abantu abayikudla engakafiki, lokhu nguye obusisa umhlatsshelo,

andukuba abamenyiweyo badle. Ngalokho-ke, khuphukani manje, ngokuba niyakumfumana ngalesi sikhathi.”

14 Benyukela emzini; besangena emzini, bheka, uSamuweli waphumela kubo ukuyakwenyukela endaweni ephakemeyo.

15 UJehova wayemambulele uSamuweli ngayizolo, uSawule engakafiki, ethi:

16 “Kusasa ngalesi sikhathi ngiyakuthuma kuwe umuntu wasezweni lakwaBenjamini; uyakumgcoba abe ngumholi wabantu bami u-Israyeli, asindise abantu bami esandleni samaFilisti, ngokuba ngibonile abantu bami, lokhu ukukhala kwabo kufikile kimi.”

17 USamuweli esembonile uSawule, uJehova wathi kuye: “Nangu umuntu engakhuluma ngaye kuwe, ngathi: ‘Lo uyakubusa abantu bami.’ ”

18 USawule wayesesondela kuSamuweli esangweni, wathi: “Ake ungitshele ukuthi iphi indlu yomboni.”

19 USamuweli wamphendula uSawule, wathi: “Yimi engingumboni; khuphuka phambi kwami, uye endaweni ephakemeyo, ngokuba niyakudla nami namuhla; ekuseni ngiyakukumukisa, ngikutshele konke okusenhliziyweni yakho.

20 Izimbongolo zakho esezinezinsuku ezintathu zilahlekile, ungabeki inhliziyi yakho kuzo, ngokuba zitholiwe. Ngokukabani konke okunxanelekayo kwa-Israyeli na? Akusikho okwakho nokwendlu yonke kayihlo na?”

21 USawule wamphendula wathi: “Angisiye owakwaBenjamini yini, owesincane sezizwe zakwa-Israyeli, na? Nomndeni wakithi awumncane yini kuyo yonke imindeni yesizwe sakwaBenjamini na? Ukhulumelani kimi ngale ndlela na?”

22 USamuweli wamthatha uSawule nenceku yakhe, wabangenisa endlini yokudlela, wabahlalisa endaweni engumqoka phakathi kwabamenyiweyo, kungathi abangamashumi amathathu.

23 USamuweli wathi kumpheki: “Letha isabelo engakunika sona engasho kuwe ngaso ukuthi: Sibeke ngakuwe.”

24 Umpheki waphakamisa umlenze nokwakuphezu kwawo, wawubeka phambi kukaSawule. USamuweli wathi: “Nakhu ohlinzekwe ngakho. Kubeke phambi kwakho, udle, ngokuba kugcinelwe wena kuze kufike lesi sikhathi, njengalokho ngithe ngimemile abantu.” USawule wayesedla noSamuweli ngalolo suku.

25 Sebehlile endaweni ephakemeyo bangena emzini; wakhuluma noSawule ophahleni lwendlu.

26 Bavuka ekuseni; kwathi kusantwela, uSamuweli wabiza uSawule esophahleni lwendlu, wathi: “Vuka ukuba ngikumukise.” Wayesevuka uSawule, baphuma bobabili, baya phandle, yena noSamuweli.

27 Besehlela ngasekugcineni komuzi, uSamuweli wathi kuSawule: “Yisho kuyo inceku ukuba idlule phambi kwethu — yadlula-ke — kepha yima wena manje ukuba ngikuzwise izwi likaNkulunkulu.”

ISAPHLUKO 10

USamuweli wayesethatha umfuma wamafutha, wawathela ekhanda lakhe, wamanga, wathi: “Angithi uJehova ukugcobile ukuba ube ngumholi wefa lakhe na?”

2 Nxa usumukile kimi namuhla, uyakufumana abantu ababili ngasethuneni likaRaheli emkhawulweni wakwaBenjamini eSelisa; bayakuthi kuwe: ‘Izimbongolo owawuye ukuzifuna zitholiwe; bheka, uyihlo uyekile izimbongolo, uyengena ngani, ethi: “Ngiyakwenze njani ngomntanami na?” ’

- ³ “Nxa usukile khona uye phambili, uyakufika kulo i-oki laseThabori; kuyakuhlangana nawe khona abantu abathathu bekhuphukela kuNkulunkulu eBethela, omunye ephethe amazinyane amathathu ezimbuzi, omunye ephethe izinkwa ezintathu, omunye ephethe imvaba yewayini;
- ⁴ bayakukubingelela, bakunike izinkwa ezimbili oyakuzamukela ezandleni zabo.
- ⁵ “Emva kwalokho uyakufika entabeni kaNkulunkulu, lapho likhona ikhanda lamaFilisti; kuyakuthi nxa usufikile khona emzini, uhlangane neviyo labaprofethi behla endaweni ephakemeyo benogubhu, nesigubhu, negenkle, nehabhu phambi kwabo, beprofetha;
- ⁶ uMoya kaJehova uyakwehlela phezu kwakho, uyakuprofetha kanye nabo, uphenduke omunye umuntu.
- ⁷ Kuyakuthi lapho lezo zibonakaliso sezifikile kuwe, wenze esikufumanayo isandla sakho, ngokuba uNkulunkulu unawe.
- ⁸ “Uyakwehla phambi kwami ukuya eGiligali; bheka, ngiyakwehlela kuwe ukuba nginikele ngeminikelo yokushiswa, ngihlabe imihlatshelo yokuthula; uyakuhlala izinsuku eziyisikhombisa, ngize ngifike kuwe, ngikutshele oyakukwenza.”
- ⁹ Kwathi esefulathela emuka kuSamuweli, uNkulunkulu waphendukisa inhliziyo yakhe yaba ngenye; zonke lezo zibonakaliso zafika ngalona lolo suku.
- ¹⁰ Lapho sebefike khona entabeni, bheka, iviyo labaprofethi lahlangana naye; uMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela phezu kwakhe, waprofetha phakathi kwabo.
- ¹¹ Kwathi bonke ababemazi kuqala sebebona ukuthi waprofetha nabaprofethi, abantu bathi omunye komunye: “Kuyini lokhu okwehlele indodana kaKishi na? Kanti naye uSawule uphakathi kwabaprofethi na?”
- ¹² Kwaphendula umuntu wakhona, wathi: “Ngubani uyise na?” Ngalokho kwaba yisaga ukuthi: “Naye uSawule uphakathi kwabaprofethi na?”
- ¹³ Esegedile ukuprofetha wafika endaweni ephakemeyo.
- ¹⁴ Uyisekazi kaSawule wathi kuye nasencekwini yakhe: “Nike naya ngaphi na?” Wathi: “Besiyi kufuna izimbongolo; lapho sesibonile ukuthi azikho, sase siya kuSamuweli.”
- ¹⁵ Uyisekazi kaSawule wathi: “Ake ningitshele: Utheni kini uSamuweli na?”
- ¹⁶ USawule wathi kuyisekazi: “Usitshele impela ukuthi izimbongolo zitholiwe.” Kepha indaba yombuso akhuluma ngayo uSamuweli akamtshelanga yona.
- ¹⁷ USamuweli wabizela abantu kuJehova eMispa;
- ¹⁸ wathi kubantu bakwa-Israyeli: “UJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli usho kanje, uthi: ‘Ngenyusa u-Israyeli eGibithe, nganophula esandleni sabaseGibithe nasesandleni sayo yonke imibuso eyanindezelayo;’
- ¹⁹ kepha namuhla nimlahlile uNkulunkulu wenu, yena owanisindisa ezingozini zenu zonke nasezinsizini zenu, nishilo nathi: ‘Hhayi, kepha beka inkosi phezu kwethu.’ Ngalokho yimani phambi kukaJehova ngezizwe zenu nangezinkulungwane zenu.”
- ²⁰ USamuweli wayesesondeza zonke izizwe zakwa-Israyeli, kwadliwa isizwe sakwaBenjamini.
- ²¹ Wayesesondeza isizwe sakwaBenjamini ngemindeni yabo, kwadliwa umndeni wakwaMatri; kwadliwa uSawule indodana kaKishi; kepha lapho bebemfuna, akafunyanwanga.
- ²² Babuye babuza uJehova ukuthi: “Usezakufika lowo muntu na?” UJehova waphendula wathi: “Bheka, ucashile empahleni.”
- ²³ Bagijima, bamlanda khona; wema phakathi kwabantu, wayemude kunabo bonke abantu kusukela emahlombe kuya phezulu.

- ²⁴ USamuweli wathi kubo bonke abantu: “Mbhekeni amkhethileyo uJehova ukuthi akakho onjengaye kubantu bonke.” Base bekhamuluka abantu bonke, bathi: “Mayime njalo inkosi.”
- ²⁵ USamuweli wayesebatshela abantu amalungelo ombuso, wawaloba encwadini, wayibeka phambi kukaJehova. USamuweli wamukisa bonke abantu, yilowo nalowo waya ekhaya lakubo.
- ²⁶ Naye uSawule waya ekhaya lakhe eGibeya; kwahamba naye impi ezinhliziyi zayo uNkulunkulu azithintile.
- ²⁷ Kepha abantu ababi bathi: “Uyakusisindisa kanjani lowo na?” Bamdelela, abamnikanga isipho. Kepha wathula.

ISAHLUKO 11

- K**wenyuka uNahashi wakwa-Amoni, wamisa eJabeshi Gileyadi; bonke abantu baseJabeshi bathi kuNahashi: “Yenza isivumelwano nathi, siyakukukhonza.”
- ² UNahashi wakwa-Amoni wathi kubo: “Ngiyakusenza nani ngalokhu ukuba kukhishwe onke amehlo enu okunene, ngikubeke kube yihlazo kuye wonke u-Israyeli.”
- ³ Amalunga aseJabeshi athi kuye: “Siyeke izinsuku eziyisikhombisa ukuba sithume izithunywa emikhawulweni yonke yakwa-Israyeli; uma kungekho osisindisayo, siyakuphumela kuwe.”
- ⁴ Izithunywa zafika eGibeya likaSawule, zakhuluma lawo mazwi ezindlebeni zabantu; bonke abantu badazuluka, bakhala.
- ⁵ Bheka, uSawule weza elandela izinkabi, evela ensimini; uSawule wathi: “Yini ukuba abantu bakhale na?” Bamtshela amazwi abantu baseJabeshi.
- ⁶ UMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela phezu kukaSawule esezwile lawo mazwi; intukuthelo yakhe yavutha kakhulu.
- ⁷ Wathatha izinkabi ezimbili, wazihlahlela, wazithuma emikhawulweni yonke yakwa-Israyeli ngesandla sezithunywa, ethi: “Ongaphumi emva kukaSawule noSamuweli kuyakwenziwa kanjalo kuzo izinkabi zakhe.” Ingebhe ngoJehova yehlela phezu kwabantu, baphuma njengomuntu munye.
- ⁸ Wababala eBezeki; abantwana bakwa-Israyeli babe yizinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amathathu, nabantu bakwaJuda babe yizinkulungwane ezingamashumi amathathu.
- ⁹ Bathi kuzo izithunywa ezazifikile: “Niyakusho kanje kubantu baseJabeshi Gileyadi, niithi: ‘Kusasa lapho ilanga libalele niyakukhululwa.’ ” Izithunywa zafika, zabatshela abantu baseJabeshi; bathokoza.
- ¹⁰ Ngalokho abantu baseJabeshi bathi: “Kusasa siyakuphumela kini, nenze kithi konke okuhle emehlweni enu.”
- ¹¹ Kwathi ngangomuso uSawule waviva abantu ngezigaba ezintathu; bafika phakathi kwekamu ngomlindo wokusa, babulala abakwa-Amoni, laze lashisa ilanga; kwathi abaseleyo bahlakazeka, akusalanga kubo ababili bendawonye.
- ¹² Abantu bathi kuSawule: “Ngubani oshilo ukuthi uSawule uyakuba yinkosi phezu kwethu na? Lethani labo bantu ukuba sibabulale.”
- ¹³ USawule wathi: “Akuyikubulawa muntu namuhla, ngokuba namuhla uJehova usebenzile ukusindiswa kwa-Israyeli.”
- ¹⁴ USamuweli wayesethi kubantu: “Wozani siye eGiligali, sibuye sivuse umbuso khona.”

¹⁵ Bonke abantu baya eGiligali, bambeka khona uSawule waba yinkosi phambi kukaJehova eGiligali; bahlaba khona imihlatshelo yeminikelo yokuthula phambi kukaJehova; uSawule nabo bonke abantu bakwa-Israyeli bathokoza kakhulu khona.

ISAYILUKO 12

U Samuweli wathi kuye wonke u-Israyeli: “Bhekani, ngilalele izwi lenu kukho konke enikushiloyo kimi, ngibekile inkosi phezu kwenu.

² Manje bhekani, inkosi iyahamba phambi kwenu; mina sengimdala, ngiyimpunga; nanka amadodana ami akini; ngihambile phambi kwenu kwasebusheni bami kuze kube namuhla.

³ Bhekani, ngilapha: fakazani ngami phambi kukaJehova naphambi kogcotshiweyo wakhe ukuthi ngithathe inkabi kabani, ngithathe imbongolo kabani, ngikhohlisile ubani, ngicindezele ubani, ngamukele umvuzo esandleni sikabani ukuba ngifihle amehlo ami ngawo na? Ngiyakukubuyisela kini.”

⁴ Bathi: “Awusikhohlisanga, awusicindezelanga, awamukelanga lutho esandleni samuntu.”

⁵ Wayesethi kubo: “UJehova ungufakazi ngani, nogcotshiweyo wakhe ungufakazi namuhla ukuthi anifumananga lutho esandleni sami.” Bathi: “Ungufakazi.”

⁶ USamuweli wathi kubantu: “NguJehova, yena owabeka oMose no-Aroni nowakhuphula oyihlo ezweni laseGibithe.

⁷ Kalokhu yimani ukuba ngiphendulane nani phambi kukaJehova ngezenzo zonke ezilungileyo zikaJehova azenza kini nakoyihlo.

⁸ “Lapho uJakobe esefikile eGibithe, oyihlo bakhala kuJehova, uJehova wathuma oMose no-Aroni abakhipha oyihlo eGibithe, babahlalisa kule ndawo.

⁹ “Kepha bakhohlwa uJehova uNkulunkulu wabo, wathengisa ngabo esandleni sikaSisera induna yempi yaseHasori, nasesandleni samaFilisti, nasesandleni senkosi yakwaMowabi, balwa nabo.

¹⁰ Bakhala kuJehova, bathi: ‘Sonile, ngokuba simshiyile uJehova, sakhonza oBali no-Ashitaroti; kodwa kalokhu sophule esandleni sezitha zethu, siyakukukhonza.’

¹¹ UJehova wayesethuma oJerubali, noBedani, noJefta, noSamuweli, wanophula esandleni sezitha zenu nxazonke, nahlala nalondeka.

¹² “Kepha lapho nabona uNahashi inkosi yabantwana bakwa-Amoni ephuma ukulwa nani, nathi kimi: ‘Hhayi, kepha masibuswe yinkosi,’ ingani uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu wayeyinkosi yenu.

¹³ Manje nansi inkosi eniyikhethileyo neniyicelileyo; bhekani, uJehova ubekile inkosi phezu kwenu.

¹⁴ Uma nimesaba uJehova, nimkhonze, nilalele izwi lakhe, ningahlubuki esiyalezweni sakhe, khona nina nenkosi yenu ebusa phezu kwenu niyakulandela uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu;

¹⁵ kepha uma ningalaleli izwi likaJehova, nihlubuke esiyalezweni sikaJehova, khona isandla sikaJehova siyakumelana nani, njengalokho samelana nawoyihlo.

¹⁶ “Ngalokho yimani nibone le nto enkulu ayakuyenza uJehova phambi kwamehlo enu.

¹⁷ Angithi kuyisikhathi sokuvuna ukolweni namuhla na? Ngiyakukhuleka kuJehova ukuba athume ukuduma nemvula, nazi, nibone ukuthi okubi kwenu enikwenzile emehlweni kaJehova ngokucela inkosi kukhulu.”

¹⁸ USamuweli wayesekhuleka kuJehova; uJehova wathuma ukuduma nemvula ngalolo suku; bonke abantu besaba kakhulu uJehova noSamuweli.

- ¹⁹ Bonke abantu bathi kuSamuweli: “Khulekela izinceku zakho kuJehova uNkulunkulu wakho ukuba singafi, ngokuba senezele kuzo zonke izono zethu ububi bokuzicelela inkosi.”
- ²⁰ USamuweli wathi kubantu: “Ningesabi; impela nenzile konke lokho okubi; kepha ningaphambuki ekumlandeleni uJehova, kodwa mkhonzeni uJehova ngayo yonke inhliziyu yenu;
- ²¹ yebo, ningaphambuki ukuba nilandele izinto eziyize ezingenakusiza nezingenakophula, ngokuba ziyize.
- ²² Ngokuba uJehova akayikushiya abantu bakhe ngenxa yegama lakhe elikhulu, lokhu kwakukuhle kuJehova ukuzenzela nina nibe ngabantu bakhe.
- ²³ Futhi nami, makube kude nami ukuba ngone kuJehova ngokuyeka ukunikhulekela; kakhulu ngiyakunifundisa indlela enhle nelungileyo.
- ²⁴ Yesabani uJehova kuphela, nimkhonze ngeqiniso ngenhliziyo yenu yonke, ngokuba bhekani okukhulu anenzele khona.
- ²⁵ Kodwa uma nisenza okubi, niyakubhubha nina nenkosi yenu.”

ISAPHLUKO 13

USawule wabusa umnyaka; esebusile iminyaka emibili kwa-Israyeli.

- ² USawule wazikhethela abantu abayizinkulungwane ezintathu kwa-Israyeli; izinkulungwane ezimbili zazinoSawule eMikimashi nasentabeni yaseBetlehema, nenkulungwane yayinoJonathani eGibeya lakwaBenjamini; abanye abantu wabamukisa, kwaba yilowo nalowo etendeni lakhe.
- ³ UJonathani wachitha ikhanda lamaFilisti elaliseGeba, amaFilisti akuzwa. USawule wabetha icilongo ezweni lonke, wathi: “Makezwe amaHeberu.”
- ⁴ Wonke u-Israyeli wezwa kuthiwa uSawule uchithile ikhanda lamaFilisti nokuthi u-Israyeli uyanengeka kuwo amaFilisti. Abantu babuthwa ukuba bamlandele uSawule, baye eGiligali.
- ⁵ AmaFilisti abuthana ukuba alwe no-Israyeli: izinqola eziyizinkulungwane ezingamashumi amathathu, nabamahhashi abayizinkulungwane eziyisithupha, nabantu abangangesihlabathi esisogwini lolwandle ngobuningi; benyuka bamisa eMikimashi ngasempumalanga kwaseBeti Aveni.
- ⁶ Lapho abantu bakwa-Israyeli bebona ukuthi basengcingweni, ngokuba bacindezelwa kakhulu, abantu bacasha emihumeni, nasemahlozini, nasemaweni, nasezingqabeni, nasemigodini.
- ⁷ NamaHeberu ayewelile iJordani ukuya ezweni lakwaGadi nakwelakwaGileyadi; kepha uSawule wayeseseGiligali; abantu bonke bamlandela bethuthumela.
- ⁸ Wahhala izinsuku eziyisikhombisa njengesikhathi esimisiwe nguSamuweli, kepha uSamuweli akafikanga eGiligali; abantu bahlakazeka kuye.
- ⁹ USawule wayesethi: “Lethani kimi umnikelo wokushiswa neminikelo yokuthula.” Wanikela ngomnikelo wokushiswa.
- ¹⁰ Kwathi eseqedile ukunikela ngomnikelo wokushiswa, bheka, uSamuweli wafika; uSawule waphuma ukumhlangabeza ukuba ambingelele.
- ¹¹ USamuweli wathi: “Wenzeni na?” USawule wathi: “Njengokuba ngabona ukuthi abantu bahlakazekile kimi, nokuthi awufikanga ngesikhathi esimisiweyo, nokuthi amaFilisti abuthene eMikimashi,

- ¹² ngathi: ‘Manje amaFilisti ayakwehlela kimi eGiligali ngingakhulekanga;’ ngase ngiziphoqa, nganikela ngomnikelo wokushiswa.”
- ¹³ USamuweli wathi kuSawule: “Wenze ngobuwula, awugcinanga umyalo kaJehova uNkulunkulu wakho akuyala ngawo, ngokuba uJehova ubeseyakuqinisa umbuso wakho kwa-Israyeli kuze kube phakade.
- ¹⁴ Kepha manje umbuso wakho awuyikuqhubeka; uJehova usezifunele umuntu ngokwenhliziyo yakhe; uJehova ummisile abe ngumholi wabantu bakhe, ngokuba ungagcinanga lokho uJehova akuyala ngakho.”
- ¹⁵ USamuweli wayesesuka, wakhuphuka eGiligali, waya eGibeya lakwaBenjamini. USawule wabala abantu abafumaniseka bekuye, kungathi abantu abangamakhulu ayisithupha.
- ¹⁶ OSawule noJonathani indodana yakhe nabantu ababe naye bahlala eGeba lakwaBenjamini, kepha amaFilisti amisa eMikimashi.
- ¹⁷ Abaphangi baphuma ekamu lamaFilisti ngezigaba ezintathu; esinye isigaba sahamba ngendlela eya e-Ofira ezweni laseShuhali;
- ¹⁸ esinye isigaba sahamba ngendlela eya eBeti Horoni; esinye isigaba sahamba ngendlela eya emkhawulweni obheka esigodini saseSeboyimi ngasehlane.
- ¹⁹ Kwakungekho mkhandi ezweni lonke lakwa-Israyeli, ngokuba amaFilisti athi: “Funa amaHeberu azenzele izinkemba nemikhonto.”
- ²⁰ Bonke abakwa-Israyeli behlela kuwo amaFilisti, kwaba yilowo nalowo ukuba alole umese wakhe, nempumulo yakhe, nembazo yakhe, nesikela lakhe;
- ²¹ imali yayiyipimi ngezimpumulo nangezimfoloko, nenxenye yesithathu yeshekeli ngezimbazo nangokulungisa izincijo zezinkabi.
- ²² Kwathi ngosuku lokulwa akwabakho nkemba namkhonto esandleni samuntu owayenoSawule noJonathani; kodwa koSawule noJonathani indodana yakhe kwakukhona.
- ²³ Ikhanda lamaFilisti laphuma, laya ngasentubeni yaseMikimashi.

ISAHLUKO 14

Kwathi ngosuku oluthile uJonathani indodana kaSawule wathi odibini oluphethe izikhali zakhe: “Woza siwele, siye ekhandeni lamaFilisti elingaphesheya.” Kepha akamtshelanga uyise.

² USawule wahlala emaphethelweni aseGibeya phansi kompomegranati oseMigrioni; abantu ababe naye babe ngamakhulu ayisithupha;

³ u-Ahiya indodana ka-Ahithubi, umfowabo ka-Ikabodi indodana kaFinehasi ka-Eli, umpristi kaJehova eShilo, wayembethe ingubo yamahlombe. Abantu babengazi ukuthi uJonathani uhambile.

⁴ Phakathi kwezintuba uJonathani afuna ukuwela ngazo ukuya ekhandeni lamaFilisti kwakukhona ugedla lwesiwa ngalapha nokedla lwesiwa ngalapha; igama lolunye laliyiBosesi, negama lolunye laliyiSene.

⁵ Olunye ugedla lwaluphakeme ngasenyakatho phambi kweMikimashi, nolunye ngaseningizimu phambi kweGeba.

⁶ UJonathani wathi odibini lwakhe oluphethe izikhali zakhe: “Woza siwele, siye ekhandeni lalabo abangasokile; ingabe uJehova uyakusisebenzela, ngokuba akukho okumthiyayo uJehova ukuba asindise ngabangingi noma ngabayingcosana.”

- ⁷ Ophethe izikhali zakhe wathi kuye: “Yenza konke okusenhliziyweni yakho: hamba, bheka, nginawe njengenhliziyweni yakho.”
- ⁸ Wayesethi uJonathani kuye: “Bheka, siyakuwela, siye kulabo bantu, sizibonakalise kubo.
- ⁹ Uma bethi kithi: ‘Hlalani size sifike kini,’ khona siyakuma endaweni yethu, singenyukeli kubo.
- ¹⁰ Kepha uma bethi: ‘Yenyukelani kithi,’ siyakwenyuka, ngokuba uJehova ubanikele esandleni sethu; lokhu kuyakuba yisibonakaliso kithi.”
- ¹¹ Bobabili bazibonakalisa kulo ikhanda lamaFilisti; amaFilisti ayesethi: “Bhekani, amaHeberu aphuma emigodini acashe kuyo.”
- ¹² Abantu basekhandeni bamphendula uJonathani nodibi lwakhe, bathi: “Khuphukelani kithi, siyakunifundisa indaba.” UJonathani wayesethi odibini oluphethe izikhali zakhe: “Khuphuka emva kwami, ngokuba uJehova ubanikele esandleni sakwa-Israyeli.”
- ¹³ UJonathani wakhuphuka ngezandla zakhe nangezinyawo zakhe, nodibi lwakhe emva kwakhe; bawa phambi kukaJonathani, nodibi lwezikhali zakhe lwababulala emva kwakhe.
- ¹⁴ Lokho kuceka kokuqala abakwenzayo uJonathani nodibi lwezikhali zakhe kwakungabantu kungathi amashumi amabili ebangeni elingathi inxenye ye-eka lensimu.
- ¹⁵ Kwaba khona ukuthuthumela ekamu, nasendle, naphakathi kwabantu bonke; ikhanda nabaphangi bathuthumela nabo, nomhlaba wamazama, kwaze kwaba ngukuthuthumela okukhulu.
- ¹⁶ Abalindi bakaSawule eGibeya lakwaBenjamini babona, bheka, isixuku sahlakazeka, saya ngalapha nangalapha.
- ¹⁷ USawule wayesethi kubantu ababe naye: “Balani manje, nibone ukuthi ngubani omukile kithi.” Babala, bheka, uJonathani nodibi lwezikhali zakhe babengekho.
- ¹⁸ USawule wathi ku-Ahiya: “Letha umphongolo kaNkulunkulu.” Ngokuba umphongolo kaNkulunkulu wawukhona ngaleso sikhathi kwabakwa-Israyeli.
- ¹⁹ Kwathi uSawule esakhuluma kumpristi, umsindo owawusekamu lamaFilisti waqhubeka, wanda; uSawule wathi kumpristi: “Susa isandla sakho.”
- ²⁰ USawule nabo bonke abantu ababe naye babuthana, baya ekulweni; bheka, yilowo nalowo washaya omunye ngenkomba, kwaba khona ukungquzuka okukhulu kakhulu.
- ²¹ AmaHeberu ayenamaFilisti kuqala nawo akhuphukela ekamu nxazonke, aphen dukela kwabakwa-Israyeli ababe noSawule noJonathani.
- ²² Abantu bonke bakwa-Israyeli ababecashile ezintabeni zakwa-Efrayimi sebezile ukuthi amaFilisti abaleka, nabo bawaxosha ekulweni.
- ²³ UJehova wasindisa u-Israyeli ngalolo suku; ukulwa kwadlulela eBeti Aveni.
- ²⁴ Abantu bakwa-Israyeli babecindezelwa ngalolo suku, kepha uSawule wafungisa abantu, wathi: “Makaqalekiswe umuntu odla ukudla kungakahlwi, ngingakaziphindiseli ezitheni zami.” Akwabakho muntu owezwa ukudla.
- ²⁵ Abantu bonke beza ehlathini; kwakukhona izinyosi phansi.
- ²⁶ Abantu sebengenile ehlathini, bheka, izinyosi zaconsa, kepha akwabakho muntu obeka isandla emlonyeni, ngokuba abantu besaba isifungo.
- ²⁷ Kepha uJonathani akezwanga lapho uyise efungisa abantu; ngalokho welula isihloko senduku esesandleni sakhe, wasicwilisa ezinyosini, wabeka isandla emlonyeni; ayeseqabuka amehlo akhe.
- ²⁸ Kwase kuthatha omunye wabantu, wathi: “Uyihlo wabafungisa nokubafungisa abantu, ethi: ‘Makaqalekiswe umuntu odla ukudla namuhla.’ Abantu babephelile amandla.”

- ²⁹ Wayesethi uJonathani: “Ubaba uhluphile izwe; ake nibone ukuthi amehlo ami aseqabukile, ngokuba ngizwe ingcosana yalezi zinyosi.
- ³⁰ Kakhulu kangakanani, uma abantu bebedlile impela impango yezitha zabo abayifumanayo, ngokuba nga engabulawanga kakhulu amaFilisti na?”
- ³¹ Babulala amaFilisti ngalolo suku kusukela eMikimashi kuze kube se-Ajaloni; abantu baphela amandla kakhulu.
- ³² Abantu batheleka empangweni, bathatha izimvu, nezinkabi, namankonyane, bakubulalela phansi; abantu bakudla kanye negazi.
- ³³ Base bemtshela uSawule, bethi: “Bheka, abantu bayona kuJehova ngokudla okunegazi.” Wathi: “Nenze kabi; gingqelani kimi itshe elikhulu namuhla.”
- ³⁴ Wathi uSawule: “Hlakazekelani phakathi kwabantu, nithi kubo: ‘Lethani kimi, kube yilowo nalowo inkabi yakhe, nalowo imvu yakhe, nizihlabe lapha, nidle, ningoni kuJehova ngokudla okunegazi.’ ” Bonke abantu baletha, kwaba yilowo nalowo inkabi yakhe ngalobo busuku ngesandla sakhe, bazihlaba khona.
- ³⁵ USawule wamakhela uJehova i-altare; kwakuyi-altare lokuqala amakhela lona uJehova.
- ³⁶ USawule wathi: “Masehle, silandele amaFilisti ebusuku, siwaphange kuze kuse, singashiyi noyedwa kuwo.” Bathi: “Yenza konke okuhle emehlweni akho.” Umpristi wayesethi: “Masisondele lapha kuNkulunkulu.”
- ³⁷ USawule wabuza kuNkulunkulu wathi: “Ngehle ngilandele amaFilisti na? Uyakuwanikela esandleni sakwa-Israyeli na?” Kepha akamphendulanga ngalolo suku.
- ³⁸ USawule wathi: “Sondelani lapha nina nonke zinhloko zabantu, nazi, nibone ukuthi bekuyisiphi lesi sono sanamuhla.
- ³⁹ Ngokuba, kuphila kukaJehova osindisa u-Israyeli, nokuba sikuJonathani indodana yami, uyakufa nokufa.” Kepha akwabakho noyedwa owamphendulayo.
- ⁴⁰ Wayesethi ku-Israyeli wonke: “Buyelani nganhlanye nina, mina noJonathani indodana yami siyakubuyela nganhlanye.” Abantu bathi kuSawule: “Yenza okuhle emehlweni akho.”
- ⁴¹ Ngalokho uSawule wathi kuJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli: “Malivele iqiniso.” OJonathani noSawule badliwa yinkatho, kepha abantu baphunyuka.
- ⁴² USawule wathi: “Yenzani inkatho phakathi kwami noJonathani indodana yami.” Wadliwa uJonathani.
- ⁴³ USawule wayesethi kuJonathani: “Ngitshele okwenzileyo.” UJonathani wamtshela wathi: “Impela ngezwa ingcosana yezinyosi ngesihloko senduku eyayisesandleni sami; bheka, sengizakufa.”
- ⁴⁴ USawule wathi: “Makenze njalo uNkulunkulu, enezele futhi, ngokuba uyakufa nokufa, Jonathani!”
- ⁴⁵ Abantu bathi kuSawule: “Uyakufa yini uJonathani okwenzile lokho kusindisa okukhulu kwa-Israyeli na? Makube kude; kuphila kukaJehova, akuyikwela phansi nolulodwa unwele lwekhanda lakhe, ngokuba usebenzile noNkulunkulu namuhla.” Abantu bamhlenga ukuba angafi.
- ⁴⁶ USawule wayesenyuka ebuya ekulandeleni amaFilisti; aya endaweni yawo.
- ⁴⁷ USawule esethathile umbuso wakwa-Israyeli walwa nazo zonke izitha zakhe nxazonke, noMowabi, nabantwana bakwa-Amoni, no-Edomi, namakhosi aseSoba, namaFilisti; nomaphi lapho ebheka khona, wayehlula.
- ⁴⁸ Wenza okobuqhawe, wanqoba ama-Amaleki, wamophula u-Israyeli esandleni sabaphangi.
- ⁴⁹ Amadodana kaSawule ayengoJonathani, no-Ishivi, noMaliki Shuwa; amagama amadodakazi akhe amabili yilawa: igama lenkulu lalinguMerabi, igama lencane

lalinguMikhali.

⁵⁰ Igama lomkaSawule lalingu-Ahinohama indodakazi ka-Ahimahazi; igama lenduna yempi yakhe lalingu-Abineri indodana kaNeri uyisekazi kaSawule.

⁵¹ UKishi uyise kaSawule noNeri uyise ka-Abineri babe ngamadodana ka-Abiyeli.

⁵² Kwakukhona ukulwa okunzima namaFilisti zonke izinsuku zikaSawule; lapho uSawule ebona iqhawwe nendoda enamandla wazithathela bona.

ISAHLUKO 15

USamuweli wathi kuSawule: “UJehova wangithuma ukuba ngikugcobe ube yinkosi phezu kwabantu bakhe u-Israyeli; ngalokho lalela amazwi kaJehova.

² Usho kanje uJehova Sebwoti, uthi: ‘Ngiyakuambela umAmaleki ngalokho akwenzayo ku-Israyeli wamelana naye endleleni ekukhuphukeni kwakhe eGibithe.

³ Hamba manje, unqobe u-Amaleki, uchithe impela konke anakho, ungamhawukeli, kepha bulala abesilisa, nabesifazane, nezingane, nabancelayo, nezinkabi, nezimvu, namakamela, nezimbongolo.’ ”

⁴ USawule wayesebiza abantu, wababala eThelayimi, izinkulungwane ezingamakhulu amabili zemigundatshani nezinkulungwane eziyishumi zabantu bakwaJuda.

⁵ USawule wafika emzini ka-Amaleki, waqamekela esigodini.

⁶ USawule wathi kumaKheni: “Hambani nimuke, nehle kuwo ama-Amaleki, funa nginichithe kanye nawo, ngokuba nabenzela umusa bonke abantwana bakwa-Israyeli ekukhuphukeni kwabo eGibithe.” Ayesesuka amaKheni phakathi kwama-Amaleki.

⁷ USawule wahlula ama-Amaleki kusukela eHavila kuya ngaseShuri elingaphambi kwaseGibithe.

⁸ Wabamba u-Agagi inkosi yama-Amaleki esaphilile, wachitha impela bonke abantu ngosiko lwenkemba.

⁹ Kepha uSawule nabantu bayeka u-Agagi nezinhle nezikhulupheleyo zezimvu nezezinkabi, namawundlu, nakho konke okuhle; babengavumi ukukuqeda lokho; kodwa zonke izinto ezidelekileyo nezondileyo baziqeda nya.

¹⁰ Lase lifika izwi likaJehova kuSamuweli, lithi:

¹¹ “Ngiyazisola ukuthi ngibekile uSawule inkosi, ngokuba ubuyile ekungilandeleni, kafezanga amazwi ami.” USamuweli wathukuthela, wakhala kuJehova ubusuku bonke.

¹² USamuweli wavuka kusasa ukuba amhlangabeze uSawule ekuseni; kwabikwa kuSamuweli ukuthi: “USawule wafika eKarmeli; bheka, wazimisela insika, wasuka, wadlula, wehla waya eGiligali.”

¹³ USamuweli wafika kuSawule; uSawule wathi kuye: “Mawubusiswe nguJehova; sengifezile izwi likaJehova.”

¹⁴ USamuweli wayesethi: “Kuthini, pho, lokhu kukhala kwezimvu ezindlebeni zami, nokukhala kwezinkabi engikuzwayo, na?”

¹⁵ USawule wathi: “Babuye nazo kuma-Amaleki, ngokuba abantu bayeka ezinhle zezimvu nezezinkabi ukuba bahlabele uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho; ezinye siziqedile nya.”

¹⁶ USamuweli wayesethi kuSawule: “Kahle, ngikutshele lokho uJehova akukhulumile kimi kulobu busuku.” Wathi kuye: “Khuluma.”

¹⁷ Wathi uSamuweli: “Nakuba wawumncane emehlweni akho, awenziwanga yini waba yinhloko yezizwe zakwa-Israyeli na? UJehova wakugcoba, waba yinkosi phezu kuka-Israyeli.

- 18** UJehova wakuthuma indlela, wathi: ‘Hamba uqede nya izoni, ama-Amaleki, ulwe nawo aze aphele.’
- 19** Awulalelanga ngani izwi likaJehova, kepha wathaleka phakathi kwempango, wenza okubi emehlweni kaJehova, na?”
- 20** USawule wathi kuSamuweli: “Ngililalele izwi likaJehova, ngihambile indlela uJehova owangithuma yona, ngimlethile u-Agagi inkosi yama-Amaleki, ngachitha impela ama-Amaleki.
- 21** Kepha abantu bathatha kuyo impango, izimvu nezinkabi, okuhle kokuqalekisiweyo, ukuba bahlabele uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho eGiligali.”
- 22** USamuweli wathi: “UJehova uyenamela yini iminikelo yokushiswa nemihlatshelo, njengalokhu enamele ukulalelwa kwezwi likaJehova, na? Bheka, ukulalela kuhle kunomhlatshelo, nokuqaphela kuhle kunamanoni ezinqama.
- 23** Ngokuba ukwambuka kunjengesono sokubhula, nenkani ifana nokukhonza izithombe namatherafi. Ngokuba ulilahlile izwi likaJehova, naye ukulahlile wena ukuba ungabe usaba yinkosi.”
- 24** USawule wayesethi kuSamuweli: “Ngonile, ngokuba ngeqile isiyalezo sikaJehova namazwi akho, lokhu ngesaba abantu, ngalalela izwi labo.
- 25** Ngalokho ake uthethelele isono sami, ubuye nami ukuba ngikhuleke kuJehova.”
- 26** USamuweli wathi kuSawule: “Angiyikubuya nawe, ngokuba ulilahlile izwi likaJehova, naye uJehova ukulahlile wena ukuba ungabe usaba yinkosi phezu kuka-Israyeli.”
- 27** USamuweli esephenduka ukuhamba, wabamba umphetho wengubo yakhe, yaklebhuka.
- 28** USamuweli wathi kuye: “UJehova uklebhulile umbuso ka-Israyeli kuwe namuhla, uwunikile umngane wakho omuhle kunawe.
- 29** IThemba Lika-Israyeli aliyikuqamba amanga, lizisole, ngokuba alisiye umuntu ukuba lizisole.”
- 30** Wayesethi: “Ngonile, kepha ake ungituse manje phambi kwamalunga abantu bami naphambi kuka-Israyeli, ubuye nami ukuba ngikhuleke kuJehova uNkulunkulu wakho.”
- 31** USamuweli wabuya, wamlandela uSawule; uSawule wakhuleka kuJehova.
- 32** USamuweli wayesethi: “Lethani kimi u-Agagi inkosi yama-Amaleki.” U-Agagi wafika kuye esasile. U-Agagi wathi: “Impela umunyu wokufa udlulile.”
- 33** USamuweli wathi: “Njengalokho inkemba yakho ibaphucile abesifazane abantwana, kanjalo unyoko uyakwaphucwa abantwana kunabanye.” USamuweli wayesehlahlela u-Agagi phambi kukaJehova eGiligali.
- 34** USamuweli waya eRama, kepha uSawule wakhuphukela ekhaya eGibeya likaSawule.
- 35** USamuweli akaphindanga ukumbona uSawule waze wafa, kepha uSamuweli wamkhalela uSawule; uJehova wazisola ukuthi wayembekile uSawule inkosi phezu kuka-Israyeli.

ISAHLUKO 16

UJehova wathi kuSamuweli: “Uyakumkhalela kuze kube nini na? Ngokuba ngimhlalele ukuba angabe esaba yinkosi phezu kuka-Israyeli. Gcwalisa uphondo lwakho ngamafutha, uhambe; ngiyakukuthuma kuJese waseBetlehema, ngokuba ngizibonele inkosi phakathi kwamadodana akhe.”

2 Wathi uSamuweli: “Ngingahamba kanjani? Uma uSawule ekuzwa, uyakungibulala.”

UJehova wathi: “Hamba nesithokazi, uthi: ‘Ngize ukuhlabela uJehova.’

³ Mbize uJese ekuhlabeni; ngiyakukwazisa ukuthi uyakwenzani: uyakungigcobela lowo engiyakumusho kuwe.”

⁴ USamuweli wenza lokho akushoyo uJehova, waya eBetlehema. Amalunga omuzi amhlangabeza ethuthumela, athi: “Ukufika kwakho kunokuthula na?”

⁵ Wathi: “Yebo, kunokuthula; ngize ukuhlabela uJehova; zingcweliseni, nize nami ekuhlabeni.” Wabangcwelisa uJese namadodana akhe, wababiza ukuba beze ekuhlabeni.

⁶ Kwathi sebefikile, wabheka u-Eliyabe, wathi: “Impela ogcotshiweyo kaJehova uphambi kwakhe.”

⁷ Kepha uJehova wathi kuSamuweli: “Ungabheki isimo sakhe nobude bomzimba wakhe, ngokuba ngimalile, lokhu uJehova engabukisi okomuntu; umuntu ubheka okusemehlweni, kepha uJehova ubheka okusenhliziyweni.”

⁸ UJese wayesebiza u-Abinadaba, wamdlulisa phambi kukaSamuweli. Wathi: “Nalona uJehova akamkethanga.”

⁹ UJese wayesedlulisa uShama. Wathi: “Nalona uJehova akamkethanga.”

¹⁰ UJese wadlulisa ayisikhombisa kumadodana akhe phambi kukaSamuweli. USamuweli wathi kuJese: “UJehova akawakhethanga nalawa.”

¹¹ USamuweli wathi kuJese: “Sebephelile abafana na?” Wathi: “Kusasele omncane; bheka, uyalusa izimvu.” USamuweli wathi kuJese: “Thumela umlande, ngokuba asiyikubuya, engakafiki lapha.”

¹² Wathumela, wamngenisa. Wayebomvana enamehlo amahle, emuhle ngokubukwa. UJehova wathi: “Suka umgcobe, ngokuba lona nguye.”

¹³ USamuweli wayesethatha uphondo lwamafutha, wamgcoba phakathi kwabafowabo; uMoya kaJehova wehlela phezu kukaDavide ngamandla, kusukela kulolo suku kuya phambili. Wayesesuka uSamuweli, waya eRama.

¹⁴ UMoya kaJehova wamuka kuSawule, nomoya omubi owavela kuJehova wamzuma.

¹⁵ Izinceku zikaSawule zathi kuye: “Bheka-ke, umoya omubi ovela kuNkulunkulu ukuzumile.

¹⁶ Mayisho inkosi yethu ukuba izinceku eziphambi kwakho zifune umuntu owazi ukubetha ihabhu; kuyakuthi lapho ufikelwa ngumoya omubi ovela kuNkulunkulu, abethe ngesandla sakhe, kube kuhle kuwe.”

¹⁷ USawule wayesethi kuzo izinceku zakhe: “Ngiboneleni umuntu owazi ukubetha kahle, nimlethe kimi.”

¹⁸ Kwaphendula enye insizwa, yathi: “Bheka, ngibonile indodana kaJese waseBetlehema eyazi ukubetha, eyiqhawe elinamandla, eyindoda yempi nehlakaniphile ekukhulumeni, ebukeka, emuhle futhi; uJehova unayo.”

¹⁹ Ngalokho uSawule wathuma izithunywa kuJese, wathi: “Thuma kimi uDavide indodana yakho osezimvini.”

²⁰ UJese wathatha imbongolo ithwele isinkwa, nemvaba yewayini, nezinyane lembuzi, wakuthuma kuSawule ngesandla sikaDavide indodana yakhe.

²¹ UDavide wafika kuSawule, wema phambi kwakhe; wamthanda kakhulu, waba ludibi lwezikhali zakhe.

²² USawule wathumela kuJese, wathi: “Akeme phambi kwami uDavide, ngokuba ufumene umusa emehlweni ami.”

²³ Kwathi nxa umoya owavela kuNkulunkulu emehlela uSawule, uDavide wathatha ihabhu, walibetha ngesandla sakhe; wayesekhululeka uSawule, waba ngcono, umoya omubi wamuka kuye.

ISAHLUKO 17

AmaFilisti abutha izimpi zawo ukuba alwe; abuthana eSoko lakwaJuda, amisa phakathi kweSoko ne-Azeka e-Efesi Damimi.

² USawule nabantu bakwa-Israyeli babuthana, bamisa esigodini sase-Ela, bahlela impi ukuhlangabezana namaFilisti.

³ AmaFilisti ayemi entabeni ngalapha, u-Israyeli wayemi entabeni ngalapha; kwakukhona isigodi phakathi kwabo.

⁴ Kwaphuma iqhawe elikhulu ekamu lamaFilisti, igama lalo linguGoliyati waseGati, obude bakhe buyizingalo eziyisithupha nesandla.

⁵ Wayenesigqoko sethushi ekhanda, egqoke ibhantshi lensimbi; isisindo sebhantshi sasingamashekeli ayizinkulungwane eziyisihlanu ethusi.

⁶ Wayenezivikelo zethusi emilenzeni, nengcula yethusi phakathi kwamahlombe.

⁷ Uthi lomkhonto wakhe lwalunjengogongolo lomaluki; isihloko somkhonto sasingamashekeli angamakhulu ayisithupha ensimbi; ophethe isihlangu wahamba phambi kwakhe.

⁸ Wema, wamemeza ezinhleni zakwa-Israyeli, wathi kuzo: "Niphumelani ukuhlela impi na? Angisiye umFilisti, nina niyizinceku zikaSawule, na? Zikhetheleni umuntu, ehle eze kimi.

⁹ Uma enamandla okulwa nami, angibulale, siyakuba yizigqila zenu; kepha uma ngimahlula, ngimbulale, niyakuba yizigqila zethu, nisikhonze."

¹⁰ UmFilisti wathi: "Ngiyazeyisa namuhla izinhla zakwa-Israyeli; nginikeni umuntu, silwe naye."

¹¹ Lapho uSawule naye wonke u-Israyeli bezwa lawo mazwi omFilisti, bashaywa luvalo, besaba kakhulu.

¹² UDavide wayeyindodana yalowo mEfrati waseBetlehema Juda ogama lakhe lalinguJese; wayenamadodana ayisishiyagalombili; lowo muntu wayemdala ezinsukwini zikaSawule phakathi kwabantu.

¹³ Amadodana amathathu amakhulu kaJese ayemlandele uSawule ukuya empini; amagama amadodana akhe amathathu ayeyile empini ayengu-Eliyabe izibulo, emelamayo ngu-Abinadaba, neyesithathu nguShama.

¹⁴ UDavide nguye owayengomncinyane; amathathu amakhulu amlandela uSawule.

¹⁵ UDavide wahamba wabuya ukuyakwalusa izimvu zikayise eBetlehema.

¹⁶ UmFilisti wasondela ekuseni nakusihlwa, wema khona izinsuku ezingamashumi amane.

¹⁷ UJese wathi kuDavide indodana yakhe: "Ake uthathele abafowenu i-efa lalolu tshwele nalezi zinkwa eziyishumi, usheshe uye ekamu labafowenu,

¹⁸ uphathele induna yenkulungwane lawa makhekheba kashizi, ubheke impilo yabafowenu, uthathe isibambiso kubo."

¹⁹ USawule nabo bonke abantu bakwa-Israyeli base besesigodini sase-Ela, belwa namaFilisti.

²⁰ UDavide wavuka ekuseni kakhulu, washiya izimvu kumlindi, wathatha, wahamba, njengalokho uJese amyale ngakho; wafika enqabeni yezinqola, impi isaphuma

ukuyakuhlelwa, yahlaba umkhosi.

21 U-Israyeli namaFilisti bahlela impi, babhekana.

22 UDavide washiya impahla yakhe esandleni somlindi wempahla, wagijimela empini, wabingelela abafowabo.

23 Kepha esakhuluma nabo, bheka, kwenyuka iqhawe elikhulu, umFilisti waseGati, nguGoliyati igama lalo, ephuma ezinhleni zamaFilisti, wakhuluma wona lawo mazwi; uDavide wawezwa.

24 Bonke abantu bakwa-Israyeli sebebonile lo muntu bambalekela, besaba kakhulu.

25 Abantu bakwa-Israyeli bathi: “Nimbonile lowo muntu owenyukile na? Ngokuba wenyukile ukuyakweyisa u-Israyeli; kuyakuthi umuntu ombulalayo, inkosi imcebise ngengcebo enkulu, imnike indodakazi yayo, iyenze indlu kayise ibe ngekhululekile kwa-Israyeli.”

26 UDavide wakhuluma kubantu ababemi naye, wathi: “Kuyakwenziwa ntoni kumuntu obulala lowo mFilisti, asuse ihlazo kwa-Israyeli, na? Ngokuba ngubani lowo mFilisti ongasokile ukuba ayeyise impi kaNkulunkulu ophilayo na?”

27 Abantu bamphendula ngalona lelo zwi; bathi-ke: “Kuyakwenziwa kanjalo kumuntu ombulalayo.”

28 U-Eliyabe umfowabo omkhulu wezwa lapho ekhuluma kubantu; intukuthelo ka-Eliyabe yamvuthela uDavide, wathi: “Wehleleni na? Uzishiye kubani leziya zimvu ezingengakanani ehlane na? Mina ngiyakwazi ukuziphakamisa kwakho nobubi benhliziyo yakho, ngokuba wehlile ukuba ubuke impi.”

29 Kepha uDavide wathi: “Ngenzeni na? Bekungumbuzo nje.”

30 Wamfulathela, wabheka komunye, wakhuluma lona lelo zwi; abantu bamphendula njengakuqala.

31 Esezwakele amazwi abewakhulumile uDavide alandwa phambi kukaSawule; wambiza.

32 UDavide wayesethi kuSawule: “Makungaqedwa nhliziyi yamuntu ngalowo; inceku yakho iyakuhamba ilwe nalowo mFilisti.”

33 USawule wathi kuDavide: “Awunamandla okuya kulowo mFilisti, ulwe naye, ngokuba ungumfana nje, yena eyindoda yempi kwasebusheni bakhe.”

34 UDavide wathi kuSawule: “Inceku yakho yayizalusa izimvu zikayise; lapho kwafika ingonyama nebhere kwathatha imvu emhlambini,

35 ngaphuma ngakulandela, ngakubulala, ngayophula emlonyeni wakho; lapho kwangivukela, ngakubamba ngesilevu, ngakwahlula, ngakubulala.

36 Inceku yakho yahlula ingonyama nebhere, nalowo mFilisti ongasokile uyakuba njengenye yazo, lokhu eyeyisile impi kaNkulunkulu ophilayo.”

37 UDavide wathi: “UJehova owangophula ozisheni lwengonyama nasozisheni lwebhere uyakungophula nasesandleni salowo mFilisti.” USawule wathi kuDavide: “Hamba, uJehova uyakuba nawe.”

38 USawule wamembathisa ezakhe izingubo, wamfaka isigqoko sethusi ekhanda, wamgqokisa ibhantshi lensimbi.

39 UDavide wabhinca inkemba yakhe phezu kwezambatho zakhe, wazama ukuhamba, ngokuba wayengakazilingi. UDavide wathi kuSawule: “Anginakuhamba nalezi, angikazilingi.” UDavide wayesezikhumula.

40 Wathatha induku yakhe ngesandla, wazikhethela amatshe ayisihlanu abushelezi emfudlaneni, wawafaka esikhwameni somalusi ayenaso, eyikeni lakhe, indwayimana yakhe isesandleni sakhe; wayesesondela kumFilisti.

41 Weza umFilisti, wafika wasondela kuDavide; umuntu ophethe isihlangu wahamba

phambi kwakhe.

⁴² UmFilisti esabuka wambona uDavide, wameyisa, ngokuba wayengumfana nje, ebomvana, ebukeka emuhle.

⁴³ UmFilisti wathi kuDavide: “Ngiyinja yini ukuba uze kimi unezinduku na?” UmFilisti wamthuka uDavide ngawonkulunkulu bakhe.

⁴⁴ UmFilisti wathi kuDavide: “Woza kimi, nginike izinyoni zezulu nezilwane zasendle inyama yakho.”

⁴⁵ UDavide wayesethi kumFilisti: “Wena uza kimi nenkemba, nomkhonto, nengcula, kepha mina ngiza kuwe ngegama likaJehova Sebwoti, uNkulunkulu wempi ka-Israyeli oyeyisile.

⁴⁶ Namuhla uJehova uyakunikela esandleni sami; ngiyakukubulala, ngisuse ikhanda lakho kuwe, nginike namuhla izinyoni zezulu nezilwane zomhlaba izidumbu zempi yamaFilisti, ukuze umhlaba wonke wazi ukuthi kukhona uNkulunkulu kwa-Israyeli,

⁴⁷ yazi yonke le nhlangano ukuthi uJehova akasindisi ngenkemba nangomkhonto; ngokuba ukulwa kungokukaJehova; uyakunikela esandleni sethu.”

⁴⁸ Kwathi lapho esuka umFilisti weza wasondela ukuhlangabezana noDavide, uDavide washesha wagijimela ngasempini ukuhlangana nomFilisti.

⁴⁹ UDavide wafaka isandla sakhe esikhwameni sakhe, wakhipha khona itshe, waliphonsa, wamshaya umFilisti ebunzini, itshe lashona ebunzini, wawela phansi ngobuso.

⁵⁰ UDavide wamahlula umFilisti ngendwayimana nangetshe, wamshaya umFilisti, wambulala; kodwa kwakungekho nkemba esandleni sikaDavide.

⁵¹ Wayesegijima uDavide, wema phezu komFilisti, wathatha inkemba yakhe, wayihosha emgodleni wayo, wambulala, wamnquma ikhanda ngayo. Lapho amaFilisti ebona ukuthi iqhawe lawo lifile, abaleka.

⁵² Abantu bakwa-Israyeli nabakwaJuda basuka bakhamuluka, bawaxosha amaFilisti kwaze kwaba seGayi nasemasangweni ase-Ekroni. Abalimeleyo bamaFilisti bawa ngasendleleni eya eShaharayimi, kwaze kwaba seGati nase-Ekroni.

⁵³ Abantwana bakwa-Israyeli babuya ekuxosheni amaFilisti, baphanga ikamu lawo.

⁵⁴ UDavide wathatha ikhanda lomFilisti, waliyisa eJerusalema; kepha wafaka izikhali zakhe etendeni lakhe.

⁵⁵ Lapho uSawule embona uDavide ephuma ukuhlangabezana nomFilisti, wathi ku-Abineri induna yempi: “Abineri, yindodana kabani lo mfana na?” U-Abineri wathi: “Kuphila kwakho, nkosi, angazi.”

⁵⁶ Yayisithi inkosi: “Buza wena ukuthi iyindodana kabani le nsizwa.”

⁵⁷ UDavide esabuya ekubulaleni umFilisti, u-Abineri wamthatha wamyisa phambi kukaSawule, ephethe ikhanda lomFilisti esandleni sakhe.

⁵⁸ USawule wathi kuye: “Uyindodana kabani wena mfana na?” UDavide waphendula wathi: “Ngiyindodana yenceku yakho uJese waseBetlehema.”

ISAHLUKO 18

Kwathi eseqedile ukukhuluma kuSawule, inhliziyu kaJonathani yanamathela enhliziyweni kaDavide, uJonathani wamthanda njengenhliziyu yakhe.

² USawule wamthatha ngalolo suku, akabe esamvumela ukubuyela endlini kayise.

³ OJonathani noDavide benza isivumelwano, ngokuba wamthanda njengenhliziyu yakhe.

⁴ UJonathani wakhumula ingubo ayenayo, wayinika uDavide, nezinye izambatho zakhe kwaze kwaba nenkemba yakhe, nomnsalo wakhe, nebhande lakhe.

- ⁵ U Davide waphuma, waya nomaphi lapho uSawule emthuma khona, waziphatha ngokuhlakanipha; uSawule wambeka phezu kwamadoda empi; wayemuhle emehlweni abantu bonke nasemehlweni ezinceku zikaSawule.
- ⁶ Kwathi ekufikeni kwabo, u Davide esebuya ekubulaleni umFilisti, abesifazane baphuma emizini yonke yakwa-Israyeli, behlabelela besina, ukuba bamhlangabeze uSawule inkosi ngezigubhu, nangokuthokoza, nangezinkenenezo.
- ⁷ Abesifazane bavumelana ngokudlala, bathi: “USawule ubulele izinkulungwane zakhe, kepha u Davide izinkulungwane zakhe eziyishumi.”
- ⁸ USawule wathukuthela kakhulu, laba libi lelo zwi emehlweni akhe; wathi: “Bamnike u Davide izinkulungwane eziyishumi, kepha mina banginike izinkulungwane nje; sekumsalele umbuso kuphela.”
- ⁹ USawule wambeka u Davide kusukela kulolo suku kuya phambili.
- ¹⁰ Kwathi ngangomuso umoya omubi owavela kuNkulunkulu wamehlela uSawule, wabheva phakathi kwendlu; u Davide wayebetha ngesandla sakhe njengokwenza kwakhe izinsuku ngezinsuku; uSawule wayenomkhonto wakhe esandleni sakhe.
- ¹¹ USawule wawuciba umkhonto, ngokuba wathi: “Ngiyakumbhujela u Davide odongeni.” Kepha u Davide washalaza phambi kwakhe kabili.
- ¹² USawule wamesaba u Davide, ngokuba uJehova wayenaye, kepha wayesukile kuSawule.
- ¹³ Ngelokho uSawule wamsusa kuye, wambeka abe yinduna yakhe yenkulungwane; wayephuma engena phambi kwabantu.
- ¹⁴ U Davide waziphatha ngokuhlakanipha kuzo zonke izindlela zakhe; uJehova wayenaye.
- ¹⁵ Lapho uSawule ebona ukuthi waziphatha ngokuhlakanipha, wamesaba.
- ¹⁶ Kepha wonke u-Israyeli noJuda bamthanda u Davide, ngokuba wayephuma engena phambi kwabo.
- ¹⁷ USawule wathi ku Davide: “Bheka, indodakazi yami enkulu uMerabi ngiyakukunika yona ibe ngumkakho; yiba yiqhawe lami kuphela, ulwe izimpi zikaJehova.” Ngokuba uSawule wathi: “Isandla sami masingabi phezu kwakhe, kepha isandla samaFilisti masibe phezu kwakhe.”
- ¹⁸ U Davide wathi kuSawule: “Mina ngingubani, kuyini ukuphila kwami, nomndeni kababa uyini kwa-Israyeli ukuba ngibe ngumkhwenyana wenkosi?”
- ¹⁹ Kepha kwathi ngesikhathi uMerabi indodakazi kaSawule ebeyakunikwa u Davide, wanikwa ku-Adriyeli waseMehola abe ngumkakhe.
- ²⁰ UMikhali indodakazi kaSawule wamthanda u Davide; bamtshela uSawule, kwaba kuhle emehlweni akhe.
- ²¹ Wayesethi uSawule: “Ngiyakumnika yena ukuba abe lugibe kuye, isandla samaFilisti sibe phezu kwakhe.” Ngelokho uSawule wathi ku Davide: “Uyakuba ngumkhwenyana wami ngokwesibili namuhla.”
- ²² USawule wayaleza izinceku zakhe ngokuthi: “Khulumani no Davide ngasese, nithi: ‘Bheka, inkosi yenamile ngawe, nazo zonke izinceku zayo ziyakuthanda; ngelokho yiba ngumkhwenyana wenkosi.’ ”
- ²³ Izinceku zikaSawule zakhuluma lawo mazwi ezindlebeni zika Davide. U Davide wathi: “Kuyinto elula emehlweni enu ukuba ngibe ngumkhwenyana wenkosi, lokhu ngingumuntu ompofu nodelelikileyo na?”
- ²⁴ Izinceku zikaSawule zamtshela zathi: “Wakhuluma kanjalo u Davide.”
- ²⁵ USawule wathi: “Niyakusho kanje ku Davide, nithi: ‘Inkosi ayifuni ilobolo, kuphela amajwabu ayikhulu amaFilisti ukuba kuphindiswe ezitheni zenkosi.’ ” USawule wacabanga

ukumwisa uDavide ngesandla samaFilisti.

²⁶ Izinceku zakhe zamtshela uDavide lawo mazwi, kwaba kuhle emehlweni kaDavide ukuba abe ngumkhwenyana wenkosi, kepha izinsuku zazingakapheleli;

²⁷ uDavide wasuka waya, yena nabantu bakhe, wabulala kuwo amaFilisti abantu abangamakhulu amabili; uDavide waletha amajwabu abo, bawayisa enkosini ephelele ukuba abe ngumkhwenyana wenkosi. USawule wayesemnika uMikhali indodakazi yakhe abe ngumkakhe.

²⁸ USawule wabona, wazi ukuthi uJehova unoDavide; uMikhali indodakazi kaSawule wamthanda.

²⁹ USawule wayesemesaba uDavide kakhulu; uSawule wayeyisitha sikaDavide sonke isikhathi.

³⁰ Kwase kuphuma izikhulu zamaFilisti; kwathi njalo uma zisaphuma, uDavide waziphatha ngokuhlakanipha kakhulu kunazo zonke izinceku zikaSawule, laze laduma kakhulu igama lakhe.

ISAHLUKO 19

USawule wakhuluma kuJonathani indodana yakhe nakuzo zonke izinceku zakhe ngokubulala uDavide. Kepha uJonathani indodana kaSawule wamenamela kakhulu uDavide.

² UJonathani wamtshela uDavide, wathi: “USawule ubaba ufuna ukukubulala; ngalokho ake uxwaye kusasa, uhlale esitha, ucashe;

³ ngiyakuphuma ngime ngakubaba endle lapho ukhona, ngikhulume ngawe nobaba; uma ngibona okuthile, ngiyakukutshela.”

⁴ UJonathani wakhuluma okuhle ngoDavide kuSawule uyise, wathi kuye: “Inkosi mayingayoni inceku yayo uDavide, ngokuba akakonanga, nemisebenzi yakhe kuwe ilungile kakhulu;

⁵ wabeka ukuphila kwakhe esandleni sakhe, wabulala umFilisti, uJehova wamenzela wonke u-Israyeli insindiso enkulu, wakubona wena, wathokoza; pho, uyakulonelani igazi elingenacala, umbulale uDavide engone lutho na?”

⁶ USawule walilalela izwi likaJonathani; uSawule wafunga wathi: “Kuphila kukaJehova, akayikubulawa.”

⁷ UJonathani wambiza uDavide; uJonathani wamtshela konke lokho. UJonathani wamyisa uDavide kuSawule, waba khona ebusweni bakhe njengakuqala.

⁸ Kwabuye kwaba khona impi futhi; uDavide waphuma walwa namaFilisti, wawaceka ngokuceka okukhulu; ambalekela.

⁹ Umoya omubi owavela kuJehova wamehlela uSawule ehlezi endlini yakhe, ephethe umkhonto esandleni sakhe; uDavide wayebetha ngesandla.

¹⁰ USawule wafuna ukumbhujela uDavide ngomkhonto odongeni, kepha wanyelela ebusweni bukaSawule, wagwaza ngomkhonto odongeni; uDavide wabaleka, waphunyuka ngalobo busuku.

¹¹ USawule wathuma izithunywa endlini kaDavide ukuba zimlinde, zimbulale ekuseni; uMikhali umkaDavide wamtshela wathi: “Uma ungasindisi ukuphila kwakho ngalobu busuku, uyakubulawa kusasa.”

¹² UMikhali wamehlisa uDavide ngefasitele, wahamba, wabaleka, waphunyuka.

¹³ UMikhali wathatha itherafi, walibeka embhedeni, wabeka isicamelo soboya bezimbuzi ngasekhanda lalo, walembesa izingubo.

- ¹⁴ Lapho uSawule esethuma izithunywa ukumthatha uDavide, wathi: “Uyagula.”
- ¹⁵ USawule wathuma izithunywa ukumbona uDavide, ethi: “Mkhuphuleni kimi ngombhede ukuba ngimbulale.”
- ¹⁶ Lapho izithunywa zingena, bheka, itherafi lalisembhedeni, isicamelo soboya bezimbuzi singasekhanda lalo.
- ¹⁷ USawule wathi kuMikhali: “Ungikho hliseni kanje, uvumele isitha sami ukuba sihambe, siphunyuke, na?” UMikhali wamphendula uSawule ngokuthi: “Wathi kimi: ‘Ngivumele ukuba ngihambe; ngiyakukubulalelani na?’ ”
- ¹⁸ Wayesebaleka uDavide, waphunyuka, waya kuSamuweli eRama, wamtshela konke uSawule abekwenzile kuye. Yena noSamuweli baya bahlala eNayoti.
- ¹⁹ Kwabikwa kuSawule, kwathiwa: “Bheka, uDavide useNayoti eRama.”
- ²⁰ USawule wathuma izithunywa ukumthatha uDavide; lapho zibona iviyo labaprofethi beprofetha, uSamuweli emi engumholi wabo, uMoya kaNkulunkulu wazehlela izithunywa zikaSawule, nazo zaprofetha.
- ²¹ Kwabikwa kuSawule; wathuma ezinye izithunywa; nazo zaprofetha. USawule wayesephinda wathuma izithunywa ngokwesithathu; nazo zaprofetha.
- ²² Wayeseya naye eRama, wafika emthonjeni oseSeku, wabuza ukuthi: “Baphi oSamuweli noDavide na?” Kwathiwa: “Bheka, baseNayoti eRama.”
- ²³ Wayeseya khona eNayoti eRama; uMoya kaNkulunkulu wehlela naphezu kwakhe, wahambahamba waprofetha, waze wafika eNayoti eRama.
- ²⁴ Naye wakhumula izingubo zakhe, waprofetha naye phambi kukaSamuweli, walala phansi enqunu lonke lolo suku nabo bonke lobo busuku. Ngalokho kwathiwa: “Naye uSawule uphakathi kwabaprofethi na?”

ISAHLUKO 20

- U**Davide wabaleka eNayoti eRama, weza, wathi phambi kukaJonathani: “Ngenzeni na? Liyini icala lami na? Siyini isono sami phambi kukayihlo ukuba afune ukuphila kwami na?”
- ² Wathi kuye: “Makube kude lokho; awuyikufa; bheka, ubaba akenzi lutho olukhulu noma oluncane engakwambuleli kimi; pho, ubaba ubeyakungifihlela le nto na? Akuyikuba njalo.”
- ³ UDavide wabuye wafunga, wathi: “Uyihlo uyazi kahle ukuthi ngifumene umusa emehlweni akho; uthi: ‘Makangazi lokhu uJonathani, funa abe nosizi.’ Kepha, kuphila kukaJehova nokuphila kwakho, kukhona isinyathelo esisodwa nje phakathi kwami nokufa.”
- ⁴ UJonathani wayesethi kuDavide: “Noma kuyini inhliziyi yakho ekushoyo, ngiyakukwenzela khona.”
- ⁵ UDavide wathi kuJonathani: “Bheka, kusasa iyakwethwasa inyanga; angifanele ukuphutha ukuhlala nenkosi ekudleni, kepha ngivumele ukuba ngihambe, ngicashe endle kuze kube sosukwini lwesithathu ngakusihlwa.
- ⁶ Uma uyihlo engifika ngingekho, wothi: ‘UDavide wacela nokucela ukuba agijimele eBetlehem umuzi wakhe, ngokuba kukhona lapho umhlatshelelo weminyaka ngeminyaka owenzelwa wonke umndeneni wakubo.’
- ⁷ Uma esho ukuthi: ‘Kulungile,’ inceku yakho iyakuba nokuthula; kepha uma ethukuthela, yazi-ke ukuthi unqume okubi.
- ⁸ Ngalokho yenzela inceku yakho isihawu, ngokuba ungenisile inceku yakho esivumelwaneni sikaJehova nawe; kepha uma kukhona ububi kimi, ngibulale wena,

ngokuba ubuyakungiyiselani kuyihlo na?"

⁹ UJonathani wathi: "Makube kude nawe, ngokuba uma bengazi nakanci ukuthi kunqunywe okubi ngubaba ukuba wehlelewe yikho, bengingayikukutshela na?"

¹⁰ UDavide wayesethi kuJonathani: "Ngubani oyakungitshela, uma mhlawumbe uyihlo ekuphendula kabi na?"

¹¹ UJonathani wathi kuDavide: "Woza siye endle." Baphuma bobabili, baya endle.

¹² UJonathani wathi kuDavide: "Jehova Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, nxa ngimphenya ubaba ngalesi sikhathi kusasa noma ngomhlomunye, bheka, uma kukuhle kuDavide, ngiyakuthumela kuwe, ngikwambulele kuwe.

¹³ UJehova makenze njalo kuJonathani, enezele futhi, uma kukuhle kubaba ukukwenzela okubi, ngingakwambuleli kuwe, ngikuvumele ukuba uhambe kahle; uJehova makabe nawe, njengalokho ayenobaba.

¹⁴ Awuyikungenzela umusa kaJehova ukuba ngingafi ngisekhona kuphela,

¹⁵ kepha futhi mawunganqumi isihawu sakho endlini yami kuze kube phakade, hhayi nalapho uJehova esenqumile zonke izitha zikaDavide ebusweni bomhlaba."

¹⁶ UJonathani wayesenza isivumelwano nendlu kaDavide; futhi uJehova wakubiza esandleni sezitha zikaDavide.

¹⁷ UJonathani waphinda wamfungisa ukumthanda kwakhe, ngokuba wamthanda njengokuba ethanda umphefumulo wakhe.

¹⁸ UJonathani wayesethi kuye: "Kusasa iyakwethwasa inyanga; uyakuficwa ungekho, ngokuba isihlalo sakho siyakuba ze.

¹⁹ Usuhlalile izinsuku ezintathu; yehla masinyane, uye kuleyo ndawo owacasha kuyo ngosuku lwesenzo leso, uhlale ngasetsheni lase-Ezeli.

²⁰ Ngiyakucibishela imicibisholo emithathu ngaseceleni kwalo, kungathi ngicibishela isigcibisholo.

²¹ Bheka, ngiyakuthuma umfana ngokuthi: 'Hamba ufune imicibisholo.' Uma ngithi kumfana: 'Bheka, imicibisholo inganeno kwakho, yithathe,' woza wena, ngokuba ungaba nokuthula, akukho lutho, kuphila kukaJehova.

²² Kepha uma ngithi kanje kumfana: 'Bheka, imicibisholo ingalaphaya kwakho,' hamba, ngokuba uJehova ukumukisile.

²³ Namaqondana nendaba esikhulume ngayo mina nawe, bheka, uJehova uphakathi kwakho nami kuze kube phakade."

²⁴ UDavide wacasha masinyane endle; isethwasile inyanga, inkosi yahlala ekudleni ukuba idle.

²⁵ Inkosi yahlala esihlalweni sayo njengakwezinye izikhathi, isihlalo esingasodongeni; uJonathani wema, u-Abineri wahlala ngaseceleni kukaSawule; kepha indawo kaDavide yayiyize.

²⁶ Kodwa uSawule akakhulumanga lutho ngalolo suku, ngokuba wacabanga ukuthi: "Okuthile kumehlele; akahlambulukile, impela akahlambulukile."

²⁷ Kwathi ngangomuso emva kokwethwasa kwenyanga ngolwesibili indawo kaDavide yayiyize; uSawule wathi kuJonathani indodana yakhe: "Indodana kaJese ayifikanga ngani ekudleni nayizolo nanamuhla na?"

²⁸ UJonathani wamphendula uSawule, wathi: "UDavide wangicela nokungicela ukuba aye eBetlehema,

²⁹ wathi: 'Ake ungivumele ukuba ngihambe, ngokuba umndeni wakithi unomhlatsshelo emzini; umfowethu ungiyalile; manje-ke, uma ngifumene umusa emehlweni akho, mangihambe ngibone abafowethu.' Ngalokho akafikanga etafuleni lenkosi."

- ³⁰ Intukuthelo kaSawule yayisimvuthela uJonathani, wathi kuye: “Wena ndodana yowesifazane owonakeleyo nohlubukileyo, angazi yini ukuthi ukhethile indodana kaJese kube yihlazo lakho nehlozo lobunqunu bukanyoko, na?”
- ³¹ Ngokuba izinsuku zonke indodana kaJese isekhona emhlabeni awuyikuzinza nombuso wakho. Ngalokho thumela umlethe kimi, ngokuba ungowokufa yena.”
- ³² UJonathani wamphendula uSawule uyise, wathi kuye: “Uyakubulalelwani? Wenzeni na?”
- ³³ USawule wamgema ngomkhonto ukuba amgwaze; wayesekwazi uJonathani ukuthi uyise unqume ukumbulala uDavide.
- ³⁴ UJonathani wasuka etafuleni evutha ulaka, akadlanga kudla ngosuku lwesibili lwenyanga, ngokuba wayenosizi ngenxa kaDavide, lokhu uyise emhlazisile.
- ³⁵ Kwathi ekuseni uJonathani waphuma, waya endle ngesikhathi abasimisile noDavide, umfana omncane enaye.
- ³⁶ Wathi kumfana wakhe: “Gijima, ufune imicibisholo engiyicibishelayo.” Esagijima umfana, wacibishela umcibisholo ngaphambi kwakhe.
- ³⁷ Umfana esefikile endaweni yomcibisholo uJonathani ayicibisheleyo, uJonathani wamemeza emva komfana, wathi: “Umcibisholo awungaphambi kwakho na?”
- ³⁸ UJonathani wamemeza emva komfana, wathi: “Shesha, ukhawuleze, ungemi.” Umfana kaJonathani waqoqa imicibisholo, wafika enkosini yakhe.
- ³⁹ Kepha umfana wayengazi lutho; oJonathani noDavide kuphela babeyazi le ndaba.
- ⁴⁰ UJonathani wanika umfana wakhe izikhali zakhe, wathi kuye: “Hamba, uziyise emzini.”
- ⁴¹ Esehambile umfana, uDavide wavuka ngaseningizimu, wawa phansi ngobuso bakhe, wakhothama kathathu; bangana, bakhalelana, waze wakhala kakhulu uDavide.
- ⁴² UJonathani wathi kuDavide: “Hamba kahle, lokhu sifungile sobabili igama likaJehova ngokuthi: ‘UJehova uyakuba phakathi kwami nawe naphakathi kwenzalo yami nenzalo yakho kuze kube phakade.’ ” Wavuka, wahamba; uJonathani wangena emzini.

ISAHLUKO 21

- U**Davide wayeseya eNobi ku-Ahimeleki umpristi; u-Ahimeleki waya ukumhlangabeza uDavide ethuthumela, wathi kuye: “Yini ukuba uwedwa, kungekho muntu nawe, na?”
- ² UDavide wathi ku-Ahimeleki umpristi: “Inkosi ingiyalezile udaba, yathi kimi: ‘Makungazi muntu ngalolu daba engikuthuma ngalo nengikuyale ngalo.’ Izinsizwa zami ngizazisile indawo ethile.
- ³ Manje kuyini okuphansi kwesandla sakho na? Nginike esandleni sami izinkwa eziyisihlanu noma kuyini okukhona.”
- ⁴ Umpristi wamphendula uDavide, wathi: “Asikho isinkwa esivamileyo nje phansi kwesandla sami, kepha kukhona isinkwa esingcwele, uma izinsizwa zizigcinile esifazaneni kuphela.”
- ⁵ UDavide wamphendula umpristi, wathi: “Impela abesifazane bavinjelwe kithina ngalezi zinsuku; izinto zezinsizwa zazingcwele ekuphumeni kwami; noma kuyindlela evamileyo nje, izinto zazo zisengcwele nanamuhla.”
- ⁶ Umpristi wayesemnika isinkwa esingcwele, ngokuba kwakungekho sinkwa lapho, isinkwa sokubukwa kuphela, ebesisusiwe phambi kukaJehova ukuba kubekwe isinkwa esisashisayo mhla sisuswa.
- ⁷ Kepha umuntu othile wezinceku zikaSawule wayelapho ngalolo suku, ebambekile

phambi kukaJehova, ogama lakhe lalinguDowegi wabakwa-Edomi, omkhulu wabelusi bakaSawule.

⁸ U Davide wathi ku-Ahimeleki: “Akukho lapho phansi kwesandla sakho umkhonto noma inkemba na? Ngokuba angifikanga nenkemba yami nezikhali zami, ngokuba udaba lwenkosi lwalusheshisa.”

⁹ Wayesethi umpristi: “Inkemba kaGoliyati umFilisti owambulala esigodini sase-Ela, bheka, ilapho, isongiwe ngengubo emva kwengubo yamahlombe. Uma uthanda ukuyithatha, yithathe, ngokuba ayikho lapha enye ngaphandle kwayo.” U Davide wathi: “Ayikho enjengayo; nginike yona.”

¹⁰ Wayesesuka u Davide, wabaleka ngalolo suku ngokwesaba uSawule, waya ku-Akhishi inkosi yaseGati.

¹¹ Izinceku zika-Akhishi zathi kuye: “Lo akasiye u Davide, inkosi yezwe, na? Abavumelananga yini ngaye omunye nomunye, besina bethi: “ ‘USawule ubulele izinkulungwane zakhe, kepha u Davide izinkulungwane zakhe eziyishumi,’ na?”

¹² U Davide wabeka lawo mazwi enhliziyweni yakhe, wamesaba kakhulu u-Akhishi inkosi yaseGati.

¹³ Waguquka ingqondo phambi kwabo, wazenza ohlanyayo ezandleni zabo, wadweba ezivalweni zamasango, wehlisela amathe esilevini.

¹⁴ U-Akhishi wayesethi ezincekwini zakhe: “Bheka, uyabona ukuthi lo muntu uyahlanya; nimletheleni kimi na?

¹⁵ Ngiswele izinhlanga yini ukuba nimlethe lo muntu ukuzenza uhlanya ebusweni bami na? Angene endlini yami lona na?”

ISAHLUKO 22

U Davide wayesesuka khona, wabaleka, waya emhumeni wase-Adulamu; lapho abafowabo nabo bonke abendlu kayise bekuzwa, behlela khona kuye.

² Kwabuthana kuye bonke abanosizi, nabo bonke abanesikwenetu, nabo bonke abanenhliyi enomunyu, waba yinduna phezu kwabo; kwakukhona naye kungathi abantu abangamakhulu amane.

³ U Davide wasuka khona, waya eMispa lakwaMowabi, wathi enkosini yakwaMowabi: “Ake beze ubaba nomame, bahlale kini, ngize ngazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu uyakwenzani kimi.”

⁴ Wabaletha phambi kwenkosi yakwaMowabi, bahlala kuye zonke izinsuku u Davide esenqabeni.

⁵ Umprofethi uGadi wathi ku Davide: “Ungahlali enqabeni; hamba uye ezweni lakwaJuda.” Wayesesuka u Davide, wafika ehlathini laseHereti.

⁶ USawule wezwa ukuthi u Davide uyaziwa nabantu ababe naye; uSawule wayehlezi eGibeya phansi komtamariske egqumeni ephethe umkhonto esandleni sakhe, zonke izinceku zimi ngakuye.

⁷ USawule wathi ezincekwini zakhe ezazimi ngakuye: “Yizwani nina bakwaBenjamini; indodana kaJese iyakuninika nonke amasimu nezivini, inenze nonke nibe yizinduna zezinkulungwane nezinduna zamakhulu,

⁸ ngokuba ningenzele nonke ugobe, akwababikho ongitshelileyo lapho indodana yami yenza isivumelwano nendodana kaJese, akwababikho kini ongidabukelayo nongitshelayo ukuthi indodana yami ingivusele inceku yami ukuba ingiqamekele njenganamuhla.”

⁹ UDowegi wakwa-Edomi owayemi ngakuzo izinceku zikaSawule waphendula wathi: “Ngabona indodana kaJese iza eNobi ku-Ahimeleki indodana ka-Ahithubi.

- ¹⁰ Wambuzela kuJehova, wamnika umphako, wamnika nenkemba kaGoliyati umFilisti.”
- ¹¹ Inkosi yayisithumela ukubiza u-Ahimeleki umpristi, indodana ka-Ahithubi, nendlu yonke kayise, abapristi ababeseNobi; beza bonke enkosini.
- ¹² USawule wathi: “Yizwa-ke, wena ndodana ka-Ahithubi.” Waphendula wathi: “Ngilapha, nkosi.”
- ¹³ USawule wathi kuye: “Ningenzeleleni ugobe, wena nendodana kaJese, ngokuyinika isinkwa nenkemba, uyibuzele kuNkulunkulu ukuba ingivukele, ingiqamekele njenganamuhla, na?”
- ¹⁴ U-Ahimeleki waphendula inkosi, wathi: “Ngubani kuzo zonke izinceku zakho othembekile njengoDavide, umkhwenyana wenkosi, nenduna yabalindi bakho, nodumileyo endlini yakho, na?”
- ¹⁵ Ngigale namuhla yini ukumbuzela kuJehova na? Makube kude nami; inkosi mayingabeki cala encekwini yayo, nakuyo yonke indlu kababa, ngokuba inceku yakho ayazi lutho lwayo yonke le ndaba, oluncane noma olukhulu.”
- ¹⁶ Inkosi yayisithi: “Uyakufa nokufa, Ahimeleki, wena nayo yonke indlu kayihlo.”
- ¹⁷ Inkosi yathi kuzo izigijimi ezazimi ngakuyo: “Sondelani, nibulale abapristi bakaJehova, ngokuba nesandla sabo sinaye uDavide nangokuba bazi ukuthi uDavide wabaleka, bengakwambulelanga kimi.” Kepha izinceku zenkosi azivumanga ukwelula isandla sazo ukuba zisukele abapristi bakaJehova.
- ¹⁸ Inkosi yathi kuDowegi: “Sondela wena, usukele abapristi.” UDowegi wabakwa-Edomi wasondela, wabasukela abapristi, wabulala ngalolo suku abantu abangamashumi ayisishiyagalombili nanhlanu, abembethe ingubo yamahlombe yelineni.
- ¹⁹ INobi, umuzi wabapristi, walichitha ngosiko lwenkemba, abesilisa nabesifazane, izingane nabancelayo, izinkabi nezimbongolo nezimvu, ngosiko lwenkemba.
- ²⁰ Omunye wamadodana ka-Ahimeleki indodana ka-Ahithubi ogama lakhe lingu-Abiyathara wabaleka, wamlandela uDavide.
- ²¹ U-Abiyathara wamtshela uDavide ukuthi uSawule ubulele abapristi bakaJehova.
- ²² UDavide wathi ku-Abiyathara: “Ngazi ngalolo suku mhla uDowegi wakwa-Edomi elapho ukuthi uyakumtshela nokumtshela uSawule; yimi engibangele ukuba bafe abantu bonke bendlu kayihlo.
- ²³ Hlala kimi, ungesabi, ngokuba ofuna ukuphila kwami ufuna ukuphila kwakho, kepha uyakulondolozeka kimi.”

ISAHLUKO 23

- K**wabikwa kuDavide ukuthi: “Bheka, amaFilisti ayalwa neKeyila, aphanga izibuya.”
- ² Ngalokho uDavide wabuza kuJehova, wathi: “Ngiye ngibulale lawo maFilisti na?” UJehova wathi kuDavide: “Hamba uwabulale amaFilisti, usindise iKeyila.”
- ³ Abantu bakaDavide bathi kuye: “Bheka, siyesaba lapha kwaJuda; kakhulu kangakanani, uma siya eKeyila, silwe nezimpi zamaFilisti na?”
- ⁴ UDavide waphinda wabuza kuJehova. UJehova wamphendula wathi: “Suka wehlele eKeyila, ngokuba ngiyakunikela amaFilisti esandleni sakho.”
- ⁵ UDavide nabantu bakhe baya eKeyila, balwa namaFilisti, bathumba izinkomo zawo, bawaceka ngokuceka okukhulu. Wayesebasindisa uDavide abaseKeyila.
- ⁶ Kwathi lapho u-Abiyathara indodana ka-Ahimeleki ebaleka eya kuDavide eKeyila, wehla, ingubo yamahlombe isesandleni sakhe.

- ⁷ Kwabikwa kuSawule ukuthi uDavide ufikile eKeyila. Wayesethi uSawule: “UNKulunkulu umkhaphela esandleni sami, ngokuba uzivalele ngokungena emzini onamasango nemigoqo.”
- ⁸ USawule wabiza abantu bonke, baye empini, behlele eKeyila, bavimbezele uDavide nabantu bakhe.
- ⁹ UDavide wazi ukuthi uSawule uceba okubi ngaye; wathi ku-Abiyathara umpristi: “Letha ingubo yamahlombe.”
- ¹⁰ Wayesethi uDavide: “Jehova Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, inceku yakho izwile nokuzwa ukuthi uSawule ufuna ukuza eKeyila ukuba achithe umuzi ngenxa yami.
- ¹¹ Abantu baseKeyila bayakungikhaphela yini esandleni sakhe na? USawule uyakwehla njengalokho inceku yakho izwile na? Jehova Nkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ake uyitshele inceku yakho.” Wathi uJehova: “Uyakwehla.”
- ¹² Wayesethi uDavide: “Abantu baseKeyila bayakungikhaphela mina nabantu bami esandleni sikaSawule na?” Wathi uJehova: “Bayakukhaphela.”
- ¹³ Wayesesuka uDavide nabantu bakhe kungathi abangamakhulu ayisithupha, baphuma eKeyila, bahamba lapho bebenokuhamba khona. Kwabikwa kuSawule ukuthi uDavide ubalekile eKeyila; wayeseyeka ukuphuma.
- ¹⁴ UDavide wahlala ehlane ezingqabeni, wahlala ezintabeni ezisehlane laseZifi. USawule wamfuna zonke izinsuku, kepha uNkulunkulu akamnikelanga esandleni sakhe.
- ¹⁵ UDavide wabona ukuthi uSawule uphumele ukufuna ukuphila kwakhe; uDavide wayesehlane laseZifi eHoreshi.
- ¹⁶ Kwasuka uJonathani indodana kaSawule, waya kuDavide eHoreshi, waqinisa isandla sakhe kuNkulunkulu.
- ¹⁷ Wathi kuye: “Ungesabi, ngokuba isandla sikaSawule ubaba asiyikukufumana; wena uyakuba yinkosi phezu kuka-Israyeli, mina ngikwelame; noSawule ubaba uyakwazi lokho.”
- ¹⁸ Benza isivumelwano bobabili phambi kukaJehova; uDavide wahlala eHoreshi, uJonathani waya endlini yakhe.
- ¹⁹ Kwase kwenyuka abaseZifi, baya kuSawule eGibeya, bathi: “UDavide akacashi yini kithi ezingqabeni zaseHoreshi entabeni yaseHakhila elingaseningizimu kwasehlane na?”
- ²⁰ Ngalokho yehla, nkosi, uma kuyisifiso senhliziyo yakho ukwehla, thina simkhaphela esandleni senkosi.”
- ²¹ USawule wathi: “Manibusiswe, ngokuba ningihawukele.
- ²² Manihambe, niqinise, nazi, nibone indawo yakhe lapho kukhona unyawo lwakhe nokuthi ubonwe ngubani khona, ngokuba ngitsheliwe ukuthi unobuqili impela.
- ²³ Bhekani, nizazi zonke izindawo zokucasha, lapho ecasha khona, nibuyele kimi nineqiniso; ngiyakuhamba nani; kuyakuthi uma ekhona ezweni, ngimfice phakathi kwayo yonke imindeni yakwaJuda.”
- ²⁴ Base besuka, baya eZifi phambi kukaSawule; kepha uDavide nabantu bakhe babesehlane laseMahoni e-Araba ngaseningizimu kwasehlane.
- ²⁵ USawule nabantu bakhe baya ukumfuna. UDavide watshelwa; wehlela-ke eweni, wahlala ehlane laseMahoni. USawule ekuzwa, wamxosha uDavide ehlane laseMahoni.
- ²⁶ USawule wahamba ngalapha kwentaba, uDavide nabantu bakhe bahamba ngale kwentaba; uDavide washesha wahamba ngokumesaba uSawule, ngokuba uSawule nabantu bakhe bahaqa uDavide nabantu bakhe ukuba bababambe.
- ²⁷ Kepha kwafika isithunywa kuSawule, sithi: “Shesha ufike, ngokuba amaFilisti angenele izwe.”

²⁸ Wayesebuya uSawule ekumxosheni uDavide, wahamba ukuhlangabezana namaFilisti; ngalokho babiza leyo ndawo ngokuthi iSela Hamalekoti.

²⁹ UDavide wakhuphuka lapho, wahlala ezingqabeni zase-Eni Gedi.

ISAHLUKO 24

Kwathi uSawule esebuyile ekuxosheni amaFilisti, kwabikwa kuye ukuthi: “Bheka, uDavide usehlane lase-Eni Gedi.”

² USawule wayesethatha abantu abayizinkulungwane ezintathu abakhethiweyo kuye wonke u-Israyeli, wahamba ukumfuna uDavide nabantu bakhe emaDwaleni amaGogo.

³ Wafika ezibayeni zezimvu ngasendleleni, lapho kukhona umhume; uSawule wangena khona ukuba embese izinyawo zakhe. UDavide nabantu bakhe babehlezi emuva emhumeni.

⁴ Abantu bakaDavide bathi kuye: “Bheka, nantu usuku uJehova asho ngalo kuwe ukuthi: ‘Bheka, ngiyakunikela isitha sakho esandleni sakho, wenze kuso okuhle emehlweni akho.’” Wayesesuka uDavide, wasika ngasese umphetho wengubo kaSawule.

⁵ Kwathi ngasemuva uDavide wahlabeka enhliziyweni, ngokuba wayesikile umphetho wengubo kaSawule.

⁶ Wathi kubantu bakhe: “Makube kude nami, Jehova, ukuba ngenze okunjalo kuyo inkosi yami, ogcotshiweyo kaJehova, ngelulele isandla sami kuye, lokhu engogcotshiweyo kaJehova.”

⁷ UDavide wabathiya ngalawo mazwi, akabavumelanga ukuba bamvukele uSawule. USawule wasuka emhumeni, wahamba.

⁸ Naye uDavide wasuka ngasemuva, waphuma emhumeni, wamemeza emva kukaSawule, ethi: “Nkosi yami, nkosi!” USawule wabheka emuva, uDavide wakhothamela phansi ngobuso, wakhuleka.

⁹ UDavide wathi kuSawule: “Ulalelani amazwi abantu abathi: ‘Bheka, uDavide ufuna ukukulimaza’?”

¹⁰ Bheka, namuhla amehlo akho abonile ukuthi uJehova wayekunikele esandleni sami emhumeni; abanye bathi mangikubulale, kepha ngakuhawukela, ngathi: ‘Angiyikwelulela isandla sami kuyo inkosi yami, ngokuba ingogcotshiweyo kaJehova.’

¹¹ Futhi, baba, bheka, yebo, bheka, umphetho wengubo yakho usesandleni sami, ngokuba lokhu ngasika umphetho wengubo yakho ngingakubulalanga, yazi, ubone ukuthi akukho bubi nasiphambeko esandleni sami, angonanga kuwe, noma uqamekela ukuphila kwami ukuba ukuthathe.

¹² UJehova makahlulele phakathi kwami nawe, uJehova angiphindisele kuwe, kepha isandla sami asiyikuba phezu kwakho.

¹³ Kunjengesaga sasendulo esithi: ‘Kwababi kuvela okubi;’ ngalokho isandla sami asiyikuba phezu kwakho.

¹⁴ “Inkosi yakwa-Israyeli iphumele ukulandela bani na? Uxosha bani na? Uxoshainja efileyo, intwakumba eyodwa nje.

¹⁵ UJehova makabe ngumahluleli, ahlulele phakathi kwami nawe, abheke, angimele, angikhulule esandleni sakho.”

¹⁶ Kwathi uDavide eseqedile ukukhuluma lawo mazwi kuSawule, uSawule wathi: “Yizwi lakho leli, ndodana yami Davide, na?” USawule wadazuluka, wakhala.

¹⁷ Wayesethi kuDavide: “Ulungile kunami, ngokuba wena ungiphindisele ngokuhle, kepha

mina ngikuphindisele ngokubi.

¹⁸ Ulandile namuhla ukuthi ungenzele okuhle, njengokuba, lapho uJehova ebenginikele esandleni sakho, awungibulalanga.

¹⁹ Ngokuba uma umuntu efica isitha sakhe, uyasivumela ukuba sihambe ngendlela enhle na? UJehova makakuphindisele ngokuhle ngokwenzileyo kimi namuhla.

²⁰ Manje bheka, ngiyazi ukuthi uyakuba yinkosi impela, nombuso wakwa-Israyeli uyakuqiniswa esandleni sakho.

²¹ Ngalokho ngifungele uJehova ukuthi awuyikunquma inzalo yami emva kwami nokuthi awuyikwesula igama lami endlini kababa.”

²² UDavide wafunga kuSawule; uSawule wagoduka, kepha uDavide nabantu bakhe bakhuphukela enqabeni.

ISAHLUKO 25

U Samuweli wafa; wahlangana wonke u-Israyeli, wamlilela, wammabela ngasendlini yakhe eRama. UDavide wasuka, wehlela ehlane lasePharanu.

² Kwakukhona umuntu eMahoni onemfuyo yakhe eKarmeli; lowo muntu wayemkhulu kakhulu, wayenezimvu eziyizinkulungwane ezintathu nezimbuzi eziyinkulungwane; wayezigunda izimvu zakhe eKarmeli.

³ Igama lalowo muntu lalinguNabali; igama lomkakhe lalingu-Abigayili; owesifazane wayehlakaniphile, ebukeka emuhle, kepha indoda yayilukhuni inobubi emisebenzini yayo; yayingekaKalebi.

⁴ UDavide wezwa ehlane ukuthi uNabali ugunda izimvu zakhe.

⁵ UDavide wathuma izinsizwa eziyishumi; uDavide wathi kuzo izinsizwa: “Khuphukelani eKarmeli, niye kuNabali, nimbengelele egameni lami,

⁶ nithi kumfowethu: ‘Ukuthula makube kuwe, ukuthula nakube kuyo indlu yakho, ukuthula makube kukho konke onakho.

⁷ “ ‘Manje sengizwile ukuthi unabagundi; abelusi bakho babe nathi, asibalimazanga, abalahlekelwa lutho zonke izinsuku beseKarmeli.

⁸ Buza izinsizwa zakho, ziyakukutshela; ngalokho izinsizwa mazithole umusa emehlweni akho, ngokuba sifikile ngosuku oluhle; ake unike izinceku zakho nendodana yakho uDavide okungafunyanwa esandleni sakho.’ ”

⁹ Sezifikile izinsizwa zikaDavide zakhuluma kuNabali njengawo onke lawo mazwi egameni likaDavide, bese zilinda.

¹⁰ UNabali waziphendula izinceku zikaDavide, wathi: “Ngubani uDavide na? Ngubani indodana kaJese na? Namuhla kukhona izinceku eziningi ezeqa emakhosini azo.

¹¹ Ngithathe yini isinkwa sami, namanzi ami, nengikuhlabela abagundi bami, ngikuphe abantu engingabazi ukuthi bavelaphi, na?”

¹² Zase ziphenduka izinsizwa zikaDavide endleleni yazo, zabuyela, zamtshela onke lawo mazwi.

¹³ UDavide wathi kubantu bakhe: “Bhincani, kube yilowo nalowo inkemba yakhe.” Zabhinca-ke, kwaba yilowo nalowo inkemba yakhe; naye uDavide wabhinca inkemba yakhe; kwakhuphuka emva kukaDavide abantu kungathi abangamakhulu amane, kepha abangamakhulu amabili bahlala empahleni.

¹⁴ Kodwa enye yezinsizwa yamtshela u-Abigayili umkaNabali, yathi: “Bheka, uDavide wathuma izithunywa zivela ehlane ukuba zibengelele inkosi yethu, kepha yazithukuthelela.

- ¹⁵ Nokho labo bantu basiphatha kahle, asilimalanga, asilahlekelwanga lutho zonke izinsuku sisahambisana nabo sisendle;
- ¹⁶ babe lugange kithi ubusuku nemini, sonke isikhathi sinabo salusa izimvu.
- ¹⁷ Ngalokho yazi, ubone ukuthi uyakwenzani, ngokuba okubi sekunqunyelwe inkosi yethu nendlu yayo yonke, lokhu engumuntu omubi kangaka, ukuze umuntu angekhulume naye.”
- ¹⁸ U-Abigayili wayeseshesha, wathatha izinkwa ezingamakhulu amabili, nezimvaba ezimbili zewayini, nezimvu eziyisihlanu ezilungisiweyo, namaseya ayisihlanu otshwele, nezigaxa eziyikhulu zezithelo zomvini ezomileyo, nezigaxa ezingamakhulu amabili zamakhiwane, wakubeka ezimbongolweni.
- ¹⁹ Wathi kuzo izinsizwa: “Hambani phambi kwami; bhekani, ngiyanilandela.” Kepha akayitshelanga indoda yakhe uNabali.
- ²⁰ Kwathi esakhwele imbongolo, esehla endaweni esithekileyo yentaba, bheka, kwehlela kuye uDavide nabantu bakhe, wahlangana nabo.
- ²¹ UDavide wayeshilo ukuthi: “Impela ngikugcinele ize konke lowo muntu anakho ehlane ukuba angalahlekelwa lutho lwakho konke okwakhe, ngokuba ungibuyisele okubi ngokuhle.
- ²² UNkulunkulu makenze njalo kuzo izitha zikaDavide, enezele futhi, uma ngishiya ngasekuseni kusasa kukho konke okungokwakhe nokukodwa okungokwesilisa.”
- ²³ Lapho u-Abigayili embona uDavide, washesha wehlika embongolweni yakhe, wawa ngobuso phambi kukaDavide, wakhothamela phansi.
- ²⁴ Wawa ngasezinyaweni zakhe, wathi: “Lobo bubi mabube phezu kwami, nkosi; incekekazi yakho mayikhulume ezindlebeni zakho, uzwe amazwi encekekazi yakho.
- ²⁵ Inkosi yami mayinganakekeli lowo muntu omubi uNabali, ngokuba unjengegama lakhe, unjalo yena; nguNabali igama lakhe, nobuwula bukuye; kepha mina ncekekazi yakho angizibonanga izinsizwa zenkosi yami owazithumayo.
- ²⁶ “Ngalokho, nkosi, kuphila kukaJehova nokuphila komphefumulo wakho, njengokuba uJehova ekuvimbele ukungena ecaleni legazi nokuzisindisa ngesandla sakho, ngalokho-ke mazibe njengoNabali izitha zakho nabayifunela inkosi yami ububi.
- ²⁷ Manje-ke, lesi siph o esilethwa yincekekazi yakho enkosini yami, masinikwe izinsizwa ezilandela inkosi yami.
- ²⁸ Ake uthethelele icala lencekekazi yakho, ngokuba uJehova uyakuyenzela nokuyenzela inkosi yami indlu eqinileyo impela, lokhu inkosi yami ilwa izimpi zikaJehova; ububi abuyikufunyanwa kuwe zonke izinsuku zakho.
- ²⁹ Noma kusukuma umuntu ukukuxosha nokufuna ukuphila kwakho, umphefumulo wenkosi yami uyakube uboshiwe emshuqulwini wabaphilayo kuJehova uNkulunkulu wakho; imiphefumulo yezitha zakho uyakuyijikijela kungathi iphakathi kwendwayimana.
- ³⁰ Kuyakuthi lapho uJehova esekwenzile enkosini yami njengakho konke okuhle akukhulumileyo ngawe, akubeke ube ngumbusi kwa-Israyeli,
- ³¹ akuyikuba yisikhubekiso kuwe, kungabi nesanya enhliziyweni yenkosi yami ukuthi uchithile igazi ngeze nokuthi inkosi yami izisindisile; kepha lapho uJehova eseyenzele inkosi yami okuhle, khumbula incekekazi yakho.”
- ³² UDavide wayesethi ku-Abigayili: “Makabusiswe uJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli okuthume namuhla ukungihlangabeza.
- ³³ Futhi makubusiswe ukuhlakanipha kwakho, ubusiswe nawe ongivimbele namuhla ukungena ecaleni legazi nokuzisindisa ngesandla sami.
- ³⁴ Ngokuba impela, kuphila kukaJehova uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli ongivimbele ukuze ngingakulimazi, uma ungasheshanga ukuza ukuba ungihlangabeze, impela nga

kungasalanga kuNabali ngasekuseni kusasa nokukodwa okungokwesilisa.”

35 UDavide wayesamukela esandleni sakhe lokho amlethele khona; wathi kuye: “Khuphukela endlini yakho ngokuthula; bheka, ngililalele izwi lakho, ngibuvumile ubuso bakho.”

36 U-Abigayili wafika kuNabali; bheka, wayenedili endlini yakhe, linjengedili lenkosi; inhliziyo kaNabali yayithokoza phakathi kwakhe, ngokuba wayephuze kakhulu; ngalokho akamtshelanga lutho oluncane nolukhulu kwaze kwaba sekuseni.

37 Kwathi ekuseni, lapho iwayini seliphumile kuNabali, umkakhe wamtshela lezo zinto, inhliziyo yakhe yafa phakathi kwakhe, waba njengetshe.

38 Kwathi emva kwezinsuku eziyishumi uJehova wamshaya uNabali, wafa.

39 UDavide esezwile ukuthi uNabali ufile, wathi: “Makabusiswe uJehova omele indaba yehlazo lami esandleni sikaNabali, ovimbele inceku yakhe ebubini, wabuyisela ububi bukaNabali ekhanda lakhe.” UDavide wathumela wakhuluma ku-Abigayili ukuba amthathe abe ngumkakhe.

40 Izinceku zikaDavide sezifikile ku-Abigayili eKarmeli, zakhuluma kuye, zathi: “UDavide usithumile kuwe ukuba akuthathe, ube ngumkakhe.”

41 Wasukuma, wakhothama, ubuso bakhe bubheke phansi, wathi: “Bheka, incekekazi yakho mayibe yisigqilakazi sokugeza izinyawo zezinceku zenkosi yami.”

42 U-Abigayili washesha wasuka, wakhwela imbongolo kanye nezintombi zakhe ezazihamba naye; wazilandela izithunywa zikaDavide, waba ngumkakhe.

43 UDavide wathatha no-Ahinohama waseJizreyeli; baba ngomkakhe bobabili.

44 Kepha uSawule wayesemnike uPaliti indodana kaLayishi waseGalimi uMikhali indodakazi yakhe.

ISAHLUKO 26

AbaseZifi beza kuSawule eGibeya, bathi: “UDavide akacashi yini entabeni yaseHakhila engaphambi kwehlane na?”

2 USawule wasuka, wehlela ehlane laseZifi enabantu abakhethiweyo bakwa-Israyeli abayizinkulungwane ezintathu ukuba amfune uDavide ehlane.

3 USawule wamisa entabeni yaseHakhila engaphambi kwehlane ngasendleleni. Kepha uDavide wahlala ehlane, wabona ukuthi uSawule uyamlandela ehlane.

4 UDavide wayesethuma izinhlozi, wazi ukuthi uSawule ufikile impela.

5 UDavide wasuka, weza endaweni uSawule amise kuyo; uDavide wabona indawo uSawule ahlala kuyo, eno-Abineri indodana kaNeri, induna yempi yakhe; uSawule wayelele ezingqoleni, abantu bemise ngakuye nxazonke.

6 UDavide wayesethatha washo ku-Ahimeleki umHetu naku-Abishayi indodana kaSeruya, umfowabo kaJowabe, ethi: “Ngubani oyakwehla nami ukuya kuSawule ekamu na?” U-Abishayi wathi: “Ngiyakwehla nawe.”

7 ODavide no-Abishayi bafika kubantu ebusuku; bheka, uSawule wayelele ubuthongo ezingqoleni, umkhonto wakhe ugxunyekiwe emhlabathini ngasekhanda lakhe; u-Abineri nabantu bakhe babelele ngakuye nxazonke.

8 U-Abishayi wathi kuDavide: “UNKulunkulu unikele isitha sakho esandleni sakho namuhla; ngalokho mangingwaze kanye ngomkhonto uze udle umhlabathi, ngingamphindi.”

9 UDavide wathi ku-Abishayi: “Ungambulali, ngokuba ngubani ongelulela isandla sakhe

kogcotshiweyo kaJehova, angabi nacala, na?"

10 UDavide wathi: "Kuphila kukaJehova, uJehova uyakumshaya, noma kufika nje usuku lwakhe lokufa, noma ehlela empini, abhubhe.

11 UJehova makenqabe ukuba ngelulele isandla sami kogcotshiweyo kaJehova; ake uthathe umkhonto ongasekhanda lakhe nesigubhu samanzi, sihambe."

12 UDavide wayesethatha umkhonto nesigubhu samanzi ngasekhanda likaSawule, bahamba, kungaboni muntu, kungazi muntu, kungavuki muntu, ngokuba babelele bonke, lokhu bebehlelwe ngubuthongo obunzima obuvela kuJehova.

13 UDavide wayesewelela phesheya, wema esiqongweni sentaba ekude, isikhala esikhulu siphakathi kwabo.

14 UDavide wabiza abantu no-Abineri indodana kaNeri, ethi: "Awusabeli, Abineri, na?" U-Abineri wayesesabela ethi: "Ungubani wena obiza inkosi na?"

15 UDavide wathi ku-Abineri: "Awusiye umuntu okungekho onjengawe kwa-Israyeli na? Awulindanga ngani inkosi yakho, inkosi? Ngokuba kwafika omunye wabantu ukuyobulala inkosi yakho, inkosi.

16 Akukuhle okwenzileyo. Kuphila kukaJehova, nimelwe ukufa, ngokuba anilindanga inkosi yenu, ogcotshiweyo kaJehova. Manje bhekani ukuthi umkhonto wenkosi uphi nesigubhu samanzi esasingasekhanda lakhe."

17 USawule walazi izwi likaDavide, wathi: "Yizwi lakho leli, ndodana yami Davide, na?" UDavide wathi: "Yizwi lami, nkosi yami, nkosi."

18 Wathi: "Inkosi yami iyixoshelani inceku yayo na? Ngokuba ngenzeni na? Ngububi buni obusesandleni sami na?

19 Ngalokho mayizwe inkosi yami, inkosi, amazwi enceku yayo. Uma nguJehova okuncokoloza ngami, makamukele umnikelo, kepha uma kungabantwana babantu, mabaqalekiswe phambi kukaJehova, ngokuba bangixoshile namuhla ukuba ngingazihlanganisi nefa likaJehova, bethi: 'Hamba ukhonze abanye onkulunkulu.'

20 Ngalokho igazi lami malingaweli emhlabathini ngikude noJehova, ngokuba inkosi yakwa-Israyeli iphumele ukufuna intwakumba eyodwa, njengalokhu kuzingelwa intendele ezintabeni."

21 USawule wathi: "Ngonile; buya, ndodana yami Davide, ngokuba angisayikukulimaza, lokhu ukuphila kwami bekuyigugu emehlweni akho namuhla; bheka, ngenze okwesiwula, ngidukile kakhulu."

22 UDavide waphendula wathi: "Bheka, umkhonto, nkosi! Makuwele enye yezinsizwa, iwulande.

23 UJehova uyakuphindisela, kube yilowo nalowo ngokulunga kwakhe nangokuthembeka kwakhe, lokhu uJehova ekunikele esandleni sami namuhla, angavuma ukwelulela isandla sami kogcotshiweyo kaJehova.

24 Futhi bheka, njengalokho ukuphila kwakho kwakukukhulu ngalolo suku emehlweni ami, ukuphila kwami makube kukhulu emehlweni kaJehova, yena angophule ekuhluphekeni konke."

25 USawule wathi kuDavide: "Mawubusiswe wena ndodana yami Davide; uyakwenza izinto ezinkulu, uphumelele kahle." Wayesehamba uDavide ngendlela yakhe, uSawule wabuyela endaweni yakhe.

ISAPHELA 27

UDavide wathi enhliziyweni yakhe: “Ngiyakubhubha ngelinye ilanga ngesandla sikaSawule; akukho okungcono kimi kunokuba ngibaleke, ngiye ezweni lamaFilisti; uSawule uyakungiyeka, angabe esangifuna emikhawulweni yonke yakwa-Israyeli, ngiphunyuke esandleni sakhe.”

² Wayesesuka uDavide, wawela, yena nabantu abangamakhulu ayisithupha ababe naye, waya ku-Akhishi indodana kaMahoki, inkosi yaseGati.

³ UDavide wahlala no-Akhishi eGati, yena nabantu bakhe, kwaba yilowo nalowo nomuzi wakhe, uDavide enawomkakhe bobabili, o-Ahinohama waseJizreyeli no-Abigayili waseKarmeli umkaNabali.

⁴ Kwabikwa kuSawule ukuthi uDavide ubalekele eGati; akabe esamfuna futhi.

⁵ UDavide wathi ku-Akhishi: “Uma ngifumene umusa emehlweni akho, mabanginike indawo komunye wemizi yasemaphandleni ukuba ngihlale khona, ngokuba inceku yakho izakuhlalelani nawe emzini wenkosi na?”

⁶ U-Akhishi wamnika iSikilagi ngalolo suku; ngalokho iSikilagi lingelamakhosi kuze kube namuhla.

⁷ Umumo wezinsuku zokuhlala kukaDavide ezweni lamaFilisti wawungumnyaka nezinyanga ezine.

⁸ UDavide nabantu bakhe benyuka, bangenela amaGeshuri, namaGirizi, nama-Amaleki, ngokuba lawo ayakhe kulelo zwe kwasendulo ekuyiweni eShuri kuze kube sezweni laseGibithe.

⁹ UDavide walichitha izwe, akashiyanga muntu ephilile, owesilisa nowesifazane, wathatha izimvu, nezinkabi, nezimbongolo, namakamela, nezingubo, wabuya, wafika ku-Akhishi.

¹⁰ U-Akhishi wathi: “Ningenelephi namuhla na?” UDavide wathi: “Bekuseningizimu kwaJuda, naseningizimu kwamaJerameli, naseningizimu kwamaKheni.”

¹¹ UDavide akashiyanga owesilisa nowesifazane ephilile ukubayisa eGati, ethi: “Funa basicebe ngokuthi: ‘Wenze njalo uDavide.’ ” Yayinjalo indlela yakhe zonke izinsuku ehlezi ezweni lamaFilisti.

¹² U-Akhishi wakholwa nguDavide, wathi: “Wenze ukuba anengwe nokunengwa ngabantu bakhe abakwa-Israyeli; ngalokho uyakuba yinceku yami kuze kube nini.”

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Kwathi ngalezo zinsuku amaFilisti abutha amabutho awo ukuba aphume impi no-Israyeli. U-Akhishi wathi kuDavide: “Yazi nokwazi ukuthi uyakuphuma impi nami, wena nabantu bakho.”

² UDavide wathi ku-Akhishi: “Ngalokho uyakwazi ukuthi inceku yakho iyakwenzani.” U-Akhishi wathi kuDavide: “Ngalokho ngiyakukubeka ube ngumlindi wekhanda lami kuze kube nini.”

³ USamuweli wayesefile; wonke u-Israyeli wamkhalela, wammbela eRama umuzi wakhe. USawule wayexoshile ezweni abanamadlozi phakathi kwabo nabathakathi.

⁴ AmaFilisti abuthana afika, amisa eShunemi; uSawule wabutha wonke u-Israyeli, wamisa eGilibowa.

⁵ Lapho uSawule ebona impi yamaFilisti, wesaba, inhliziyo yakhe yathuthumela kakhulu.

⁶ USawule wabuza kuJehova; uJehova akamphendulanga nangamaphupho, nange-Urimi, nangabaprofethi.

⁷ Wayesethi uSawule kuzo izinceku zakhe: “Ngifuneleni owesifazane onedlozi ukuba

ngiye kuye, ngibuze kuye.” Izinceku zakhe zathi kuye: “Bheka, kukhona owesifazane onedlozi e-Eni Dori.”

⁸ USawule waziguqula, wembatha ezinye izingubo, wahamba yena nabantu ababili benaye, bafika kowesifazane ebusuku, wathi: “Ake ungibhulele ngedlozi, ungenyusele engiyakumusho kuwe.”

⁹ Owesifazane wathi kuye: “Bheka, uyazi ukuthi uSawule wenzeni, ukuba unqumile ezweni abanamadlozi phakathi kwabo nabathakathi; ngalokho ungibekelelani ugibe ukuba ungibulale na?”

¹⁰ USawule wafunga uJehova kuye owesifazane, wathi: “Kuphila kukaJehova, awuyikwehlelwa cala ngalokho.”

¹¹ Wayesethi owesifazane: “Ngiyakukwenyusela bani na?” Wathi: “Ngenyusele uSamuweli.”

¹² Lapho owesifazane embona uSamuweli, wamemeza ngezwi elikhulu; owesifazane wakhuluma noSawule, wathi: “Ungikho hliseni na? Ngokuba unguSawule.”

¹³ Inkosi yayisithi kuye: “Ungesabi; ubonani na?” Owesifazane wathi kuSawule: “Ngibona unkulunkulu ephuma emhlabathini.”

¹⁴ Wathi kuye: “Unesimo sini na?” Wathi: “Kukhuphuka ixhegu limboziwe ngengubo.” USawule wabona ukuthi kunguSamuweli, wakhothamela phansi ngobuso, wakhuleka.

¹⁵ USamuweli wathi kuSawule: “Unginyakaziselani ukuba ungenyuse na?” USawule waphendula wathi: “Ngihluphekile kakhulu, ngokuba amaFilisti ayalwa nami; uNkulunkulu ungishiyile, akasangiphenduli nangabaprofethi nangamaphupho; ngalokho ngikubizele ukuba ungazise ukuthi ngiyakwenze njani.”

¹⁶ USamuweli wathi: “Pho, ubuzelani kimi, lokhu uJehova esesukile kuwe, waba yisitha sakho, na?”

¹⁷ UJehova wenzile ngokwakhe, njengalokho akhuluma ngami: uJehova ukwaphucile umbuso esandleni sakho, wawunika umakhelwane wakho uDavide.

¹⁸ Ngokuba awulalelanga izwi likaJehova, awenzanga ulaka lwakhe olushisayo phezu kwama-Amaleki; ngalokho uJehova wenzile lokhu kuwe namuhla.

¹⁹ Futhi uJehova uyakunikela u-Israyeli kanye nawe esandleni samaFilisti; kusasa wena namadodana akho niyakuba nami; uJehova uyakunikela nempi yabakwa-Israyeli esandleni samaFilisti.”

²⁰ USawule wayesewela phansi ngekhandu, wesaba kakhulu ngenxa yamazwi kaSamuweli, akwabakho mandla kuye, ngokuba akadlanga lutho ngosuku lonke nobusuku bonke.

²¹ Owesifazane wafika kuSawule, wabona ukuthi wesaba kakhulu, wathi kuye: “Bheka, incekekazi yakho ililalele izwi lakho, ngibekile ukuphila kwami esandleni sami; ngalalela amazwi akho owawakhuluma kimi.

²² Ngalokho mawulilalele izwi lencekekazi yakho, ngibeke ucezu lwesinkwa phambi kwakho; yidla ukuba uthole amandla, nxa uhamba indlela yakho.”

²³ Kepha wala wathi: “Angiyikudla.” Kodwa zamcindezela izinceku zakhe kanye nowesifazane, walilalela izwi labo. Wayesevuka emhlabathini, wahlala embhedeni.

²⁴ Owesifazane wayenethole elikhuluphalisiweyo endlini; washesha walibulala; wathatha impuphu, wayixova, wenza isinkwa esingenamvubelo ngayo,

²⁵ wasiletha phambi kukaSawule naphambi kwezinceku zakhe, badla. Base besuka bahamba ngalobo busuku.

AmaFilisti abutha zonke izimpi zawo e-Afeki; abakwa-Israyeli bamisa ngasemthonjeni oseJizreyeli.

² Amakhosi amaFilisti adlula ngamakhulu nangezinkulungwane; uDavide nabantu bakhe badlula emuva kanye no-Akhishi.

³ Zase zithi izikhulu zamaFilisti: “Ayini lawa maHeberu na?” U-Akhishi wathi kuzo izikhulu zamaFilisti: “Akusiye uDavide inceku kaSawule inkosi yakwa-Israyeli okade enami kulezi zinsuku nakule minyaka na? Angifumananga lutho kuye selokhu ahlubuka weza kimi kuze kube namuhla.”

⁴ Kepha izikhulu zamaFilisti zamthukuthelela; izikhulu zamaFilisti zathi kuye: “Buyisa lowo muntu ukuba abuyele endaweni yakhe ommise kuyo, angehleli nathi empini, funa abe yisitha sethu empini, ngokuba lona ubeyakuyigculisa ngani inkosi yakhe kungengamakhanda alawo madoda na?”

⁵ Lona akasiye uDavide ababehlebelela ngaye, besina bethi: “USawule ubulele izinkulungwane zakhe, kepha uDavide izinkulungwane zakhe eziyishumi na?”

⁶ U-Akhishi wambiza uDavide, wathi kuye: “Kuphila kukaJehova, wena uqotho; ukuphuma kwakho nokungena kwakho nami empini kuhle emehlweni ami, ngokuba angifumananaga bubi kuwe kusukela osukwini lokufika kwakho kimi kuze kube namuhla; nokho emehlweni amakhosi awumuhle.

⁷ Ngalokho buya, uhambe ngokuthula, ungenzi okubi emehlweni amakhosi amaFilisti.”

⁸ UDavide wathi ku-Akhishi: “Kepha ngenzeni na? Ufumeneni encekwini yakho, kusukela osukwini engaba phambi kwakho ngalo kuze kube namuhla, ukuba ngingayi ukulwa nezitha zenkosi yami, inkosi, na?”

⁹ U-Akhishi waphendula, wathi kuDavide: “Ngiyazi ukuthi umuhle emehlweni ami njengengelosi kaNkulunkulu, nokho izikhulu zamaFilisti zishilo ukuthi: ‘Akayikukhuphuka, aye nathi empini.’

¹⁰ Ngalokho vuka ekuseni kusasa kanye nezinceku zenkosi yakho ezifike nawe; senivukile ekuseni kusasa, sekukhanya, hambani.”

¹¹ UDavide wavuka ekuseni, yena nabantu bakhe, ukuba bahambe ekuseni, babuyele ezweni lamaFilisti. AmaFilisti enyukela eJizreyeli.

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Kwathi uDavide nabantu bakhe sebefikile eSikilagi ngosuku lwesithathu, ama-Amaleki ayengenele eNingizimu naseSikilagi, alichitha iSikilagi, alishisa ngomlilo,

² athumba abesifazane ababe phakathi, abancane nabakhulu engabulalanga muntu, abamukisa, ahamba indlela yawo.

³ Lapho uDavide nabantu bakhe befika emzini, bheka, wawushisiwe ngomlilo; omkabo, namadodana abo, namadodakazi abo babethunjiwe.

⁴ UDavide nabantu ababe naye base bedazuluka, bekhala, baze bangabe besaba namandla okukhala.

⁵ NawomkaDavide bobabili babethunjiwe, o-Ahinohama waseJizreyeli no-Abigayili umkaNabali waseKarmeli.

⁶ UDavide wayehlupheka kakhulu, ngokuba abantu bekhuluma ngokumkhanda ngamatshe, lokhu izinhliziyi zabo bonke abantu zazinomunyu, kwaba yilowo nalowo ngenxa yamadodana akhe namadodakazi akhe; kepha uDavide waziqinisa kuJehova uNkulunkulu wakhe.

- ⁷ UDavide wathi ku-Abiyathara umpristi, indodana ka-Ahimeleki: “Ake ulethe kimi ingubo yamahlombe.” U-Abiyathara wayiletha ingubo yamahlombe kuDavide.
- ⁸ UDavide wabuza kuJehova, wathi: “Ngixoshe lelo viyo na? Ngingalifica na?” Wamphendula wathi: “Xosha, ngokuba uyakulifica impela, ukhulule konke.”
- ⁹ Wayesehamba uDavide, yena nabantu abangamakhulu ayisithupha ababe naye, wafika emfudlaneni iBesori, lapho kwahlala khona amasalela.
- ¹⁰ Kodwa UDavide waxosha, yena nabantu abangamakhulu amane, ngokuba abangamakhulu amabili basala emuva, bezukekile ukuze bangaweli umfudlana iBesori.
- ¹¹ Bafumana owaseGibithe endle, bamyisa kuDavide, bamnika isinkwa, wadla; bamphuzisa amanzi;
- ¹² bamnika nocezu lwesigaxa samakhiwane, nezigaxa ezimbili zezithelo zomvini ezomileyo; esedlile kwabuyela kuye umoya wakhe, ngokuba wayengadlanga sinkwa, engaphuzanga manzi, izinsuku ezintathu nobusuku obuthathu.
- ¹³ UDavide wathi kuye: “Ungokabani na? Uvelaphi na?” Wathi: “Ngiyinsizwa yaseGibithe, inceku yomAmaleki, kepha inkosi yami yangishiya, ngokuba sekuyizinsuku ezintathu ngigula.
- ¹⁴ Sangenela ngaseningizimu yamaKhereti, nakwelakwaJuda, naseningizimu kaKalebi, salishisa iSikilagi ngomlilo.”
- ¹⁵ UDavide wathi kuye: “Ungangehlisela kulelo viyo na?” Wathi: “Funga kimi uNkulunkulu ukuthi awuyikungibulala, ungangingikeli ezandleni zenkosi yami, ngiyakukwehlisela kulelo viyo.”
- ¹⁶ Wayesemehlisa; bheka, babehlakazekile endaweni yonke, bedla, bephuza, besina phakathi kwayo yonke impango ababeyithathile ezweni lamaFilisti nasezweni lakwaJuda.
- ¹⁷ UDavide wababulala kusukela ekuhleleni kuze kuhlwe ngangomuso, akwaphunyuka muntu kubo, kuphela izinsizwa ezingamakhulu amane ezazikhwela amakamela, zabaleka.
- ¹⁸ UDavide wakhulula konke okwakuthathwe ngama-Amaleki, uDavide wakhulula nawomkakhe bobabili.
- ¹⁹ Akwasilala muntu, omncane noma omkhulu, namadodana noma amadodakazi, nempango noma okunye ababezithathele khona; uDavide wabuyisa konke.
- ²⁰ UDavide wathatha zonke izimvu nezinkomo; baziqhuba phambi kwakhe, bathi: “Yimpango kaDavide le.”
- ²¹ UDavide wafika kulabo bantu abangamakhulu amabili ababezukekile, bengenakumlandela uDavide, ababebahlalisile ngasemfudlaneni iBesori; baphuma ukumhlangabeza uDavide nokumhlangabeza abantu ababenaye; uDavide esesondela kubantu wababingelela.
- ²² Base bethatha bonke abantu ababi nabonakeleyo kulabo ababehamba noDavide, bathi: “Njengokuba bengahambanga nathi, asiyikubanika lutho empangweni esiyikhululile, kuphela ukuba yileyo naleyo ndoda inikwe umkayo nabantwana bayo, bamuke nabo, bahambe.”
- ²³ Wayesethi uDavide: “Aniyikwenza kanjalo, bafowethu, ngalokho esikuphiwe nguJehova osilondolozile, wanikela esandleni sethu iviyo elasihlasela.
- ²⁴ Ngubani oyakunilalela kule ndaba na? Ngokuba njengesabelo sowehele empini siyakuba njalo isabelo salowo owasala nempahla; bayakwabelwa ngokulingeneyo.”
- ²⁵ Kwaba njalo kusukela kulolo suku kuya phambili; wamisa isimiso nomthetho kwa-Israyeli kuze kube namuhla.
- ²⁶ UDavide esefike eSikilagi wathuma enye impango kumalunga akwaJuda nakubo abangane bakhe, ethi: “Bhekani, naso isipho senu sempango yezitha zikaJehova.”

- ²⁷ kwabaseBethele, nakwabaseRamoti laseNingizimu, nakwabaseJatiri,
²⁸ nakwabase-Aroweri, nakwabaseSifimoti, nakwabase-Eshitemowa,
²⁹ nakwabaseRakali, nakwabasemizini yamaJerameli, nakwabasemizini yamaKheni,
³⁰ nakwabaseHorma, nakwabaseBori Ashani, nakwabase-Athaki,
³¹ nakwabaseHebroni, nasezindaweni zonke lapho uDavide uqobo nabantu bakhe bebejwayele ukuhamba khona.

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AmaFilisti alwa no-Israyeli; abantu bakwa-Israyeli babaleka phambi kwamaFilisti, bawa begwaziwe entabeni yaseGilibowa.

² AmaFilisti axosha uSawule namadodana akhe; amaFilisti abulala oJonathani, no-Abinadaba, noMaliki Shuwa, amadodana kaSawule.

³ Impi yaba nzima kuSawule; abacibishelayo bamfica, wakhathazeka kakhulu ngenxa yabacibishelayo.

⁴ USawule wayesethi odibini lwezikhali zakhe: “Hosha inkemba yakho, ungigwaze ngayo, funa labo abangasokile bafike, bangigwaze, bangone.” Kepha aluvumanga udibi lwezikhali zakhe, ngokuba lwesaba kakhulu. Ngalokho uSawule wayithatha inkemba, wawela phezu kwayo.

⁵ Udibi lwezikhali zakhe selubonile ukuthi uSawule ufile, lwawela nalo phezu kwenkemba yalo, lwafa kanye naye.

⁶ Wafa-ke uSawule namadodana akhe omathathu, nodibi lwakhe, nabo bonke abantu bakhe ngalolo suku kanyekanye.

⁷ Lapho abantu bakwa-Israyeli ababe ngaphesheya kwesigodi nalabo ababe ngaphesheya kweJordani bebona ukuthi abantu bakwa-Israyeli babaleka nokuthi uSawule namadodana akhe bafike, bashiya imizi, babaleka; amaFilisti afika, ahlala kuyo.

⁸ Kwathi ngangomuso, lapho amaFilisti efika ukuphanga ababuleweyo, afumana uSawule namadodana akhe omathathu bewile entabeni yaseGilibowa.

⁹ Amnquma ikhanda, athatha izikhali zakhe, azithuma ezweni lamaFilisti nxazonke ukukumemezela endlini yezithombe zawo nakubantu.

¹⁰ Azibeka izikhali zakhe endlini ka-Ashitaroti, abethela isidumbu sakhe ogangeni lwaseBeti Shani.

¹¹ Sebezile abakhe eJabeshi Gileyadi lokho amaFilisti ayekwenzile kuSawule,

¹² kwasuka onke amadoda anamandla, ahamba ubusuku bonke, asithatha isidumbu sikaSawule, nezidumbu zamadodana akhe ogangeni lwaseBeti Shani, afika eJabeshi, azishisa khona.

¹³ Athatha amathambo abo, awembela phansi komtamariske eJabeshi, azila ukudla izinsuku eziyisikhombisa.

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